Northern Virginia Bridge Association

Newsletter

April – June 2006

Come to the Annual Meeting, **Elections, Picnic and Bridge!**

T'S ANNUAL MEETING, awards night and election time once again. We'll gather starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall (KOCH), 5115 Little Falls Road in Arlington on Thursday, May 11. The evening will start with a picnic dinner, which is free for NVBA members (\$7.50 for nonmembers). Voting will take place during the meal, which will be followed at 7:00 p.m. by the Annual Meeting. Following the Treasurer's report and a "State of the Unit" report from the President, new Life Masters will be recognized, and the NVBA President will present the Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs awards in each category, as well as the trophies for NVBA Man and Woman of the Year, the Rush Buckley award, the NVBA Rookie of the Year, and the third annual Dave Murray award.

After the annual meeting ends, circa 7:30 p.m., the ninth annual Pat Eyman Strawberry Pairs will be held. It will be a Strataflighted Unit Championship Charity game. Flight A/X (3000+/0-3000) will be a separate game from the Flight B (500-2000)/C (0-500) game. We will also run a 0-199 game. The fee for the charity game is \$8.00.

The offices of Vice-President and Treasurer, plus two Executive Director positions are up for election. All candidates who have not yet declared their candidacy must have a petition signed by 20 NVBA members submitted to the

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President's Message

By Leo Cardillo



WW! FOUR HUNDRED eight and a half tables! That was the attendance at the NVBA William Poissant Memorial (Sectional) Tournament that was recently completed at the Knights of Columbus on 26 February. The old timers amongst you will remember the days (1980's?) when NVBA Sectional attendance numbered in the four hundred tables. But the Washington area has experienced long-term erosion in attendance and, by the late 1990's, Sectional attendance was more typically 300 tables. As I have written in previous columns, Sectional profits are the mainstay of the NVBA

profitability. The Unit and more recently established 199er games at Beth El are improving in attendance and profitability, but it is the Sectional profitability that sustains the NVBA. The NVBA Board and many volunteers have worked very diligently to improve the quality and quantity (read table count) of NVBA events, and that hard work has paid handsome returns. Sectional attendance has steadily increased over the last three years, often flirting with the magical 400-table level. Well, the flirtation is over and the romance is in full bloom! This increased attendance is doubly important as increases in rental charges at the Knights of Columbus, Director fees, ACBL sanction fees and other operating expenses continue to challenge the ability of the NVBA to keep income on an even keel with costs. Nonetheless, I am confident that the NVBA is on the right track and will continue the successful trends of recent years.

Beyond the increased attendance at all of the NVBA games, I am also happy to report that the NVBA has firmly established a reputation for increased friendliness at the table. I don't have to tell any of our members that bridge is a competitive game and one that often generates a considerable amount of tension at the table. Several years ago, the NVBA Board began a Zero Tolerance (ZT) initiative to further encourage skillful and sportsmanlike competition at the table. Two years ago, we established the annual Dave Murray Award (DMA) to recognize that player who best demonstrates the high degree of skill and excellent attitude and behavior that characterized the play of Dave Murray. There are many ACBL awards that recognize the skill and master points acquired by a player or team, but only the DMA and the Goodwill Award recognize the qualitative skills of a great player, as well as the quantitative skills. The first DMA was given to Andy Gabrilovitch, a contemporary of Dave Murray. Last year, Janet Gookin was honored as the recipient of this coveted trophy. I look forward to the Annual Meeting this year and the ceremony honoring the third annual recipient of the DMA. In addition to the DMA, the Board published the ACBL ZT Policy in the July 2005 Newsletter. Subsequently, the NVBA published an article (October 2005 Newsletter) on the Recorder position and function, as written by Jeff Roman, the NVBA Recorder. More articles will follow on the Conduct & Ethics Committee and its purpose and function. More recently, ZT cards have been added to the bid boxes as a friendly reminder and posters have been created which articulate the ACBL ZT policy and encourage skillful and friendly competition. These posters are prominently displayed at all NVBA events. In accordance with ACBL recommendations, the Directors will routinely issue a ZT reminder at the beginning of an

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Upcoming NVBA Games & Special Events

	Apr 6	Stratified Uni	it Championship
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Apr 13 Stratified Unit Championship (Game at KOCH, Not at Beth El)

Apr 20 Stratified Unit Championship

Apr 27 NVBA Sectional (at KOCH)

May 4 Stratified Unit Championship

May 11 Annual Meeting – Stratiflighted Charity Game (at KOCH)

May 18 LM / Non-LM Pairs (upgraded Club Champ.)

