

# Gianal Like Thusteis



John Rayner, Richard Chan and Ray Jotcham



#### **Editor's Note**

I had just finished the Friday Pairs game at the TO Regional when I wandered over to where the finals of the Sheardown KO Teams were being played. One table was still playing but I saw my buddies Roy Dalton and Vince Oddy waiting to compare results so I said hello and asked to look at their card. Only one result jumped out at me: 3NT making 6 for minus 490. This looked good for them as the opponents might have missed a slam. So I asked, "Did they miss a slam?" Practically in unison Roy and Vince said, "No.We did!" What the heck?

Please see page 34 for the layout of this curious hand.

Happy to say we received some positive comments regarding the previous issue-the Celebration of the Sectional. So next issue of the Kib we will celebrate The Bridge Club. If you have any hands or stories that involve your local club please send me an email and we'll get your contribution into print.

Many folks to congratulate this issue: Rob Drummond for winning the Kate Buckman Award for running a great club and enhancing bridge players' enjoyment of our game; Mike Kammermayer for winning the Audrey Grant Award for teaching excellence (p. 27); Team BALDKO for winning the Sheardowns again (p. 26); and our cover boys: Richard Chan, Ray Jotcham, and John Rayner (p. 18).

Andy Stark andy.kibitzer@gmail.com

\*Special thanks to Jonathan Steinberg (JS) for use of his photos.

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A printed version of The Kibitzer is now available. Please see details on page 11 for how you can subscribe. The Kibitzer is available online at <a href="https://www.unit166.ca">www.unit166.ca</a>, every three months: February, May, August, and November. Readers are invited to share their email addresses with the ACBL so that they may receive notification The Kibitzer is ready for viewing.

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#### **IMPORTANT KIBITZER DATES:**

Issue:	Deadline:	Online Posting:
Fall	Aug. 1	Aug. 15
Winter	Nov. 1	Nov. 15
Spring 2019	Feb. 1	Feb. 15
Summer 2019	May 1	May 15

#### Kibitzer Editorial Policy

The Kibitzer is published to promote bridge and to inform members of ACBL Units 166, 238, 246, 249 & 255 about tournaments and special events, as well as to entertain with deals and articles of interest. It is also a forum for the exchange of information and opinion among the members. Opinions expressed in articles or letters to the Editor are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Unit Boards of Directors or the Editor. The Kibitzer reserves the right to edit or exclude submitted material.

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Average: \$15.00 USD per session. All bridge is optional.

This is a smaller tournament. Very friendly and fabulous. It will be sold out so book now.

Highly recommended by Barbara Seagram & Alex Kornel. Barbados is Barbara's homeland for MANY generations (almost 4 millennium!)

Barbara Seagram & Alex Kornel will be attending the tournament in 2019.

There will be THREE free seminars given by Barbara while there.

Alex will also be available to go over hands anytime.

ACBL Master Points will be awarded to ACBL members.

The Barbados Bridge League is in the process of seeking full ACBL membership as well which will upgrade the number and type of points to be issued.

# TO BOOK: Contact Roglyn Hinds roglynhinds@gmail.com or 246-231-0149







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# BRIDGE EVENT & WATER FILTERS FOR LAOS

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 21st @ 9.30 am (Registration 8:45am)

2737 Bayview Ave. Trinity Presbyterian Church (S of 401)



This is our annual Laos fundraiser. Note: NEW Venue

Hands-on seminar by Barbara Seagram @ 9.30am Be a Dynamic Declarer Laos Presentation by Patti Lee ACBL Sanctioned game follows till 3.30 pm

Patti and Barbara run a fundraiser every year to raise money to buy water filters for Laos. Cost for the day will be \$12.00 to cover the cost of lunch, rent and ACBL fees, plus a minimum donation of \$40.00 per person (NO MAXIMUM). A tax receipt will be issued for the donation portion.

Each water filter costs \$125.00 Can or \$100.00 USD. If you wish to donate one (or more) water filter(s), your name will be on the label, and you will be sent a picture of the family receiving your water filter(s).

**RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:** Cheques made out to BARBARA SEAGRAM may be sent to Barbara Seagram, 220 Lawrence Ave East, Toronto, ON M4N 1T2.

Minimum donation: \$40.00 (no maximum) PLUS \$12.00 costs.
All donations go to ADOPT A VILLAGE IN LAOS and receive tax receipts.

This faraway land captured Patti's and Barbara's hearts in 2012. Before receiving water filters, villagers have to boil their water. (Did you know that even if you boil the water, it then has to be re-boiled later on in the day, as it becomes contaminated again). A water filter is provided for every family in the village and a lesson on sanitation/hygiene. The filters last for over 20 years.

PLEASE JOIN BARBARA & PATTI FOR A FUN DAY on Friday, September 21, 2018. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of rural people in Laos.

POSTAL CODE:	
er: nation!	If not attending,  The Kibitzer - Summer 2018 - Page 7
	POSTAL CODE:er:

MINUTES of a meeting of Unit 166 Board of Directors held on Saturday January 6, 2018 at 11:30 am. at the Holiday Inn, Yorkdale.

**Present:** Sharon Berghaus Andy Risman

Denise Donovan Michael Yang

David Halasi Debra Kestenberg (Secretary)
John Laufer Gary Westfall (Accountant)

David McCrady

**Regrets:** Carol Bongard, Flo Belford, Darlene Scott

David Halasi assumed the Chair and welcomed Denise Donovan as the representative for CVBA.

#### **Unit 166 Board Members**

**Motion** by Andy Risman, seconded by Michael Yang that the number of Unit 166 Board members be reduced by two. **Carried** 

#### Minutes - September 9, 2017

**Motion** by David Halasi, seconded by Sharon Berghaus that the minutes of the September 9, 2017 meeting of Unit 166 Board of Directors be approved. **Carried** 

#### Fire Code at the Toronto Labour Day Sectional

David Halasi reported that it has been arranged for sufficient clearance from the fire door to comply with fire code and the topic is closed.

John Laufer left the meeting.

#### **Red Book Revisions**

It was proposed, and it was agreed, that Andy Risman review the Red Book and advise of required changes at the next meeting.

**Motion** by David Halasi that the Board move into Executive Session. **Carried Motion** by David Halasi that the Board resume in open session. **Carried** 

#### **Executive Committee Votes**

David Halasi reported on the Executive Committee votes to confirm John Laufer as temporary director and to move the 2019 Niagara Regional to the Greater Toronto Area.

**Motion** by Michael Yang, seconded by David McCrady that John Laufer be confirmed as a temporary Director. **Carried** 

Motion by David McCrady, seconded by Michael Yang that the vote by the Executive Committee to move the Niagara Regional to the Greater Toronto Area be approved. **Carried** 

#### **Unit 166 Elections**

David Halasi agreed to ask Carol Bongard to contact specific individuals to serve on the Board.

#### **Board of Director D2 Representatives**

**Motion** by Denise Donovan, seconded by Andy Risman to nominate Carol Bongard, David Halasi, Andy Risman, David McCrady, and Sharon Berghaus as D2 Representatives. **Carried** 

#### Treasurer's Report

The Report to November 30, 2017, circulated by Andy Risman, was presented. It was reported that the Unit is in a healthy financial position.

**Motion** by Sharon Berghaus, seconded by David McCrady that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, as presented. **Carried** 

#### NABC 2017 Summary

The summary circulated by Andy Risman was presented. The NABC showed a profit of 16,000 before paying Ina Demme \$15,000 and the rest of the committed \$10,000. The issue of final receipt of \$25,000 owed by the ACBL was discussed.

**Motion** by Denise Donovan, seconded by Sharon Berghaus that Ina Demme and/or Andy Risman are authorized to contact the CEO of the ACBL, and following an unsuccessful outcome, the next step is to issue a legal demand letter with a legal fee limit to Unit 166 of \$1,000. **Carried** 

#### **Review Engagement Report**

The year end statements were presented by Gary Westfall. It was reported that tournaments did well; Regionals made a profit.

**Motion** by Andy Risman, seconded by David McCrady. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Statement of Financial Position of the Corporation as at August 31, 2017 and the Statement of Income and Expenses and Net Assets and Cash Flows for the Year Ended on the said date, together with the accountant's Review Engagement Report thereon be and the same are hereby approved and adopted. **Carried** 

#### **Remuneration for Accountant**

**Motion** by Andy Risman, seconded by Sharon Berghaus that Gary Westfall be paid \$1,900 for his year-end review and NABC accounting. **Carried** 

#### **Association Financial Reports**

The CVBA to August 31, 2017 was received and discussed.

The Report for COBA, and discussion of the Constitution was deferred to the next meeting.

It was proposed and agreed, that Andy Risman will work with the Associations to determine the optimal approach to managing cash flow from STaCs.

**Motion** by Andy Risman, seconded by Michael Yang that the CVBA Financial Report to August 31, 2017 be accepted as presented. **Carried** 

#### **Supply Fees for Non-Unit 166 Tournaments**

It was proposed, and it was agreed, to increase the Unit 166 supply fee to \$1.50 per table, and to allow Unit 255 to use Unit 166 supplies under a number of conditions.

**Motion** by Sharon Berghaus, seconded by Denise Donovan to increase the Unit 166 supply fee to \$1.50 per table within the Unit, and that any organization (other than for Unit 166-sponsored events) be charged \$3/table for supply fees and have responsibility for pick up and return, undamaged, from/to John McWhinnie. **Carried** 

#### **Tournament Budgets:**

The budgets for the Toronto Easter Regional, Burlington IN and Brampton Sectionals were received.

**Motion** by David McCrady, seconded by Michael Yang that tournament Budgets for the Toronto Easter Regional, Burlington IN and Brampton Sectionals, as presented, be accepted. **Carried** 

#### **Tournament Reports:**

The 2017 Reports from the 2017 Fall STaC, Caledon East and Toronto Labour Day Sectionals were received.

The Niagara Regional Report is pending.

**Motion** by Sharon Berghaus, seconded by Andy Risman that Reports for the 2017 Fall STaC, Caledon East and Toronto Labour Day Sectionals, as presented, be accepted. **Carried** 

The 2018 tournament schedule was received and reviewed.

#### **Honorariums:**

**Motion** by Andy Risman, seconded by David McCrady to award Ann Shaw an honorarium of \$750 for chairing the Toronto Labour Day Sectional. **Carried** 

**Motion** by Denise Donovan, seconded by Sharon Berghaus to award Wayne Ruttan an honorarium of \$750 for chairing the Toronto I/N Sectional. **Carried** 

#### **Kibitzer Committee Report**

David McCrady reported on the positive feedback on the change to the on-line platform, and updated on management of the hard copy option.

#### School Bridge

Updates and mentoring program discussion has been deferred to the next meeting.

#### **Kate Buckman and Audrey Grant Awards**

Andy Risman advised the Board of members nominated for the Kate Buckman and the Audrey Grant Awards. The Board voted and the results were announced.

#### **Next Meeting**

Saturday April 7, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at MO Bridge, 3105 Winston Churchill Blvd., Mississauga.

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2 pm.





