

# THE NORTH PENN FINESSE

## NORTH PENN DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

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**President's Message:** The cold winter is gone, some players are back from someplace warm, and the games are getting back to their regular size. Many players have reached new levels, and we offer them our congratulations. You'll find a list of names elsewhere in the newsletter that Elaine Watters prepares three times a year in a spectacular fashion. Thank you, Elaine.

The Common Game is now in full swing and players are getting used to it. They are pleased having hand records, as well.

As you've probably noticed, the Board of Directors has voted to celebrate anyone who has reached the rank of Life Master or higher with a special dessert.

We were told that there wasn't enough correspondence to inform the membership that we had a game on Memorial Day. We plan to remedy that as soon as possible for all future holidays.

I'd like to thank the volunteers who do a lot of shopping for our club, specifically Elaine Clair, Craig Robinson, and Sue Bailey. They make sure we never run out of candy, sodas, toilet paper, coffee, and paper cups. We can't do without them!

Our Sunday game is still small. If you have any ideas on how to improve it, please speak with any member of the board. Those of us who play on Sundays are really enjoying the game, and we'd like others to know how good it is. It starts every Sunday at 12:30 P.M. if it doesn't conflict with any Unit 141 or District 4 event. That information can be found on our website.

Have a great summer!

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

**Club Manager's Message:** Since the last newsletter, the Common Game has expanded its scope to include morning games. Our Tuesday and Friday morning games are now participating. Anyone who has not yet visited the Common Game website ([thecommongame.com](http://thecommongame.com)) is encouraged to do so. The site includes six tutorials which explain how to use the site and how to use the analyses available on the site to assess your game. Frequently some of the more challenging hands will have a detailed analysis.



North American Pairs (NAP) Qualification begins in June and continues throughout July and August. The NAP is a grass-roots event that is played in three stages and culminates at the

spring NABC, where representatives from all 25 ACBL districts compete. The event is played in three flights and all players must be members of District 4. Players earn qualifications at local clubs throughout the summer. Eligible players then compete at the district level in the fall. Winners at the district level earn a place at the national finals which will be held in Reno, Nevada in March of 2016. The three flights are: Flight A = unlimited MP; Flight B = 0-2500 MP and Flight C is 0-500 MP/NLM (that is, a Life Master with less than 500 MP is not eligible for Flight C). Each of our scheduled open games will run one NAP Qualification event each month. We are also hoping to run qualification games at some of the morning games as well.

This year, the Flight C NAP District finals will be held at the North Penn Duplicate Bridge Club. The date is October 17 with games times TBA. The finals will be a two-session event. It would be nice to see some of our Flight C pairs compete in the finals.

The King of Prussia District 4 Regional Tournament is Monday, June 22 through Sunday, June 28. I encourage you all to participate in our Regional. **North Penn will hold two games during this period: Monday, June 22 and Thursday, June 25.** All other games during the duration of the tournament are cancelled.

We will return to a uniform Swiss Teams schedule for the remainder of the year. Tuesday morning on the second Tuesday, "8 Is Enough" on the second Wednesday, Friday morning on the third Friday, and Friday evening on the first and third Friday.

**Larry Umphlet, Club Manager, e-mail ichor0@verizon.net**

**Something to Smile About #1** - Bridge player to her partner, "Where's the hand you held during the auction?"



**Masterpoint Milestones:**

Linda Platt	Junior Life Master	Edward Heater	Junior Life Master
Gladys Firing	Junior Life Master	Paul Cohen	Club Master
Belle Miller	Club Master	Susan Morse	Club Master
Alison Shoemaker	Sectional Life Master	Rochelle Zager	Sectional Life Master
Randee Braslow	Sectional Life Master	Belinda Anderson	Sectional Life Master
Susan Morse	Sectional Life Master	Lou Primavera	Regional Life Master
Barbara Daly	Regional Life Master	Christina Baran	Regional Life Master
Ida Jean Harrington	Regional Life Master	Nancy Parke	Regional Life Master
Christina Dowling	NABC Master	Peggy Greenawalt	NABC Master
Jim Allen	Life Master	Helen Walker	Life Master
Lucille Schlack	Bronze Life Master	Terry Fair	Silver Life Master
Steve Serota	Gold Life Master		

**Sunshine: Please welcome our new members:** John Albright, Pat Andrews, Dona Brookreson, Jay Cohen, Roz Fudell, Lee Guo, Maryl Hitchings, Susan Hurgunow, Bert Kimmel, Sherri Lampert, Judy Lyons, Suzanne MacFadden, Mary McGready, William Petkum, Marilyn Robinson, Ginger Sabia, Neil Shapiro, Don Smolen Eileen Stefanowicz, Rich Stefanowicz, Ann Udis, and Jason Zhing.



**Sorry to see you go:** A regular club member, *Elaine Rhoda*, is moving from the North Penn area. She and her husband will make their permanent home in Sarasota, Florida. As she grew up in Sarasota, she says that "It's kind of like going back home!"

Elaine's cell phone is 215-582-7669 if anyone is in Sarasota and wants to contact her. As many of you remember, Elaine brought a "guide dog" to the club on many occasions for training purposes. She says Delhi graduated on May 15 and is going to be a skilled companion to an eight-year-old autistic child. He is ambulatory, but does not talk. Elaine met the child that day on graduation, and hopefully, Delhi will bring him out of his own little world. Best wishes to you, Elaine, and hope you come to the club in the future when you are visiting with your family here.



Elaine Rhoda's farewell party at the club. Sue Bailey and Evelyn Melchiorre wishing her well on her new adventure.

**Birthday greetings** go to all of you who are celebrating in June, July, August, and September. The list is too long to publish here in the newsletter. So, check out the bulletin board at the club and wish your friends a "Happy Birthday."

