



TABLE TALK

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

VOL. 57 No. 3

SEPTEMBER 2016

New 0-2000 KOs headline gilt-edged Motor City Regional schedule

For the first time this October, each of the three 4-session knockout team events at the Vince & Joan Remey Motor City Regional will have two separate flights, one unlimited (intended for top and ambitious players) and the other restricted to players with fewer than 2,000 master-points.

Every player on the Flight B teams must have fewer than 2,000 points. They will play only against other teams in

their flight.

The other big news is that the regional will switch to a mostly morning/afternoon schedule this year. The tournament, including the first KOs, opens on Monday Oct. 17 at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., but switches to a 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. schedule Tuesday through Saturday. Sunday's Swiss teams starts at 11 a.m.

For "night owls" there will be two 2-session Swiss team events, each starting at 7 p.m.

(Continued on page 3)

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE

The annual election for MBA Board of Directors will be held during the last four days of the October regional. If you cannot be there on one of those days, you can still vote by completing and sending in an absentee ballot. See page 7. Candidates' pictures and statements appear on pages 8-9.

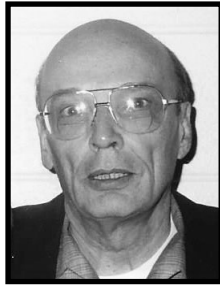
NO MERGE

Shortly after the last issue of Table Talk went to press, SOMBA pulled the plug on plans to merge with MBA. Our coverage, including a report from MBA President Dick Temkin and an email interview with SOMBA President Dave Fletcher, begins on page 20.

IN MEMORIAM

**Zerrene Brooks
Richard Chesney
Robert Crafton
Deanna Holtzman
Gwendolyn Lemmons
Leonard W. Melander
Patricia Otis**

Dr. Leonard “Bill” Melander, who passed away in May at age 90, won his first North American championship when he was 82, setting the record as the oldest NABC winner. He broke that record when he won another NABC championship at age 85.



Bill was a lifelong MBA member with many successes in local events. He often played with his wife, Audrey, who passed away over a decade ago.

Bill was a regular at the Bridge Connection where he capped his bridge career by winning the most masterpoints in the last full month before he died.

A full story on Bill appeared in the July ACBL Bridge Bulletin, page 70.

Bob Crafton, one of the area's top players and a former president of MBA, also passed away in May. He was 74.



Bob began playing while in high school and continued at Michigan State University, which at the time was a hotbed of bridge, with players such as Fred Hamilton and Bob Ciaffone.

Over the years he had great success with many bridge partners, particularly Howard Weiner and Bert Newman.

For most of his bridge career, Bob was known as a conservative bidder. Newman particularly recalls a hand Bob played in 3♣xx against a top national pair at an NABC in the early 2000s; he made 5. Crafton also had the biggest one-session game in a regional that Newman can ever recall: 265 on a 156 average playing with Petra Doran (now a multiple national champion who is married to Bob Hamman) at a Lansing tournament in the late 1970s.

Bob served on the MBA board from 1978 to 1982 and was president of the organization in 1981.

Zerrene Brooks, who died in June at 87, was the wife and frequent partner of Dorsey Brooks, a top player in MBA in the 1950 and '60s who passed away over a decade ago. She was a bridge teacher and Girl Scout leader in the Warren area.



Dorsey Brooks was a colorful and somewhat cantankerous character who frequently made psychic bids. He won MBA's player of the year award, the Stein, in 1962, the second year it was awarded. He and Jim White won the

Mouser Trophy in 1965, when it was being given to the winner of the LM Pairs at the Motor City Regional. When he won the Mouser again in 1970 it was being given (as it is today) for winning the most points at the regional.

The Brooks' spats at the table were legendary. Famously, Dorsey was once suspended from bridge for throwing his hand of 13 cards at Zerrene during a game.

According to Myles and Marilyn Maddox, it was widely believed that the fighting at the table was an act, staged to distract their opponents. Often the Brookses were seen out in the hall laughing after one of their "fights."

MOTOR CITY

(Continued from page 1)

and running over two nights: Tuesday-Wednesday and Thursday-Friday.

The tournament will be held, as usual, at the William Costick Center in Farmington Hills. For the full schedule, see pages 4-5.

The switch to flighting in the knockouts is designed to ensure that less experienced players do not have to play against pros and other top competitors. Flight B of the

knockouts "will be an intermediate-level event for members who were previously discouraged from playing against all top-level players in the KOs," said new regional chair Zachary Wasserman. "This hopefully is an exciting way for intermediate players to compete in a knockout event that is comfortable for them."

Gold Rush events for players with fewer than 750 masterpoints will remain a big part of the schedule, as they have for the last few years.

**Michigan Bridge Association's
Vince & Joan Remey Motor City Regional
October 17-23, 2016**

Wm. Costick Center, 28600 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills

Monday, October 17

Handicapped Flighted KO Teams..... 1 PM & 7 PM
(Fl. A unlimited; Fl. B 0-2000) (Continues Tuesday at 10 AM & 2:30 PM)
Stratified Charity Pairs (0-1500, 0-3000, unlimited)..... 1 PM & 7 PM
GOLD RUSH Pairs (0-100, 0-300, 0-750) 1 PM & 7 PM
Stratified Swiss Teams (0-750, 0-3000, unlimited)..... 7 PM

Tuesday, October 18

Stratified Swiss Teams (0-1500, 0-3000, unlimited)..... 10 AM & 2:30 PM
GOLD RUSH Swiss Teams (0-100, 0-300, 0-750)..... 10 AM & 2:30 PM
Horizontal Stratified Swiss Teams (0-750, 0-3000, unlimited)..... 7 PM
(Concludes Wednesday at 7 PM)

Wednesday, October 19

Handicapped Flighted KO Teams..... 10 AM & 2:30 PM
(Fl. A unlimited; Fl. B 0-2000) (Continues Thursday at 10 AM & 2:30 PM)
Sylvia Stein Stratified Pairs (0-1500, 0-3000, unlimited)..... 10 AM & 2:30 PM
GOLD RUSH Pairs (0-100, 0-300, 0-750) 10 AM & 2:30 PM
Stratified Swiss Teams (0-750, 0-3000, unlimited)..... 2:30 PM

Thursday, October 20

Stratified Swiss Teams (0-1500, 0-3000, unlimited)..... 10 AM & 2:30 PM
GOLD RUSH Swiss Teams (0-100, 0-300, 0-750)..... 10 AM & 2:30 PM
Horizontal Stratified Swiss Teams (0-750, 0-3000, unlimited)..... 7 PM
(Concludes Friday at 7 PM)

Friday, October 21

Handicapped Flighted KO Teams..... 10 AM & 2:30 PM
(Fl. A unlimited; Fl. B 0-2000) (Continues Saturday at 10 AM & 2:30 PM)
Stratified Pairs (0-1500, 0-3000, unlimited) 10 AM & 2:30 PM
GOLD RUSH Pairs (0-100, 0-300, 0-750) 10 AM & 2:30 PM
Stratified Swiss Teams (0-750, 0-3000, unlimited)..... 2:30 PM

Saturday October 22

(Light lunch provided between sessions)

Handicapped Bracketed Compact KO Teams..... 10 AM & 2:30 PM
Stratified Pairs (0-1500, 0-3000, unlimited) 10 AM & 2:30 PM
GOLD RUSH Pairs (0-100, 0-300, 0-750) 10 AM & 2:30 PM
Stratified Swiss Teams (0-750, 0-3000, unlimited)..... 2:30 PM

Sunday, October 23

(Light lunch provided between sessions)

Marilyn & Myles Maddox Stratiflighted Swiss Teams 11 AM Playthru
(7 matches) (Fl. A unlimited, 0-5000) (Fl. B 0-750; 0-1500; 0-3000)

SIDE PAIR GAMES (0-750, 0-3000, unlimited):
Side Series #1: Tue., Wed., Thur. 10 AM & 2:30 PM
Side Series #2: Fri., Sat. 10 AM & 2:30 PM
You must play two sessions of the same series to win Gold points

INTERMEDIATE/NEWCOMER SCHEDULE (0-300 masterpoints):
Stratified I/N Pairs (single sessions).....Tue. thru Sat. 10 AM & 2:30 PM
Stratified Swiss Teams (single sessions)Sun. 11 AM & 3 PM
I/N Strats: 0-20, 0-50, 0-100, 0-200, 0-300
as attendance warrants

All players in Flight B, Gold Rush and I/N events
must be under the stated masterpoint limit.

