

Capital District Bridge Association

NEWSLETTER

Vol. XXXII #2

April 2010

District 3 website: <http://www.bridge-district3.org>

CDBA website: <http://www.cdbanet.org>



Schenectady Sectional (at the Studio) April 16-18, 2010

Friday April 16

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Stratified Open Pairs (0-750, 750-2000, 2000+) | 12:30 pm |
| Stratified Newcomer Pairs (0-100, 100-199, 200-299) | 12:30 pm |
| Pro/Am Dual Scored -Pair game movement with Pro-Am Team | 6:30 pm |

Saturday April 17

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Stratified Open Pairs (0-750, 750-2000, 2000+) | 10 am and 3 pm |
| (2 One Session Games) | |
| Stratified Newcomer Pairs (0-100, 100-199, 200-299) | 10 am and 3 pm |
| (2 One Session Games) | |

Sunday April 18 (NOTE: NEW FORMAT and TIME)

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Swiss Teams (2- Session stratiflighted play through; 42 boards) | 12 pm |
| (1/2 hour break between sessions; see details on page 2) | |

Need Help: Call Robert Neuhart (518) 279-3705 or rneuhart@nycap.rr.com
For Partnerships: Call Bernie Neuhart (518) 372-3936 or bhneuhart@nycap.rr.com

NOTE: For stratified pair events, the strat will be based upon the average MPs for the pair. For events less than 300MPs, each player must have fewer than 300 MPs.

Event to be held at:

The Studio
1639 Eastern Parkway
Schenectady, NY

**CAPITAL DISTRICT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER
(USPS 001-100)**

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Vice President's Message

Change to Our Sunday Swiss Event

No doubt most members noted the change to the Sunday Swiss event in the most recent February sectional. Because the change came without significant advance notice and the event was somewhat new to many who played that afternoon, the Board thought it would be beneficial to explain how the new stratiflighted format differs from our time-honored bracketed Swiss and the traditional stratified Swiss offered in nearly all regionals.

For quite some time, the Unit has sponsored bracketed Swiss teams on the Sundays of our sectionals. In bracketed Swiss, the total master points of each team are reported to the director, and depending on the number of teams entered, teams are assigned to play against other teams of comparable master point holdings. Teams play only other teams in the same bracket, competing for awards only in that bracket. Regardless of skill level, teams cannot volunteer to play in a higher bracket and compete for the higher awards. You are what you are. Perhaps more importantly, most teams ended up playing the same teams Sunday Swiss after Sunday

Swiss after Sunday Swiss. Many members thought a change was needed.

However, the Board did not want to hold a traditional Swiss team event where teams are flighted (A, B, or C) based either on the master points of the highest ranking team player or the average of all players on the team. Although this type of event allows for any team to play any other team at any time regardless of flight (teams are paired by the computer after each match based on similar victory point holdings), the Board wanted to sponsor something different.

What the Board decided was to hold a stratiflighted Swiss team event, a kind of hybrid of bracketed Swiss and flighted Swiss teams. In stratiflighted Swiss, teams are separated into two strata, with the upper strat divided into two flights, an A flight and an X flight. The lower strat was divided into flights B, C, and D (with the final number of flights in the lower strat based on the number of entered teams). Teams with 12,000 or more total master points were in flight A, teams with one or more players with 1500 or more master points were in flight X, while teams in the B/C/D flights had no player with 1500 or more master points. As in bracketed Swiss, each of the B/C/D flights were comprised of teams with similar point totals. In addition, the X flight was open to all B/C/D teams, allowing them to "play up" on request. In the play, any A-X team could play any other A-X team in the upper strat, with B/C/D teams playing any other B/C/D team in the lower strat. In the end, awards were given for placing in each flight. One might ask why a B/C/D team would volunteer to "play up", the reason is they not only compete for awards in the A flight, but also for awards in flight X. As an example, the February award for placing first in Flight X was higher than placing third in flight A, and significantly higher than the awards offered for flights B, C, or D.

The Board decided to continue with the new stratiflighted Swiss the Sunday of the April sectional. The Board hopes the opportunity to play against different teams is enjoyable, and the higher award levels available to flight X teams an incentive to compete.

Bob Valenti

THIS 'N THAT FROM YOUR DISTRICT DIRECTOR

I just arrived back from the Spring NABC in Reno. This tournament has always been our largest Spring NAC but this year it had just over 12, 150 tables.... almost 3000 smaller than in 2004. The ACBL budgeted for this smaller number but it is just possible that the difficulty in getting from the east coast and the fact that the hotel is “stuck” out of the city with no place to walk to and is a bit run down was the cause of the smaller attendance. However, those that came were treated to great hospitality, good playing conditions and reasonable room rates.

