



TABLE TALK

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Katz, Fleischmann, Dracka win MBA trophies

Bob Katz of Ann Arbor is the 2014 winner of the Edward F. Stein Memorial Trophy for the MBA player who wins the most points in overall placings at our tournaments. It was the first Stein win for Katz, who led the race wire-to-wire.

Jonathan Fleischmann is this year's winner of the Beverly Bluth Trophy, awarded to the Flight B MBA member who wins the most master-points at our tournaments. He

also won last year, which was the first year the trophy was given.

Brad Dracka is the 2014 winner of the Willie Winokur Trophy, given to the Flight C MBA player who wins the most points at our tournaments. Julie Arbit won the inaugural Winokur race last year.

Katz and Fleischmann both are attorneys. Fleischmann

(Continued on page 2)

Have a ball at the Ann Arbor sectional

"A **ballroom** is a large **room** inside a **building**, the designated purpose of which is holding large formal parties called **balls**."

— Wikipedia, the online free encyclopedia

Have you ever played bridge in a ballroom, other than perhaps at a national tournament?

Well, a beautiful ballroom is waiting for all of us at the 2015 Michael Graham Ann Arbor Sectional. The two-day tournament will be held Jan. 24-25 at the Grand Ballroom in the Eastern Michigan University Student Center in Ypsilanti.

It's the perfect setting for a tournament. See all the details on page 3.

(Continued from page 1)

and Dracka are both working as directors at the Bridge Connection in Southfield.

Here are the top finishers in each MBA trophy race. (Note: Points won at the Motor City Regional count at 70 percent.)

STEIN TROPHY

- 1, Robert Katz, 132.29
- 2, Sheldon Kirsch, 100.80
- 3, Jonathan Fleischmann, 84.51
- 4, Richard Temkin, 77.97
- 5, Irving Rosenstein, 76.30

BLUTH TROPHY

- 1, Jonathan Fleischmann, 84.51
- 2, Grant Petersen, 75.11
- 3, Brad Dracka, 56.49
- 4, Steven Winokur, 45.17
- 5, Jordan Kaye, 25.01

WINOKUR TROPHY

- 1, Brad Dracka, 56.49
- 2, Steven Winokur, 45.17
- 3, Jordan Kaye, 25.01
- 4, Yi Ouyang, 21.68
- 5, Constance Jones, 18.67

Compiled by Terry T. Brown

TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

Jan. 10-11: Jackson sectional

Jan. 24-25: Ann Arbor sectional (MBA)

Feb. 12-15: Farmington Hills sectional

Feb. 27-Mar. 1: Toledo sectional

Mar. 26-29: Southfield sectional (MBA)

Apr. 10-11: Bloomfield Hills I/N sectional

Apr. 11-12: GNT district finals, Southfield

Apr. 13-19: Spring STAC

Apr. 23-25: Grand Rapids sectional

May 1-3: Davison sectional

May 1-3: Frankfort sectional

May 11-17: FARMINGTON HILLS REGIONAL

May 29-31: Kalamazoo sectional

June 5-7: Lansing sectional

June 14-20: FLINT REGIONAL

June 25-28: Southfield sectional (MBA/SOMBA)

July 10-12: Toledo sectional

CADDIES WANTED

MBA needs caddies for upcoming tournaments. The pay rate is \$35 per session, plus \$10 for lunch when the caddy works two consecutive sessions in one day and lunch is not otherwise provided.

If you or someone you know wishes to caddy, contact caddy co-chair Marilyn Crane, 734-591-3431, mqcrane@yahoo.com.

Michigan Bridge Association's
Michael Graham Ann Arbor Sectional
January 24-25, 2015
Eastern Michigan University Student Center
900 Oakwood St., Ypsilanti MI 48197
734-487-1157

Saturday, January 24

Stratified Open Swiss Teams Playthrough—7 matches..... 11 a.m.

*Stratified Non-LM Pairs (single session)..... 11 a.m.

*Stratified Non-LM Pairs (single session)..... 3 p.m.

Sunday, January 25

Stratified Open Swiss Teams Playthrough—7 matches..... 11 a.m.

*Stratified Non-LM Pairs (single session)..... 11 a.m.

*Stratified Non-LM Pairs (single session)..... 3 p.m.

***Starred events are open only to non-Life Masters
with fewer than 500 masterpoints**

***Free coffee and snacks. Free parking. There will be a lunch break during
which food will be available for purchase at the food court in the building.***

Stratified Events: A = 3000+, B = 1000-3000, C = 0-1000
Non-LM Strats: (0-20) (20-50) (50-200) (200-500) (as attendance warrants)
Average MP will be used to determine your strat.

Directions from Detroit suburbs:

**Take M-14 to U.S. 23 southbound to exit 37A
(Washtenaw Avenue toward Ypsilanti). Go east on
Washtenaw Avenue for 2.9 miles.**

**When you first come to the Eastern Michigan University
campus, turn left (north). This is Oakwood Street (where
there is a traffic signal but no street sign).**

**Go .4 miles to the Student Center. The center and park-
ing lot will be on your right. *There is no charge for park-
ing on weekends.***

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Sue McIlhiny, 313-563-4039, SUEMCILHINY@msn.com

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TABLE TALK

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MBA CLUB DIRECTORY

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

■**Ann Arbor Saturday Afternoon**, 1320 Baldwin (Burns Center), Ann Arbor. Reuven AnafShalom, 734-786-8380. Saturday 1 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.

■**Dearborn Recreation Dept. BC**, 15801 Michigan Ave., Dearborn. Stacey Tessler, 734-623-8050. Friday 6:30 p.m.

■**Downriver BC**, Southgate Civic Center, 14700 Reaume Pkwy., Southgate. Ron Smith, 519-969-4441. Tuesday 10:30 a.m.

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

■**Friendly Friday BC**, St. Paul's

Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms. Ed Anthony, 248-648-0989. Friday 12 p.m.

■**Huron Valley Bridge Club**, 9525 E. Highland Rd., Howell. Jim & Cheryl Perna, 248-887-9283. Thursday 6 p.m.

■**Neighborhood Club**, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms. James Schmidt, 586-463-9835. Thursday 12 p.m., Sunday 1:30 p.m.

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

■**Thursday Evening Bridge**, 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.

IT'S YOUR BID

By Marty Hirschman

Some curiosities in this issue's answers: The same bid scored 100 in four of the five problems. And in the fifth (No. 4), there were panel votes for each of the next five legal bids past the last given bid in the problem – *except for the bid that was the winner in the other four problems.*

Congratulations to Howard Perlman and Bob Webber for their perfect scores, and to James Walter for high score among readers.

Curious about how you would score in It's Your Bid? Send in your answers to next issue's hands, found at the end of this article.

HOW THE PANEL VOTED

	1	2	3	4	5
Gene Benedict	Pass	2NT	2♥	2♥	2NT
Norm Bolton	2♠	2NT	3♥	Dbl	3♣
Bob Brent	2NT	2NT	2NT	4♠	Pass
Brenda Bryant	2NT	2NT	3♦	3♣	3♣
Chuck Burger	2NT	2NT	2♥	2♠	3♣
Suzy Burger	2♠	2NT	3♥	3♦	2NT
Bob Cappelli	2NT	2NT	2♥	Dbl	2NT
Joe Chiesa	2NT	2NT	2NT	3♣	2NT
Jonathan Fleischmann	2NT	3♣	2NT	3♦	2NT
Sam Hirschman	2NT	2NT	2NT	2♥	2NT
Bob Katz	2NT	2NT	2NT	3♣	2NT
Sheldon Kirsch	2NT	3NT	2NT	3♦	2NT
Morrie Kleinplatz	2NT	2NT	2NT	Dbl	2NT
Marilyn Maddox	2NT	3♣	2NT	3♦	2NT
Myles Maddox	2NT	2NT	2♥	2♠	Pass
Howard Perlman	2NT	2NT	2NT	3♦	2NT
Irv Rosenstein	2NT	2NT	2NT	Dbl	2NT
Don Rumelhart	2NT	2NT	3♦	3♦	2NT
Mary Smith	2NT	2NT	2NT	Dbl	3♣
Richard Temkin	2NT	2NT	3♥	3♦	2NT
Bob Webber	2NT	2NT	2NT	3♦	2NT
Willie Winokur	2NT	2NT	3♥	Dbl	2NT

SCORES

Experts:

Howard Perlman	500
Bob Webber	500
Morrie Kleinplatz	490
Irv Rosenstein	490
Richard Temkin	470
Bob Cappelli.....	460
Joe Chiesa	460
Bob Katz	460
Mary Smith.....	460
Willie Winokur	460
Jonathan Fleischmann	450
Sam Hirschman.....	450
Marilyn Maddox.....	450
Don Rumelhart.....	450

CORRECTION: Due to an arithmetic error, Willie Winokur was incorrectly omitted from the expert leader board last issue. He scored 450. Sorry, Willie.