In stratified events, average masterpoints
will be used to determine your strat.

In all four-session KO events,
Flights A and B will play separately.

KO Handicapping: Teams that average more than 7500 MPs will
be handicapped at 7500 MPs

Tournament Co-chairs:

Zachary Wasserman: zachwass@gmail.com, 248-892-0306
Jonathan Fleischmann: jonathan@safeoffices.com, 734-255-6104

Partnerships:

Marilyn Crane: mqcrane@yahoo.com, 734-591-3431
Rosanne Winokur: winokur@att.net, 248-661-3567

Hotel:

Comfort Inn, 30715 W. 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills,
248-471-9220 or 866-539-0036
\$65 plus tax, includes continental breakfast; ask for bridge rate

District 12 Homepage: www.district12bridge.org

TABLE TALK

Official publication
of the Michigan Bridge Association
30660 Woodgate Dr.,
Southfield MI 48076
248-646-3967
e-mail: MBATalk@aol.com

MARTIN HIRSCHMAN, Editor

Production editor: Marcia Abramson

MBA Corresponding & Membership Secretary: Paul Pomeroy, 34069 Hathaway St., Livonia MI 48150, ppommd@aol.com, 734-421-0193

MBA Officers

Richard Temkin president
Jonathan Fleischmann
.....president-elect
Kurt Dasher..... chairman
Stacey Tessler....recording secretary
Bob Webber.....treasurer

Board of Directors

Shelley Boschan, Marilyn Crane, Kurt Dasher, Jonathan Fleischmann, Martin Hirschman (non-voting), Robert Katz, Marilyn Nathanson, Grant Petersen, Patti Stoner, Richard Temkin, Stacey Tessler, Zachary Wasserman, Rosanne Winokur, Willie Winokur

MBA CLUB DIRECTORY

■**Ann Arbor BC**, Walden Hills Clubhouse, 2114 Pauline, Ann Arbor. Ray Gentz, 734-769-3994. Wednesday 7 p.m.

■**Burns Center Bridge**, 1320 Baldwin, Ann Arbor. Dick Fortune, 734-677-5674. Wednesday 12 p.m.

■**Burns Park Bridge**, 1320 Baldwin, Ann Arbor. Stacey Tessler, 734-623-8050. Thursday 12 p.m.

■**Downriver BC**, Southgate Veterans Memorial Library, 14680 Dix Toledo Rd., Southgate. Cono Emanuele, 734-675-3687. Tuesday 10:30 a.m.

■**Ford DBC**, Ford Motor Company World Headquarters, 1 American Rd., Dearborn. Ellen Silverest, 810-225-2278. Tuesday 7 p.m.

■**Friendly Friday BC**, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms. Tony Faint, 586-649-3575. Friday 12 p.m.

■**Neighborhood Club**, St. Paul

Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms. James Schmidt, 586-463-9835. Thursday 12 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m.

■**Plymouth Community DBC**, Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth. Jim & Cheryl Perna, 248-887-9283. Tuesday 11:30 a.m., Wednesday 11:30 a.m.

■**Thursday Evening Bridge**, Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor. Dorothy Kuhn, 734-761-6691. Thursday 7 p.m.

■**Trenton DBC**, 2700 Westfield, Trenton. Charles May, 734-301-3872. Thursday 7 p.m.

■**War Memorial**, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe. Judith Thomas, 313-372-4218. Monday 12 p.m.

■**Young Center BC**, R.A. Young Recreation Center, 5400 McKinley, Dearborn Heights. Joyce Kozma, 313-274-5587. Wednesday 11 a.m.

MBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION
OCTOBER 2016

The annual election for the MBA Board of Directors will take place on the last four days of the Remey Motor City Regional, Oct. 20-23, 2016, in Farmington Hills. Voting ends at the start of the Sunday event. If you cannot attend the tournament, please fill out and mail an absentee ballot according to the directions below. One ballot per MBA member, please. A second ballot is provided for use by households with two MBA members. For additional ballots, contact Kurt Dasher at 734-854-7280, kdasher@buckeye-express.com.

Statements of the candidates appear on the following two pages.

MBA ABSENTEE BALLOT

Please vote for NOT MORE THAN SIX (6) nominees for the MBA Board of Directors. For your absentee ballot to be valid, it must be MAILED, with the name of the voter on the outer envelope. There must be no more than two ballots per envelope. If two ballots are sent in one envelope, the names of both voters must be written on the outer envelope.

This ballot may not be reproduced, and a photocopy will not be accepted. If you need additional ballots, please contact Kurt Dasher at 734-854-7280.

Please vote for NOT MORE THAN SIX (6) candidates. An asterisk(*) indicates incumbent. Please put an X after your choice.

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Owen Lien _____ | 5. Bob Ondo _____ |
| 2. Grant Petersen* _____ | 6. Robert Katz* _____ |
| 3. Shelley Boschan* _____ | 7. Patti Stoner* _____ |
| 4. Allan Tushman _____ | |

Mail ballots to Kurt Dasher, MBA Election Chair, 11587 Jennings, Petersburg MI 49270 no later than Oct. 17.

MBA ABSENTEE BALLOT

Please vote for NOT MORE THAN SIX (6) nominees for the MBA Board of Directors. For your absentee ballot to be valid, it must be MAILED, with the name of the voter on the outer envelope. There must be no more than two ballots per envelope. If two ballots are sent in one envelope, the names of both voters must be written on the outer envelope.

This ballot may not be reproduced, and a photocopy will not be accepted. If you need additional ballots, please contact Kurt Dasher at 734-854-7280.

Please vote for NOT MORE THAN SIX (6) candidates. An asterisk(*) indicates incumbent. Please put an X after your choice.

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Owen Lien _____ | 5. Bob Ondo _____ |
| 2. Grant Petersen* _____ | 6. Robert Katz* _____ |
| 3. Shelley Boschan* _____ | 7. Patti Stoner* _____ |
| 4. Allan Tushman _____ | |

Mail ballots to Kurt Dasher, MBA Election Chair, 11587 Jennings, Petersburg MI 49270 no later than Oct. 17.



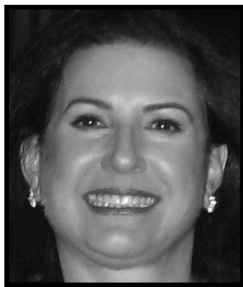
OWEN LIEN

I have been playing bridge for 17 years. I moved to Detroit from Hendersonville NC in September 2015. I have significant experience from working as a certified director. I am seeking election to bring a youthful perspective to the decision making process. Having lived in District 7 (North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and parts of Tennessee and Virginia), I have seen how the largest regionals and sectionals in the country are made successful. I look forward to the opportunity to promote bridge in my new hometown.



GRANT PETERSEN

The duplicate bridge community is aging and there needs to be an infusion of new blood. As a current, and hopefully future board member, I understand the needs of new bridge players. It is important to offer opportunities for new players to learn the game in a friendly environment. In addition, we must continue to make the game fun and competitive for our more experienced players. My experience as a club owner, teacher and director affords me the ability to understand the needs of all types of players. I would love the opportunity to continue to serve the MBA membership.



SHELLEY BOSCHAN

I am running for my fourth term on the board. I have greatly enjoyed the experience of representing our membership in this privileged position. I was able to be instrumental in creating the online directory and continue to keep it updated for the benefit of both units. I am always available by email, cell phone or in person to address individual issues and will gladly direct you to the proper person or venue to create a successful outcome. I look forward to serving another 2 year term.