News from the Board meetings: “Triple Points” have been substantially reduced effective July 1. There will still be plenty of these bonanzas but less than now and the MP 's have been cut back to 70% of sectional rating. I brought up a non-agenda item that was making many club owners and players unhappy. Management had made the decision that they would no longer send analysis sheets to the clubs for games such as the ACBL-Wide Senior Pairs. When this was discussed, some of us were able to convince Management that the clubs were entitled to receive these analysis sheets for their players in the mail and not have to print them out themselves. Raising the age for Senior games was again brought up and defeated. I believe that for those tournaments that still run Senior Events 55 is a comfort

zone and raising the age would do nothing for us. The Board has created a new NABC Event – the Super Senior Pairs. This will be at the Fall NABC for those over 70 years of age. It will be a 4 session Pairs Event. If you are over 70 years of age, think about coming to Orlando this fall and trying to win a National Championship.

The Saratoga Springs Regional is just a few months away. We're hoping for record braking attendance with our new event – The Golden Opportunity Pairs which is on Friday, June 18th. This event is a Gold Point bonanza for those with 0-750 MP's. A chance to compete in a limited event and win Gold. At the Rye Regional, our first of these events, we had 91 tables. We don't expect that number but are hoping for 50 tables. This is a chance to compete without the hotshots in your field. Don't miss this “golden opportunity”. And of course the rest of our schedule has plenty of KO's. Compact KO's and two Senior games at 10am. Great hospitality, playing conditions along with beautiful spring weather makes Saratoga Springs a super Regional in the District 3 calendar. We expect you all to be there!!!! See you then.

Joan Gerard, District Director

Help !

Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers are needed for the Saratoga Regional. Those who are interested, please contact Fran Leary or Bob Valenti.

Sectional Results

Feb 19 - 21, 2010

Friday afternoon Open Pairs

| A | B | C | |
|---|---|-----|------------------------------------|
| 1 | | | Albert Ross – Stephen Paskin |
| 2 | | | Joan Meyer – Judy Dubay |
| 3 | | | Betty & Steve Bloom |
| 4 | | | Blaise Reinhart – Larry Berman |
| 5 | | | Satya Pabuwal – Bob Donald |
| 6 | 1 | | Sue Eastman – Diane Alexander |
| | 2 | | Teresa Fenimore – Louis Urbano |
| | 3 | | Peter Wick – Edward Winke |
| | 4 | | Charles Schmidt – Dorothy Kraus |
| | 5 | | William Teiper – Andrew Archibald |
| | 6 | | Steve Shaye – Larry Rosen |
| | | 1 | Marilyn Riecke – Tonette DeAngelis |
| | | 2/3 | Vanessa & Michael Gruen |
| | | 2/3 | James Beard – Mark Hartley |
| | | 4 | Barbara & John McDonald |
| | | 5 | Marilyn Hart – Marigay Harkins |

Friday afternoon 299er Pairs

| A | B | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Martha Precheur - Sandra Ostrelch |
| 2 | | Margaret Lavelle – Carol Paskin |
| 3 | 2 | Matthew Lahut – Samuel Hill |
| | 3 | Sandra deRosa – Barbara Curran |

Friday evening BAM

| | | |
|-----------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Carol Weaver – Nancy Hayden |
| | | Terry Bentley – Mary Frederick |
| 2 | 2 | Thomas Robinson – Diane Burger |
| | | Bob Donald – Christopher Almy |
| 3/4/5 | | Stephen Paskin – Mark Hartley |
| | | James Beard – Satya Pabuwal |
| 3/4/5 3/4 | | Robert Neuhart – Margaret Lavelle |
| | | Bernie Neuhart – Carol Paskin |
| 3/4/5 3/4 | | Michael & Ulla Sattinger |
| | | Patricia & Jack Baugh |

Saturday morning 299ers

| | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | Matthew Lahut – Samuel Hill |
| 2 | 2 | Sheela & Sudhir Kulkarni |
| 3 | 3 | Martha Precheur – Justine Cook |
| 4 | | Barbara & John Flynn |

Saturday morning Open Pairs

| A | B | C | |
|-----|-----|---|------------------------------------|
| 1 | | | Rita Redlich - Satya Pabuwal |
| 2 | | | Blaise Reinhart – Bibs Pankin |
| 3 | | | Stephen Paskin – Gerald Cohen |
| 4/5 | 1/2 | | Wilma Delucco – Roger Woodin |
| 4/5 | 1/2 | | Richard Stearns – June Barach |
| 6/7 | | | Bernie & Robert Neuhart |
| 6/7 | 3 | | Pierce Smith – Kate Stewart |
| | 4 | | Vito Ramundo – Charlene Sunderland |
| | 5 | | Nancy & Michael Sharp |
| | 6 | 1 | John Gazak – Lucas Fekete |
| | | 2 | Doris Nussbaum – David Cohen |
| | | 3 | Judith & Tom Ludwig |
| | | 4 | Marilyn Riecke – Tonette DeAngelis |
| | | 5 | John Riopelle – Nancy Streeter |

