



THE NORTH PENN FINESSE

NORTH PENN DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

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President's Message: As we start the new year in our new location, we have many people to thank for getting us to this point. Our past president, John Dickenson, did an excellent job keeping the board informed while we were in the process of negotiating and moving. Mitch Snyder, our club manager, made sure that the games went on flawlessly and that our points and fees were sent to ACBL every month. He also kept track of our free games and did the shopping for bridge and food supplies. Thank you, Mitch, for your unselfish service. Mitch is taking a break and is being replaced by Réal Fradette who was club manager before Mitch.

Sue Bailey and Marlene Hino spent many hours measuring and shopping to make the site our comfortable home away from home. We thank you both. Thank you to the many individuals who helped move us from Line Street and to the many contributors who donated money and/or equipment for our room. We are very grateful to you all. A list of donors is on the bulletin board.

Last and far from least is Steve Becker, who spent more time than we'd care to think about dealing with the landlords to get us the best deal possible for our club. If it weren't for Steve, we'd still be on Line Street. While he was negotiating, he was also our treasurer, balancing the books between meetings with the landlords. Steve has decided to resign as treasurer and is being replaced by Craig Robinson, the ex-treasurer (and ex-president) of the ACBL.

Last month the board decided to remove the free play program in lieu of raising any fees. You can still earn free play points until March 31, and you can use every 100 points for a free game up to June 30. The director has the list. Check the minutes for other board decisions. They are always posted on the bulletin board after each meeting. Happy 2014 to all the members.

Bob Umfer, President, e-mail rumfer@gmail.com



Club Manager's Message: I recently agreed to assume the responsibilities of Club Manager for the North Penn Bridge Club. I am replacing Mitch Snyder who has done an excellent job for the past five to six years, and we certainly want to thank him for his service and dedication.

The most important task for the club manager is to co-ordinate all activities with the ACBL to insure that all club members correctly receive their earned master points each month. In addition, the club manager insures that the club maintain proper status with the ACBL. He/she also sets up monthly game schedules to include extra point special games, makes sure directors

are assigned to each game, maintains membership records, and acts as the intermediary with our new landlord.

We are very optimistic regarding our club's future, especially with our new facility. We look forward to adding new players and possibly additional games if warranted. I look forward to the new year and hope I can contribute to making North Penn the best bridge club in the area.

Réal Fradette, Club Manager, e-mail rfcusers@aol.com

Pause to Smile: Teacher called on six-year-old Johnny, the bridge player's son, to count for the class. "One, two, three," began Johnny, "four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten-uh-uh, jack, queen, king, ace!"



Member Achievements:

Pat Cieslenski	Junior Master	Marilyn Carter	Club Master
Tay Adams	Sectional Master	Ida Jean Harrington	Sectional Master
Joan Regenbogen	Sectional Master	Russ McKinney	Sectional Master
Pat Blackman	Sectional Master	Mita Roy	Regional Master
Jeff Rohreck	Regional Master	Sandra Boyer	Regional Master
Nancy Fair	NABC Master	David Silberman	NABC Master
Susan Bailey	Life Master	Faye Rudnick	Bronze Life Master

District 4 North American Pairs place finishers: Alvaro and Estelle Ronderos placed 8th in the Flight A tournament, Brad Barry and David Amsterdam placed 13th in the Flight B tournament, and Suzanne Liebman and Marsha Schwartz placed 9th in the Flight C tournament. Congratulations to all of you.

Congratulations to the 2013 North Penn Club Masterpoint Champions:



Mitch Snyder
"Unlimited MP" 126.94 pts.



Sandra Sill
"O to 1,500 MP" 60.81 points



Peggy Butera
"0 to 500 MP" 58.89 points

Sunshine: A big "thank you" to Susan Bailey and her helpers for decorating the club for the holidays.

Martin Burman, a long time bridge club member, passed away December 8. Marty had a heart transplant almost 20 years ago and often said he felt blessed for his added years of life. The North Penn Bridge Club will miss Marty and his expertise at the bridge table.