ALLAN TUSHMAN

Prior to joining MBA two months ago, I was the editor of the SOMBA website and also did most of the writing for the site. Two years ago I set up the Facebook page for the Michigan Bridge Connection and continue to be the administrator of the page. We now have 208 likes on the page. In 2009 I set up the Southeast Michigan Bridge Players group on Facebook. I continue to be the administrator of that group, although it is pretty much inactive. The group has 144 members. I enjoy facilitating bridge players communicating with each other about bridge.

BOB ONDO

I am willing to serve the unit in a variety of ways. Since becoming a director at the Bridge Connection, I see many facets of our game and have a feel for what current members want. However, I feel the top priority is to introduce our game to new players; as a newer player, I feel that I am especially positioned to do so. I have only been playing bridge for a short time, but have been active in the game and value the friendships we have developed. I am enthusiastic about our game, and would appreciate your vote.



ROBERT KATZ

I wish to continue the work that I have been doing for a decade to grow the MBA and service our members. We have been successful in improving our tournament site and providing a schedule of both events and times that meet the needs of our members. Additionally, I am responsible for running the Ann Arbor sectional and have procured a wonderful site at Eastern Michigan that has been used for the last 2 years and will continue as our venue.



PATTI STONER

I have served on the Board of Directors for the MBA for the last two terms. I have enjoyed becoming involved with the questions that face us and problems that need solving. I listen to the fellow bridge players who know that I serve on the Board and bring their questions for review, especially about the merging of SOMBA and the MBA. I would like to be re-elected and I hope that anyone who has concerns will feel comfortable bringing their issues to anyone on the Board.



TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

Sept. 18: N. AM. PAIRS DISTRICT FINAL, Lansing

Oct. 7-9: Midland sectional

Oct. 17-23: MOTOR CITY REGIONAL, Farmington Hills (MBA)

Oct. 28-29: Bloomfield Hills I/N sectional

Oct. 28-30: Toledo sectional

Oct. 31-Nov. 6: Fall STAC

Nov. 10-13: Southfield sectional

2017

Jan. 7-8: Jackson sectional

Jan. 28-29: Ann Arbor sectional (MBA)

Feb. 9-12: Southfield sectional

IT'S YOUR BID

By Marty Hirschman

All five of this issue's problems came from the May 5, 2016, afternoon club game at the Bridge Connection in Southfield, so we have data about the results.

The modest Pass, while technically a "call" and not a "bid," was the top choice of our expert panelists on three of the five problems (one of them a tie with an actual bid). The meek may yet inherit the Earth, though we are still waiting. (This is not a religious comment; do not write in.)

Congratulations to Brenda Bryant, Suzy Burger, Irv Rosenstein, Don Rumelhart and Willie Winokur who each scored a perfect 500 and to Clarke Cunningham, Val Enache, Jerry Jefferies and Marlene Mandell who tied for first among readers.

Meekly or otherwise, you have another chance to be tops by sending in your answers to next issue's hands, found at the end of this article.

1. MTPTS. E-W vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠QJ ♥void ♦97632 ♣AK9532

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

-- -- -- ?

Action	Score	Votes
Pass	100	8
3♣	100	8
1♣	50	3
1♦	20	0

If our long suits – or just our clubs – were majors instead of minors, the possibility of a 10-trick game on limited high-card values would have us jumping out of our seats to open at the one level. Minor suits, however, are, well, minor in comparison.

Opening 1♣ is just asking to get to 3NT down when part-

ner has a minimum opener of his own. Opening 3♣ could miss a game when partner has an undistinguished 14 or so HCPs, especially with short clubs. And Pass leaves room for the opponents to describe their hands. Choose your poison...

Jonathan Fleischmann (3♣):

First seat, trading on the favorable vulnerability. I want to be maximally obstructive. I'm not waiting for a better opportunity to show the minors, nor am I worried about misleading partner. When there are two opponents and only one partner left to bid, I'm expected to play the odds and try to make life hard on the opposition.

SCORES

Experts:

Brenda Bryant	500
Suzy Burger	500
Irv Rosenstein	500
Don Rumelhart	500
Willie Winokur	500
Marilyn Maddox	470
Howard Perlman	470
Joe Chiesa	450
Dick Temkin	450

Readers:

Clarke Cunningham	430
Val Enache	430
Jerry Jefferies	430

Marlene Mandell	430
Patty Becker	420
Neil Manley	420
J. Morris Swiger	420
Kerry Lafer	390
Seymour Mandell	390
Michael Betzold	380
Elmer Winkelman	370
Margaret Carden	350
Sarah Lampert	350
Sy Goodman	310
Gerald Wahl	300
Doris Jefferies	270
George Pope	250

HOW THE PANEL VOTED

	1	2	3	4	5
Gene Benedict	3♣	2♣	Pass	3♣	3♦
Bob Brent	1♣	Pass	Pass	6♣	3♥
Brenda Bryant	3♣	Pass	Pass	6♣	3♦
Chuck Burger	1♣	2♣	Pass	6♣	3♦
Suzy Burger	3♣	Pass	Pass	6♣	3♦
Joe Chiesa	Pass	Pass	2♠	6♣	3♥
Jonathan Fleischmann	3♣	Pass	2♠	3♥	3♥
Bob Katz	Pass	2♣	2♥	3♣	3♦
Sheldon Kirsch	3♣	Pass	2♠	3♥	3♥
Morrie Kleinplatz	Pass	2♣	Pass	5♣	3♦
Owen Lien	1♣	2♣	2♠	5♣	3♦
Marilyn Maddox	Pass	Pass	Pass	6♣	3♥
Myles Maddox	Pass	Pass	2♠	4♣	3♦
Howard Perlman	Pass	Pass	Pass	6♣	3♥
Irv Rosenstein	3♣	Pass	Pass	6♣	3♦
Don Rumelhart	Pass	Pass	Pass	6♣	3♦
Dick Temkin	Pass	Pass	2♠	6♣	3♥
Bob Webber	3♣	Pass	2♠	5♣	3♦
Willie Winokur	3♣	Pass	Pass	6♣	3♦

Suzy Burger (3♣): At these colors, must preempt opps. 4NT (if it even means minors) and 5♣ too unilateral.

Gene Benedict (3♣): At matchpoints, getting partner to lead a club helps more than passing and later bidding the unusual notrump. Too thin at the one level.

Irv Rosenstein (3♣): Planning 4NT over opponents' 4♥ or 4♠.

Joe Chiesa (Pass): 1♣ is deficient in defensive tricks and HCPs. Moreover, it buries the diamonds. 3♣ similarly blows off diamonds and our [possible] spade slam (e.g. if partner has ♠AK109xx ♥xxx ♦x ♣Qx).

Bob Katz (Pass): Tough problem that would be much easier if clubs and diamonds were reversed. If I choose to open, it has to be 1♣ which lies about my high-card strength and buries the diamond suit. It is lead-directional, but has a ton of downside when partner cannot take a joke.

Morrie Kleinplatz (Pass): I'd prefer to pass and bid later. There's no need to preempt or do anything dramatic. Hearts would break badly, and if they have a restricted choice play

in spades they will get it wrong after I show a two-suiter. If it's our hand we'll find out.

Howard Perlman (Pass): Too many flaws. Can always enter later.

Don Rumelhart (Pass): Too many flaws to open first seat. I will likely have a chance to better describe this hand later in the auction.

Chuck Burger (1♣): [I can] bring diamonds into the game by 4NT if I deem it advisable [over opponent's major-suit game bid]. Also lead-directing. I don't think it's their hand just yet.

Owen Lien (1♣): Planning to rebid my clubs. Can't really pass because if partner opens 1♥ or 1♠ in third seat I'll be more stuck. In the words of Jeff Meckstroth, "I'd rather overbid a little bit now than have to try to catch up later."

When this hand came up at the table, partner held ♠K653 ♥AKQ83 ♦QJ4 ♣6, so you would usually wind up in 3NT unless you open 3♣. 3NT, which can be defeated on precise defense, was attempted eight out of the 11 times the board was played at the May 5 Bridge Connection game. It

was allowed to make five of those times, including once with an overtrick.