Saturday afternoon Open Pairs

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 | | | Albert Ross – Satya Pabuwal |
| 2 | | | Vito Ramundo – Judy Dubay |
| 3 | | | June Dorian – Wayne Hersey |
| 4 | | | Bernie & Rob Neuhart |
| 5 | 1 | 1 | Michael & Ulla Sattinger |
| 6 | 2 | 2 | Doris Nussbaum – David Cohen |
| | 3 | | Charles Schmidt – Dorothy Kraus |
| | 4 | 3 | Sheela & Sudhir Kulkarni |
| | 5 | 4 | Barry Ikler – Jerry Lipfeld |
| | 6 | 5 | Joan Belle Ricks – Tina Solomon |
| | | 6 | John Gazak – Lucas Fekete |

Sunday Swiss

| A | X | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 | | Betty & Steve Bloom |
| | | Donna & Neil Chambers |
| 2 | | Larry Berman – Rich Underwood |
| | | Albert Ross – Stephen Paskin |
| 3 | | Roger Woodin – Bob Valenti |
| | | Tony Prindle – Walt Smith |
| 4 | 1 | Rosemary Isele – Harold Bigelow |
| | | Mary Fredrick – Nancy Hayden |
| | 2 | June Dorian – Wayne Hersey |
| | | Diane Burger – Bob Donald |

| B | C | D | |
|-----|-----|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 1 | | Marion Clowe – Marion Sheehan |
| | | | Barbara & John McDonald |
| 2 | 2 | | William Teiper – Andrew Archibald |
| | | | Marilyn Hart – Patricia Favreau |
| 3/4 | 3/4 | 1 | Tom & Judith Ludwig |
| | | | Jean Drake – Charles Close |
| 3/4 | 3/4 | | John Gazak – Lucas Fekete |
| | | | Diane Alexander – Conrad Bader |
| | | | Diana & Jonathan Lack |
| | | 2 | Bonnie Taylor – Daniel Wulff |

**Mini-McKenney & Ace of Clubs Standings
Unit 115 (as of Mar 6, 2010)**

| | <u>Mini-McKenney</u> | <u>Ace of Clubs</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0-5 | Margaret & John Dillon Judith & Robert Hanley James Bornheim | Margaret & John Dillon Judith & Robert Hanley James Bornheim |
| 5-20 | Joan Weaver Samuel Hill Marilyn Riecke | Joan Weaver Patricia Boyd Liz Foster |
| 20-50 | James Beard Carolyn Accardi Ellen Larson | James Beard Carolyn Accardi Ellen Larson |
| 50-100 | Firm Weaver Carol Weaver Terry Bentley | Firm Weaver Carol Weaver William Kelsey |
| 100-200 | Charles Mantia Joanne Dechants Mary-Eliz Fitzgerald | Charles Mantia Joanne Dechants Donna Cooperman |
| 200-300 | John Loeber Rhoda Levine Paul Cuerdon | Rhoda Levine John Loeber Evelyn Markowitz |
| 300-500 | Rosemary Isele Andrea Berlent Harold Bigelow | Rosemary Isele Harold Bigelow Andrea Berlent |
| 500-1000 | Bonnie Taylor Diane Alexander Joseph Phillips | Diane Alexander Olga Markunas Charles August |
| 1000-2500 | Judy & Richard Hill William Teiper Lois Phillips | Marty Brinby Bob Valenti Judy & Richard Hill |
| 2500-5000 | Satya Pabuwal Lucy & Gary Spongberg Bob Donald | Lois August Donald Cohen Satya Pabuwal |
| 5000-7500 | Walter Smith Judy Dubay Bill Dubay | Judy Dubay Bill Dubay Walter Smith |
| 7500-10000 | Albert Ross | Albert Ross |
| Over 10000 | Betty & Steve Bloom Neil Chambers Lynn Deas | Betty & Steve Bloom |

Club Corner

THE STUDIO

Thurs. Apr. 22 - 12:00 Club Championship
Mon. Apr. 26 - 12:00 Invitational Charity Game
Wed. May 12 - 12:00 Open CC
Tue. May 18 - 7:00 Non-LM CC
Mon. May 24 - 12:00 Inter-Club Championship

AVILA

Avila Duplicate Bridge Club invites you to play on Saturday afternoons at 12:30pm. Avila will be running the Worldwide Pairs Contest (2 separate sessions) June 4th and June 5th.