# We are pleased to announce that the bridge bulletin The Kibitzer will once again be available in print.

The cost of a one-year subscription (four issues) is \$28. Subscriptions to the printed edition of The Kibitzer can be made by:

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#### **District 2 Website**

(Visit <a href="www.acbldistrict2.org">www.acbldistrict2.org</a> for details)

- All District 2 tournaments & results
- District 2 business
- NAP/GNT tournament information
- District 2 Director's page for ACBL news & info
- Graham Warren is the District tournament coordinator gwarren@rogers.com
- Martin Hunter the NAP/GNT coordinator <u>martinhunter@rogers.com</u>



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#### **Unit 246 Items of Interest**

(Visit <a href="www.unit246.com">www.unit246.com</a> for details)

- 1<sup>st</sup> time members of the ACBL can apply to the Unit 246 Board for a \$20 rebate for their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of ACBL membership
- Bridge teachers can list their services on the Unit 246 website free



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#### Notice to All Clubs & Tournament Managers in Units 166, 246 & 249

If you plan to run a tournament, please check with your Unit Coordinator to see if the date is free. There is an agreement among the three Units in southern Ontario that their tournaments will not compete with one another. This does not apply to those clubs which have an historic tournament weekend - they are set aside for you.

Graham Warren, District 2 Tournament Coordinator



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**Vice President and District 2 Rep.:** Wiebe Hoogland, St. Catharines, <a href="wybren@bell.net">wybren@bell.net</a>

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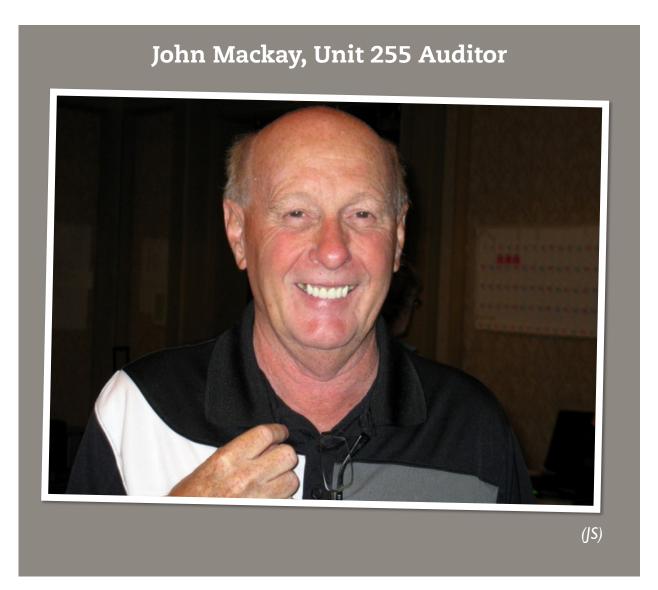
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Audit: John Mackay, St. Catharines, john.mackay@bell.net



## Niagara Area, Unit 255 Helen Shields Rookie-Master Tournament

The Niagara Area, Unit 255 ran a most successful Helen Shields Rookie-Master Tournament at the Niagara on the Lake Community Centre on April 17th, 2018. Unit 255 has only been in existence for 4½ months, yet based on the commitment from the members of the Bridge Centre of Niagara and the Niagara on the Lake Duplicate Bridge Centre, we were able to fill 34 tables with Rookie and Masters and we were recognized as having the most tables across Canada. One hundred and thirty six bridge players from all levels came out to support our new Unit. It was wonderful to see so many people participating in this Canada-wide Rookie Master Tournament.

The Helen Shields Rookie-Master Game is named in memory of Helen Shields, of Thunder Bay, who was a past President of the Canadian Bridge Federation. Helen was very active in teaching and introducing new players to duplicate bridge. It is a great opportunity for bridge players to get to know other players from within our area. The tournament is Canada wide, enabling us to compete with clubs across the Country. All clubs play the same boards and awards go to the National and zone winners with all winners receiving certificates.

Registration for this event started 3 weeks prior. Within two days we had enough masters and rookies to make up 20 tables. For players who did not have a designated partner, the organizers took the opportunity to match them with players from the other club to encourage people getting to know each other better.

Players were very happy with the friendliness and timeliness of the game which was directed by Claude Tremblay, not an easy feat when managing 34 tables. The game was followed up with a welcome reception which provided further opportunities to discuss bridge while enjoying some wonderful food and libation prepared by Lucy McEwen and her Committee consisting of Judy Taylor, Linda Chant, Malcom Ross and Verne Chant. Feedback for the players was excellent. They really enjoyed the camaraderie they experienced at each of the tables. People were friendly and enthusiastic and already wanted to sign-up for the next Rookie-Master event.

The overall Unit 255 winners for this event were Wayne Kershaw and his daughter Kim Duncan with a 69.55% game. Kim just started playing bridge with her father earlier this year. They come out to play at the local club games and always have a good attitude towards bridge. You can hear the enjoyment around the room as Kim learns about the challenges of bridge from her Dad.



Unit 255 President, Muriel Tremblay and Game Director, Claude Tremblay congratulated Wayne and Kim and presented them with their certificates.

The games are run using computer hands so that players across the country play the same deals, and printed hand analyses, prepared by top Canadian players, are provided. The pair with the best percentage score in Canada is declared National Winners and receives a trophy. The pairs with the top percentage score in each Zone receive a plaque. All club winners receive certificates.

There were 27 clubs and 325 tables

participating in this national event. While our Unit 255 did not win the National or the Zone 3 award, we are happy to congratulate the following pairs for placing in the top 25 pairs across Canada:

Wayne Kershaw and Kim Duncan 6th place 69.55%

Jane Jennings and Kate Verweij 9th place 67.20%

John Stevens and Dave Cooper 12th place 64.26%

Janice Mariglia and Betty Tieche 15th place 64.09%

Thanks to all who participated to make this such a successful event for the Niagara Area, Unit 255. As you can see by the picture below, it looked more like we were playing in a Sectional Tournament instead of a Rookie-Master game.





# 3 Local Players Achieve GLM

Recently Richard Chan and John Rayner earned Grand Life Master status while Ray Jotcham has been enjoying his GLM status for the past couple of years. According to the ACBL, to become a GLM one must achieve 10,000 masterpoints and win an open national event, that is, an event with no masterpoint restriction. The Kibitzer asked each of them to share their stories and here they are in alphabetical order.



#### Richard Chan

I cannot remember when I first joined the ACBL nor when I became a Life Master. Over the

years, I have played with many different partners. Some early ones are Duncan Philips, Paul Janicki, Steve Mackay, Bing Le, Alan Lee, Eiji Kujirai, Det Ladewig, Dennis Hsu, and Jim Priebe. I do play sometimes with Terry Du, Peter Wong, Edward Xu, and Yan Wang. Lately, I have been playing with Ray Jotcham.

My best memory is playing with Geoff Hampson in a regional at Fort Erie for two days many years ago when he was still in Toronto and before he got famous. We won both the Saturday Open Pairs and the Sunday Swiss with pick up partners Tim Anglin and Akbar Vaiya.

My favourite events are the Nationals and World Championships where you play against the best players in the world. I also like team leagues. My first trip to Gatlinburg, playing with Shan Huang, Daniel Korbel and Jonathan Steinberg, we beat Meckwell, Hampson, and Marc Jacobus twice in the top bracket Knockouts. Twice—what a feeling!

I started playing with Shan Huang at the Charleston Christmas Regional in 2012 where we did well. The second one was at Bermuda in 2013. That was my first trip to Bermuda. We won five trophies and 118 master points, a Bermuda record! Kevin Dwyer told me recently someone at Bermuda thought we must have cheated! I had a 75.57% game with Shan at the Charity Pairs. I found myself improving in bridge ever since playing with Shan. He is just an amazing bridge player: very, very thoughtful and creative. I learned

so much from him, someone more than 40 years younger than me!

I got my GLM at the Cavendish Club, needing 0.67 master point to go over 10,000. However, the critical event was winning the Silver Ribbon Pairs with Michael Heyman whom I have never played with nor practiced with before! Through Stephen Costellino, a friend of Lino D'Souza, I got a date with Michael. He is from Texas. We talked a couple of times on the phone, and then met at lunchtime before the event. That was all the preparation. We achieved percentage scores of 65.03, 52.34, 60.36 and 63.39 in the four sessions and won the event comfortably: a first national title for both of us. We were ecstatic! What a feeling—to have a dream come true, and not with a hired gun to boot.

In the final session, Vul. vs non-vul, I held ♠J7 ♥10 ♦AKJ86 ♣K9863
The bidding went I♠ on my left, 2NT Jacoby on my right. I bravely bid 3♦ (to direct the opening lead), pass on my left (no ♦ control), and Double on the right. Lefty went into the tank, then finally bid 4♠. Had she passed, I was going for minus 800, a hopeless result. The ♦7 was led.



Here is the hand:

I won the diamond jack at trick one and cashed the diamond ace. Then I played the diamond six which declarer ruffed with the queen. She cashed the spade king and then played a trump towards dummy. After a long tank she finessed the ten and I won my jack. Down one, and a 93% board! If I did not bid, minus 420 would get us 40%.

My favourite hand of all time occurred playing with Steve Mackay in the Swiss Teams at the Toronto Regional many years ago.

I was in 6NT on the lead of the heart king.

I was happy a diamond was not led, but still I counted only I I tricks. The hand looked hopeless, but I tried cashing my clubs and caught my LHO with a strip squeeze, and a stepping-stone to dummy. Bidding was the same at the other table. Alan Lee, our teammate, led a deceptive  $\heartsuit Q$ , and declarer went down one. I achieved the play at the table without knowing the position strip squeeze and stepping stone.

(Richard did not provide the EW hands but you can figure them out. See page 34 for what you hope to be the layout that allowed him to make 6NT. ~Ed.)

I like the convention called Reverse Flannery after a minor opening. I achieved +1660 (should have been 2060!) at 2♠xx playing with Shan against Justin Lall and Vince Demuy at the Pentiction Regional and won the K/O. Reverse Flannery shows a hand with about 5-8 points, five spades and four hearts. It allows you to show your hand with one bid over partner's I♦ or I♣ opening bid. You can't show that hand otherwise because I♦-I♠, INT-2♥ is (usually) forcing.

What is my next bridge goal? Win the Senior Pairs at the World Championships! To improve in bridge, you need to count declarer's and opponents' hands. Be open minded, meaning pay special attention to distributional hands. High card points mean nothing. Be brave. Bridge is not for the chicken hearted.



#### Ray Jotcham

The first time I played bridge was at age 17 in the Men's Pairs at the Can-Am Regional

in Montreal in 1959 with Doug Fraser. We led the field after the first session and won 2.5 red points. Doug told me I had to join the ACBL to get my points and told me to meet him at the Vanderbilt Bridge Club the following week. After paying my \$5, the club owner asked me if I was interested in playing some rubber bridge. I said I had no experience. They then said I could play as their guest and they would cover my losses. I won! Two days later, I repeated the experience. Again I won. They then offered me a job, filling in any games that needed a fourth. I was a pro after two weeks of play!

I became a life master in the Can-Am men's pairs in 1963 with a 2nd place finish. I won my first regional event the following week in NYC, winning the four-session 208-table Goldman Pairs competing against all the top players of the day: Jacoby, Becker, Schenken, etc. The 55 points won made my partner J.P. Guertin a LM. The following year, I won my first regional BAM teams, and managed a runner-up in the Spingold teams.