Readers:

James Walter	430
Sandy Birnholtz.....	420
Val Enache.....	420
Sy Goodman	420
Kerry Lafer	390
Irv Hershman.....	380
Seymour Mandell	380
Clarke Cunningham	370
Bob Ondo.....	370
George Pope.....	370
Marlene Mandell.....	340
Morris Swiger	330
Gerald Wahl.....	320
Patty Becker.....	310
Michael Betzold.....	300
Jerry Jefferies.....	300
Sarah Lampert	290
Peter Bolgar	240

THIS ISSUE'S HANDS

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

♠A82 ♥75 ♦Q10854 ♣A108
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1♠ 2♥ Pass ?

Action	Score	Votes
2NT	100	19
2♠	50	2
Pass	40	1
3♥	40	0

To some extent this problem is an indirect poll about the expected hands for a vulnerable two-level overcall. The

panel's view: Possibly quite a good hand.

With only one hard stopper in the opponent's bid suit, 2NT doesn't rate to be the best final contract. But it was the overwhelming expert choice – apparently because it shows values and keeps the bidding open (with possible game in mind) without overstating support for partner's suit.

Jonathan Fleischmann (2NT): I have too much to pass, and

notrump should be played from my side with the opening bidder on lead. Even at matchpoints, partner should have something for his vulnerable two-level overcall.

Bob Katz (2NT): Much too much to pass. Partner could have up to 17 points. I have a balanced hand with a spade stopper.

Bob Brent (2NT): If partner has as little as ♠xx ♥AQJxxx ♦Axx ♣Jxx, we can score up a game.

Don Rumelhart (2NT): Partner should have a good hand and his values are behind the opener, so I have too much to pass. 2NT seems right. Aces are good.

Morrie Kleinplatz (2NT): The value bid. I would prefer better spades, but this is preferable to 3♦ or 3♥.

Brenda Bryant (2NT): Likely too aggressive, but I think it's important to keep the bidding open.

Chuck Burger (2NT): Not 2♠. Value bid and keeps options open without consuming too much space.

Joe Chiesa (2NT): Although 2♥ may be our last plus, I deem this hand too rich after

a vulnerable overcall to pass. Not enough strength for 3♦ nor enough length for 3♥, which would be my second choice. At matchpoints if you need a board you should pass.

If it's matchpoints (which it is) don't you always need a board?

Howard Perlman (2NT): Solid values...if there is a game, 9 tricks may be the max, and if 4♥ is right, it's easily reachable.

I wonder about that last comment. If partner bids 3♥ over 2NT, isn't that weakish with six hearts? How will partner give us a choice between 3NT and 4♥ if he has a max with six decent but not solid hearts?

Since I basically play that the 2♥ overcall shows a six-card suit, and since the ace of spades will be good in hearts but may be insufficient in NT, I would be inclined to raise... and I rate it marginal between 2♠ and just 3♥, shaving a little off the evaluation of the hand for only having two-card support.

Suzy Burger (2♠): I owe partner a call. Don't like NT with just one stopper. Gives partner a chance to show some shape.

Norm Bolton (2♠): Limit+. My pard makes good vul. over-calls.

Despite all the rosy views taken by the rest of the panel, this lone vote could be the winner at the table:

Gene Benedict (Pass): Game is unlikely, while West may get in trouble vulnerable if he reopens the bidding.

2. MTPTs. None vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠AK ♥K7 ♦Q1087542 ♣AQ
 WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
 -- Pass Pass 1♦
 Pass 1♥ Pass ?

Action	Score	Votes
2NT	100	19
3♣	50	2
3♦	40	0
3NT	40	1
4♥	0	0

We have 18 pretty good looking HCPs with seven so-so diamonds. That's (much) too strong for a non-forcing (ostensibly 16-18 according to the old texts) jump rebid of 3♦. So I would be constrained to bid 3NT, which in the modern style shows long, usually almost solid diamonds, stoppers and a hand too good for 3♦, or possibly "invent" a jump shift to 3♣, which at least is forcing to game.

Sheldon Kirsch (3NT): This hand is really too good for 3♦, and the diamonds, while long, are not really good enough to ignore the rest of the hand. Hope partner has diamond help or enough stuff on the outside.

Marilyn Maddox (3♣): Jump shift shows an unbalanced 18 or more plus at least a 5-card diamond suit.

Jonathan Fleischmann (3♣): 3♦ is an underbid, 3NT mis-states the location of my honors, and I prefer to lie about a minor when faking a jump shift.

Partner's actual hand at the table – ♠9 ♥AJ82 ♦AJ9 ♣108653 – demonstrates the problem with the panel choice of 2NT. With that hand, partner will simply raise to 3NT and a very good slam will be missed. (One of two finesses = 75 percent.) But if opener rebids 3NT (or 3♣), partner can drive to 6♦ based on the fit plus aces and singleton.

Another problem with 2NT is that partner will pass with something like ♠xxx ♥Q10xx ♦Kx ♣xxxx, which usually will make 3NT.

Let's see what the panelists have to say for themselves...

Gene Benedict (2NT): Too

many black suit stoppers to consider rebidding diamonds.

Bob Brent (2NT): I may miss a slam, and frankly I would have opened 2NT with a broken seven-card suit. On the other hand, I could go down in notrump while making game in diamonds.

Chuck Burger (2NT): The value bid and right-siding NT if right. 3NT lacks suit quality.

Suzy Burger (2NT): Strength is right and double stoppers in unbid suits. Unfortunately does not address seven-card diamond suit, but no diamond rebid is accurately descriptive.

Bob Cappelli (2NT): Right on values. Too good for 3♦ with so much of hand outside of diamonds.

Joe Chiesa (2NT): Loathe it, but perhaps best of a bad lot. Will likely miss 6♦ if there. I am not strong enough for a jump shift; moreover it distorts my shape. 2NT has the advantage of right-siding NT. My hand is too good, my suit too bad for 3♦. Most play a 3NT rebid here as a much better suit serving as a major source of tricks.

Sam Hirschman (2NT): Got to love matchpoints. I have

double stoppers in the black suits. All partner needs for 3NT is a doubleton A or K of diamonds. He may also be able to bid 4♥.

Sheldon Kirsch (2NT): Seems automatic since 3♦ does not really do the hand justice, and 2NT may eventually get the hearts into the auction.

Howard Perlman (2NT): Wrong diamond suit for 3NT, and a jump shift with a weak anchor suit is a big distortion.

Don Rumelhart (2NT): A bit of an underbid if partner has a diamond fit, but right on HCPs. Also 2NT protects my club Q and heart K in our most likely game.

2NT will rarely make on the nose. When partner has a weak hand with short diamonds, 3♦ will be the best contract, but none of the panel choices will get there. All will lose to the substantial number of players who rebid 3♦. Notrump will either make about 5-7 tricks or 10-11, depending on whether, and how fast, the diamonds come in. So we might as well be in 3NT to get the game bonus, while also keeping open the possibility of a diamond slam.