2. MTPTS. E-W vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠A1043 ♥62 ♦A9 ♣KJ764

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♥ Pass 1♠ ?

Action	Score	Votes
Pass	100	14
2♣	60	5

This is basically a poll on how bad a suit and hand our panel will overcall at the two-level non-vul. vs. vul. at matchpoints. Personally, I'm still holding out for a decent six-card suit (with 9-16 HCPs) or, rarely, an extraordinary five-card suit plus about 14 HCPs, shortness somewhere and the wrong shape for a takeout double. Is that too conservative at the color and form of scoring?

Marilyn Maddox (Pass): Club suit not good enough to overcall.

Howard Perlman (Pass): Not even close. Horrible suit, significant defense. No second choice.

Irv Rosenstein (Pass): No other safe action here.

Don Rumelhart (Pass): I have the wrong distribution for

a takeout double and inadequate club texture or length for a club overcall.

Bob Brent (Pass): Await developments. May be able to balance later. Too dangerous to bid clubs, asking for a big minus.

Suzy Burger (Pass): This auction will continue, so I will listen for now. Club suit too weak to be mentioning at this point.

Joe Chiesa (Pass): Suspect a misprint. I have a defensive hand with an emaciated suit. Thinking of 2♣ is an overbid.

Gene Benedict (2♣): I think it is safer to bid now rather than balancing over 2♥ or 2♠. It is very rare to be doubled here when non-vul.

Chuck Burger (2♣): Not advised for the faint of heart. Matchpoints and vulnerability make me do it. I don't want to balance over 2♥-P-P.

Bob Katz (2♣): My experience is you gain 10 times on this hand by bidding in this spot for every time that it costs.

Morrie Kleinplatz (2♣): I used to pass these hands and we end up selling out to a low partscore as it gets even more dangerous to bid later. I like

the positions of my majors. It's true that they might go down 200 if I pass quietly; but if we have a fit we need to find it now, especially if LHO has heart length. Also get partner off to the likely best lead if they get to NT.

Owen Lien (2♣): I'm game for coming in non-vulnerable. It may be a disaster, but match-points is about competing especially not vul. I don't mind going for 50 a trick, and even going for a number may not be a disaster if they have a game.

At the table, partner held ♠6 ♥KQ1097 ♦J1085 ♣A108, so 3♣, which would only be reached if you overcall 2♣, was making nine and 10 tricks the two times (out of 11) that the contract was played. Otherwise, the normal spot was 2♠ by the opponents, making seven or eight tricks. (RHO held KQJ752 of spades).

3. MTPTS. E-W vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠J10764 ♥A8 ♦K86 ♣432

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

Pass 1♥ Pass 1♠

Pass 1NT Pass ?

Action	Score	Votes
Pass	100	11
2♠	80	7
2♥	50	1

With a few exceptions, I almost always return to 2 of my major with a 5-card suit and minimum responder values after partner rebids 1NT, so I would bid 2♠ here. This is basically the same thing we do when partner opens a strong 1NT and we transfer to a major and then pass with a 5-card suit and 0-7 HCPs. The theory is that making the long suit trump will provide an extra trick or two that you might not be able to make in notrump. (Exception – when I would pass 1NT – is if my major has one or no honors AND I have 9 or 10 HCPs. Then we would have prospects for seven or more tricks without using the major.)

Jonathan Fleischmann (2♠): My partners know never to rebid 1NT with a singleton in my suit. I very rarely pass with five cards in my major, and I'll hope for a 5-3 spade fit rather than settling for a 5-2 heart fit.

Dick Temkin (2♠): With a paucity of soft values and intermediates, this is likely to be a better spot than 1NT, even if partner has only two spades.

Bob Webber (2♠): Heart ace (not club ace) sways me.

Joe Chiesa (2♠): Although if partner routinely raises

spades with three the decision as to whether to pass 1NT is more arduous. In my experience, 5-2 or 5-3 fits play better [than 1NT] but if you eliminate the 5-3s...

Gene Benedict (Pass): If my spade spot cards were better, I might try 2♠. 1NT is often difficult to defend.

Bob Brent (Pass): Should be our best spot.

Suzy Burger (Pass): Don't see need to improve the contract. Partner would raise on most hands with three. No reason to think hearts would play better.

Howard Perlman (Pass): Could 2♠ be right? Sure, but with a poor suit and two key cards, not to mention the apparent advantage of playing from partner's side...

Chuck Burger (Pass): Side cards make 1NT playable. Not enough spade texture to insist on spades. Partner might have raised with three spades. He may have one spade.

I don't know about that last comment. As Owen Lien (2♠) points out, if partner has a singleton spade, he must have a four-card minor that he would have bid over 1NT.

Another idea:

Bob Katz (2♥): This shows a minimum with likely five spades and exactly two hearts.

At the table, partner held ♠Q92 ♥KQJ52 ♦J2 ♣K75, a hand on which some players would have raised 1♠ to 2♠. Spades made eight or nine tricks, while notrump made just six or seven. (The hand also was passed out once, while opponents played 3♦ down one at two tables.)

4. MTPTs. N-S vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠void ♥5 ♦AK9765 ♣AKQJ74

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

--	--	--	1♦
Pass	1♠	2♥	?

Action	Score	Votes
6♣	100	11
5♣	60	3
3♣	60	2
3♥	50	2
4♣	50	1
4NT	30	0

When partner needs only an insubstantial-looking value to fill out your hand, it is usually right to play him for it. Here, partner needs next to nothing to make 12 tricks a favorite in one or both of your suits. That makes 6♣ a pretty much routine choice of bids.

Marilyn Maddox (6♣): Need very little to make 6♣ or 6♦. Diamond fit or club fit with diamond shortness.

Irv Rosenstein (6♣): As little as Qxx of diamonds or doubleton diamond and 3+ clubs gives play for slam.

Suzy Burger (6♣): A reasonable shot. Don't need much: Fit in either minor, diamond queen or a mystical ace of hearts.

Joe Chiesa (6♣): Methinks 6♣ occludes 6♥ better than 4NT or dog-walking. Will never be able to meaningfully invite partner as she will not appreciate that ♠xxxxx ♥xx ♦xx ♣xxxx is enough for slam.

Bob Brent (6♣): The main problem I see is partner correcting to 6♦ with 2-2 in the minors.

Chuck Burger (6♣): Practical and hopeful. This hand is a Strong Two-bid despite other bidding problems. That would have allowed a slower auction.

Howard Perlman (6♣): Guessing game, but I'm always going to play a slam. This may not even end the auction, but going slow will only help opponents save

when more often than not it's right.

Dick Temkin (6♣): Depending on my opponents, I might choose to go slower at the table. The trick is to get to play 6 of a minor here.

Bob Webber (5♣): A delicate problem. I think we are close enough to 50 percent to bid a slam, so I don't want the opponents to save. Will bid 6 something next round. (West or North will bid, right?)

Morrie Kleinplatz (5♣): This hand has both technical and tactical aspects. They have at least eight hearts and maybe many more. I'd like to buy it if I can. Also, we may have two round-suit losers. I will bid 6♣ over 5♥ unless partner doubles. He should have a pretty good idea of my hand.

Owen Lien (5♣): I have no guarantee of a fit. Partner can easily be 5-5 or 6-4 in the majors, meaning I may not even make 11 tricks. Yes, I have an excellent hand, but isn't that what this shows? Tempted to bid 6♣, but if I don't catch well, I may go down in 5. Reverse my majors, and I would definitely bid 6♣.

Gene Benedict (3♣): I don't think the auction is going to

die here, and I'm interested in partner's next bid.

Jonathan Fleischmann (3♥): I think spade raises can be covered by bidding 2♠, 3♠, 4♠ or 4♥. I hope partner will figure out what's going on when I bid clubs later. I don't bid 6♣ because partner won't know I'm looking for the ace of hearts.