Partners I have played with over the years include Doug Fraser, Joey Silver, Maurice Paul, J.P. Guertin, Bob Binsky, Bruce Gowdy, Saul Blum, George Mittelman, Richard Hart, Lew Richardson, Steve Mackay, Richard Chan, and my wife Gail (whom I met at the Canadian Team Trials held in Winnipeg in August 1968 and started our bridge partnership in October of that year).

When Gail and I were first married, I played almost exclusively with her, winning several regionals and many sectionals. In recent years, I played a lot of tournaments with Steve Mackay and won a bushel of points.

My favourite events to play in? I enjoy the CNTCs. I enjoy playing NABCs, but my career choice (teaching) precluded me from playing spring and fall NABCs; having to take extra courses to upgrade my qualifications tied up many summers. Also I directed tournaments from 1978 to 1993, so didn't play much. Aside from that, I play bridge for enjoyment and probably more club games than any other GLM.

I became a GLM in the CNTCs in 2016 by virtue of our quarterfinal win against Kokish, Korbel, Gitelman, D. Wolpert, Amoils, and Miles. I have two favourite hands from the event. The first, non-vul against vul: I held &Kxxx  $\heartsuit$ Jxxxx  $\diamondsuit$ Qx &xx

The auction proceeded:

West	North	East	South
		(Steve)	(me)
♣	3♦	3NT	?

I could almost see through the back of the cards. East held  $\Diamond K|x$ . If that was

true, we had no hope of defeating 3NT. I bid 4 $\Diamond$ . They then bid 5 $\clubsuit$  which went down one for a gain of 12 IMPs.

The second, nobody vul, I held as South: ♠xx ♥765432 ♦K10xx ♣x

West	North	East	South
		I ♦	<b>Pass</b>
l <b>♠</b>	Pass	2♣	2♡!
3♣	<b>4</b> ♡!	All pass	

Steve held both black aces, a doubleton diamond, and the  $\heartsuit AQx$  with the king onside. Ten tricks was easy!

My favourite hand comes from the 1964 North American Team Trials. I was playing with Bruce Gowdy against B. J. Becker and Dorothy Hayden (later Truscott). Bruce had opened 2NT, and I pushed on to 6♣. Dorothy led a trump which gave up nothing. Here was the spade suit which had to be played for one loser:

**♠** A 8 2 **♠** Q 10 6 4 3

Although I consider myself to be one of the world's fastest players I thought about the hand for 15 minutes before leading the QUEEN from my hand. The queen was covered by the king and ace. A low spade from dummy fetched the nine from Becker, my ten, and Dorothy's Jack. Slam made! Becker later told me I made the wrong play in the suit. I replied, "The hand was played in 64 nine times and I was the only successful declarer. How was my play wrong?"

Do I have any goals? I suppose I would like to be declared too young to play in Senior's events!

My advice to people trying to improve their bridge after age 50:

- Read as many books as possible on the play of the hand. If you can play the hand well, you will also see what declarer is doing and work out your defense from there. A favourite of mine is Card Play Technique by Mollo and Gardner.
- Try doing away with most of your conventions for a while. A crowded convention card is no substitute for good judgment.

Regarding opening bids: in first chair, I require 12 HCPs if my hand is balanced. If my hand is unbalanced, I will open with less. As an example, in the fall NABC in Boston in 2010, I held:  $\triangle x$   $\triangle Axxxx$   $\triangle KJxxxx$   $\triangle x$ 

I opened I Heart, and after some competition, Steve put me in 4♥. This was cold, but the opponents sacrificed in 5♣; down two doubled led to +300 our way. At the other table, the client holding this hand opened 2♦. My teammates reached 3NT and the defense lost its way allowing the hand to make, +400 for a 12 IMP pickup. However, even if the hand had gone down one, it still would have been a win of 5 IMPs. In a battle, the side firing the first shot often wins.



#### John Rayner

I first joined the ACBL when I was 20 in 1971. For several ensuing years I kept my

masterpoint slips in a guarded place and religiously mailed those slips (via registered mail) to the ACBL every couple of months. You couldn't be too careful about those precious pieces of paper.

I became a Life Master in 1974 playing with my first serious partner,
Roy Dalton, at a regional in Moncton,
New Brunswick. Roy became a Life
Master at the same time and in so
doing became the youngest Canadian
Life Master ever at age 17.We later
learned that Roy and I had lived about
four houses apart when we were
growing up as kids in Winnipeg.

My frequent tournament partners over almost 50 years of playing have been Roy Dalton, Abe Paul, Michael Roche, Eric Shepherd, John Duquette and Robert Lebi. Recently, Nader Hanna and I have been working on a new partnership. Our next major event is the CNTCs in Montreal.

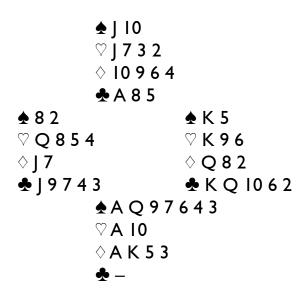
Michael Roche and I have played together on-and-off for about 40 years - so he is the partner with whom I have had the most success and with whom I have had so many great life experiences. He is an incredibly supportive partner. Michael has been the best man at both of my weddings.

He is my best friend. Robert Lebi is the partner from whom I have learned the most about the game of bridge. Robert is a good friend and has a great sense of humour. My favourite bridge win was with my son Michael Evans. I think Michael was 19 or 20 when we played together at the Ottawa Regional in the Open Pairs. We had a 50% game in the first session, but followed up with 75% in the evening session to emerge victorious. This was Michael's first big win and I couldn't have been more thrilled.

At this stage of my bridge career my favourite events are the World Championships along with Canadian and North American Championships. I most look forward to competing in those. I find the NABC and World matchpoint pairs games to be the most exhausting events, where every single trick is of utmost consequence. I also enjoy any bridge game with my family members and friends.

The GLM status came recently: I was playing in the North American Pairs Championship with Robert Lebi this past March in Philadelphia. We placed in the overalls and that put me over the top. I needed about I I masterpoints to reach GLM (my wife Jill had been keeping close track), and Robert took me there, winning 20 masterpoints.

Paul Thurston has featured me in his National Post column a couple of times, but this just may be because he is a friend of mine. Thanks, Paul.
I was written up in the Globe and
Mail column almost exactly 30 years
ago as "Rayner Shines" for a hand that
I played well in the Vanderbilt via an
early endplay. That one hand has been
my one claim to fame - one single deal
in fifty years of playing.



Michael Roche was North on this hand and had made a key bid that got R&R to the slam. East had opened I♣, John doubled, and West bid 3♣. This was passed around to John who bid 4♠. Mike then cuebid 5♣. John bid 6♦ to suggest another place to play and Mike corrected to 6♠ - the only slam with a chance to make.

Columnist Steve Becker wrote, "The hero was John Rayner, member of an all-Canadian squad that one day earlier had ousted a team which included four world champions. West got off to the one lead that seemed sure to sink the slam—a heart. But Rayner proved equal to the occasion. He won East's king with the ace, cashed the ace-king of diamonds and exited with the ten of

hearts. West won with the queen but was endplayed.

"If he returned a heart or a club, declarer would discard two diamonds on the heart jack and club ace and then take the spade finesse. A spade return—whether East put up the king or not—would produce the same result. If West refused to take the queen of hearts, South would overtake with dummy's jack, take the spade finesse and eventually lose just one diamond."

As for bridge goals, I have won Canadian Championships in the CNTCs, the Senior Teams and the Open Pairs and have about a dozen

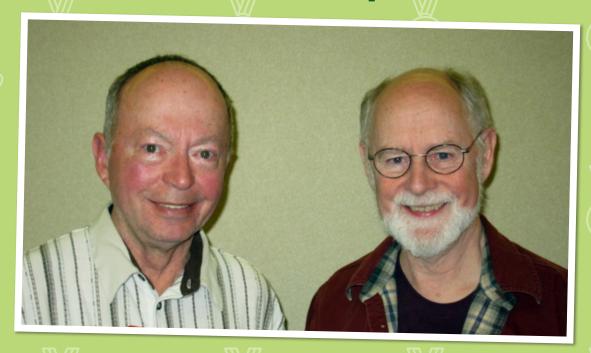
top ten finishes in NABCs. I would, of course, like to win an NABC event, as have my talented partners Messrs. Roche, Lebi, and Hanna. I have represented Canada in international competition and revel in competing against the best players in North America and the world. The challenge and excitement of our wonderful game never wane. I hope to continue teaching bridge, which I truly love to do, well into the future.

To players of any age trying to improve their game I say - keep playing, keep reading, keep learning, and keep enjoying.

## John and Mike Evans after winning an Ottawa Regional Open Pairs in 2009



# Ray and Steve Mackay after winning bronze in the 2011 Canadian Open Pairs



(JS)

## Shan Huang and Richard Chan



(JS)

Michael Kammermayer, bridge manager at the Granite Club, and head honcho of the Oakville Club + Trillium, is the 2018 Audrey Grant Award winner



(JS)

Rob Drummond, winner
of the Kate Buckman
Award, being presented
with the trophy by
Andy Risman at
Drummond's Toronto
Bridge Glub



(photo by: Stephen Goldin)

Marty Kirr, Roy Dalton, Vince Oddy, Andy Altay,
Doug Baxter & David Lindop won the Percy
Sheardown (Thurs/Fri) KOs for the third year
in a row! This year they beat local star Shan
Huang and his pro team from the U.S.

Congratulations, Team B.A.L.D.K.O.!



(JS)

Keith Balcombe, Alex Hudson, Jonathan Steinberg & Dave Colbert won the Fri/Sat KO (1); 2nd Tues/ Wed KO (1) with Steve Mackay replacing Keith at the recent TO Easter Regionals





# For Newer Players

By Robert Griffiths

# Win Queens With Kings

Dlr: East Vul: NS

```
♠ A Q 5 3
         ♥ K O 5 4
         ♦ 1052
         ♣ | 5
♠ 9 4
                   ★ K J 8 6 2
♡ 1086
                   ♡ | 9 7 2
                   ♦ K Q 9
♦ A 8 6 3
♣ K 10 8 6
                   ♣ 7
         ★ 10 7
         ♡ A 3
         ♦ | 7 4
         ♣ A Q 9 4 3 2
```

Suppose you are West and your partner opens the bidding with I♠ and South comes in with a 2♣ overcall. You don't really have a bid here, so you pass and hear North bid 2NT. Partner passes and South raises to 3NT. What do you think about all this? Partner has promised an opening bid (yes, he's exaggerated a wee bit here), but you have 7 HCPs, so your side has half of

the points, more or less, and you know that the clubs aren't going to work out well for NS.

So, you double on principle, thinking that NS will likely not be able to find nine tricks. There are various partnership agreements about doubles of freely bid 3NT contracts. One of the more common of these is that you are requesting that partner lead dummy's suit, clubs this time.

So, if your partner leads the \$\\ 7\$ and declarer calls for a low club, what do you do? If declarer has the \$\\ 9\$, which is very likely when partner leads the 7, are you going to let him have a cheap trick with it? You should. You could be in big trouble if you win the king. Now, if declarer has the two missing clubs, he can cash five club tricks, three hearts and one spade, making 3NT doubled. Of course, you can take four diamond tricks after winning the \$\\ 8\$K but only by leading a low diamond, and who would be up to that after partner's opening bid of I Spade?