3. MTPTs. None vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠4 ♥KQJ63 ♦K764 ♣Q72
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
Pass 1♠ Pass 1NT*
Pass 2♦ Pass ?**

*Forcing, usually 5-11 HCPs

**3 or more diamonds

Action	Score	Votes
2NT	100	12
2♥	70	4
3♥	70	4
3♦	50	2
3NT	20	0

This is a problem hand playing 2/1 Game Force, because 2♥ on the first round of bidding would be a big overbid. Now, I can't rebid 2♥, which shows only 6-10 HCPs and usually six hearts. Can't raise diamonds since partner may have only three. That leaves 2NT, showing our invitational values and stoppers. If partner has enough to carry on to game plus three hearts, he'll bid 3♥ on the way to 3NT in case I have five of them.

Jonathan Fleischmann (2NT): I think this is the book bid, although admittedly a weakness of 2/1 Game Force. Partner is expected to bid 3♥ on the way to 3NT when holding three hearts. With my soft values I'm not ready to get too excited about diamonds.

Joe Chiesa (2NT): 3♦ second choice (sans one diamond). 2NT correctly aligns the club suit (Ax in partner's hand). 2NT is also perfect in terms of values and will elicit a 3♥ bid by partner when he accepts the invitation holding three hearts. If given the 10 of hearts, I would consider 3♥.

Bob Cappelli (2♥): Can play opposite a singleton and weak hand. Likely to score as good as 3♦. Don't like 2NT.

Sam Hirschman (2NT): Clarifies values and shape. 3♦ is too much of an underbid, and it's matchpoints.

Bob Katz (2NT): I cannot bid 3♦ and maybe end up in 4-3 diamond fit instead of 5-3 heart fit. I could take a very conservative view and bid 2♥, but I prefer the value bid.

Marilyn Maddox (2NT): Need to make an invitational bid. To bid 2♥ would not show 11 points.

Richard Temkin (3♥): With 11 HCPs I need to make an invitational bid. 3♥ best describes this hand despite being short a heart.

Suzy Burger (3♥): I need to show some values. Wish I had a sixth heart.

Don Rumelhart (3♦): Too

much to bid 2♥. I am worried about our club stopper if I bid 2NT. If partner has three clubs, he has more diamonds. If partner is 5-3-4-1 with a good hand he will bid 3♥. Then I will know what to do.

Gene Benedict (2♥): No strong feelings on this hand. 2NT might work out better.

Chuck Burger (2♥): When wrong, I might get a second chance.

Mary Smith (2NT): But 2♥ awfully close.

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

♠Q5 ♥AKQ109 ♦973 ♣AJ6			
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
--	--	1♦	1♥
Pass	1♠	2♦	?

Action	Score	Votes
3♦	100	8
Dbl	90	6
3♣	60	3
2♥	50	2
2♠	50	2
3♥	40	0
4♠	40	1

North's 1♠ should show about 9 to 13 HCPs with five spades, or maybe a little less with six spades. So it makes sense to move toward game with your 16 HCPs including the fitting Qx. Thus the panel

choice of 3♦, strong and forcing, but with some variations on what they think it shows and exactly where they are headed.

Bob Webber (3♦): We will get to some game.

Don Rumelhart (3♦): Asks partner to tell me more as game is still a possibility.

Jonathan Fleischmann (3♦): Taking the high road. I have a fitting spade honor, a semi-solid suit of my own, and stuff in the unbid suit. Partner's first obligation is to bid 3NT with a full diamond stopper.

Sheldon Kirsch (3♦): Try to get to 3NT or...

Richard Temkin (3♦): Have to make a bid that shows extra values. I'm hoping that partner's next bid is helpful.

Suzy Burger (3♦): Max for an overcall with help in spades.

Marilyn Maddox (3♦): Have good hand, would like to have 3-card spade support but have tricks for partner.

Howard Perlman (3♦): Partner didn't bid 1♠ over my vul 1♥ overcall on Jxxxx. I have a good hand and want partner to bid a game with something like ♠KJxxxx ♥xx ♦xx ♣Qxx.

If that's what 1♠ is likely to deliver, why not just bid the game ourselves?

Bob Brent (4♠): Table my hand with a club in with my spades. All pard needs is ♠K10xxxx ♥xx ♦xx ♣Qxx to make a game, and may be much better.

Other ideas:

Gene Benedict (2♥): I lack a 6th heart, but bidding twice vulnerable shows a good hand.

Sam Hirschman (2♥): Can't pass, too good. Hearts good enough to rebid at 2-level. Can raise partner's 2♠ correction to 3♠.

Chuck Burger (2♠): Partner has 5+ spades. Protects possible king of diamonds. Worth another bid and I bid them hearts already and didn't catch a raise.

Joe Chiesa (3♣): A minimal misdescription. Sue me for one more club. I must show partner extra values. An inferior alternative would be 2♠ or 3♠. 3♣ enables us to reach 3NT or 4♠. If partner was rescuing me from 1♥ with some 2-count, I will belittle his family tree.

Bob Katz (3♣): Hard to know just how good a player I have.

2♠ is underbid. Partner will know I am not 5-5 since I didn't bid 2NT the first time around. Not quite strong enough to bid 3♦.

Willie Winokur (DbI): Do something intelligent.

Morrie Kleinplatz (DbI): Extras with no clear direction. Second choice would be 3♥, but it is a distant second.

Bob Cappelli (DbI): Shows values but denies three spades, six hearts, diamond stopper.

Irv Rosenstein (DbI): Cooperative. No clear action with extra values. I can stand spades if partner rebids them. If partner passes, he will have short hearts and I will likely have 3-4 defensive tricks.

Mary Smith (DbI): Too much for 3♦ IMHO. Double = take-out or card-showing, I hope.

Even in this new era of virtually all low-level doubles being for takeout, I don't see any compelling reason why this particular double shouldn't be for penalty when we have so many other ways to move forward (2♠, 2NT, 3♣, 3♦, 3♥ and 3♠). I guess I've become old-fashioned.

This problem was suggested by Joe Chiesa and comes

from the April 1975 Master Solver's feature in Bridge World Magazine. Joe reports that the BW panelists split as follows: 2♥-7, 3♦-6, 3♠-5, 2♣-4, 3♥-3, 3♣-1, Dbl-1. Note the low vote for double way back in 1975.

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

♠J9843 ♥52 ♦J106 ♣1074
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
2♠ Dbl Pass ?

Action	Score	Votes
2NT	100	16
3♣	70	4
Pass	50	2
3♦	50	0

We're in trouble on this hand, but Dr. Bolton has the perfect prescription:

Norm Bolton (3♣): Take bathroom break and forget to come back.

The panel's choice of 2NT is Lebensohl – showing about 0-7 HCPs and relaying initially to 3♣. Playing that convention, a direct 3♣ bid would be natural with about 8-10 HCPs. The 3♣ bidders presumably guessed we are not playing Leb.

Don Rumelhart (2NT): Relay to 3♣, which I will pass. Someone has a good hand and it may be partner, so he

may refuse the relay and bid a suit of his own. My spades are too weak to consider passing the double, especially at IMPs.

Richard Temkin (2NT): No way I'm sitting for the double at IMPs. I'm hoping partner bids 3♦ or 3♥, which would show a good suit. If not, I'll pass his forced 3♣.

Gene Benedict (2NT): Lebensohl, relay to 3♣. I might gamble a pass at match-points. If partner makes a poor lead, 2♠ could make.

Irv Rosenstein (2NT): Hope to land somewhere undoubled. Pass rates to be at least -670.

Mary Smith (3♣): Least of all evils, I hope.

Jonathan Fleischmann (2NT): Lebensohl. I don't want to come back with -670 or -870, so I'll try to get out undoubled for 50 an undertrick. East's non-redouble bodes well, and partner still has time to show a monster if he has one.