Bob Katz (3♣): [Playing that 2NT is a relay to 3♣ with a minimum — Good-Bad 2NT,] 3♣ shows a distributional hand with diamonds and clubs and extras. This runs the slight risk of 3♣ getting passed out. However, it also will make it easier to make the correct decision if opponents get to 6♠.

At the table, partner held ♠AJ62 ♥8732 ♦QJ ♣1032 so 6 of either minor was cold. (I don't know why he responded

1♠ instead of 1♥.) Two pairs played 6♦, two played 6♣ (one doubled), all making 6 or 7. Other contracts: 5♦, 5♣, 4♣, 3♦ and 3♣. Two E-W pairs salvaged average minus by saving in 6♠x for -800.

5. MTPTs. Both vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠Q82 ♥KQ10754 ♦Q8 ♣54
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
 Pass 1♦ Pass 1♥
 2♣ 2♦ 3♣ ?

Action	Score	Votes
3♦	100	12
3♥	70	7
Dbl	30	0
Pass	20	0
5♦	20	0

We have a sure 8-card fit in diamonds and 9 HCPs with just a doubleton in the opponent's suit, so we think we can make 3♦. Or should we succumb to the allure of the higher-paying strain by rebid-

How to access the Joint MBA-SOMBA directory

You can reach the Joint MBA-SOMBA member directory by going to the District 12 website at district12bridge.org. Click on Member Directories, then on MBA/SOMBA.

You will have to put in your ACBL number, and click on the box in front of the statement that you will not use the information for commercial purposes other than contacting members you already know.

Next, you must punch in at least the first three letters of the last name of the player you are trying to look up. There is no way to look at all the listings at one time.

ding our pretty good six-card suit?

Morrie Kleinplatz (3♦): I know it's matchpoints, but partner did not make a support double [of 2♣, showing three hearts]. I think 3♦ is odds on to be better than 3♥. Perhaps at IMPs I'd risk 3♥ as Ax hearts, AK diamonds and a black king gives us a good play for 4♥.

Owen Lien (3♦): Only known fit. Partner didn't make a support double, and my hearts aren't internally strong enough to bid 3♥. Don't consider passing 3♣ an option with at least half the deck and a fit.

Suzy Burger (3♦): Decent hand. Partner has at most two hearts, so show diamond help.

Gene Benedict (3♦): Partner should have six diamonds, so this bid is safer than 3♥. Too soon to double the opponents.

Brenda Bryant (3♦): 3♥ could be right, too. But partner might be able to grab 3NT.

Myles Maddox (3♦): Bidding where my fit is.

Sheldon Kirsch (3♥): Bidding where I live.

Howard Perlman (3♥): Aggressive, but most upside. Not

forcing. 3♦ could be the winner.

Joe Chiesa (3♥): Must, of course, bid as I have Qx of diamonds and no known wastage. I choose 3♥ as opposed to 3♦ as if my hearts are wasted. Opposing shortness, we likely have no game, and hearts requires one less trick for game than diamonds.

Marilyn Maddox (3♥): Good suit with diamond help.

Bob Brent (3♥): It's matchpoints.

At the table, partner held ♠J109 ♥A6 ♦AKJ10932 ♣8, so it seems that the greedy 3♥ bid would be rewarded this time. However, opponents were usually taking the push to 4♣, which makes because they each had red-suit singletons. A 3♦ bid would usually lead to 4♦ making, but 3♥ gets you to 4♥, down on the 4-1 heart split. Justice or just another random occurrence? 3♥ was played twice, making 9 and 10 tricks. 3♦ once, 4♦ twice and 5♦ once all made 10 tricks. 4♥ was -100 and -200, while 5♥ was -300. Opponents were allowed to play 3♣ one time for 130. And one E-W pair scored dead average by playing 3♠ in their 4-3 fit, down one.

NEXT ISSUE'S HANDS

1. IMPs. None vul. As
SOUTH, you hold:

♠QJ83 ♥8 ♦Q85 ♣K10732
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- -- Pass Pass
1♦ 1♥ Pass ?

2. IMPs. E-W vul. As SOUTH,
you hold:

♠K53 ♥AQJ92 ♦102 ♣1082
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
Pass 1♦ Pass 1♥
Pass 1♠ Pass ?

3. IMPs. E-W vul. As SOUTH,
you hold:

♠107 ♥K ♦KJ107432 ♣J97
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
Pass Pass 1♦ Pass
1♠ Pass 1NT Pass
Pass 2♥ Dbl ?

4. MTPTs. E-W vul. As
SOUTH, you hold:

♠KJ732 ♥10 ♦AKQ ♣Q1052
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- Pass Pass 1♠
2♥ Pass 3♥ ?

5. MTPTs. E-W vul. As
SOUTH, you hold:

♠6 ♥AQ2 ♦AK1097 ♣A932
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- -- -- 1♦
Pass 2♠* 2♥ 3♣
Pass 3NT Pass ?

*Game-forcing

Mail your answers to:

Table Talk Magazine
30660 Woodgate Dr.
Southfield MI 48076

Or email to:

MBATalk@aol.com

SNOWBIRDS: PLEASE STAY IN MBA

When snowbirds change their winter address there are two ways to do it. They can change their address without changing their unit affiliation or change both the address and unit affiliation. If the player does not make a specific choice, the ACBL will automatically transfer the player to the unit in the area of the winter address. For players who pay their dues in the winter, this will cost MBA money because the ACBL pays a portion of the dues to the player's current unit.

To make sure MBA gets a share of a snowbird's dues, they should arrange to keep their unit affiliation unchanged by contacting either Cindy Wages (cindy.wages@acbl.org) or Linda Aldridge (linda.aldrige@acbl.org) in the member services department of the ACBL. The telephone number is 662-253-3100, ext. 3132.

Thanks, Paul Pomeroy, MBA Executive Secretary

MERGER FAILS

**By Richard Temkin,
MBA President**

At a special meeting on May 25, the SOMBA board of directors decided to end merger talks with MBA. This was a change in the position taken at its Jan. 10 meeting when the board voted 10-2 to continue negotiations towards a merger based on the Roadmap plan that had been developed.

At that January meeting, board members expressed four concerns with the plan for a merged unit: tournament workload; unequal treasuries (SOMBA has about three times the MBA treasury); board oversight of the unit's communication tools (primarily Table Talk); and paid board positions.

SOMBA President Dave Fletcher, SOMBA Board Chair Posh Gulati, MBA President-Elect Jonathan Fleischmann, and MBA President Dick Temkin subsequently met to discuss these concerns; all of them were amicably resolved, and the plan was revised accordingly. In fact, Fletcher has said that MBA met SOMBA more than halfway throughout our negotiations.

Fletcher presented this lat-



est Roadmap at SOMBA's next board meeting on April 26. A somewhat contentious discussion ensued as a few board members raised more objections, and questioned the entire process. They decided to discuss the proposed merger at a special meeting to which MBA would not be invited. (MBA and SOMBA board presidents have been invited to the other unit's board meetings in recent years.)

Fletcher informed me that 13 of SOMBA's 15 board members attended that special meeting. (SOMBA's representative in negotiating the Roadmap, Posh Gulati, was in the hospital.) He said, "The board had come to the decision that there are no compelling reasons to merge at this

time.” In effect, if it’s not broke, don’t fix it.

One of the terms of the February 11, 2014, Agreement that allowed MBA to hold its sectionals at the new Bridge Connection was that “Over the ensuing two years, we are committed to continuing our joint discussions on a regular basis towards achieving a more harmonious, cohesive relationship and a detailed and comprehensive agreement between the two Units.” Having held almost 20 lengthy meetings, we have fully complied with this requirement, which was in the Agreement at SOMBA’s request.

On a positive note, these negotiations have allowed us to develop a better working relationship with SOMBA and

we expect the “more harmonious, cohesive relationship” to continue. Both units will continue to serve the local bridge community, and MBA will make every effort to promote bridge in our territory and increase our membership.