Here, if you avoid playing the club king until it can capture dummy's queen then declarer will have two club losers and can make only two club tricks. If

your king captures only small cards, he has only one club loser and will make five club tricks. Big difference.



# Opening No Trump With A Singleton

Dlr:West Vul: Both

```
    ★ K J 10 6
    ♡ 6 5
    ◇ J 10 5 3
    ★ K 10 7

    ★ A 8 2
    ▼ Q J 10 8 3 2
    ◇ A K Q 6
    ◇ 8 7 4 2
    ★ A 9 6 4 2
    ★ Q 5 3
    ♡ A 9 7 4
    ◇ 9
    ♣ Q J 8 5 3
```

West deals and has to make an immediate decision about what to open. He has 20 HCP with a singleton ∇K. I think that the only reasonable choices here are I♣ or 2NT. The hand is not strong enough for a 2♣ opener.

If he chooses I & and the partnership is playing weak jump shifts over a

minor opening, then East can bid  $2^{\circ}$ , telling partner about a hand too weak to reply  $1^{\circ}$  with lots of hearts. West should judge to raise this and game might be reached. If they are playing the  $2^{\circ}$  jump as a strong bid, then West is likely to unhappily play the hand in  $1^{\bullet}$ , while  $4^{\circ}$  is cold.

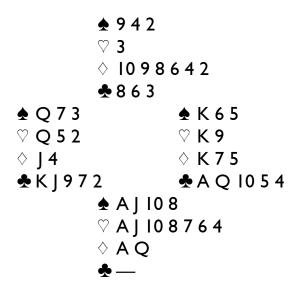
I prefer to open the West hand with 2NT, immediately showing the 20 HCPs. East then has a reasonable option to get the side to 4% via a transfer. Yes, West's hand has a singleton, but I think that 2NT is the most descriptive bid, most likely to land the side in the right contract.

On this hand, only the 4-1 Diamond split prevents EW from making 11 tricks in Hearts. In a game I direct on Thursdays every EW pair missed the heart game.

(Ed. Note.:The ACBL has recently decreed that it is legal to open with a no-trump bid while holding a singleton, as long as the singleton is the ace, king or queen.)

## Ted's Excellent Adventure

Board 4
Dlr:West
Vul: Both



Here's a hand that was played at the London Sectional last January by Ted Boyd from Cambridge. The auction was short, starting with West: P-P-INT-4\(\nabla\)-Dbl-All pass.

The contract looks impossible: there are two heart losers, two spade losers and a diamond loser that can only be avoided only by somehow finding an entry to dummy for the finesse. But Ted found a way, with a little help from the defence.

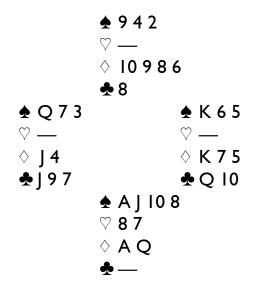
He ruffed the club lead and considered the hearts. If one opponent held a singleton honour, Ted's  $\heartsuit$ A would take it but that would leave the other opponent with two sure heart tricks with the Q95 (or K95).

So Ted tried a different approach,

playing from his hand at trick two the  $\heartsuit$ J. This play troubled West, who, after a lot of thought and being afraid that Ted was being sneaky with the  $\heartsuit$ AKJ, played his

 $\heartsuit$ Q and returned another club. Ted ruffed the club then drew the rest of the trumps, crashing East's now bare  $\heartsuit$  K in the process.

Now we are down to this position:



Ted simply led his  $\Phi$ J, letting the opponents win the trick to return a club which Ted ruffed, continuing with the \$10, losing to the other spade honour. On winning the second spade honour, there was no better play for the defence than returning another club which Ted could ruff with his last trump. With the ♠K and ♠Q gone, Ted had managed to make an entry of dummy's \$\ddot9\$ and was finally able to take the winning diamond finesse for his tenth trick. If the opponents try something funny like ducking a spade, Ted will not get his diamond finesse but will avoid a spade loser instead. Back at trick 2, if West ducks the  $\heartsuit$ , the contract will have no chance, the defence taking two heart tricks plus

gaining the timing to make declarer ruff clubs too many times, thus losing control of the hand.

After the hand, Ted thanked his partner for having that vital ♠9.

# Lead (Mis)directing Bid???

Dlr: South Vul: Both

This is an odd hand from a club game. South opened the bidding with I♣, West passed and North bid I♠. Now East overcalled 2♥ and South followed with a double. This is a "Support Double," saying nothing about hearts but promising exactly three cards in partner's suit, here spades; with four spades, South will raise to 2♠.

After West's pass, North had some thinking to do. After considering a lot of options, North decided on a simple bid of 4♠. East didn't lead out his two aces and so North was able to make 6 by throwing his losing diamond on the dummy's ♡A.

I was sitting East and we talked the

hand over, I mentioned that if they had bid the slam, I would have led an ace at trick I, ensuring defeat of the slam.

Then, looking at the results later, I was surprised to see that four pairs had bid and made 6. in spite of the two cashable aces.

How could this happen? Because at all four tables, East wasn't on lead and West led a heart, the suit bid by his partner. So, each declarer threw dummy's only losing diamond on the opening lead.



I have been the School Bridge
Coordinator for over 20 years. I am
retiring from the position to give
myself more time to play bridge,
spend time with family, and pursue
my other hobbies. I have thoroughly
enjoyed teaching and coordinating
the bridge program and want to
thank all of the other bridge teachers
and volunteers who helped make the
program so successful. ~Flo Belford



## Bridge With The Colonel

By Michael Schoenborn (the Shoe)

I have the pleasure of planning our defence of the Canadian Seniors Bridge Team championship with my dream team of John Gowdy, David Turner and Colonel Bulldozer, a.k.a. Fred Lerner. The Colonel is perhaps the most underrated bridge player I know and not only because of his names: Bulldozer, Learner; take your pick. Fred also has an unshakeable sunny disposition and can frequently be heard laughing because he appreciates the artistry of some hand on which we just got massacred.

We are at the Peterborough sectional for the Swiss teams. It's rather a drive. so we go there on Saturday and have a team dinner where Jo-Ann Lang, John's wife, also joins us. Everyone is polite enough to fail to mention that they have heard my stories before. Then we are graciously put up by David and his wife. Beth, in their comfortable roomy Victorian house. Beth does not play bridge but treats us like family members. She and David have, by the way, ten other family members living in the house: eight rescue cats and two small dogs. Everyone gets along famously.

The tournament is friendly and well-run. Our team plays very well and we win with our best score ever. The big story, however, is the hand where Colonel Bulldozer plays so well we do not actually know the name of what it was he did. Here is the whole hand with some preamble before the real story is told:

Shoo

	Snoe	
	♠ A 8 5 ♡ 9 7 2 ◊ 5 3 ♣ K J 8	
West		East
<b>♠</b> 10 ♥ K Q J 10 8 ♦ 6 <b>♣</b> A 10 7 6	3 5 3	♣ ♡ 6 4 ◇ AKJ 1098742 ♣ Q 3
	Colone	ıl
	<b>♠</b> K Q ♡ A ◇ Q <b>♣</b> 9 4 2	J 9 7 6 4 2

East-West are vulnerable against NV. At the other table, Fred's hand opens 4 Spades. I tend to approve of pre-empting as often and as high as possible. On this hand, it doesn't work too great, because no-one is about to be shut out. The auction continues:

5 Hearts – 5 Spades – 6 Diamonds – pass – pass – 6 Spades. Somebody doubled and that was two down for plus 300 for our team.

You might note that it takes a club lead to beat six Diamonds, whereas at 6 Hearts, the defence must lead a diamond before all the trumps are drawn.

At our table, Fred considers he is too strong to bid 4 Spades at this vulnerability. If you know the bidding system of Colonel Buller, for whom Fred is named, the basic principle is that the higher you bid, the stronger you are. So I argue that Fred is too WEAK to open 4 Spades. Of course I say other stuff, too, such as how come everyone gets nine-baggers and I have a 4-3-2-4 eight-count?

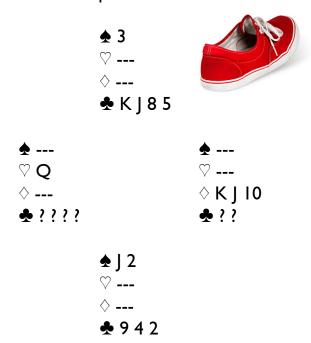
Anyway, the Colonel opens one Spade in accordance with his published methods and the auction proceeds:

Colonel	West	Shoe	East
I♠	2 ♡	2♠	5◊
5♠	All pass		

West leads the  $\Diamond$ 6 and East does her best by winning the ace, dropping Fred's singleton queen, and returning the seven. Fred banters with his RHO about wasting the beer card so early in the hand which gets him "What is a beer card?" so we spend a little time

inventing an explanation. You can see where the friendly chitchat might get people not to notice Fred when it comes to nominations for best-played hand of the year.

Eventually, Fred gets around to ruffing casually with the king of trumps, then cashing the queen to draw the outstanding trump, singular. The play proceeds rapid-fire: heart ace, trump to dummy, ruff a heart, trump to dummy, ruff a heart. This is the ending, from Fred's point of view:



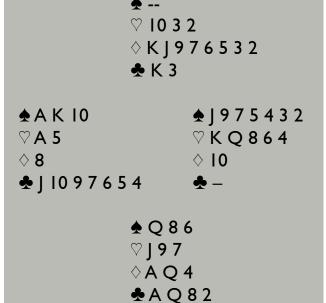
The lead is in Fred's hand and both opponents' distributions are known, as they have each showed out in a red suit. LHO is I-7-I-4 and RHO is 0-2-9-2. How about the analysis of the club suit? LHO has four clubs, RHO a doubleton. RHO cannot have the ace of clubs, for with ten top tricks and a doubleton in partner's vulnerable overcall, she would bid at least a small slam and probably try for the grand. LHO is unlikely to have ace-queen of clubs, for that gives him  $\triangle x \heartsuit K Q$  J  $10 \times x \times \lozenge x \triangle A Q (10) x$ , where

he would probably bid four hearts, not two and also he would double 5 Spades with all three side suits taken care of and a misfit with partner. Therefore, it becomes likely that West started with A (10) x x of clubs.

You can take a peek at the whole hand and it's still not all that easy to see the right play. Fred does not do all this work for nothing. He figures out the club suit and leads a club to the king. Both opponents play small, so he exits with a low club. RHO wins and has to yield a ruff and discard. LHO, a little ungraciously, points out that she should have unblocked the club queen, as he had the ace and ten of clubs. Right? Well not actually. In that case, Fred returns to the hand with the jack of spades and leads another club up to the jack. That is plus 450, win 13 IMPs.