Joe Chiesa (2NT): Lebensohl. I will not double vulnerable opps into game at IMPs and hope partner can produce five defensive tricks. Hoping to escape in 3♣, 3♦ or 3♥ dry. Sometimes -150 is a

good number to achieve.

Sam Hirschman (2NT): Lebensohl. Hope they don't double 3♣ or 3♦. I don't think I can really beat 2♠x, so -150 or -300 is better than -670, -870, etc.

There is a great story behind this hand, held by Joe Monro in a recent regional knockout. He passed and 2♠x made. Not too good, you say? Well at the other table, the player with his cards bid and wound up down 1700 in 3♠x – a big IMP pickup for Joe. Not too shabby! (In presenting the problem, I may have inadvert-

ently switched the vulnerabilities. If you are vul and they non-vul, passing is a little more attractive.)

Myles Maddox (Pass): Best chance for a plus score.

Bob Brent (Pass): And pray. It has been a long time since I brought back -670 to my (maybe now ex-) team. It may be better than -800 that could result if I bid a Lebensohl 2NT.

Finally, more attempted humor:

Suzy Burger (2NT): Lebensohl. Let partner play this hand!

NEXT ISSUE'S HANDS

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

♠A1065 ♥KQ1084 ♦Q432 ♣void
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
1♣ 1♠ Dbl ?

2. MTPTs. None vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠AKQJ62 ♥Q4 ♦KJ103 ♣10
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- -- -- 1♠
Dbl 1NT 2♣ ?

3. IMPs. Both vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠AQ854 ♥753 ♦532 ♣A6
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- 1♦ Pass 1♠
Pass 4♣* Pass ?

*Shortness in clubs with a raise to 4♣

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

♠KQ1072 ♥void ♦AJ1054 ♣Q75
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- 1♣ Pass 1♠
4♥ Pass Pass ?

5. MTPTs. None vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠void ♥AJ102 ♦KQ1043 ♣AQ62
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- -- Pass 1♦
3♠ Dbl 4♠ ?

Mail your answers to:
Table Talk Magazine
30660 Woodgate Dr.
Southfield MI 48076
Or email to:
MBATalk@aol.com

MOTOR CITY REGIONAL

Morgan team sweeps KOs, Kirsch wins 2nd straight Mouser

A team of four Illinois players plus captain Jacob Morgan of Madison WI won all three major knockout team events at the 2014 Vince & Joan Remey Motor City Regional. Morgan and teammates Will Engel and James Melville each won 105.52 masterpoints, most for any player at the tournament. Josh Stark and Suzanne Dunn rounded out their team.

For the second straight year Sheldon Kirsch of West Bloomfield won the William S. Mouser Trophy for the District 12 member who gets the most points at the Motor City.

Here are the results of the tournament, held Oct. 13-19 at the William Costick Center in Farmington Hills.

MASTERPOINT LEADERS

- 1, Jacob Morgan, 105.52
- Will Engel, 105.52
- James Melville, 105.52
- 4, Joshua Stark, 103.76
- Suzanne Dunn, 103.76
- 6, Morrie Kleinplatz, 62.37
- Sheldon Kirsch, 62.37
- 8, Henry Shevitz, 62.29
- 9, Robert Katz, 61.79
- 10, Richard Temkin, 61.50
- 11, Michael Crane, 60.21
- 12, Gary Brinker, 59.62

- 13, Irving Rosenstein, 58.64
- 14, Robert Cappelli, 52.73
- 15, Robert Brent, 52.40
- 16, Joseph Ernsthausen, 48.68
- 17, Robert Bitterman, 48.65
- 18, Suzy Burger, 47.65
- 19, Frank Treiber III, 46.95
- 20, Larry Mori, 46.89

MONDAY NIGHT CHARITY

PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Steven Kaplan, Randy Rodnick. 2, Gerald & Fran Wigod. 3, Peter Bolgar, Arnold Fink. **FLIGHT B:** 1 & 2, same as A. 3, Robert Shubow, Daniel Schiffer. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Same as A. 2, same as B3. 3, Tom Baer, Bob Ondo.

MONDAY TUESDAY FLIGHT

A KO: 1, Jacob Morgan, James Melville, Will Engel, Suzanne Dunn, Joshua Stark. 2, Myles & Marilyn Maddox, Dwight Bender, Ewoud Van Goch, Mary Smith, Thomas Thomson.

MONDAY/TUESDAY FLIGHT

B KO: 1, Thomas Ciar-amitaro, Marilyn Nathanson, Rita Levin, Cassandra Rodger. 2, Dee Miller, Julianne Bog-giano, Donald Power, Karen Allen.

TUESDAY A/X SWISS

TEAMS: 1, Robert Brent,

Robert Cappelli, Robert Katz, Frank Treiber III, Robert Brاندow. 2, Larry Mori, Leonard Melander, Joe Chiesa, Michael Crane, Bob Webber. 3, Gary Brinker, Mary Ann Cooper, S. Kolinski. Joseph Ernsthausen. **FLIGHT A/X:** 1, Wayne & Catherine Bardsley, Ross Richardson, Donald Rumelhart. 2, Liz Kalb, Nancy Finkel, Nadele Spiro, Suzanne Stevenson. 3/4, Margaret Moore, Robert Raf, Steven Jacob, Georgene Cronin. 3/4, Michael Kaleel, Linda Golumbia, John Dreifus, Arthur Golumbia.

TUESDAY GOLD RUSH SWISS FLIGHT B: 1, Dan Sutherland, Thom Allen, Beth Gursky, Steven Kaplan. 2, Stuart Dombey, Martha & Inderpal Bhatia, Renata Wasserman. 3, Kenneth & Arlene Geisler, Roger & Terran Leemis. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Dombey team. 2/3, David Dursum, Neal Gehring, Janis James-Rubin, David Winer. 2/3, Cindy Obermeyer, Mary Scharff, Tom Baer, Jane Gardner.

SYLVIA STEIN OPEN PAIRS (WEDNESDAY) FLIGHT A: 1, Liz Kalb, Linda Perlman. 2, Jonathan Fleischmann, Brad Dracka. 3, Norman Bolton, Debra Eaves. **FLIGHT A/X:** 1, same as A2. 2, Terry T.

Brown, Marilyn Crane. 3, Ronald Rogers, Michael Kraut.

WEDNESDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS FLIGHT B: 1, Gheorghe & Dorina Beres. 2, Theresa Bellinger, Rebecca Bellinger. 3, Steven Kaplan, Larry Cohen. **FLIGHT C:** 1 & 2, same as B. 3, Mary Scharff, Marilee Neff.

WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY AM SWISS: 1, Grant Petersen, Brad Dracka, Julie Arbit, Jonathan Fleischmann. 2, Kathy Twomey, William Petti, Fran Denawetz, Judy Culver.

WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY KO: 1, Jacob Morgan, James Melville, Suzanne Dunn, Will Engel, Joshua Stark. 2, Robert Cappelli, Robert Bitterman, Robert Katz, Robert Brent, Sheldon Kirsch, Morrie Kleinplatz. 3/4, Kathy Twomey, Lynda Thal, Dan Sutherland, Ronna Galin. 3/4, Michael White, Sylvia Caley, Brenda Bryant, Michael Alioto, Christine & Gene Owens.

THURSDAY A/X SWISS FLIGHT A: 1, Richard Temkin, Gary Brinker, Henry Shevitz, Irving Rosenstein. 2, Martin Hirschman, Chuck & Suzy Burger, Robert Mendelson. 3, Steven Winokur, Frank Treiber III, Joseph Ernsthausen, Willie Winokur.

FLIGHT A/X: 1, John Gajar, David Aderente, Wilbur Argersinger, David Graff. 2, Beth Gursky, Shelley Boschan, Gail Hanson, Jakob Kristinson. 3, Dennis & Susan Carman, Victoria Vallone, Lynn Root.