**Something to Smile About #2** - I've said this many times, "I hate this game I love!!"

**Charity Games:** Support "Manna on Main Street" during the month of June. All proceeds from our "Charity Games" will be given to this worthwhile organization.

**Miscellaneous:** Player Responsibilities - Just a reminder about responsibilities at the table. North-South are responsible for:

- Verifying that the correct opponents are at the table.

- Verifying that the correct boards are in play.
- Verifying that the board currently in play matches the board to be scored.
- Cleaning up their playing area at the end of the game.

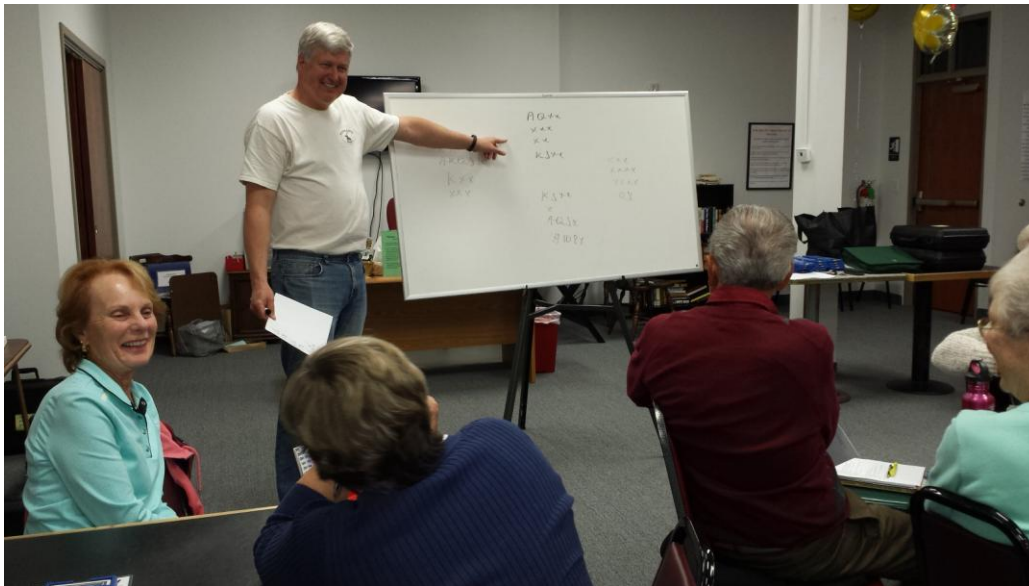
The information is provided by the BridgeMate scorer. Check at the start of each round - don't wait until the first board has been played. Of course this won't apply to the first board of the game.

East-West are responsible for:

- Verifying that the board number, contract and score have been correctly entered into the BridgeMate before accepting the entry.
- Not leaving trash at the table when you move. At the end of the round your trash goes with you.

If we all fall into this routine our games will run more smoothly.

**Education Program:** The club offered an eight-week Intermediate bridge course this spring taught by John Dickenson. Because so many people wanted to take this class, John held it on two different nights. Additional classes will be held in the fall. Please check the club's website for details.



**At The Table:** This hand was played at North Penn Bridge Club a few years ago. I was West and held: S KJ9864, H 2, D KT98, C AQ. East was the dealer and the bidding began as follows:

North	East	South	West
	1D	1H	?

1S is a normal call. Unfortunately Pard may come back with 3NT. Do you then bid 4D showing interest in slam, a judgment call, or bid 4S or pass ?

Taking a different route, I decided that since I have four diamonds and a singleton in the opponent's suit, I would show spades later. So, I cuebid with 2H. Little did I expect Pard to respond with 3NT. I now realized that I had buried spades. I bid 4S and Pard bid 5D. In match point play, once you go over 3NT, a slam is usually needed to justify the action. Very scientific bidding! I had to go 6D even though Pard could have wasted values in hearts judging from his bidding 3NT. 6D was cold...not even needing the working club finesse.

	S QT532	
	H T962	
	D 75	
	C 65	
S KJ9864		S 7
H 2		H AKQ
D KT98		D AQJ42
C AQ		C 9843
	S A	
	H J8754	
	D 63	
	C KJT72	



There you have it. You were correct in bidding 1S. But do you think you can reach 6D after Pard's 3NT? The other pair that reached 6D used 4C (Gerber) after 3NT to get it done. It looks like I was the one who took the wrong approach and got rewarded. No justice!!

**Albert Horng, Club Member**

[Something to Smile About #3](#) - Four things a bridge player would NEVER say: (1) "Cool - a four-board sit-out." (2) "No, I don't think tournament fees are too high." (3) "No matter which direction we sit, the cards always go our way." (4) "I don't feel like bridge today...I'd rather jog and work-out."



### Upcoming Events

(subject to change)

Weekly Games:

Sundays - 12:30 p.m.  
 Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays – 12:  
 Tuesdays and Fridays – 7:30 p.m.  
 Tuesday and Friday - 10 a.m. (0 to 750 mps)

Charity Games

Tuesday morning Swiss, June 9

Charity 8 is Enough Swiss

June 10

Charity Games

Sunday, June 14 and Monday, June 15

Charity Games

Tuesday evening, June 16 and Thursday, June 18

Charity Swiss Teams

Friday morning and evening, June 19

King of Prussia Regional

June 22 - 28 North Penn games are cancelled except for Monday 6/22 and Thursday 6/25



**NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS**

**North Penn NAP Qualifiers (subject to change)**

Sunday, 12:30	June 7
Monday noon	June 8
Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	June 9
Thursday, noon	June 11
Friday, 7:30 p.m.	June 12



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Congratulations to Jim Allen on becoming a Life Master.



Terry Fair's celebratory cake for achieving Silver Life Master.

