



THE NORTH PENN FINESSE

NORTH PENN DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

118 South Line Street

Lansdale, PA 19446

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President's Message. Welcome back to all of our returning snowbirds. I'd like to put some of you to work this summer: our Mentorship program has more requests for Mentors than we have the ability to honor. If you can spare a session every month or so to help encourage one of our advancing players, please let me know. The Club values your volunteerism.

We have had a pleasant period of virtual tranquility. This is always appreciated by your Club Manager and (especially) by your game Directors. We strive to hold competitive contests without sacrificing those values that make the game enjoyable to all. Thanks to all for your willing participation.

In order to keep our By-Laws current and relevant, it is sometimes necessary to consider refinements. It is possible that one or more referendum items will be presented for Membership review and approval before the end of the year. If so, there will be plenty of advance notice.

Thanks, everyone. And it's not too early to think about joining the Board of Governors in 2012. We will have two seats up for election. Start raising your campaign funds early..

Dave LeGrow, President, e-mail dave.legrow@att.net

Club Manager's Message: I want to share a few random thoughts with you. First of all, in the last newsletter I mentioned that I was considering a monthly Tuesday evening Swiss. I was hoping for some positive feedback, but that didn't happen. It's still on the table if there is interest.



If you are trying to earn points, the summer months are full of special games. There are 10 NAP qualifiers, a week of SILVER points, the World Wide pairs and the usual assortment of charity games, club championships and Unit Wide Games. The complete schedule is at the end of the newsletter.

When I'm directing and wandering around the room, I often see an irregularity occur where the offended side chooses to just 'let it go' or accepts a ruling from an opponent who may or may not actually know the law. *If there is an irregularity, call the director. It's his job. Don't take the opponents word for it.*

Furthermore, if the director's ruling gives you options, *take advantage of them.* It is part of the game - it is *not* a 'cheap' way to improve your result on the board. For example, if an opponent has a penalty card, say an Ace, and you can play a suit he is out of -forcing him to discard the Ace- DO IT!

Lastly, in case you haven't noticed, we recycle beverage containers and paper. There is a container for beverage containers under the sink and a box for paper near the coat racks. Please pitch in!

Mitch Snyder, Club Manager, e-mail bridge4all@comcast.net



Masterpoint Milestones:

John Early	Junior Master	Patricia French-Folk	Sectional Master
Margaret Butera	Regional Master	Roberta Diamondstein	Regional Master
Denna Donley	Regional Mater	Sheila Seidner	NABC Master
Carole Bishop	BAC Master	Gina Bresler	Life Master
Larry Abramovitz	Life Master	Carol Roden	Life Master
Nancy Walchek	Silver Life Master	Shafik Ismail	Silver Life Master
Peggy Hunn	Life & Bronze Life Master	Dave Dodgson	Bronze Life Master
Shafik Ismail	Silver Life Master	Sam Matlin	Gold Life Master

Charity Games: A non-ACBL charity donation in the amount of \$170 was given to Manna on Mainstreet in Lansdale in March. They were very appreciative of our donation and a letter of their thanks was on display at the club.



In May our charity funds will go to the Women's Center of Montgomery County. Final tallies are still being completed, but it looks like the amount will be approximately \$200.

Future charitable donations have not been decided. Suggestions for worthy recipients are always accepted. Contact Lisa at lisa.t.Collins@gmail.com.

Lisa Collins, Charity Chair

Sunshine: Please welcome our **new members:** Pam Moody, Anna Mae Raeburn, Lois Schwalb, Albert Schindler, Renee Mitchell, Roz Fudell, Elaine Cohen, Walter Barnes, Pradip Khan, Lou Primavera, Jeffrey Rohrbeck, Belinda Penney, Marge Lejune, David Cohan, Judith Robbins, Sharon Weintrob, Richard Wells, Jean Wells, Stan Pauloski, Alan Resnik, Harriet Morrison, Ross Currie, Maryland Wanck, Jack Fishman, Barbara Lestz, and Bob Taylor.

As most of you already know, **Selma Brodsky** passed away on March 18 at the ripe age of 90. She had been a permanent fixture here at North Penn for many years. Selma was my first duplicate partner and a long time friend. I consider it a privilege to have had her as a part of my life for the past 30 years. Selma was a remarkable woman; truly a woman ahead of her time. Those of us who know her will miss her.

Submitted by Elaine Clair

“Happy Birthday” to Jo Ferguson (6/6), Tom Salter (6/8), Donna Snyder (6/9), Penny Wells (6/13), Al Fitzgerald (6/15), Charlotte Perry (6/16), Ken Salter (6/22), Karen Xia (6/29), Bob Mulhauser (7/1), Binyamin Feibush (7/3), Elaine Clair (7/4), Dave Hallman (7/4), Beth Milton (7/7), Elaine Rhoda (7/10), John Dickenson (7/10), Lynne Venters (7/24), Evelyn Melchiorre (7/30), Sam Matlin (8/3), Lisa Collins (8/3), Dave LeGrow (8/4), Mark Freeman (8/17), Steve Becker (8/30), Larry Umphlet (9/1), Terry Fair (9/8), Helen Spiller (9/10), and Len Ross (9/29).