THURSDAY GOLD RUSH SWISS FLIGHT B: 1, William Petti, Judy Culver, Fran Denawetz, Bradley Keller. 2, Sid & Carolyn Stevens, T. Goodwin, David Goodwin. 3, Barbara Brunner, Linda Shaver, Michael Kelingos, Kenneth Hays. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Stevens team. 2, Cindy Obermeyer, Mary Scharff, Josie Doherty, Jane Gardner. 3, Calvin Waisanen, Pamela George, Susan Rebner, Mark Hugger.

TUESDAY-THURSDAY SIDE SERIES: 1/2, Norman Rotter. 1/2, Kathy Newman. 3, Dale Dallaire.

FRIDAY OPEN PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, John Philbrook, John Allen. 2, Beth Armstrong, Michael Zerbini. 3, David Baker, Colin Lafferty. **FLIGHT A/X:** 1 & 2, same as A. 3, Larry Babich, Ernest Humbert.

FRIDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS FLIGHT B: 1, Joyce Close, Rosalyn Monticciolo. 2, Sara Furey, Bette Jo Walgren. 3, Terry Wright, Jennifer Ver-

dam-Woodward. **FLIGHT C:** 1, same as B1. 2, same as B3. 3, Theresa Bellinger, Rebecca Bellinger.

SATURDAY A/X PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Suzy Burger, Beverly Gardner. 2, Robert Mendelson, Myron Charfoos. 3, Myles & Marilyn Maddox. **FLIGHT A/X:** 1, same as A2. 2, Catherine Gay, William Northrup. 3, James & Cheryl Bloom.

SATURDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS FLIGHT B: 1, Samuel Smith, William Archer. 2, Larry Murray, Brian Sievert. 3, Linda Shaver, Barbara Brunner. **FLIGHT C:** 1, same as A1. 2, Rosemary Sharland, Arlene Borland. 3, Fred Goodell, Thomas Broyles.

SATURDAY COMPACT KO BRACKET 1: 1, Grant Petersen, Brad Dracka, Sondra Schubiner, Rose Burke. 2, Larry Mori, Leonard Melander Jr., Robert Bitterman, Jim Fatka. 3, Dwight Bender, Dennis Carman, Robert Houtrow, William Woodcock. **BRACKET II:** 1, Jordan Kaye, Kurt Dasher, Jonathan Fleischmann, Julie Arbit. 2, Sue Lan Ma, Tai Chan, Ching-Po Wang, Deepak Dighe. 3, Gary Robertson, Lee Easterbrook, Margot Stockie, Thea Davis.

FRIDAY/SATURDAY SIDE SERIES: 1/2, Bill Beaushaw. 1/2 Jeannie Beaushaw. 3, Neil Manley Jr.

FRIDAY/SATURDAY KOS: 1, Jacob Morgan, James Melville, Will Engel, Suzanne Dunn, Joshua Stark. 2, Morrie Kleinplatz, Michael Crane, Sheldon Kirsch, Henry Shevitz, Donald Rumelhart. 3/4, Norman Bolton, Debra Eaves, Linda Perlman, Robert Brandow. 3/4, Jagjit, Singh, Leon Schmelzer, Vicki Neiberg, Katherine Jernigan.

SUNDAY A/X SWISS FLIGHT A: 1, Richard Temkin, John Koschik, Dennis Carman, Irving Rosenstein. 2, Kurt Dasher, David Harty, Gary Brinker, Joseph Ernsausen. 3/4, Robert Katz, Robert Cappelli, Willie Winokur, Steven Winokur. 3/4, Martin Hirschman, Lynne Schaeffer, Gordon & Susan Parnes. **FLIGHT A/X:** 1 & 2, same as A. 3, Margaret Moore, Joe & Rhonda Monro, Terry T. Brown, Michael Giordano.

SUNDAY B/C/D SWISS FLIGHT B: 1, Michael Kaleel, Richard Menczer, Marilyn Shore, Neal Strand. 2, Brad Dracha, Anand Agarwal, Grant Petersen, James Smyth. 3, Jeff Kallenbach,

Walter Magee, Tim Berges, John Allen. **FLIGHT C:** Same as B. **FLIGHT D:** 1, D. Abraham, Patti Stoner, James Gruenberg, Brian Sievert. 2, E. Michael Kerns, Donald Schenk, Terri Johnson, K. Van Alstine Jr. 3, Michael Bird, Judy Morris, Donna Bouman, Frederick Sill.

299er Winners

TUESDAY AFTERNOON: Gerald Grueter, Doris Horton

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON: David Nelson, David Dursum

THURSDAY AFTERNOON: Sandi Pink, Sharon Diamond

THURSDAY NIGHT: Mark Stern, Gideon Cook

FRIDAY AFTERNOON: Marian Kohlenberg, Lorraine Ernst

SATURDAY AM: Marianne Victor, Judith Kamins

A total of 812 players played one or more sessions at the 2014 Motor City Regional. Here is a list of the ACBL units with the most players at the tournament:

MBA (Unit 137):	253
SOMBA (203):	313
West. Mich (195):	70
SW Ontario (249):	60
NW Ohio (105):	20
Eastern Mich (200):	15

Eastravaganza I/N Sectional

From Ed Antosz

The first Eastravaganza Intermediate/Novice Sectional drew a total of 33½ tables over two sessions. Future I/N tournaments are in the works.

Here are the results of the tournament, held Sept. 19 at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Grosse Pointe Farms.

MORNING PAIRS FLIGHT A

& B: 1, Larry Cohen, John Vollmayer. 2, Nancy Senne-
ma, Maureen Koppeser. 3,
Gloria Madigan, Joan Long.

FLIGHT C: 1 & 2, same as A.
3, Ann Pascoe, Jane Gollmer.

AFTERNOON PAIRS FLIGHT A:

1, Katherine Beebe, Charlotte
Stewart. 2, Larry Cohen, John
Vollmayer. 3, Carrie Osborne,
James Korte. **FLIGHT B:** 1,
Cohen, Vollmayer. 2, Os-
borne, Korte. 3, Joel Gross-
man, Marilyn Collins. **FLIGHT**
C: 1 & 2, same as B. 3, Dee
Veldhuis, Loretta Janisse.

North American Pairs District Final

Here are the results of the District 12 finals of the North American Pairs. The listed top finishers are eligible to play in the national final at the Spring NABC in New Orleans. Note:

For the first time this year, four pairs from each district may advance to the finals in Flights B and C. Flight A is still limited to three pairs from each district.

FLIGHT A: 1, Robert Katz, Frank Treiber III. 2, Gary Brinker, Joe Ernsthausen. 3, Mark Bendure, Joe Chiesa*.

FLIGHT B: 1, Julie Arbit, Jordan Kaye. 2, Yaqi Zhu, Ying Yuan. 3, Richard Johns, Nancy Hammond. 4, Thomas Ferch, John Molt.

FLIGHT C: 1, Corey Powell, Klaus Brondum. 2, Xiaping Wu, Tengyun Tony Cao. 3, George Jenkins, Greg Perkowski. 4, Chuck Theis, Kathy Stepanovich.

*This pair won the tiebreaker for third-place (over Myles & Marilyn Maddox).

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!!!

MBA has a new page on Facebook, with lots of interesting features, results and links. To view the page, go to Facebook.com, then type "Michigan Bridge Association" into the field at the top and hit enter. Be sure to "Like" the page.

The administrator of the page is Marilyn Nathanson. You can contact her at: mnathanson@ameritech.net or 248-661-0851.

MOVING UP...