However, I am disappointed that SOMBA has decided to curtail this opportunity to bring our local bridge community together and end what many consider to be an artificial division whose reason for being has long since passed. It is unfortunate that SOMBA was unable to agree to a merger and move together into the future.

In closing, I want to thank Posh Gulati for his work and support throughout this process.

Email interview with SOMBA President Dave Fletcher

TABLE TALK: Early this year, the SOMBA board voted overwhelmingly to move toward merger with MBA. Subsequently SOMBA raised some points that were agreed to by MBA representatives. Nonetheless, in May your board reversed itself and said there would be no merger. What happened? Why?

DAVE FLETCHER: At the January meeting I asked the board to allow presentation of the initial Roadmap to Merger prepared by Dick and Posh. The board listened and had four major concerns at that time. Posh and Dick were asked to expand the committee, and we voted 10-2 to continue outside discussions to see if there could be agree-

able solutions to the obstacles.

Jonathan and I were added to several meetings where there was much discussion and potential solutions created. These were folded into the Roadmap and prepared for review at our April board meeting. When the agenda item came up, the revised Roadmap was distributed, but before there could be any real discussion, several board members suggested there needed to be a SOMBA-only in-depth discussion. A motion was passed to review the Roadmap at a specific board meeting, which was held May 25.

At the meeting, the board spent several hours discussing aspects of the Roadmap as well as being made aware of ACBL contact. In order for a merger there would be the need for a petition/membership vote/ACBL board review. All board members were given several opportunities to express their views and ask questions. It was obvious from the discussions that most were against with only a few speaking in favor of a merger.

Although there were many specific points, they all



seemed to fall into two categories:

First: Our systems/boards are not broken so why fix them?

Second: The proposed and perceived benefits do not outweigh the negatives and unknowns.

TABLE TALK: Exactly what did the SOMBA board decide? What was the vote? Did it include something about suspending meetings between representatives of the two units?

FLETCHER: The following is an extract from our minutes:

Resolutions:

The discussions resulted in the following two motions that

were put to vote:

—SOMBA to inform the ACBL, MBA and District 12 management promptly that SOMBA is not in favor of the proposed merger between SOMBA and MBA at this time.

—SOMBA to cease all team activities to explore SOMBA-MBA merger possibilities immediately until further instructions.

Both the above motions were unanimously approved.

TABLE TALK: SOMBA and MBA are in the middle of a five-year agreement allowing MBA to hold its sectional tournaments at the Bridge Connection in Southfield, which is part of SOMBA's territory. Do you see this continuing beyond early 2019, or should MBA be looking for another site?

FLETCHER: SOMBA as well as MBA has been enjoying holding our sectionals at the Bridge Connection. Future contract details with the Bridge Connection will be discussed at the appropriate time but there is absolutely no reason to exclude MBA. In fact, it is our board's intent to pursue the intents of the last paragraph of our agreement,

which I quote: "...we are committed to continuing our joint discussions on a regular basis towards achieving a more harmonious, cohesive relationship..."

TABLE TALK: In apparent reaction to the SOMBA board's action on merger, there has been an uptick in transfers from SOMBA to MBA. The same thing happened three years ago after SOMBA initially declined to join with MBA in contracting with the Bridge Connection to have our sectionals there. What would you say to those now-former SOMBA members and those of your members who are unhappy with the posture taken by the SOMBA board?

FLETCHER: MBA is a solid unit run by a very capable board of directors. ACBL places members in a unit based on their address, and anyone transferring from one to the other must feel there are benefits of being in one over the other. My question to them would be "What is the benefit you feel you would be receiving due to the transfer?" I wish them well at the bridge table regardless.

SOLUTION TO DOUBLE DUMMY

From Back Page

NORTH	
♠K974	
♥AQ972	
♦10	
♣Q73	
WEST	EAST
♠J1085	♠Q2
♥J4	♥8
♦932	♦AK8654
♣J942	♣K1086
SOUTH	
♠A63	
♥K10653	
♦QJ7	
♣A5	

A double endplay will see you home.

On the club lead, play low from dummy and capture East's 10 with your ace.

Next pull two rounds of

trumps, leaving at least one high heart in your hand.

Next cash the ace and king of spades and exit a diamond. This is endplay No. 1.

If East cashes the king of clubs, you will be able to throw your spade loser on the queen of clubs. So probably he will play a diamond. This will give you a diamond trick, on which you will throw dummy's little club.

For example, if East returns the ace of diamonds, ruff in dummy, return to your hand with a trump and cash the queen of diamonds, throwing a club.

Next, exit with a club. East will win. He will be forced to lead a club or diamond, so you will be able to toss your losing spade while you ruff in dummy. That was endplay No. 2.

Moving up...

Junior Masters

Yvonne Abdoo
Gail Bernstein
Matt Collins
Martina Garland
Steven Garland
Susan Gibbs
Helene Koenig
Karen Weiner

Club Masters

Ann Wood
Katy Yaklin

Sectional Masters

Michael Boland
Gary Emerson
James McNamara
Lynn Wood

Regional Masters

Heywood Ballard
Pearl Lim
Bruce Ridley
Aphie Roumell

NABC Masters

Patricia Cosgrove
Marilyn J. Jones
Bob Ondo

Gail Terry

Gerald Wahl

Silver Life Masters

Jordan Kaye
Gary Luoma
Ronnie Meade
Patti Stoner

Ruby Life Masters

Nancy Finkel
Carol Kasle

Gold Life Masters

John Koschik
James Smyth

Fleischmann wins 33 at Roosen sectional

Jonathan Fleischmann won the most points at the Russell Roosen Sectional, held Aug. 25-28 at the Bridge Connection in Southfield:

MASTERPOINT LEADERS:

- 1, Jonathan Fleischmann, 33.69
- 2, Sheldon Kirsch, 29.66
- 3, Richard Temkin, 24.23
- 4/5, Rhonda Monroe, 24.11
- 4/5, Frank Treiber III, 24.11
- 6, Bert Newman, 23.38
- 7, Lynne Schaeffer, 23.07
- 8, Michael Alioto, 19.58
- 9, Martin Hirschman, 19.24
- 10, Jerrold Grossman, 18.34

THURSDAY AM PAIRS FLIGHT

A: 1, Grant Petersen, Jonathan Fleischmann. 2, Frank Treiber III, Rhonda Monroe. 3, Tai Chan, Song Lin. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Chan, Lin. 2, Allan Tushman, Genie Baker. 3, George Pope, Robin Myles. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Chan, Lin. 2, Pope, Myles. 3, Jim Masterson, Douglas Hauke.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SWISS TEAMS FLIGHT A:

1, Marilyn & Myles Maddox, Michael Giordano, Lynne Schaeffer. 2, Roberta Toll, Bert & Kathy Newman, Norman Rotter. 3/4, Mark Bendure, Richard Temkin, Irving Rosenstein, Sheldon Kirsch. 3/4, Martin Hirschman, Robert

Mendelson, Suzy & Chuck Burger. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Joel Grossman, Marilyn Collins, David Dursum, David Winer. 2, Marilyn Crane, Jane Gardner, Irving Hershman, Barbara Kalnick. 3, Margaret Moore, Robert Raf, Michael McGaw, Georgene Cronin. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Grossman team. 2, Stuart Dombey, Chris Brewer, Martha Toon, J. Morris Swiger. 3, Latika Mangrulkar, Deepak Dighe, Naresh Kapila, John Piljan.

THURSDAY NIGHT PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Jonathan Fleischmann, Kurt Dasher. 2, Mary Smith, Jack Paulus. 3/4, Bert & Kathy Newman. 3/4, Bob Webber, Martin Hirschman. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Gerald Wahl, Michael Betzold. 2, Clarke Cunningham, Sandy Birnholtz. 3, Tracey King, David McIntyre. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Wahl, Betzold. 2, Craig & Marianne Linderman.