Tournament Highlights: We applaud Brad Barry and David Amsterdam for winning the Bean Red Ribbon Pairs at the March nationals in Louisville, KY.



On the Road: Our local ACBL celebrity president, *Craig Robinson*, recently visited Gautier, Mississippi bridge clubs. He reports that 64 percent of the clubs he has visited are member-owned clubs like our club. Craig is a believer in catering to singles. Each member of the Hartford Bridge Club must take turns being a standby to encourage the single player.



They believe this policy increases table count. Another point he made is that successful clubs are clubs in which *members like each other*. Social events such as holiday parties, birthday celebrations, rank advancement parties, and club newsletters promote friendliness among players. Craig will return home June 7. Thank you, Craig, for your thoughts.

Miscellaneous:

Dave LeGrow is conducting a six-week course, “**Learn Competitive Defense**” beginning Monday June 6 to July 18 (no July 4) at 7:30 p.m. It’s not too late to sign up! Contact Dave LeGrow or go to our website for more information.

Mitch Snyder is also teaching a five-week course (**Play to Improve**) Monday mornings starting August 1 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$10 per week. Come to any or all and pay as you go. Contact Mitch or go to the NP website for more information.

Novice/Intermediate Game: There is a Novice/Intermediate game (0 to 500 mps) every Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. led by Dave LeGrow. The game features pre-dealt hands and hand records. Also, don’t forget Mitch Snyder’s Novice/Intermediate game (0 to 750 mps) every Friday at 10 a.m. Reservations are not required.

Swiss Teams: There are Charity Swiss Team games twice a month on Fridays of every month. The game is at 7:30 p.m. Come as a team or pair (teammates guaranteed). Singles will be accommodated if possible.

At The Table: Pard opened 1C and opponents passed throughout. After your 1H, partner jumped to 3D. This is a splinter bid. If he had both minors and a big hand, he would have reversed by simply bidding 2D. Of course, if he just had a normal two-minor hand, he would have opened 1D and then bid 2C. Anyway, the splinter bid showed that he had hearts and a singleton or void in diamonds. What would you do now?

S 985
H KQ42
D T82
C AQ6

S QJ74
H JT
D QJ743
C 83

S AK62
H A987
D 6
C KJ92

S T3
H 653
D AK95
C T754





I was South. When Pard responded with 1H, my hand became very good. Some people would use 4D as the splinter for hearts. I did not like the idea because 3D conveyed the same message. Also, you were not sure there would be a game. Give Pard AK of diamonds and 4 little hearts and he would have responded with 1H, too.

My good partner reevaluated his hand after my 3D splinter. There was no wasted value in diamonds. He did the right thing by cue-bidding 4C. That was all I needed to use 4NT to ask about keycards and the Q of trumps.

Things learned from this hand:

1. Bridge is a partnership game.
2. Reevaluation of a hand during bidding progress is important.
3. Do not follow points system to the tee. 25 or 26 “points” is enough for a small slam when there is no wasted value in one suit with a singleton, better still a void.

Some conventions are very useful. Without the splinter, it would be difficult to reach this perfect slam. Lucky or not. (This is a real hand played on Tuesday, May 29, 2007. Directions are rotated.)

Albert Horng, Club Member

Something to Think About: People with small minds talk about other people. People with ordinary minds talk about events. People with great minds talk about ideas. People with warped minds talk about bridge hands!



Upcoming Events

(subject to change)

Weekly Games:	Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays – 12:00 noon Tuesdays and Fridays – 7:30 p.m. Wednesday evenings – 7:00 p.m. (0 to 500 mps) Friday - 10 a.m. (0 to 750 mps)
Unit Wide	Wednesday afternoon, June 1 Monday afternoon, June 27 Monday afternoon, June 28 August 5 (Friday evening)
World-Wide Pairs	June 3 (Friday Evening, 7:30 p.m.) June 4 (Saturday, 11:00 a.m.)
Club Championships	June 20 to 24 (Fri. evening Swiss) September 26 to 30 (all games including Fr. Evening Swiss)
Charity	June 6 to 10 (all games including Friday evening Swiss) July 5 to 8 (except Wed. evening) July 18, 20 (Monday afternoon and Wed. evening) August 8 to 12 (all games including Fri. evening Swiss) September 12 to 16 including Fri. Swiss (except Wed. evening) September 21 (Wed. evening)
International Fund Game Unit Championship	Friday Evening, July 22 (hand records and analyses) Friday Evening, August 6



STAC (Silver Week)	July 6 (Wed. evening)
Instant Match-points	July 11 to 15 (all games)
Charity Swiss Teams	September 14 (Wed. Evening)
	June 10, 24: July 8, 29: August 12, 26 (7:30 p.m.)

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS

North Penn NAP Qualifiers (subject to change)

Monday, noon	7/25	8/29	
Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	6/14	7/19	8/2
Wednesday, noon	6/29	8/31	
Thursday, noon	6/30	7/28	
Friday 7:30 p.m.	7/1		

Additionally, 1st place finishers in each District flight receive \$700 and 2nd place finishers receive \$300 each to help defray costs.