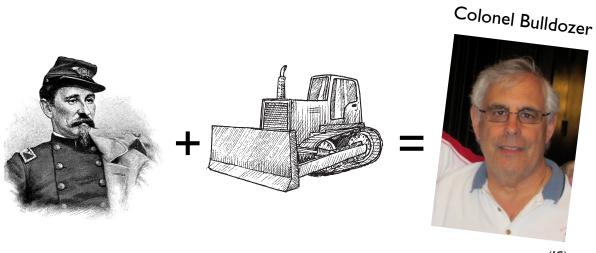
Does anyone know if this play has a name? It is sort of an elimination play with strip squeeze elements. Who cares? It was worth the drive to Peterborough. Many thanks to our teammates and to Unit 246 for a lovely visit. I especially enjoyed the rescue cats and watching the Colonel play the hands.

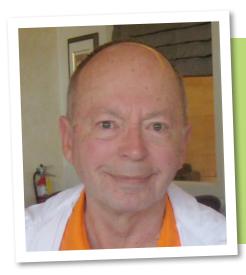
So how can one side go minus 490 in 3NT making six while their side can make a slam? Easy:



South opened INT, West overcalled 3♣, North bid 3♠ (whatever that meant!) and East passed. South bid 3NT. The ♣J was led: making 12 tricks on the run of the diamonds.

Meanwhile, imagine getting to 6♠ with the East-West cards. 6♠ is colder than last April!





# Health Hazard Alert

By Ray Jotcham

The Jacoby 2NT convention has the virtue of simplicity: easy to understand and easy to apply. However, like the Blackwood convention, it can be dangerous when applied incorrectly. It also takes away a useful bid and forces another dangerous bid in its place.

Hazard #1. Whenever a player picks up a hand with 4-card support for partner's major and game-forcing values, he bids 2NT in spite of the fact that he may have a more useful bid available: for example, partner opens I♠, and you hold:

Of course, I hope that you aren't one of those players who bid 2NT with only 3-card support (you know that the extra trump adds up to at least one trick and often two in the play of the hand, and may make the difference between making slam or not).

Hazard #2. People who play Jacoby 2NT often use a 3NT response to show exactly 4-3-3-3 distribution with three-card support for partner's major and 13-15 HCP. Not a good idea! Consider the following hand:

$$\triangle$$
 Kxx  $\heartsuit$ Axx  $\diamondsuit$ KJI0x  $\triangle$ Axx

If partner's hand is completely balanced, 3NT may be the spot to play the hand (and maybe not, depending on his holdings in hearts and clubs; if he has a small doubleton in either suit and a spade loser, 4\(\Delta\) is the place to play). What if

partner's hand is semi-balanced with 5-4-2-2? If he has clubs or hearts, 4♠ should be played. What if he has 4 diamonds? If he has:

 $6\Diamond$  is cold. Give him a singleton in clubs or hearts and  $7\Diamond$  should be bid.

The problem is with the 3NT response. Back in the days before Jacoby 2NT, I learned very quickly that bidding 3NT with more than one ace was not a good idea. Then I eliminated the bid from my bidding vocabulary entirely (well almost, except for one sequence which I will describe in my next article). Al Roth and Marshall Miles both had the right idea, but Roth carried it even further: make the 2NT response natural and forcing, showing a balanced hand with I3+ HCP. If you play 2/I, this is no problem as you can bid INT forcing and rebid 2NT to show II-I2 HCP. If you play ACOL, you can bid 2\$\mathbb{\omega}\$ and rebid 2NT non-forcing.

How does 2NT forcing affect the bidding structure? Opener either bids 3NT with a balanced hand, rebids his suit with 6+ cards, or bids a new suit with 4+ cards in a side suit. No problem there! Just like bidding over a 1NT response.

How does responder rebid?

I♠ 2NT 3NT ?

- Pass 13-16 HCP
- 4NT 17-18 HCP opener may pass, bid slam with appropriate strength or bid a new suit that he may have by-passed before because it was weakish and he had strong doubletons.
- 40 19-20 HCP opener is expected to bid slam with any excuse unless he opened an 11-count dog (shame on him!) opener may not pass this bid
- 4♣ 21+ HCP responder has interest in a grand slam opener may not pass short of slam
- 4♠ a balanced 4-card forcing raise of I♠ with absolutely NO slam interest and shows at most one ace and one king or three kings and no ace.

What if opener bids a new suit? Responder may have to do some arithmetic and count controls (an ace is 2 controls, a king is one control, and the QJ of one of opener's suits is one control.).

- I♠ 2NT
- 3♣ ?
- 3♠ I have 3-card good support for spades and 4+ controls opener can ask for responder's controls by bidding the next step responder bids the next step with 4-5 controls, skips a step with 6-7, and skips 2 steps with 8+
- 3NT I fit neither of your suits, and prefer to play 3NT
- 4♠ I have good support (3 or 4 cards), but 0-3 controls
- 3♦ I fit clubs, and have 4-5 controls (first step)
- 3♥ I fit clubs, and have 6-7 controls (second step)
- 4♣ I fit clubs, and have 8+ controls (What do you have to open the bidding with?) (third step)
- 4NT 17+ HCP, poor fit for either suit (not forcing)

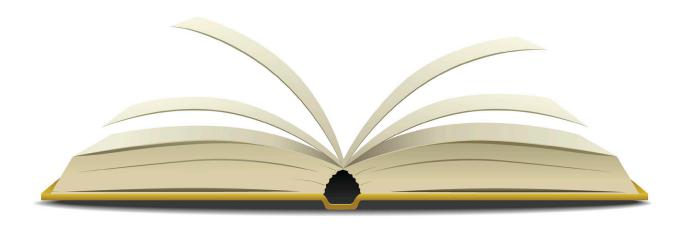
If opener rebids his suit, responses are similar:

- I♠ 2NT
- 3♠ ?
- 3NT I have a maximum of J  $\times$  in your suit, and a minimum
- 4♣ I have three good spades and 4-5 controls
- 40 good spades and 6-7 controls
- 4% good spades and 8+ controls
- 4♠ good spades and 0-3 controls
- 4NT 17+ HCP, poor spades

Notice that in all cases, the opener is in control of the auction. He alone has a strong indication of where the bulk of the tricks are coming from, since responder will <u>not</u> have a 5-card suit when he responds 2NT.

If counting controls is not your thing, you can simplify. Raise partner's suit with good controls, and bid 3NT with poor controls and secondary stoppers in the unbid suits. Even this is better than using Jacoby 2NT. Next issue, I give you the cure for Jacoby 2NT.





# Book Review by Doug Andrews

#### Hand of the Week

Master Point Press of Toronto recently released Hand of the Week: 52 Bridge Stories, by Vancouver bridge player and teacher, Joel Martineau. The book presents fifty-two hands from clubs and tournaments, in Joel's gentle narrative style. A generous Foreword by current world seniors' champion Allan Graves points toward the "over-the-shoulder" approach favoured by writers such as Terrence Reese and Larry Cohen, in which the author relates the problems and takes the reader through the thought process on each hand. The book will be of greatest benefit to intermediate players, but everyone, including experts, will benefit by reviewing Joel's guidance on how to build strong partnerships, a recurrent theme conveyed in various chapters throughout the book. Martineau avoids striking deals with exotic coups, preferring typical deals of

the sort you will want to discuss after the game with your favourite partner. Some chapters go beyond the logical approach that will lead to one "right" conclusion, delving into hands where Joel, as declarer or defender, faces an uncertain outcome. His narrative-based writing presents his thought process as he works towards the best outcome. He limits advice about new bidding techniques—other than some situations where transfers could be a good addition to your system—focusing mainly on defense and declarer play. The book explores several bridge adages, like "good declarers lose their tricks early" or "always bid the spade suit," which provide helpful advice at times. Joel cautions that these handy catchphrases must be applied judiciously, as for example when he titles one anecdote, "third hand high - usually."

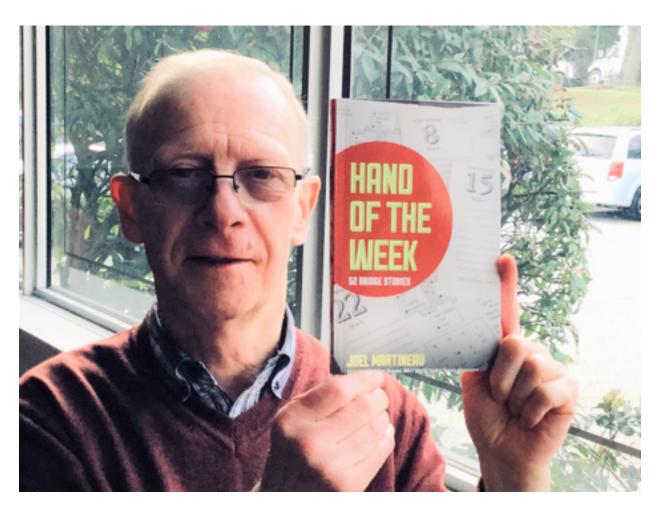
The book provides practical advice for

competitive auctions at matchpoints, when to double and when to balance. It includes thoughtful analysis in applying the law of total tricks, advice that will likely increase your score by a few percentage points per game.

The book is an easy read and Joel's gentle approach provides expert coaching.

Veterans of the Vancouver bridge scene

will recognize some references and players, as the author pays homage frequently without mentioning players by name. The book exhibits Master Point Press's high standards for proof reading and page layout. The paperback edition sells for \$22.95 in Canada and for \$19.95 in USA; the ebook edition goes for \$15.99.



(Pictured above is Joel with the book. Those who remember Joel from the 70s when he had long hair and a beard will not recognize him.)











Close to the 401 with plenty of free parking / Wonderful homemade treats

Win first overall in your strata or bracket and receive a free game at the newly located Grand River Bridge Club.

#### Saturday, June 2: Events will be held at 10:00 am and 3:00 pm

(Lunch available for \$10: Pita Pit Sandwiches, Chips and Drink)

Stratified Pairs: Two Single Sessions for 99ers and Two Session Play-through for all others

(please note: single session pairs will be welcome to play in all strata)

 99ers:
 A: 50-100
 B: 20-50
 C: 0-20

 499ers(NLM):
 A: 300-500
 B: 100-300
 C: 0-100

 BCD Pairs:
 B: 1500-2000
 C: 1000-1500
 D: 0-1000

**AX Pairs:** A: 2500 + X: 0-2500

Stratification subject to change (based on attendance). Pair stratification will be based on average master points but flight assignment will be based on player with the most points.

#### Sunday, June 3: The event will start at 10:00 am

(Lunch available for \$10: Swiss Chalet ¼ Chicken Dinner, Side, Bun and Drink)

Bracketed Swiss Teams: Two Session Play-through with short break for lunch.

The Tournament Director will determine the number of teams in each bracket (based on attendance). Teams will play within their bracket only. Bracket assignment will be based on average master points of team members.

Entry Fees: \$25 per pair per session on Saturday. \$100 per Swiss Team on Sunday (2 sessions).

ACBL members, whose memberships are not current, add \$4 /person /session. Non- ACBL members are required to join on an annual basis or join on a new

temporary 1- month basis.

#### **Tournament Coordinators:**

Bill and Bev Pope (519) 390 – 0885 billandbevpope13@gmail.com

#### **Location:**

Hespeler Arena, Beehive Lounge 640 Ellis Road West, Cambridge, ON N3C 4K1 (519) 740 – 4681 Ext. 4605

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#### **Partnership Desk:**

Ronna Hoy Home (519) 650 – 1551 Cell - Call or Text (519) 242 - 9975

#### **Directions:**

Highway 401 to Townline Road (exit 286), North on Townline Road to Ellis Road West, Left on Ellis Road West to Hespeler Arena.