FRIDAY AM PAIRS FLIGHT A:

1, Charles Schiff, Bob Webber. 2, James Rowe, Dolores Bright. 3, Michael Alioto, Sheldon Kirsch. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Rowe, Bright. 2, Stu Cohen, Mark Weiss. 3, Steve O'Guin, Margaret Moore. **FLIGHT C:** 1, June Koch, Dennis Ebendick. 2, Tyrone Loving, Michael O'Neill. 3, Henry Zhang & Yanping Zhang.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Beth Kordt, Susan Smith. 2, Daniel Marcus, Richard Temkin. 3, Michael Alioto, Sheldon Kirsch. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Kordt, Smith. 2, Wilbur Argersinger, Bob Rasmussen. 3, Edward Klarman, Audrey Koloff. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Kordt, Smith. 2, Klarman, Koloff. 3, Linda Lutze, Sonia Manchek.

FRIDAY NIGHT PAIRS

FLIGHT A & B: 1, Joe Feldman, Joe Monro. 2, Vickie Neiberg, Leon Schmelzer. 3, Bob Ondo, Maria Conti. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Ondo, Conti. 2, William Ahlstrom, Douglas Sweeder. 3, Beth Kordt, Susan Smith.

SATURDAY AM PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Steve Kaplan, Larry Cohen. 2, Anastasia Tessler, Patricia Young. 3, William Rouse, Bert Newman. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Kaplan, Cohen. 2, John Philbrook, John Allen. 3, R. Bloom, Gerald Bloom. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Kaplan, Cohen. 2, Blooms. 3, Jane Gardner, Dennis Ebendick.

SATURDAY SWISS TEAMS

FLIGHT A: 1/2, Ruth Brownstein, Seymour Goodman, Charlotte Miller, Dolores Bright. 1/2, Bill Goodman, Marty Goodman, Craig Linderman, Marianne Linderman.

3, Stanley Jacobson, Linda Perlman, Brad Dracka, Jonathan Fleischmann. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Goodman team. 2, Michael Kaleel, Linda & Arthur Golumbia, John Dreifus. 3, Calvin Waisanen, Graham Putnam, James Egan, Corey Powell. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Goodman team. 2, Waisanen team. 3, Thomas Ciaramitaro, Lakshmi Vora, Naresh Kapila, Larry Lewis.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

PAIRS FLIGHT A & B: 1, Matt Parks, Robert Parks. 2, Stu Cohen, Irving Hershman. 3, Neil Manley Jr., Elaine Spiro. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Parks. 2, Rita Levin, Anita Green. 3,

Stein Trophy Race

Compiled by William Arlinghaus

With just the Motor City Regional remaining on the 2016 MBA tournament calendar, here are the standings of the Stein, our player of the year award:

- 1, Martin Hirschman, 97.48
- 2, Sheldon Kirsch, 82.13
- 3, Jonathan Fleischmann, 80.86
- 4, Lynne Schaeffer, 71.22
- 5, Michael Giordano, 63.26
- 6, Kurt Dasher, 51.01
- 7, Bert Newman, 47.43
- 8, Richard Temkin, 46.59
- 9, John Koschik, 45.46
- 10, Grant Petersen, 44.13

Charles & Mares Hirschert.

SUNDAY SWISS TEAMS

FLIGHT A: 1, Rhonda & Joe Monro, Frank Treiber III, Zachary Wasserman. 2/3, Cono Emanuele, Jonathan Fleischmann, Kurt Dasher, Frank Sensoli, Michael Alioto. 2/3, Jack Shartsis, Jerrold Grossman, Henry Shevitz, Sheldon Kirsch. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Lillian Back, James Walter, David Aderente, Wilbur Argersinger. 2, Carol Macksey, Dianne Sradeja, Woodie Goddard, Susan Bowers. 3, Satish Shah, Naresh Kapila, Deepak Dighe, Lynda Thal. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Kenneth & Arlene Geisler, Lakshmi Vora, Ellen Silverest. 2, Stuart Dombey, Chris Brewer, Klaus Brondum, Martha Toon. 3, David Copi, Donajean Lawson, Aileen Bement, Darleen Yaskanin.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Patricia & Allan Becker. 2, John Abbot, Paul Joseph. 3, Lynn Martin, Barbara Drake. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Abbot, Joseph. 2, Martin, Drake. 3, Ann Margosian, Chris Hill. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Margosian, Hill. 2, Beth Kordt, Ruthan Brodsky

0-300 WINNERS...

THURSDAY AM PAIRS: Stephen & Kathleen Leist

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SWISS: Joyce Jonik, Michael Fant, Paul Tilly, Maria Conti

FRIDAY AM PAIRS: Douglas Sweeder, William Ahlstrom

FRIDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: Pamela Radike, Mary Jo Campbell

SATURDAY AM PAIRS: Gay Garcia, Anita Smokevitch

SATURDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS: Julian Prince, Steven Miller

Cheating or “unethical”?

To the Editor:

Re: Incident at Palmetto (Table Talk, June 2016).

Somehow the Jack of Spades jumped from East to West and then evicted a small diamond to keep both East and West hands at 13? The original committee found P. guilty of “prearranging” the deal... That finding of guilt has

not changed....

The most puzzling part is the exculpatory joint statement that P. was guilty of “only an ethical violation (but not cheating).” [That is] a complete inversion of truth and morality, and frankly, a corruption of the English language. George Orwell would have called it that; so do I.

—Roger Leemis

Giordano sets the pace at Joint MBA-SOMBA sectional

Mike Giordano was first in one event and second in two others to top the masterpoint list at the Joint MBA/SOMBA sectional, held June 23-26 at the Bridge Connection in Southfield.

Here are the results of the tournament:

MASTERPOINT LEADERS

- 1, Michael Giordano, 32.35
- 2, Grant Petersen, 27.71
- 3, Michael Alioto, 25.44
- 4, Martin Hirschman, 23.77
- 5, Kurt Dasher, 22.43
- 6, Jonathan Fleischmann, 22.17
- 7, Brenda Jaffe, 21.25
- 8/9, John Koschik, 21.05
- 8/9, Dennis Carman, 21.05
- 10, Robert Korten, 20.70

THURSDAY AM PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Kurt Dasher, Michael Alioto. 2, Richard Becher, Michael Giordano. 3, Dennis Carman, John Koschik. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Michael McDonald, Dennis Potocsky. 2, Richard Mayer, Barbara Jur. 3, Wilbur Argersinger, David Graff. **FLIGHT C:** 1, George Christian, Larry Cohen. 2, Marilyn Nathanson, Rita Levin. 3, Fred Batten, Richard Peacock.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SWISS TEAMS FLIGHT A:

- 1, Martin Hirschman, Samuel

Hirschman, Lynne Schaeffer, Robert Mendelson. 2, Chuck & Suzy Burger, Michael Zerbini, Beth Armstrong. 3, Ronald Horwitz, Charlotte Kartsonis, Walter Goldsmith, Brenda Jaffe. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Linda Lutze, Fred Batten, Sonia Manchek, Richard Peacock. 2/3, Brand & Susan Marwil, Geraldine Spilman, John Vollmayer. 2/3, Bob Ondo, Genie Baker, William Niemczyk, Allan Tushman. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Lutze team. 2, Marwil team. 3/4, Paul Chirgwin, Larry MacDonald, Edward Lough, Ann Haycock. 3/4, Fran Wigod, Cydnie Reich, Deanna Holtzman, Anita Green.

THURSDAY NIGHT PAIRS

FLIGHT A & B: 1, Brad Dracka, Jonathan Fleischmann. 2, Robert Korten, Grant Petersen. 3, Sandy Birnholtz, Clarke Cunningham. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Gerald Wahl, Michael Betzold. 2, Pearl Lim, G. Sue Thelen. 3, Klaus Brondum, Albert Sayed.

FRIDAY AM PAIRS FLIGHT A:

1, Suzanne Stevenson, Liz Kalb. 2, Steve O'Guin, Margaret Moore. 3, John Koschik, Dennis Carman. **FLIGHT B:** 1, O'Guin, Moore. 2, Michael McDonald, Sandy Birnholtz. 3, Carolyn Simmer, Lynda Thal. **FLIGHT C:** 1,

Frederic Fayle, James Banaszek. 2, Dan Sutherland, Thom Allen. 3, John Abbott, Paul Joseph.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Grant Petersen, Robert Korten. 2, Michael Giordano, Michael Crane. 3, Mary Smith, Henry Shevitz.