Please welcome to **newest members**: Carole Witty, Bill Goens, Mary Ellen Roth, John Waters, Patricia Blackman, Ronnie Goldstein, Sherry Garfinkle, Barbara Gordon, and Gina Bresler.

Birthday greetings to Ginny Woodbury (2/2), Nancy Parke (2/5), Elaine Watters (2/9), Harry Butson (2/13), Carole Bishop (2/16), Pat Bassman (2/23), Marlene Hino (2/25), Al Schindler (2/28), Pat Hunn (3/1), Sally Ehinger (3/2), George Webber (3/3), Betty Lyons (3/3), Real Fradette (3/9), Marilyn Carter (3/12), Nancy Fair (3/18), Patrick Drake (3/19), Tony Zacchei (3/31), Nate Schatz (4/3), Bob Lankin (4/5), Ray Victor (4/7), Len Boyer (4/8), Jim Watters (4/10), Gary Hillenbrand (4/12), Barbara Mulhauser (4/18), Jordan Lessack (4/21), Craig Robinson (4/22), Carl Ginsberg (4/28), Al Boyd (5/2), Joanne McLernon (5/4), Marianne Beezer (5/4), Mita Roy (5/6), Nancy Larkin (5/12), Joan Bernstein (5/12), Bob Taylor (5/13), Art Coddington (5/14), Mitch Snyder (5/18), Gay Simpson (5/23), Sam Yake (5/23), Peggy Butera (5/25), Leah Halpern (5/27), Bob George (5/27).

The board wants to thank everyone who helped the club move to its new location on Wissahickon Avenue on November 9. There were over 20 people helping to move furniture, wall decorations, bridge supplies, snack supplies, etc. which made the move go quickly, smoothly, and efficiently. There were many people giving donations of money, services, items, or their time during this transition. We thank Tay Adams for commissioning Yveline Reisner to paint the beautiful artwork on our walls. We appreciate Yveline's talent every time we walk into our bridge center. A huge "thank you" should also go to Sue Bailey and Marlene Hino. These two women co-chair the "Design and Move Committee" and are doing a wonderful job enhancing the look of the club.



Nametags will again be offered for sale at a discount. \$10.50 for the rhinestone magnet, \$9 for the card magnet, and \$5.75 for the ACBL nametag. Please place your order with Elaine Watters (ejwatters@verizon.net) by February 15. Order forms can be found on the club's bulletin board. (Replacement magnetic backings are available for \$1.25)

Charity Games Update: We are pleased to report that the North Penn Duplicate Bridge Club donated its charity monies to the ACBL charity funds.

At The Table #1: My wife, Elaine, and I recently played in a Sectional Swiss team game. She picked up a hand containing S-QJ10xxx, H-void, D-AKJxxxx, C-void. How often have you had a hand with two voids? She was in the fourth seat, vulnerable versus non-vulnerable, and the bidding proceeded as follows: 1C, 4H, 6C, ? So, how often have you had a hand with two voids and the bidding is already at the 6 level before you've had a chance to bid? By the way, Elaine doubled for a good result.

Craig Robinson, Club Board Member

At the Table #2: Club members Ed Goldwater (north) and Ed Leach (south) played the following hand at a regional tournament a few years ago. West held S-Axx, H-Qxxx, D-xxx, and C-KTx. The bidding went as follows:

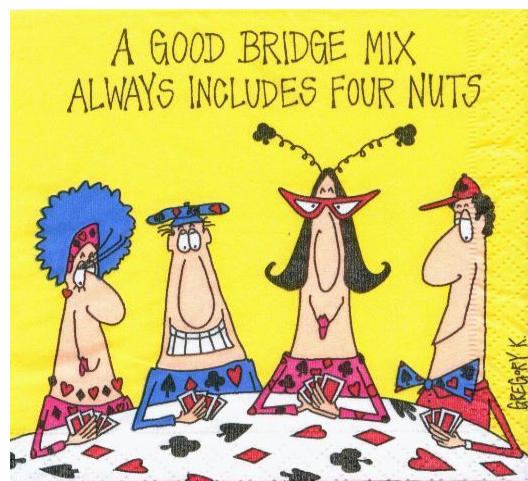
South	West	North	East	
1H	P	1S*	2C	*promising 5 cards
2S	3C	3D	P	
3H	P	5N**	P	**Grand slam force (bid 6 with one of the top three spades, bid 7 with two)
6S	?			