## Toronto Non-Life Masters 499er Sectional Tournament

Saturday and Sunday June 9 & 10, 2018

Novice Pairs Game C 0-199, D 0-49, E 0-10 Intermediate Pairs Game A 0-499, B 0-299 mps Swiss Teams Game A 0-499, B 0-299, C 0-49

Guest Speakers between Sessions @ 2:15

#### **Saturday June 9th**

Single Session Pairs 10 am and 3 pm

#### **Sunday June 10th**

Single Session Pairs at 10 am Single Session Swiss Teams at 3 pm

> Leaside Memorial Gardens 1073 Millwood Road, Toronto

Where: Laird Dr., Millwood Rd and Southvale Dr. intersection

Lots of Free Parking or From Eglinton or Donlands stations take the 56 Leaside bus From St. Clair station take the 88 or 88A South Leaside bus

Game Fees \$13
Non and Unpaid ACBL members+\$3



#### **Tournament Chair**

Wayne Ruttan 416-284-8887 wayne.ruttan063@sympatico.ca

#### **Partnership Desk**

Wanda Pearce 647-835-5774 wlpearce61@gmail.com

#### **Director in Charge**

David Eddy



# Sarnia Bluewater Sectional June 9-10, 2018

Great Lakes Secondary School (formerly S.C.I.T.S.) 271 Wellington Street Sarnia, ON N7T 1H1

#### Saturday, 9 June 2018

The Elizabeth Fraser Memorial Stratified Pairs 11:00 AM and 3:30 PM (two-session event, single sessions welcome)

**Lunch is Subway - Cost \$7** 

#### Sunday, 10 June 2018

The Royer Stratified Swiss Teams 11:00 AM and TBA

# Lunch is Mary Brown's Chicken, \$5 per piece and includes potato wedges and either mac salad or cole slaw

For information and partnerships, contact Charles Dalmas

519-337-3399 | <u>Charles.L.Dalmas@gmail.com</u>

#### **Upper Masterpoint Limits**

A: 1,500+, B: 500.01-1,499.99, C: 0-500

Average MP's in all events









#### **Directions From The Bluewater Bridge**

Take the Front Street Exit. Turn right on Front Street. Continue on Front Street to Wellington Street. Turn left. Follow Wellington street past Brock Street. School is on the right.

#### From 402 West

Take the Christina Street exit. Turn left at the end of the access road. Continue along Christina to Wellington Street and turn left. Follow Wellington Street past Brock Street. School is on the right.

#### From Provincial Highway 40

Bear left at Churchill Road when you can no longer go straight. Follow Churchill Road to Vidal Street South. Turn right on Vidal Street South. Bear right onto Brock Street South. Follow Brock Street South until Wellington Street. Turn right and follow Wellington a short distance. School is on the right.



Cost is \$12.50 Per Person Per Pairs Session, and \$12.50 Per Person Per Teams session. As of March 1, 2018, the ACBL Board of Directors has decreed that all players must have a valid ACBL membership number to participate in any sanctioned tournament. The charge for nonpaid members who have such membership numbers but have let their memberships lapse is \$4 extra per session. Anyone who has never had an ACBL membership number must either buy an annual membership or buy a special, 1-month membership for \$7.99. Because they would then be current members, players who buy memberships of either type would be exempted from the \$4 additional charge.

#### June 30 & July 1st, 2018

Have fun, win silver points, enjoy great bridge and hospitality.

#### **Event Schedule**

#### Saturday, June 30

Stratified Open Pairs - Two session event, single entries welcome 11am & 4 pm

A: open, B: 750 – 2000, C: 0 - 750

0 – 300 Pairs 11am & 4 pm

0 – 50 Pairs (if numbers sufficient) 11am & 4 pm

#### Sunday, July 1

Stratiflighted Swiss Teams

11:00 am. & TBD

Playthrough, lunch on site

Flight A/X: (separate) A=3000+, X=0-3000

Flights B/C/D: B=750-2000, C=300-750, D=0-300

Stratification is determined by the average of the pair or team, however, a player cannot play in an event which has a maximum number of points that is less than the player's total masterpoints.

Please help the Directors start on time by arriving to register at least **15 minutes** before game time.

#### **Entry Fees**

\$13 (includes HST) per session for ACBL members (\$4 additional fee for non or unpaid ACBL members), \$5 for students.

Special rate for players with 0 – 20 masterpoints - \$8

Tournament Chair – Linda Lord, lindaleelord@hotmail.com, 905-713-9141

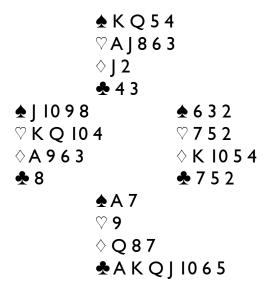
Partnerships - Sally MacRae, sally\_macrae@yahoo.ca, 416-488-4332

**Location** – Main floor, south end of the Thornhill Community Centre, 7755 Bayview Ave., Thornhill. The Centre is on the northeast corner of Bayview and John Street. John Street is between Steeles Ave. and Hwy 407.

\*\*LOTS OF FREE PARKING\*\*

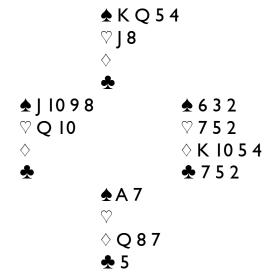
# How Richard Chan made 6NT (from page 18)

Imagine the whole hand looks something like this:



Clearly if West held the A-K of diamonds he would cash them off the top, so he can't have both of those cards. After the heart king lead and winning the ace in dummy, Richard ran seven rounds of clubs at the defense.

Here is the ending with West to discard on the seventh club:



Notice West no longer has the diamond ace—he had to pitch that card, probably on the trick before. If he now lets go a spade Richard gets four spade tricks so West pitches the heart ten. Richard discards a spade from the dummy. Now he cashes the ♠A, plays a spade to dummy's ♠K, and exits with the ♥8 to West's stiff ♥Q. West perforce exits a spade (the steppingstone) and dummy wins the last two tricks: the ♠Q and the ♥J. Well done, Richard!





#### **South Western Ontario**

# Regional

## **Bridge Tournament**

Kitchener, ON

July 3-8, 2018

#### **Schedule of Events**

Tuesday July 3:  A/X/Y Open Pairs  Gold Rush Pairs  Compact Knockout  19er Pairs  Evening Side Series (Fast Pairs)	10:00 am & 2:30 pm 10:00 am & 2:30 pm 10:00 am
Wednesday July 4:  A/X/Y Open Pairs  Gold Rush Pairs  299er Pairs (Single Sessions)  Bracketed Knockout (1 & 2 of 4)  19er Pairs  Compact Swiss Teams  Evening Side Series (Fast Pairs)	
Thursday July 5:  A/X/Y Swiss Teams  Gold Rush Swiss Teams  19er Swiss Teams  299er Pairs (Single Sessions)  Bracketed Knockout (3 & 4 of 4)  Stratified Open Pairs  Evening Side Series (Fast Pairs)	
Friday July 6:  A/X/Y Open Pairs  Gold Rush Pairs).  99er Pairs (Single Sessions)  Bracketed Knockout (1 & 2 of 4).  19er Pairs  Compact Swiss Teams  Evening Side Series (Fast Pairs).	
Saturday July 7:  A/X/Y Open Pairs  Gold Rush Pairs  99er Pairs (Single Sessions).  Bracketed Knockout (3 & 4 of 4).  19er Pairs  Youth Game, Pairs  Evening Side Series (Fast Pairs).	
Sunday July 8: Bracketed Swiss Teams	10:00 am (Playthrough)

#### **Per Session Prices:**

Youth Game free 0-19 games \$10

0-99 games \$10 (ACBL Members only) All other games \$17 (ACBL Members only)

ACBL members, whose memberships are not current,add \$4/person /session. Non-ACBL members are required to join on an annual basis or join on a new temporary 1- month basis.

## Thursday July 5: Special Day for Newcomers 0-19ers

9:00 AM

Novice Presentation from John Rayner 10:15 AM

First session: 3 rounds of 6 boards 2:30 PM

Second session: 3 rounds of 6 boards

- Free coffee and muffins and free lunch
- Special Swiss Team game with fewer boards
- Red Points
- Partnerships or Teams arranged

#### **Playing Site**

#### Bingemans Conference Centre

425 Bingemans Centre Drive, Kitchener, ON Marshall Hall Building

Lots of free parking Coffee costs \$1.

No outside food or drink is allowed on site.

#### **Lunch Menus - \$12 (tax included)**

Tue: Soup, sandwich, sweet, pop/water

Wed: Mac & Cheese, salad, sweet,

pop/water

Thu: Quiche, garden salad, sweet,

pop/water

Fri: Lasagna, Caesar salad, sweet,

pop/water

Sat: Hamburger, potato salad, sweet,

pop/water

Sun: Wrap. Asian slaw, sweet, pop/water

#### **Side Series:**

Evening games are Fast Pairs to get you out early.

Play 1 or more sessions with the same or different partners. Must play at least two sessions in the event to be eligible for gold point awards.

- · All points will be red or gold
- Zero Tolerance is in effect for this tournament.

- In consideration of those who are sensitive to fragrance, this is a scent-free tournament
- Please bring a sweater to the playing site.
- When an event has an upper MP limit, all players must have fewer than that number of master points.
- Daily Speaker Program.
- Single session entries welcome.

#### **Directions to Site**

#### From London and points west on Hwy 401:

- Take exit 278B for King St E towards Kitchener-Waterloo.
- Take entry ramp onto HWY 8 W.

#### From Toronto and points east on Hwy 401:

 Take exit 278 to merge onto HWY 8 W. toward Kitchener/Waterloo

#### From both directions – continue:

Due to possible construction at Wellington Road Exit,

- · Take exit for Ottawa St N
- Turn right on Ottawa St 2.5 km to Lackner Blvd
- Turn left on Lackner Blvd and continue 1.9 km.
- Continue straight across Victoria St as Lackner Blvd becomes Bingemans Centre Dr. 0.7 km
- Bingemans entrance is on the right.

#### **Stratifications**

#### **Open Games**

A: 3000+, X: 1500-3000, Y: 0-1500

#### Gold Rush

A: 500-750, B: 200-500, C: 0-200

#### 299 Games

A: 100-300, B: 50-100, C: 0-50

#### 99 Games

A: 50-99, B: 20-49, C: 0-19

#### **Tournament Hotel**

#### Radisson Hotel

2960 King Street East, Kitchener, ON Free parking for hotel guests Rate: \$114.99, Single or Double Ask for "Bridge Rate" at 1-800-333-3333.