JUNIOR MASTERS

Elizabeth Crane
Cheryl Fitzpatrick
Suzanne Howell
Elvira Jenkins
Douglas Kahn
Cynthia Robinson
Melvin Robinson

CLUB MASTERS

Joan Frear
Jack Hyatt
Beth Kordt
Marce Lee
Bob Ondo
Carrie Osborne

SECTIONAL MASTER

Barbara Mans

CONGRATULATIONS, NEW LIFE MASTERS

Klaus Brondum
Jordan Kaye
Dana McWilliams

NABC MASTERS

Martha Bhatia
Paul Chirgwin
Dennis Ebendick

ADVANCED NABC MASTERS

Cal Waisanen

BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Suzanne McIlhiny
Darlene Sweeney

DIAMOND LIFE MASTER

Ruth Metevier

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Eileen Blough
Judy Chauvin
Gloria Colton
William Davenport
Cynthia DeGalan
Grace De La Iglesia
Nancy Kanat
Donald Kulka

Deborah Jackson
Shirley Lindberry
Brian Morton
Cathy Roberts
Laurence Schiff
Karen Schopf
Robbie Scodellaro
Ashok Singhal
Sandra Thomas
Daren Weiner

WELCOME, TRANSFERS

Ed Antosz
David Boley
Richard Corkins
Brad Dracka
Ronna Galin
Rita Levin
Marilyn Nathanson
Zachary Wasserman

MBA notes

■MBA membership stood at 875 in October, up from 854 a year earlier.

■The average age of MBA members is 71.87, up from

71.51 a year earlier. The ACBL average age is 71.05.

■The average MBA member has belonged to ACBL for 23.65 years, down from 24.48 a year earlier. The league average is 18.50 years.

RUSSELL ROOSEN SECTIONAL

Aug. 21-24

MASTERPOINT LEADERS:

- 1, Robert Katz, 31.45
- 2, Jack Shartsis, 27.14
Jerrold Grossman, 27.14
- 4, Sheldon Kirsch, 25.98
Morrie Kleinplatz, 25.98
- 6, Willie Winokur, 24.40
- 7, Jonathan Fleischmann, 20.90
- 8, Michael Alioto, 20.16
- 9, Debra Eaves, 18.47
- 10, Kurt Dasher, 18.32

THURSDAY SWISS TEAMS

FLIGHT A: 1, Leonard Melander, Willie Winokur, Jerrold Grossman, Jack Shartsis. 2, Dolores Bright, Thomas Hunt, Jerome Hasenjager, Ross Weinstein. 3, Michael Alioto, Robert Cappelli, Robert Katz, Suzanne Stevenson. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Bright team. 2/3, Edward Klarman, Seymour Mandell, Audrey Koffoff, Gerald Mandell. 2/3, Michael Kaleel, Steven Winokur, Steven Shumer, John Dreifus. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Klarman team. 2, Deepak Dighe, Janis James-Rubin, Tai Chan, Vikas Phadke. 3, D. Abraham, James Gruenberg, Tan Yang, Patti Stoner.

THURSDAY NIGHT PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Norman Bolton, Debra Eaves. 2, Suzy & Chuck Burger. 3, Robert Cappelli, Robert Katz. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Jon-

athan Fleischmann, Kurt Dasher. 2, Brad Dracka, Grant Petersen. 3, Yi Ouyang, Ed Herstein. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Dracka, Petersen. 2, Gerald Wahl, Michael Betzold. 3, Lakshmi Vora, Tai Chan.

FRIDAY AM PAIRS FLIGHT

A: 1/2, Willie Winokur, Lynne Schaeffer. 1/2, Morrie Kleinplatz, Sheldon Kirsch. 3, Jerrold Grossman, Jack Shartsis.

FLIGHT B: 1, Danny & Carolyn Krebs. 2, Jakob Kristinson, Shelley Boschan. 3, Jonathan Fleischmann, Zachary Wasserman. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Ed Antosz, Brad Dracka. 2, Joseph Bianco, Graham Putnam. 3, Lakshmi Vora, Deepak Dighe.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Morrie Kleinplatz, Sheldon Kirsch. 2, Jerrold Grossman, Jack Shartsis. 3, Martin Hirschman, Marcia Abramson. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Ed Antosz, Grant Petersen. 2, Jonathan Fleischmann, Zachary Wasserman. 3, Robert Mendelson, Dennis Kastle. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Kenneth & Arlene Geisler. 2, Marilyn Nathanson, Rita Levin. 3, Margaret Davis, Wilma Swayze.

FRIDAY NIGHT PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Daniel Marcus, Dennis Kastle. 2, Rita Levin, Marilyn Nathanson. 3, Frank Treiber III, Robert Katz.

FLIGHT B: 1, Levin, Nathanson. 2, Carol Kastle, Barbara Marcus. 3, Arnold & Carol Fink. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Levin, Nathanson, 2, Finks. 3, James Gruenberg, D. Abraham.

SATURDAY AM PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Xingyu Zhang, Ying Yuan. 2, Arnold & Carol Fink. 3, Kathy Newman, Denise Brown. **FLIGHT B:** 1 & 2, same as A. 3, Gail Hanson, Yolanda Matthews. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Finks. 2, Constance Jones, Joan Wentz. 3, Judy Burke, Manus Nemeth.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, James & Cheryl Bloom. 2/3, Constance Jones, Joan Wentz. 2/3, Xingyu Zhang, Ying Yuan. **FLIGHT B:** Same as A. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Jones, Wentz. 2, Rita Levin, Anita Green.

SATURDAY SWISS TEAMS

FLIGHT A: 1, Charlotte Kartsonis, Michael Giordano, Brenda Jaffe, Richard Becher. 2, Norman Bolton, Debra Eaves, Marilyn & Myles Maddox. 3/4, Steven Winokur, Frank Treiber III, Willie Winokur, Robert Katz. 3/4, Richard Temkin, John Koschik, Michael Crane, Irving Rosenstein. **FLIGHT B:** 1/2, Marilyn Crane, Thomas Hunt, Ross Weinstein, Judi Amatan-gelo. 1/2, Beth Gursky, Shelley Boschan, Rhoda Raderman,

Ronna Galin. 3, Brad Dracka, Philip Cowen, Grant Petersen, Alan Cohn. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Gursky team. 2, Dracka team. 3, Suzanne McIlhiny, Marlene Gouth, Frank Mazzucco, Barbara Kalnick.

SUNDAY AM PAIRS FLIGHT

A & B: 1, Steven Kaplan, Randy Rodnick. 2, Michael Boland, Robert Skye. 3, Barbara Drake, Lynn Martin. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Drake, Martin. 2, Pamela George, Mark Hugger. 3, Joel Grossman, Marilyn Collins.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

PAIRS FLIGHT A & B: 1, Craig & Marianne Linderman. 2, Dorina & Gheorghe Beres. 3, Nancy Stein, Lori Strager. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Bob Ondo, Lati-ka Mangrulkar. 2, Barbara Drake, Lynn Martin. 3, Maria Conti, Joyce Jonik.

SUNDAY SWISS TEAMS

FLIGHT A: 1, Kurt Dasher, Robert Katz, Michael Alioto, Jonathan Fleischmann. 2/3, Cono Emanuele, Henry Shevitz, Sheldon Kirsch, Morrie Kleinplatz. 2/3, Ching-Po Wang, Xingyu Zhang, Ying Yuan, Yaqi Zhu. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Wang team. 2, Lakshmi Vora, Vishwas Gadgil, Deepak Dighe,

IN MEMORIAM

Isabel Pingel

Chris Wiggins. 3, Michael McGaw, Norm Bash, Robert Raf, Stu Cohen. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Vora team. 2, Brad Dracka, Grant Petersen, John Hartman, Philip Cowen. 3, John & Barbara Reed, Robert Chekaluk, Adele Forster.

Non-LM Winners

THURSDAY SWISS TEAMS:

Timothy Romlein, Robert Hatto, Pamela George, Mark Hugger

THURSDAY NIGHT PAIRS:

Frank Johnson, Joel Grossman

FRIDAY AM PAIRS:

Lillyan

Meyer, John Abbott, tied with Victoria Parsky, Susan Me-
neilley

FRIDAY AFTERNOON PAIRS:

Tengyun Tony Cao, Xiaoping Wu

FRIDAY NIGHT PAIRS:

Klaus Brondum, Mark Hugger

SATURDAY AM PAIRS:

John Borden, Thomas King III

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

PAIRS: John Vollmayer, Larry Cohen

SATURDAY AM 49ER PAIRS:

Barbara Branca, Joyce Jonik

Notes from District 12 Board meeting, Oct. 18, 2014

■The job of second alternate district 12 director is now vacant*, and the District Board plans to fill the vacancy at its May 2015 meeting. The second alternate district director is third in line to serve as District 12's representative on the national ACBL Board. If you wish to nominate yourself or some other District 12 member for the post, contact District Coordinator Paul Pomeroy, ppommd@aol.com, 734-421-0193.