May 25 Stratified Club Championship

Jun 1 Stratified Unit Championship (Game at KOCH, Not at Beth El)

Jun 8 Stratified North American Pairs (NAP)

Jun 15 STaC Stratiflighted Swiss Teams

Jun 22 Stratified Unit Championship

Jun 29 Closed – Alexandria Regional

Stratification Limits:

Stratified Games: 0-750, 750-2000, 2000+ Stratiflighted Games: A/X: 0-3000/3000+; B/C: 0-750, 750-2000 All NVBA Unit Games include a separate Stratified 199er game. **NEW!!!** Players with 0-5 MPs play free every Thursday game.

For the North American Pairs qualifying games, the stratification is: 0-500 (NLM), 500-2000, 2000+. For the June STaC, the stratification is: 0-500, 500-1500, 1500+

2006 Sectionals

<u>NVBA</u>

April 27-30 September 7-10 November 9-12 <u>WBL</u> August 3-6 October 19-22

For information on Tournaments – Cancellations – Special Events – Club games-NVBA on the Internet: http://www.nvba.org NVBA Bridge Information Line: 703-204-0848

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event, and will award board penalties as appropriate for violations of ZT behavior. I know that there will always be the potential for behavioral issues at the table, but the NVBA Board will continue to encourage and articulate a ZT environment so that all players can enjoy the most competitive and the most friendly bridge environment.

As you read this column, the NVBA will be approaching the Annual Meeting-11 May 2006-and the annual elections. A year ago in this column I wrote in detail about the Board positions, the incumbents and the election process. I noted that the Board had been downsized to nine positions, four Officers and five Executive Directors. In accordance with established policies, the positions of Vice President (Margot Hennings) and Treasurer (Dale Dallaire) will be up for election this year, along with the Executive Director positions currently held by Kathryn Kiley and Eugene Schuyler. Gene was appointed as a temporary replacement for Scott Merritt, who moved with his spouse to accept an assignment in Africa. Gene has done an outstanding job on the Board and will continue to serve as the NVBA Business Manager, but will not seek re-election to the Board. The Nominations Committee (NC) consists of Paul Krueger and Marge Gazzola. The NC is charged in the By-Laws to "prepare a slate of officers and executive directors to be placed in nomination by it at the annual meeting of the members". Additional nominations may be made by the members of the Association if such candidates submit a petition signed by 20 NVBA members in good standing to the Nominating Committee or NVBA Secretary (Marge) at least 14 days prior to the Annual Meeting to have their name placed on the ballot. Elsewhere in this newsletter you may read the names and brief biographies of this year's candidates for election. I encourage all of you to take an active interest in the election process and to consider running for a position on the Board. Elected Board members serve two-year terms. Many of the Board members typically serve a number of terms, but there is always room and a need for fresh troops to help carry the ball. Elected or not, you will enjoy the opportunity to serve the members of this marvelous NVBA and this fantastic card game that we all cherish.

The **second anniversary party** for the Novice or 199er Game was held on 9 February and was a HUGE success! Ron Kral, the NVBA Novice Sponsor/Champion, did a terrific job in gathering superb food, door prizes, raffle prizes and free plays for all! The table count was 13.5 tables, as I recall, and the Novice tables spilled over into the Open Game Room! The entire NVBA Board is delighted with this continued strong attendance in the 199er ranks, an attendance which is vital to the future of the Unit Game. Good show, Ron!!