#### **Tournament Chair**

Ted Boyd <u>boydst1945@gmail.com</u>

#### **Partnerships**

Patricia McMillan <u>palemusic@icloud.com</u>

## HAMILTON SECTIONAL JULY 14 & 15, 2018

**ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION Branch 163** 453 Limeridge Rd E, Hamilton, ON 905-385-3733

#### **SATURDAY JULY 14**

Lunch available for purchase

Stratified Open Pairs

( Playthrough ) 10 am / 2:15 pm

A: 1500 + B: 500 - 1500 C: 0 - 500

Stratified by pair's average MP Single-session entries are welcome

299er Pairs

10:00 am 299er Pairs 2:15 pm

#### **SUNDAY JULY 15**

Lunch available for purchase

Stratiflighted Swiss Teams

( Playthrough ) 10:00 am

A: 2500+ X: 0 - 2500

B: 750 - 1500 C: 300 - 750 0 - 300 Stratified by team's average MP

Flight eligibility based on highest MP total on team 299er Swiss Teams 10:00 am 299er Swiss Teams 2:15 pm

#### **HOSPITALITY** after the 2nd session SAT

No player may participate in an event with an Upper Masterpoint Limit, if they hold more MPs than that limit Stratification within an event will be by average masterpoint holding of pair / team

#### **ENTRY FEES:**

ACBL members: \$13.00 per session Unpaid members: \$17.00 per session 0-20 MP & Students: \$6.00 per session

To participate in this tournament, players must have an ACBL Player Number Players without an ACBL number must purchase a temporary 1 month membership for \$10, or join on an annual basis

**TOURNAMENT CHAIR: MICHELLE ELLIS 905-525-1433** 

mellis2728@gmail.com

**EILEEN GRADY 905-379-4029 PARTNERSHIPS:** 

eigrady@gmail.com



## Tillsonburg's 39th Annual Golden Leaf Sectional Bridge Tournament Aug. 10-12, 2018



Tournament Manager – Jed Drew <u>Jed.Drew@gmail.com</u> (519) 842-8786 Partnerships – Liz Illes tonyilles@sympatico.ca (519) 688-9400

Friday, August 10 \$25 per pair per session

11:00 am & 3:00 pm Single Sessions Stratiflited **Open Pairs** 

A: 2000+ B: 750-2000 C: 0-750

NLM 499'r Pairs

A: 300-500; B: 100-300; C: 0-100

**99'r Pairs** A: 50-100; B: 20-50; C: 0-20 Saturday, August 11 \$50 per pair for two sessions (Single Session Entries Welcomed)

11:00 am & 3:00 pm Two-Session Stratiflited

**Open Pairs** 

A: 2000+ B: 750-2000 C: 0-750

**NLM 499'r Pairs** A: 300-500; B: 100-300; C: 0-100

99'r Pairs

A: 50-100; B: 20-50; C: 0-20

Sunday, August 12

10:30 am / TBA

**Bracketed Swiss Teams** 

Play at Your Own Level!

Bracketed by Team Total
Masterpoints
7 Rounds of 7 Boards

Note the early start time on Sunday!

Flight assignment is based upon player with highest masterpoints.

Stratification within flight is based upon average masterpoints.

NOTE: Stratifications are dependent upon depth of field – Director may adjust

Catered Lunch Available On-Site Daily (Vegetarian and Gluten-Free available on special order)

ACBL Members with Less than 5 Masterpoints receive one FREE session on Friday or Saturday. Players 25 years and younger play for \$5 per session

To participate in this tournament, players must have an ACBL Player Number. Players without an ACBL number must purchase a temporary 1 month membership for \$10, or join on an annual basis. \$4 surcharge per session for non-paid members.

Westfield Public School 102 Dereham Drive Tillsonburg, ON N4G 0G5

Ph: 519-842-2461

As requested by the players, we are returning to this beautiful new building. It is fully handicapped accessible, with a spacious playing area and excellent lighting.

Map and Driving Directions on the next page

For More Information Please Visit Our Website www.tillsonburgbridgeclub.ca/TOURNAMENT.html

Free Coffee and Snacks Throughout

Our Catered Lunches are Rated A+ Excellent Playing Site / Free Parking Good Dining Nearby

Friendly Relaxed Atmosphere



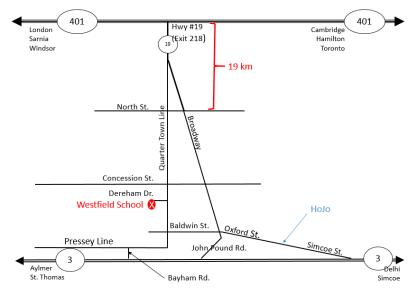
92 Simcoe Street, Tillsonburg Phone directly to the Hotel to receive a 10% discount rate:
1-866-942-7366

# Tillsonburg Sectional Site Location and Driving Directions

**Site Location:** Westfield Public School 102 Dereham Drive, N4G 0G5

(off Quarter Town Line\* on the West side of Tillsonburg)

\*Please note that some references may show as Quarterline Road – this is the same road!



#### **Driving Directions**

#### From Highway 401:

- 1. Exit at Hwy 19 (Exit 218).
- $2.\,Go$  southward  $19\,km$  to Tillsonburg.
- 3. Turn right at Second traffic light (North St).
- 4. Travel 500 m westward on North St. to 4-way Stop (Quarter Town Line).
- 5. Turn left on Quarter Town Line.
- 6. Drive southward on Quarter Town Line for 1.6 km until you come to a Stop sign (Concession St).
- 7. Continue southward on Quarter Town Line another 530 m to the first street on the right (Dereham Dr.).
- 8. Turn right on Dereham Drive to school.

#### From Simcoe/Delhi

- 1. Travel westward on Highway 3 to Tillsonburg.
- 2. Exit onto Simcoe St.
- 3. Travel westward full length of Simcoe and Oxford Streets to Downtown Tillsonburg (7.1 km) (5th traffic light).
- 4. At corner of Broadway Ave and Oxford St. angle slightly left and follow Baldwin Street westward.
- 5. Continue westward on Baldwin St for 1.8 km to Quarter Town Line.
- 6. Turn right on Quarter Town Lone and travel northward 650 m to Dereham Dr. (Dereham Drive is 2nd street on the left).
- 7. Turn left on Dereham Drive to school.

#### From St. Thomas/Aylmer

- 1. Travel eastward on Highway 3 to Tillsonburg.
- 2. Turn left onto Bayham Drive just before Tillsonburg.
- 3. Travel 1 km on Bayham Drive to Pressey Line.
- 4. Turn right on Pressey Line and continue 1.3 km eastward until it makes a 90 degree left curve and becomes Quarter Town Line.
- 5. Continue northward on Quarter Town Line for 1.1 km to Dereham Dr. (Dereham Drive is 3rd street on the left).
- 6. Turn left on Dereham Drive to school.

#### Alternatively from St. Thomas/Aylmer

- 1. Travel eastward on Highway 3 to Tillsonburg.
- 2. Exit Highway 3 at John Pound Road turning left.
- 3. Follow John Pond Road into downtown Tillsonburg (first traffic signal).
- 4. Turn left at light and go 1.3 km westward on Baldwin St. to Quarter Town Line.
- 5. Turn right on Quarter Town Line and travel northward 650 m (Dereham Drive is 2nd road on the left).
- 6. Turn left on Dereham Drive to school.

## **NIAGARA 299er SECTIONAL**

Bridge Centre of Niagara 6-2E Tremont Drive, St. Catharines, ON L2T 3B2 905-704-0446

#### **August 18th and 19th, 2018**

#### **Stratified 299er Pairs**

Saturday, 10:00 am & 2:00 pm and Sunday, 10:00 am & 2:00 pm

Two Single-Session Events Both Days \$14.00 per person, per session (extra \$4 for lapsed ACBL Members)

#### Free Lunch Between Sessions - Both Days

(Start-up free breakfast available both days)

Stratifications for all sessions based on average pair masterpoints: A: 0-300; B: 0-200; C: 0-50

(0-50 Separate Game if Attendance Warrants)

**Chair:** Lucy McEwen 905-468-0052 **email:** lucymcewen@gmail.com

Partnership Chair: Linda Chant. 905-468-0809

email: lchant@cogeco.ca

FREE LUNCH • PRIZES • FREE PARKING • SILVER POINTS
GREAT VENUE • FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE
WONDERFUL HOSPITALITY • PRIZES

# Goderich Bridge Sectional August 25 & 26, 2018

### Goderich Columbus Hall 390 Parsons Court, Goderich, Ontario

#### Saturday, August 25, 2018

Stratifications based on average Master Points

Single Session Entries Welcome

#### Sunday, August 26, 2018

Bracketed Swiss Teams ...... 11:00 am and TBA

299er Bracket Guaranteed

Entry Fee: \$13.00/session

\$ 4.00 extra for Unpaid ACBL members

Sunday Lunch: \$10.00 / Cash Bar Available

#### **Tournament Chair**

Maria Deaves

(226) 663-9260 <u>maria@deaves.com</u>

#### **Partnerships**

Jen Verdam-Woodward

(519) 440-9346 <u>jenvw@hurontel..on.ca</u>





# <u>Labour Day Silver Point Sectional</u> <a href="mailto:Bridge Tournament">Bridge Tournament</a>

#### September 1 to September 3, 2018

Location: Holiday Inn Yorkdale, 3450 Dufferin Street, Toronto

**End of Summer Bridge Blast!** 

#### Schedule of Events

#### Saturday, September 1

Saturday, September 1

10.00 & 2:30 - A/X, B/C/D pairs - 2 session stratiflighted open pairs, single session entries are also welcome

10:00 & 2:30 -0-500 Pairs – 2 single session stratified pairs event-

10:00 & 2:30- 0-100 Pairs- 2 single session stratified pairs events

2:30- a single session 0-20 pairs game

Steve Overholt will be running a free 30 minute bridge lesson 45 minutes before each session

#### Sunday, September 2

10:00 & 2:30 - A/X, B/C/D pairs – 2 session stratiflighted open pairs, single session entries are also welcome

10:00 & 2:30 – 0-500 Pairs – 2 single session stratified pairs event

10:00 & 2:30- 0-100 Pairs- 2 single session stratified pairs events

2:30- a single session 0-20 pairs game

Steve Overholt will be running a free 30 minute bridge lesson 45 minutes before each session

#### Monday, September 3

10:00 & TBA – Stratiflighted Swiss Teams

10:00 & TBA - Stratified 0-300 Swiss Teams

Steve Overholt will be running a 30 minute bridge lesson 45 minutes before the first session

\*Stratiflighted events: A: 2500+, X: 0-2500, B: 750 -2000, C: 0-750

# EVENTS ARE STRATIFIED BY AVERAGE MASTER POINTS & FLIGHTS ARE BASED ON HIGHEST MASTER POINTS OF PAIR/TEAM

Chairperson: Ann Shaw 905-855-7177/ 647-961-4822 or <a href="mailto:ashawc646@gmail.com">ashawc646@gmail.com</a>
Partnerships: Joanne Gilmore 905-820-7391/647-232-7391 or <a href="mailto:jgilmore@toronto.ca">jgilmore@toronto.ca</a>
Entry Fee: \$14.00 for ACBL Members. Unpaid members will pay an additional \$4.00 per session. Non- ACBL members are required to join on an annual basis or join on a new temporary one month basis.