*No one ran for the three-year term that begins Jan. 1, 2015.

■Repeated disruption of the game due to cell phone rings or use will be subject to disci-

plinary action by the tournament director at all sectionals and regionals in District 12.

■In the North American Pairs, subsidies for lower-place qualifiers have been extended to include the added 4th place pairs at the district level, who will now be eligible to compete in the national level of Flights B and C. The District Board decided to give a \$300 per player subsidy to each member of these fourth-place qualifying pairs. First-place finishers in the district level of each flight receive a \$700 per player subsidy from ACBL, while the second-place finishers get \$300 each. Third-place finishers receive a \$300 subsidy from District 12.

— M.H

Letter: Please tell them not to look into the rear view mirror any longer!

Response to Ron Horwitz's letter

Nobody could be more delighted to read your letter published in the September issue of Table Talk than me. In principle, I agree that the two units are getting closer and a form of merger could be close at hand for the first time in a quarter of century. The pulse I read (an admittedly crude barometer!) of the two organizations gives me some optimism. I certainly sense a changing culture at both organizations, a major and essential ingredient for peaceful and cohesive coexistence.

Let me recapitulate what has transpired to date from SOMBA's point of view.

In the past decade, I, on behalf of SOMBA, made several overtures to bring the two units closer and to the table, but the timing was just not right. Especially, the milieu of trust was totally non-existent. I do recall exact instances of your having made similar calls as well.

It was not until Dick Temkin asked me to meet him during the 2012 Motor City Regional that the things changed their course. During that time,

Dick raised the following issues: 1) to allow MBA to hold sectionals in our territory; 2) to update our combined directory; and 3) to suggest a merger.

Following that meeting, I seized the opportunity to invite Dick to meet me regularly during his term as MBA president starting on Nov. 13, 2012, all the while believing in my heart that an opportunity was truly at hand. And here is what I wrote to him before our first meeting on January 15, 2013:

"My Primary item for the first Meeting: Merger, its advantages and disadvantages. I will do my research and hopefully you will do yours. Prerequisite: 1) As agreed earlier, we should keep the entire matter re merger (and not just our meeting) confidential for now. 2) Let's keep it out of public domain to avoid any rumor mongering or gossip. 3) From such personal experiences in the past, I believe it takes years and not months. SOMBA and I am ready to move seriously if you are."

(Six meetings and a

year later) What followed is the historic agreement of February 2014, and finally MBA President Marty Hirschman inviting me to an MBA Meeting on February 11, 2014, a request to open doors I had first made over 7-8 years ago. Incidentally, that was a first for a SOMBA President in the last 50 years, i.e., a SOMBA president attending an MBA meeting!

Here is my brief look into the future with this Open Door Policy now in place:

1) For starters, I know SOMBA has been blessed with an independent, strong, dedicated and talented board for the past decade. I assure you that SOMBA remains determined and focused on the task ahead of serving the bridge community, and I mean the entire bridge community! As an organized, efficient and resourceful organization now, it is poised to march ahead. Recent changing leadership roles and infusion of fresh blood into both MBA and SOMBA is a healthy and promising sign as well.

2) Also, by nature, the two organizations are very different in their bylaws and how they conduct their business.

3) My board offered Marty the

floor at our last meeting to address and advocate what he may recommend personally for the two units in the near future, but per my board they did not hear a ringing endorsement for merger. So we believe many serious-minded intellectuals may respectfully differ in their opinions on this subject. And it is fully understandable.

4) But if it was not for the "old guards," the new membership in both camps really do wish us to move on. *They hope for us to not look into the rear view mirror and miss the important turn to our destination, be it a full-fledged merger or achieving a more harmonious, cohesive relationship and a detailed and comprehensive agreement.*

As per the earlier agreement signed in February 2014, MBA and SOMBA are to continue this dialogue on a regular basis and keep opening new doors to arrive at the final destination.

I wish Godspeed to both organizations in the coming year(s) as Dick and I (hopefully) pursue these efforts.

**Subhash C. Gulati, MD,
FRCP(C), President, Unit
203 and District 12**

SOLUTION TO AT THE WHEEL

From back page

NORTH	
♠AK64	
♥753	
♦95	
♣A873	
WEST	EAST
♠J8	♠10973
♥KQJ1098	♥2
♦?732	♦?1086
♣2	♣J1095
SOUTH	
♠Q52	
♥A64	
♦AQ4	
♣KQ64	

West started with six hearts, two spades and one club, so four diamonds. If we cash our

remaining high club he will be forced to either discard a heart or a diamond.

If he discards a heart, we can exit a heart. After cashing his remaining hearts, West will have to lead a diamond into our AQ. Making 3.

So West should probably pitch another diamond, whether or not he has the king. What then?

No problem. Just cash the ace of diamonds. Assuming the king does not fall, then East has the king. Now just exit a club. East can win and cash a spade, but after that he will be down to Kx of diamonds, and you will get one of the last two tricks.

Temkin named MBA president-elect

Former MBA President Dick Temkin has been elected president-elect and sectional tournament chair. His candidacy was unopposed in voting by the MBA Board at its Nov. 4 meeting.

Kurt Dasher moved up to president, and 2013-14 president Martin Hirschman became chairman of the board.

Stacey Tessler and Bob Webber were re-elected as recording secretary and treasurer, respectively.

All terms are for one year.

Stoner joins board

Patti Stoner was elected to the MBA Board in voting at the Motor City Regional in October.

Incumbents Shelley Boschan, Robert Katz, Grant Petersen, Richard Temkin, Rosanne Winokur and Willie Winokur also won new two-year terms.

Stoner replaces Terry T. Brown, who did not run for reelection. Thanks to Terry for his years of service.

Lynne Schaeffer, 1937-2014?

By Marty Hirschman

No, my frequent partner Lynne Schaeffer has not joined the Great Dealer in the sky. Nor has she gone to meet the red pointy-tailed Shuffler in that fiery bridge club in the basement. Not as of press time, anyway.

It's just that the otherwise usually blasé emeritus English professor and well-known slam overbidder was so geeked at the idea of me printing this hand from the Sunday Swiss at the Motor City Regional that I perversely told her I was going to save it for her obituary.

In truth, it was a hand to die for.

Lynne, South, held:

♠84 ♥7543 ♦AKQ10732 ♣void

Not knowing what to open, she passed in first seat. The auction proceeded:

	SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Pass		1♣	Pass	1♠
Dbl		3♣	Pass	4♥
Pass		5♣	Dbl	5♠
Pass		6♠	All Pass	

Lynne promptly led the 2 of diamonds. This was the whole hand:

NORTH

♠5
♥862
♦J96
♣QJ7652

WEST

♠QJ97
♥KQJ9
♦4
♣AK94

EAST

♠AK10632
♥A10
♦85
♣1083

SOUTH

♠84
♥7543
♦AKQ10732
♣void

When my jack of diamonds held at trick one I knew what to do. Lynne ruffed the club return, and that was that.

"Making 5?" Lynne inquired. She wasn't being cute. It turns out she forgot (?) that the opponents had bid the slam. "I'm not sure I would have underled my diamonds against 6," she added. "I was trying to beat five!"

P.S. Our teammates came back to the table arguing about having failed to bid the "cold" slam, so we won only 11 IMPs on the board. East missed the chance for an unusual explanation for not going to 6: "Well, I couldn't bid the slam. I didn't have the jack of diamonds."