What would you do as West? This hand was played by very good players. And, they would not bid a slam unless the probability is high, especially in top competition (Bracket A in Pairs). They do not expect cheap gifts. West, a Canadian expert, without breaking tempo, bid 7C. He was doubled but had a good sacrifice beating normally minus 1420 easily. Can you picture North's hand as he did? He could visualize North's hand being S-QJxxx, H-x, D-AKQJxxx, C-void (or something similar to that).

How else could North try a slam only needing one top trump? By the way, this hand would have been good for EKB (Exclusion Keycard Blackwood). It is a percentage play for North to assume South to have the Ace of hearts, but it would be safer to check keycards just in case. The problem is that doing so would invite 7C sacrifice.

S QJxxx	
H x	
D AKQJxxx	
C -	
S Axx	Immaterial
H Qxxx	
D xxx	
C KTx	
S Kxx	
H AKJxx	
D xx	
C xxx	

Albert Horng, Club Member



Pause to Smile: A famous expert, well known for his arrogance and rudeness was partnering a woman in a tournament. She was well known for her good play and politeness. As a result of his incorrect play, the expert went down. The woman was explaining gently her idea about the line of play when the expert angrily exclaimed, "Do you know who I am?" "No" said the woman softly and added, "Look, the Director is over there. Go and ask him. He might be able to tell you who you are!"



Bridge Classes: Dave Legrow will be conducting a bridge class - "Learn Competitive Defense." The course will be held at the club and will consist of six (6) 90-minute sessions. The class starts on Thursday, March 6 and concludes on Thursday, April 17 (no class

April 3). The cost is \$90 per person. Please contact Dave for more information or to register at 484-433-0098 or d_legrow@att.net or www.davelegrow.com.

Novice/Intermediate Game: Friday 10 a.m. (0 to 750 mps) - Players are welcome to stick around after the game to discuss any boards of interest. Reservations are not required. Contact *Mitch Snyder* (Bridge4all@comcast.net 215-723-5881) for more information or for help finding a partner. (*The Wednesday evening game is suspended for the winter months and if there is enough interest will resume in the spring.*)

Miscellaneous: The board of directors has decided to discontinue free drinks at the club. Sodas and water may now be purchased for 50 cents each.



SPECIAL GAMES

Subject to change

Feb. 14 (Fri. am & eve.)	Charity Swiss Teams
Feb. 14 - 20 (All games)	Charity Games
March 3 (Mon aft)	ACBL Wide Senior Pairs <i>(hand records/analysis)</i>
March 7 (Fri. am & eve.)	Charity Swiss Teams
March 4-7 & 17 (All games)	Charity
March 10 to March 14	STAC (Silver Points)
March 12 (Tues. eve.)	ACBL wide charity
Mar. 24 to March 28)	Club Championships (Wed. aft, Fri. morn & Fri. eve Swiss)
March 28 (Fri. eve.)	Swiss Teams
April 7 to April 11	Charity (Wed. aft, Fri. morn & Fri. eve Swiss)
April 11 (am & eve.)	Charity Swiss Teams



NAP NATIONAL FINALS

Dallas, TX – March 2014



Club members Jean Le Vito and Mary Lutz standing in front of our beautiful wall mural.



Evelyn Melchiorre, John Anderson, Elaine Watters, and Elliott Lasky at the Wednesday day game.



Suzanne Liebman, Bryna Paston, and Simone Perkloff enjoying the Wednesday day game.



Jim Miller, Daniel Frey, Belle Miller, and Albert Horng at the Tuesday night game.



Jeff Brooks, Terry Fair, Jim Watters, Beth Milton, and Alan Resnik enjoying the Friday night game.