Finally, I'd like to mention that Jennifer Lin has accepted the position of Youth Advisor (YA) on the NVBA Board. Jenny replaces David Banh, who served when the position of YA was first established, and did a fantastic job before he left for full-time attendance at the University of Virginia. Jenny has worked for years in promoting youth bridge playing, including national level activities. The entire Board is delighted at having such an expertly qualified and enthusiastic replacement for David to continue the vital job of supporting and increasing youth participation in the bridge world. Welcome, Jenny!!

See you at the tables!!

The Jack of Hearts

by Marshall Kuschner



ETTING OLD really sucks. Yeah, yeah, I know, it beats the alternative. But, really, what else does it have to recommend it? Okay, senior discounts. I can get into a \$9.50 movie for \$6.25. Tell you what. Let me pay \$9.50 and be young. What else? I'm sorry. I don't hear as well as I once did. Did you say something? Didn't think so. Of course, one of the worst things about being old is that you can remember being young. You can recall in great detail the things your body used to be able to do. Maybe if memory were the first thing to go, it wouldn't be so bad. The other thing that's so annoying is realizing how much the world has changed since you were young.

Take sports. For many years, John Ramsey was the public address announcer at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles. Mr. Ramsey was not only blessed with a sonorous baritone, he understood announcing. He understood that sound traveled at a speed measureable in human terms. He understood that the sound of his voice emanating from speakers throughout a vast stadium would take a second or two to dissipate. He understood that if he spoke too quickly, his words would mingle with the lingering sound of the preceding ones. So you'd hear him say, "Now batting...for Los Angeles...number five...Manny...Mota". And the crowd would go crazy, not because of Ramsey's delivery, but because they knew that Mota was the most prolific pinch hitter in the history of the sport. Move that scenario up to today and you'll hear, "Now batting for YOOOOOUR Los Angeles Dodgers, MMMAAAaaaaaannNNNEEEE MMOHOHO-HOHohohohohtahtahtahtah. What? I'm supposed to get excited because you took five minutes to tell me the guy's name? Fans today don't know Manny Mota from Manny, Moe, and Jack but they go crazy because they know they're supposed to.

Take horse racing. Used to be you'd go to Hollywood Park on a Thursday and hear two guys next to you talking about whom they liked in the fifth race. Middle of the week, ordinary race and they're arguing about Bounding Main versus Pirate's Cove. They know all there is to know about these horses. One guy likes Bounding Main because he won for him the previous winter at Santa Anita, while the other guy is telling him that he can't be emotional about such matters and that analysis clearly reveals Pirate's Cove as the superior nag on this day. Make that same trip to the track today when we have exactas, trifectas, superfectas, pick threes, fours, and sixes and what do you hear? "I'm gonna box the 1-4-8-9 in the tri, how about you?" The horses no longer have identities, they're just numbers.

Now lest you think this a bridgeless rant, let's compare bridge then and now. How many points did you win last year? I bet most of you can tell me to within half a point. That's what folks care about today, and it's hard to blame them. Points have become the thing. Go to Gatlinburg and you can win 50 masterpoints if you win the fourth bracket of one of their 25-bracket knockouts (KOs). Clearly, KOs and stratified events have been good for business so it's really hard to argue, but it wasn't always that way. Used to be you'd

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NVBA Secretary Marge Gazzola no later than April 27 in order to get their name on the ballot. Only members present at the Annual Meeting may vote.

The picnic dinner, the annual meeting and awards to our top players in all categories, the election, and bridge will make this a fun evening for everyone. Please join us!

The Candidates for NVBA Officers and Executive Director positions are:

Margot Hennings

Candidate for Vice-President

I have served on the NVBA Board continuously since September 1989, and was appointed to the position of Vice-President in June 1998 when that office became vacant



and assumed the Presidency in the fall of 1999 when then-President Barry Connors passed away suddenly. I served as President of the NVBA from 1999 through May 2001, and again as Vice President from 2004 until the present. I have also served as NVBA Tournament Chair since May 1989, and co-chaired the 1993 Summer Nationals, seven 4th of July Regionals, and over 70 NVBA Sectionals as well as chaired the 2002 Summer Nationals held at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington, D.C.