Florida club director caught copying hand records for sessions he was about to play

EDITOR'S NOTE: Several MBA members winter in the Naples FL area. As a result, word has reached Table Talk about the following case.

**By Marty Hirschman
Table Talk Editor**

A once-a-week director at the Naples FL Bridge Center used his access to the club to copy hand records for sessions that he subsequently played, a Florida disciplinary committee ruled this fall. The player/director, Tom Urso, was suspended from the league for 2¼ years and docked about 2,000 master-points from his lifetime total of about 3,900, according to players involved in the case.

The proprietor of the Naples club, Jacqueline Altschuler, had surveillance equipment installed in her club to record the copying incidents. The recordings were then played for the Unit 128 disciplinary committee that heard the case.

In a letter circulated by Altschuler, she gave the following account:

"In the summer of 2013 it came to my attention that one of our directors might be cop-

ying hand records to gain an advantage in future games. This was extremely disturbing as I believe that directors hold a particular position of trust in the eyes of their peers and the players. I (somewhat naively, I guess) trust all our directors. This director had been a guest in my house and I in his. The sense of violation of trust was enormous. I lost many hours of sleep over this situation and hoped my suspicions were erroneous.

"Subsequent investigations sadly proved that my suspicions were correct and the director was indeed copying hand records. This was not a one-time occurrence but a pattern of deceit over many months...

"After seeing the bizarre hours of the morning and night this director entered the club for short periods of time, I installed a camera in my office to capture any activity. Sadly, the director was filmed entering my office at times that corresponded to the strange 'ins and outs' and videotaped copying hand records. I went to the ACBL with my evidence and after almost four months of jurisdictional issues be-

tween ACBL headquarters and the Unit, a disciplinary hearing was held at the Naples Regional.

"During said hearing, the director was charged with copying hand records for games in which he was going to play... As the committee was viewing the videos and listening to the evidence, he admitted his guilt and asked for leniency because his behavior was driven by a desire to impress his students and earn additional money because his wife was in poor health."

According to Craig Hemphill, the Unit 128 recorder who prosecuted the case, he was prepared to introduce evidence of specific hands in which Urso took unusual but successful actions at the table. However, this became moot in the middle of the hearing when Urso admitted the conduct involved, Hemphill said.

Table Talk reached Urso by phone. He confirmed the general outlines of the case against him. "They said I confessed," but actually, after watching some of the videos he told the committee "'I'm done,' and walked out" of the hearing, Urso said.

Urso declined to discuss the details of what he allegedly

did, but stated, "The procedure was correct except they waited a long time [to bring the charges] in violation of ACBL rules." He added that the alleged conduct "could have been stopped long before it was."

On inquiry from Table Talk the ACBL disciplinary department issued the following statement: "Tom Urso, ACBL # P938144, is currently on suspension until 12/31/17."

Asked for further details about the case, ACBL Disciplinary Coordinator Christina van Leeuwen responded: "Unfortunately I am not allowed to release any details regarding the offense until it has been heard by the Appeals & Charges Committee in Providence in a few weeks. A&C could change the discipline that was initially imposed by the Unit Disciplinary Committee. Once that hearing has taken place that is the end of the process and the discipline will be final."

Urso, in the telephone interview, said he did not want to discuss the details of his case because he has been "told by counsel I should keep my big mouth shut." He said he did not want to "jeopardize my chances" with the Appeals & Charges committee.

ACBLScore+: \$1.5 million down the drain?

ACBL spent a reported \$1.5 million on the development of a successor program to ACBLScore, dubbed ACBLScore+, then abruptly pulled the plug on the project. Apparently due to the possibility of litigation with the company that was developing ACBLScore+, members of the national board are under a gag directive regarding the dispute.

The following is an excerpt from ACBL CEO Robert Hartman's report about the ACBLScore+ project:

"ACBL has terminated the ACBLScore+ project. An in-house working group consisting of board members, internal staff, plus outside experts determined efforts to develop this completely new system (ACBLScore+) fell short of what is required for the league's users. However, ACBL is moving forward with plans to enhance the features and benefits of its existing scoring software – ACBLScore – and extend its life and functionality.

"Tournament directors, club owners and our players have always had confidence in the existing system; in its reliability; in its accuracy. ACBL is now enhancing ACBLScore to give it more features, and to

integrate it more easily into complementary systems for users to run games on their existing computers without expensive upgrades or complicated new lessons.

"The total capitalized costs of the defunct ACBLScore+ project is in excess of \$1.5 M, and we are determining what portion of the project product can be repurposed into the enhanced ACBLScore."

If you are interested in reading more, see Parrish, Adam, "BW Investigates: Why Did the ACBL Abandon ACBLScore+?" at:

<http://bridgewinners.com/article/view/bw-investigates-why-did-the-acbl-abandon-acblscore/>

– M.H.

GNT update

Two of District 12's Grand National Teams finished tied for 3rd & 4th in their flights at the Summer NABC in Las Vegas:

Flight A: Cono Emanuele, Gary Brinker, Joe Ernsthausen, Frank Treiber III, Robert Katz, Kurt Dasher.

Flight B: Jonathan Fleischmann, Zachary Wasserman, Julie Arbit, Jordon Kaye, Yi Ouyang.

MBA-SOMBA JOINT MEMBER DIRECTORY

NOTE: The Michigan Bridge Association (MBA) and Southern Michigan Bridge Association (SOMBA), American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) units 137 and 203, respectively, are launching a joint Member Directory. The initial plan is to provide the directory online, to be posted on the SOMBA website with a link on the District 12 website. The online directory will be accessible by MBA and SOMBA members on the inputting of their ACBL numbers. In addition, we may later print the directory and distribute it to members of MBA and SOMBA.

If you wish to have your phone numbers and/or email address appear in the directory, you must fill out, sign, date and submit this form. Make sure to print carefully and include all punctuation. Phone listings must include area code and number.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name: _____

Phone number: _____

Additional phone number: _____

Email address: _____

I hereby give permission to Michigan Bridge Association and Southern Michigan Bridge Association to publish the above information about me in the Joint MBA-SOMBA Member Directory and any republication, update, portion or excerpt thereof, and to publish any phone numbers and/or email address that I have provided or will provide in the future to MBA, SOMBA and/or the American Contract Bridge League.

I understand that all members of Michigan Bridge Association and Southern Michigan Bridge Association will have access to the directory, and that other individuals or entities, while not intended users, might gain unauthorized access to the directory.

Further, I hereby release Michigan Bridge Association and Southern Michigan Bridge Association, their officers, agents, employees, volunteers and contractors, from liability for any direct or indirect damages that I may suffer as a result of the publication of my phone numbers and/or email addresses in the directory, including but not limited to damages caused by any use made of the published information by members and/or non-members of MBA and SOMBA.

SIGN HERE: _____

DATE: _____

**PLEASE DROP OFF YOUR COMPLETED FORM IN THE DESIGNATED BOX AT AN MBA OR SOMBA TOURNAMENT.
ALTERNATIVELY, YOU MAY MAIL OR EMAIL A SIGNED COPY
OF THE COMPLETED FORM TO:**

**Shelley Boschan, 4228 Sedgemoor Lane, Bloomfield Hills MI
48302, seh23@gmail.com, 248-225-1700**

OR

**Posh Gulati, MD, 521 S. Spinningwheel Lane, Bloomfield Hills, MI
48304, Subgul@aol.com, 248-335-3246 H/ 248-390-7438 Cell**

AT THE WHEEL

By Marty Hirschman

NORTH			
♠AK64			
♥753			
♦95			
♣A873			
WEST	SOUTH		EAST
	♠Q52		
	♥A64		
	♦AQ4		
	♣KQ64		
SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1NT	2♥	3♥	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Opening lead: King of hearts.

You duck the first heart and win the second as East pitches a diamond.

Next you cash two top clubs and all three top spades, West pitching a diamond on the second round of clubs and another diamond on the third round of spades. Now what?

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