SAVE THESE DATES: FRI EVENING JUNE 4th at 7:00pm and SATURDAY AFTERNOON JUNE 5th at 12:30pm. Please contact Rhoda Kratenstein (after May 1st) to reserve a seat for the Worldwide Pairs. (518) 640-9553

ROCC

The Thursday night game has been cancelled. Those interested in resuming the game should contact Bill Dubay

RANK CHANGES

New Junior Masters

Judith Hanley
Samuel Hill

New Sectional Master

James Beard

New Regional Master

Martha Precheur

New Life Master

Harold Bigelow

New Bronze Life Masters

Rosemary Isele

New Silver Life Master

Edward Winke

A Thank You To Tony Prindle

My articles in this newsletter have benefited from Tony's input. His bridge expertise improved the substance, and his writing talents improved the style. The writing talents grew from Tony's extensive knowledge of literature and grammar, and his fertile imagination. His wife, Patty, told me that Tony's writings included a bridge column, coauthored with Tom Urbanosky, that ran for a number of years in the Schenectady Gazette. And Tony's mathematics book with his daughter, Katie, is still in print. Tony's love of language was evident early, and he majored in both English and mathematics at Union College. It was mathematics, however, that Tony ultimately chose for a masters degree and a teaching career. He and I had many mathematical discussions over the years. For me they were both enjoyable and a welcome opportunity to contribute a little in return for his generous bridge help. Finally, a word about Tony's amazing memory. Many of us marveled at his command of topics such as poetry, songs, nostalgia, and, perhaps most delightfully, jokes. He loved to tell them and we loved to listen. Our bridge clubs will be less interesting and less fun from now on.

Louis Brickman

Personal Notices

Condolences to the family of **Tony Prindle**

Get well wishes to **Dorothy Kraus** and **Marion Clowe**

Happy Birthday wishes to **Edna Sills** on her 101st.

BRIDGE BITES

From The American Contract Bridge League

A FREE SHOT

By: Brian Gunnell

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | ♠ A42 ♥ 865 ♦ 9643 ♣ T43 | |
| ♠ QJ7 ♥ KQJ97 ♦ 875 ♣ 85 | North West East Declarer | ♠ T985 ♥ AT432 ♦ K2 ♣ KJ |
| | ♠ K63 ♥ ♦ AQJT ♣ AQ9762 | |

None Vulnerable

| South | West | North | East |
|-------|------|-------|------|
| 1♣ | 1♥ | Pass | 4♥ |
| 5♣ | Pass | Pass | Dbf |
| Pass | Pass | Pass | |

Against 5♣ doubled, West leads a Heart, ruffed by Declarer's Club Two. Over to the ♠A, Club finesse, cash the ♣A, back to Dummy's ♣T, Diamond finesse. 12 tricks! Was that a foolish Double or what?

It's always embarrassing when you double them and they make an overtrick. But East missed the chance for a delicious deception! When Declarer leads a trump from Dummy at Trick 3, East might casually play the King! Now look at the hand from Declarer's point of view. East "obviously" started with the singleton ♣K ... the bad news is that there is a trump loser to West's ♣J85 ... the good news is that by now playing low towards Dummy's ♣T (instead of cashing the ♣Q) Declarer can force a second entry to the board for the Diamond finesse.

So, Declarer tries the aforementioned, but Dummy's ♣T is taken by East's Jack! That play of the ♣K has swindled a trump trick for the defense. And it has also swindled Declarer out of an entry to the board. Now the Diamond finesse cannot be taken and it's down one instead of making with an overtrick!

East's falsecard was almost a free shot. East may not have foreseen the havoc it would wreak, he just needed to know that unless West had the singleton ♣A his play would not cost, and that one way or another it might gain. As for South, he could have saved the day. He had ruffed the opening Heart lead with the trump nearest to his left thumb, and unfortunately for him that was the Two. If he had saved that valuable Two for later and splurged out with the Six or Seven, he would still have a trump entry to the board for the Diamond finesse. But who would think of that at Trick 1?

Visit www.acbl.org for more about the fascinating game of bridge or email marketing@acbl.org

**CAPITAL DISTRICT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION
1639 EASTERN PARKWAY
SCHENECTADY, NY 12309**

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DEADLINE for the next newsletter is June 27

Schedule of Upcoming Events

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Thu – Sun | Apr 28–May 2 | Ethel Koehane Senior Regional Chatham, MA |
| Sat | May 15 | President’s Cup Studio – 1PM |
| Mon – Sun | Jun 7 – 13 | STaC |
| Mon – Sun | Jun 14 – 20 | District 3 Regional Saratoga Springs |
| Fri – Sun | July 16 – 18 | Sectional, The Studio |