A Special Entry Fee of \$10.00 for the 0-20 and 0-100 games

#### The Credit Valley Bridge Association

is pleased to host

# The Caledon East Fall Sectional

September 22 - 23, 2018

Community Complex, 6215 Old Church Road, Caledon East 905-584-9254

#### Saturday, September 22: Events will be held at 11:00am & 3:15pm

**Stratified Pairs: Two Single Sessions** 

**0–99ers:** A: 50–99 B: 20–49 C: 0-19

**Stratified Pairs: Two Session Play-Through** 

**499ers(NLM)\*:** A: 300–499 B: 100–299 C: 0–99 **Open\*:** A: 2000+ B: 750–2000 C: 0-750 \*Single morning- or afternoon-only sessions welcome

#### Sunday, September 23: The event will start at 11:00am

#### **Stratified Swiss Teams**

Play-through with short break for lunch

 499ers(NLM)\*
 A: 300–499
 B: 100–299
 C: 0–99

 Open:
 A: 2000+
 B: 750–2000
 C: 0-750

\*Single morning-only session welcome

**NOTE:** Stratification subject to change on the day based on attendance. Pair or Team stratification will be based on average master points but flight assignment will be based on the player with the highest master points.

#### A BRIDGE-FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT WILL BE ENFORCED



**Ample Free Parking** 



Free Apples and Cider



**Homemade Food** 

#### **Entry Fees**

\$12.50 per person per session

New: ACBL Membership Required; \$10 Registration Available on site provides temporary one month membership to ACBL

\$6 per session for Juniors



# Caledon East #6215 Hwy 9 Old Church Road Caledon #6215 Hwy 7/Queen Street

#### **Tournament Chair**

Denise Donovan dedonovan@bell.net 416-614-6754

#### Partnership Chair

John McWhinnie
<a href="mailto:johnmcw@gmail.com">johnmcw@gmail.com</a>
647-794-7894

#### **Directions**

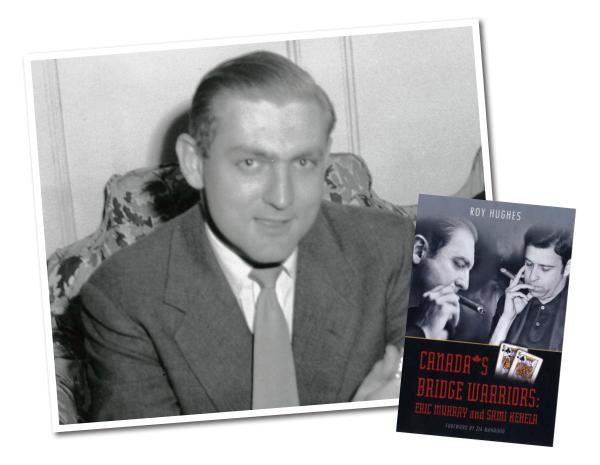
From the South or West: HWY 410 North to Mayfield Road; East to Airport Road, North to Caledon East. Down the hill to 3-way lights. Right on Old Church Road to Site

From the North-West: HWY 9 East to Airport Road; South on Airport Road to Caledon East. Down the hill to 3-way lights. Left on Old Church Road to Site

From the North-East: HWY 9 West to Hwy 50. South on Hwy 50 and through Palgrave. Right at first lights on Old Church Road to Site located just after Town Hall on the left

From South or East: HWY 427 North to HWY 50. North on HWY 50 and through Bolton. Down the hill after Gleneagles Golf Club to lights. Left on Old Church Road to Site located just after Town Hall on the left

Closest accommodation in Bolton, 15 minutes away: The Bolton Inn (905-857-3382) and Hampton Inn (905-857-9990)



Eric R. Murray, 1928-2018

A great player. A greater personality. A Canadian bridge hero.

Eric Murray died on May 19. Eric was a world-class player and last summer was ranked the #1 Canadian bridge player of all time in these pages. (See the Fall 2017 Kibitzer.)

Here is a link to the ACBL's Hall of Fame webpage on Eric Murray:

http://www.acbl.org/about-acbl/hall-of-fame/members/murray-eric/

A memorial is being planned by the Murray family and will take place on Wed., May 30, at 5:00 pm in the Convocation Hall of Osgoode Hall, located at 130 Queen St.W., Toronto. For parking, the most convenient location would be below City Hall, accessible from both Queen St. and Dundas St.

Below are some of the (edited) comments made by bridge players on the Bridgewinners website: <a href="www.bridgewinners.com">www.bridgewinners.com</a> Also, John Gowdy and David Turner each sent in a story, both of which are included here.

#### **Eric Rodwell**

I lived in Toronto for 10 years and had the pleasure of playing with him at Audrey Grant's Club for one session. We were under average after nine boards. Did he then toss cards? No way! We wound up with 225 on a 156 average. I really enjoyed his acerbic wit.

#### **Chuck Messinger**

He was one of the great personalities of bridge: A great card player with a terrific sense of humour.

#### Mike Pope

Mr. Murray grew up with my father in Hamilton. Many years later when I had started to play bridge, my father said to give Eric a call and see if he will come play. I did, and he did! We had a six-table game in our home and everyone was amazed to see him there. Everyone got to play a hand with him and had a wonderful time: A great player and also a great person who will greatly be missed.

#### Jonathan Campbell

A giant who put Canada on the map literally (by playing a major role in the merger of the Ontario Bridge League, of which he was president, with the ACBL and also in the founding of the Canadian Bridge Federation to sponsor Canada in international competition) and figuratively (as the first Canadian to play internationally in a Bermuda Bowl.

#### Jonathan Steinberg

The best and most successful player Canada has ever produced: An outstanding lawyer. But what I will always remember was his amazingly funny (ROFL) acceptance speech in Toronto at the 2001 Hall of Fame ceremony.

#### Karen Allison

Besides being a great player and, by the way, a judge in real life, Eric was a marvelous raconteur. Just get him started and bridge stories would tumble out in quick succession.

#### Fred Lerner

Eric was of the greatest. Playing against him and Sami Kehela or Percy Sheardown or Bruce Elliott was always a learning and very humbling experience. RIP Eric. We will miss you.

#### John Gowdy

I partnered Eric and we won the 2010 Canadian Senior Team Championship. He was also inducted to the Canadian Bridge Hall of Fame during the tournament. As I was driving him home and congratulating him on a great weekend he said,

"Gowdy, you too can make the HOF, if you can live to be 110. They may put you in on longevity."

15 years ago I was on a 6-man team playing in the Toronto Regional's top KO event, the "Sheardowns." Eric and I were to play the final throughout; however, life conspired and I was only able to play the 2nd half. I showed up to find we were down 20 IMPs. Murray was not pleased. We sat down without exchanging a word. The team we faced was world class and we were hoping to play well and in good luck to win this event.

So for 15 boards we had either very good results or fantastic results. We bid two 50% slams and made both and stayed out of a 75%er that went down. There was not one hand where we stood to lose an imp.

Now the last hand. INT by Eric and I held:

$$\triangle xx \quad \heartsuit \ Q \ xx \quad \diamondsuit \ A \ xxx \quad \triangle \ J \ xxx \quad an easy pass.$$

The opening lead was made and Eric spent two minutes before playing to trick one. It took him ten minutes to play this hand when finally, at trick 10, he grunted and endplayed his RHO and made 2, having 7 tricks on top.

He glared at me and asked, "Ever lost by one, Gowdy?"

Now he knew how good our card had been, but the last thing he could do in the match was work this hand...just in case. And he showed me the difference between good and great. We won by 40!

#### Marshall Lewis

Eric Murray was my original role-model-hero: the epitome of the player who continually saddles the opponents with problems out of nowhere. Long before Robson, and long before Zia, there was Murray.

#### Pamela Granovetter

RIP Eric! He was a character and a legend in his own time - what a personality! I knew him in the olden days, when he and Sami Kehela sat there at the table, puffing on their Havana cigars and playing magnificently.

#### **David Turner**

A Lifetime ago, I'm playing in the Toronto Regional with Greg Carroll, hoping to win enough masterpoints to become a Life Master. We're moderately experienced, and are playing regularly in the Regal IMP League against the stars of the day, but haven't played many big tournaments yet. We play Murray and Kehela in the second match of the Swiss and, perhaps because we're nervous about that, we have a horrible first board - missing an easy vulnerable game; the

match is over. To my everlasting astonishment, with 13 IMPs in the bank against the young punks, Murray goes to the whip and \*psyches\* on the next board. Wow!! :)) What a competitor!

#### Ray Lee

The first time I met Eric, almost 50 years ago, Harry Abel and I played a team match against him. He was immensely courteous, introduced himself and his partner, shook our hands affably, then proceeded to demolish us. More recently, after a book signing for 'Canada's Bridge Warriors', Mark Horton and I had dinner with Eric, Sami and Roy, and it was one of the most entertaining evenings I have ever spent. I always felt that the ban on cigar-smoking at the bridge table hastened his retirement from the game.

#### Jordan Cohen

I was aware of Eric since I was a kid, when my father was a member, together with Eric and Sami Kehela, of the 1964 Canadian Olympiad team that finished 4th. When I moved to Toronto in 1977 to attend law school, I finally got to meet him, and thereafter got the benefit of his skills as a raconteur in the fields of both law and bridge. In the current bridge pro regime, one has to remember that Eric accomplished his bridge feats while also being one of Toronto's leading trial lawyers for many years.

#### Allan Graves

In 1978 I moved to Toronto and Eric offered me a room in his beautiful home in Toronto's nicest old neighbourhood for as long as I needed to find a place. Over the decades that he was my friend he was unfailingly kind and generous to everyone in need, in every conceivable situation. When you played with him, (unless you were Sami), he would occasionally comment on your bidding and play—if he thought you should know better. He was always so dryly witty about it that there was no space for self-pity or indignation. If you actually listened to the commentary you were much the better player for it. He saw every card play situation instantly and was always a step or two ahead of the table psychologically.

I was reminiscing with Bob Hamman the other night about "Rutherford," and the tired old cliche about "breaking the mould" came up. In Eric Rutherford Murray's case it is true—he broke the mould.

#### Michael Roche

A great player. A greater personality. A Canadian bridge hero.

#### **Tournament Trail**

Page numbers (p.) refer to ads in this issue. An asterisk (\*) means tournament information was in the previous issue. Information is subject to change - check www.unit166.ca or www.acbl.org for up-to-date information.

#### 2018

MAY		AUGUS1	Г
25-27	Sudbury	10-12	Tillsonburg, p. 49
26-June 3	Canadian Bridge	14-19	Sudbury Regional
	Championships,	18-19	St. Catharines 299er, p. 51
	Montreal	25-26	Goderich, p. 52
JUNE		SEPTEMBER	
2-3	Grand River, p. 40	1-3	Toronto, p. 53
9-10	Toronto 499er, p. 41	4-9	St. Catharines Regional
9-10	Sarnia, p. 42	15-16	St. Thomas
19-24	Kingston Regional	15-Oct. 6	Orlando World Bridge
30-Jul 1	Thornhill, p. 44		Series
JULY		21-23	Buffalo
3-8	Kitchener Regional,	22-23	Caledon, p. 54
3-0	p. 46	29-30	Chatham
14-15	Hamilton, p. 48	OCTOBER	
25-Aug 5	Atlanta NABC	2-8	Ottawa Regional
		13-14	Collingwood
		16-21	Buffalo Regional
		16-21	Winnipeg Regional

#### Deadline for the Fall 2018 Kibitzer: July 26, 2018

The Kibitzer

Andy Stark

126 Ivy Ave., Toronto ON M4L 2H7