FLIGHT B: 1, Petersen, Korten. 2, Thom Allen, Dan Sutherland. 3, Joe Monro, Michael McDonald. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Allen, Sutherland. 2, Steven Kaplan, Larry Cohen. 3, Henry Zhang, Yanping Zhang.

FRIDAY NIGHT PAIRS FLIGHT

A: 1, Mary Smith, Henry Shevitz. 2, Jonathan Fleischmann, Brad Dracka. 3, Michael McGaw, Clarke Cunningham. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Fleischmann, Dracka. 2, McGaw, Cunningham. 3, Ryan Sweeder, Douglas Sweeder.

FLIGHT C: 1, Sweeders. 2, Susan Yester, Richard Muntz.

SATURDAY AM PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Bert Newman, William Rouse. 2, Patricia & Alan Becker. 3, Marilyn Crane, Charlotte Miller. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Beckers. 2, Robert Raf, Steven Jacob. 3, Steven Kaplan, Randy Rodnick. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Kaplan, Rodnick. 2, Marilyn Nathanson, William Landrum. 3, Gerald Bloom, R. Bloom.

SATURDAY SWISS TEAMS

FLIGHT A: 1, Michael Giordano, Charlotte Kartsonis, Walter Goldsmith, Brenda Jaffe. 2, Tengyun Tony Cao, Xiaoping Wu, Henry Zhang, Yanping Zhang. 3/4/5, Martin Hirschman, Robert Brent, Steven Winokur, William Winokur. 3/4/5, Lori Strager, Michael Crane, Graham Putnam, Ed Herstein. 3/4/5, Grant Petersen, Robert Korten, Ching-Po Wang, Xingyu Zhang.

FLIGHT B: 1, Cao team. 2, Petersen team. 3, Kenneth & Arlene Geisler, Peter Bolgar, Susan Woodrow. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Cao team. 2, Deepak Dighe, Larry Lewis, John Vollmayer, Genie Baker. 3, Cassandra Rodger, Patti Stoner, Arnold Gottlieb, Eva Rival.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Anastasia Tessler, Wilbur Argersinger. 2, Gerald Viedrah, Beverly Kruger. 3, Mary Smith, Henry Shevitz.

FLIGHT B: 1, Viedrah, Kruger. 2, Jane Gardner, Tom Baer. 3, Suzanne Stevenson, Nadele Spiro. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Gardner, Baer. 2, Leroy Thompson, Brenda Braceful. 3, Marilyn Nathanson, William Landrum.

SUNDAY AM PAIRS FLIGHT

A: 1, Richard Menczer, Neal Strand. 2, Dragoslav & Rose Jurisich. 3, Marilyn Nathanson, William Landrum. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Ju-

risichs. 2, Nathanson, Landrum.
3, Mohammad Dadashzadeh,
James Huston. **FLIGHT C:** 1,
Jurisichs. 2, Dadashzadeh, Hus-
ton.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Wilma Swayze,
Rosemary Sharland. 2, Patri-
cia & Allan Becker. 3, Lynn
Martin, Linda Schiller. **FLIGHT**
B: 1, Swayze, Sharland. 2,
Martin, Schiller. 3, Henry
Zhang, Yanping Zhang. **FLIGHT**
C: 1, Martin, Schiller. 2, Zhangs.
3, Patty McCracken, Lynn Wood.

SUNDAY SWISS TEAMS

FLIGHT A: 1, Jonathan Fleisch-
mann, Cono Emanuele, Kurt
Dasher, Michael Alioto. 2, Grant
Petersen, Dennis Carman, Bob
Rasmussen, John Koschik. 3,
Martin Hirschman, Susan & Gor-
don Parnes, Lynne Schaeffer.
FLIGHT B: 1/2, Steven Jacob,
Clarke Cunningham, Robert Raf,
Sandy Birnholtz. 1/2, Victoria
Vallone, Charles Schiff, Thomas
Hunt, Ross Weinstein. 3/4, Dan
Sutherland, Thom Allen, Alan
Cohn, William Niemczyk. 3/4,
Bob Ondo, Barb Ferrera, Maria

**CONGRATULATIONS,
NEW LIFE MASTER**

John Beckman

Conti, Graham Putnam. **FLIGHT**
C: 1/2, Sutherland team. 1/2,
Ondo team. 3, Martha Toon,
Klaus Brondum, Lynn Cundy,
Albert Sayed.

**0-300 Winners
at June sectional**

THURSDAY AM PAIRS: Bruce
Ridley, Stanley Kurzman

**THURSDAY AFTERNOON
SWISS TEAMS:** Adrienne Al-
lard, Manus Nemeth, Daniel
Wolf, Gerard Peplowski

THURSDAY NIGHT PAIRS:
Dorothy Levitsky, Ann Bollan

FRIDAY AM PAIRS: Paul Tilly,
Michael Fant

FRIDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS:
Barbara Drake, Lynn Martin

SATURDAY AM PAIRS: Bruce
Ridley, Stanley Kurzman

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON
PAIRS:** Julian Prince, Steven
Miller

SUNDAY AM PAIRS: Julian
Prince, Steven Miller

**WELCOME, NEW
MEMBERS**

Jim Beebe
Peggy Blaylock
Joe Feldman

**WELCOME,
TRANSFERS**

Janine Easter
Evie Lichter
Joseph Nelson
Harold Osher
Judy Osher
Barbara Schiff

Milton Siegel
Douglas
Sendelbach
Sharon Simo
Miriam Shaw
Allan Tushman
Fran Wigod

Comedy of Errors at Summer NABC

By Marty Hirschman

There was a time when ACBL tournament directors were gods. But over the years, the ranks of the directing staff have been thinned by deaths and retirements. The league has struggled to find and train replacements.

Nowhere was this more evident than the recent summer NABC in Washington DC. Toronto's former representative on the national ACBL board, Jonathan Steinberg, reported:

- The first day of the von Zedtwitz LM Pairs, incorrect boards were put out in one section. Play stopped, boards were picked up, and then returned.

- The first weekend in the 0-5000 or 0-1500 LM Pairs, the boards placed on afternoon tables had inadvertently been posted online! Fortunately, someone noticed. The boards were removed and replaced with the evening set of boards, giving the ACBL time to prepare a new set for the evening.

- There was a problem with the boards in the first session of the Mixed BAM which delayed the start of the game.

- The worst error was in the

second day of the Wernher Open Pairs. 176 pairs (88 tables) qualified for the two-session final – 4 sections of 22 tables – a web movement. It is critical using a web movement scored across the field to start the boards on the correct table. In Section A, they got it wrong. More than 30 minutes into the game, everything stopped and all the results were thrown out. Section A received a new set of boards, different from what was being played in the other three sections!

"Human error is inevitable, but stories of incorrect boards being passed out were legion in both Pair and even NABC pre-duplicated Swiss team events," Steinberg said.

Our Bob Katz reports that carryovers from the first day of the two-day 0-10,000 NABC Pairs were incorrectly computed at about half the correct values. Katz's partner, Bob Cappelli (who recently moved to the Baltimore area from Michigan) did his own computations and reported the error. At first he was told the posted carryovers were correct. Only after he asked to see the calculations did the directors discover the error.

DOUBLE DUMMY

By Marty Hirschman

NORTH

♠K974
♥AQ972
♦10
♣Q73

WEST

♠J1085
♥J4
♦932
♣J942

EAST

♠Q2
♥8
♦AK8654
♣K1086

SOUTH

♠A63
♥K10653
♦QJ7
♣A5

Contract: 4♥ by South
Opening lead: 2 of clubs

Deep Finesse, the omniscient computer program, says declarer can always make 11 tricks in hearts. But how?

Solution, page 24