An avid bridge player, I love to organize and entertain, and want to ensure that the interests of all levels of players are represented in the actions taken by the NVBA Board and its officers, and that the players themselves work to support bridge in our area. As Vice President, I would like to see that the initiatives begun by NVBA President Leo Cardillo—in particular, the Intermediate/Newcomer Program, the concept of Guaranteed Partners, and emphasis on a pleasant playing environment—continue to thrive and receive the support they deserve from both the Board and all NVBA members, and will work to support this.

Dale Dallaire

Candidate for Treasurer It wasn't long after I arrived in Virginia from Michigan, where I served as Treasurer and Tournament Coordinator of District 12, that I began serving on the NVBA Board as a



replacement for the previously elected Treasurer. I have been on the Board in this capacity for over a year now and would welcome the opportunity to continue serving in this position. I have also helped out as Partnership Chair at Sectionals and am running an Open bridge game in Reston on Friday afternoons. As you can see, I believe bridge is more than a game and I like to be very involved.

Kathryn Kiley

Candidate for Board of Directors

I am completing my third term as a Board member and hoping to be reelected to a fourth term. As co-chair of all tournaments run by the NVBA, I hope to continue running



player friendly games that encourage all levels of players to participate. Attendance at our sectional tournaments is increasing at a steady pace and we'll work hard to continue that trend. I encourage each of you to continue your involvement in playing bridge so all of our games can thrive and prosper.

Carole Grob

Candidate for Board of Directors

I have been involved in bridge in the Northern Virginia area for some time now. I run two "atmospheric friendly" bridge games at the First Presbyterian Church in Ballston

no photo available

in Arlington, VA and am currently serv-

Jack of Hearts - continued from page 5

go to a sectional and you had two choices: open game or side game. If you played in the open, you had little chance of success, but folks did it for the experience. Back then masterpoints weren't as cherished because there were no points to speak of. You had to play in a tournament and do well to get something with a number to the left of the decimal point. But you'd hear giddy players saying, "You should seen who we played today. In the second round we played Smolen and Grabel, two rounds later we faced Chernoff and Fox, then the Portugals. I'm telling you it was like playing the 1927 Yankees." My friend Edie, once got a top board against Barry Crane by leading a trump. Though not normally effusive, Crane complimented her and told her it was the only lead to beat him. She never made LM but she cherished his words to her dying day. I know, I know. Who was Barry Crane? Never mind. Just box the 1-4-8-9.

Attention: New Duplicate Bridge Players

The Northern Virginia Bridge Association (NVBA) has decided to offer all newcomer bridge players a new opportunity to play, meet new people and improve their skills.

EVERY Thursday night there will be a <u>*FREE*</u> game for any player with less than 5 masterpoints.

The game will be held at the NVBA unit game at Beth El congregation, 3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA, 22304.

We have a short lesson at 6:30 (come if you want), and the game starts at 7:00. If you come alone, we'll do our best to match you up with someone else to play.

Remember, this game is FREE – EVERY WEEK! Come out and play and meet other people who are just learning! Practice your game in a low-key, friendly environment!

FREE snacks! FREE soft drinks and coffee! FREE parking!

Take advantage of this great offer. Mark Thursday nights on your calendar. If you can't come every week, come when you can! Questions? Email Ron Kral at **Easybridge@NVBA.org**, or call Ron at 703-478-0077.

Hope to see you there!

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ing as the Hospitality Chair for the NVBA's Thursday night Unit game. I was elected last year as a District 6 representative to the Mid-Atlantic Bridge Conference, and feel I could better represent the District if I serve on the local Unit Board, as well as being able to provide the Board with the benefit of my experience and knowledge of what it takes to run successful bridge games in northern Virginia.

NVBA Newsletter

Parade of Winners

SILVER SPRING, MD WBL SECTIONAL January 5-8, 2006

Thurs. Eve. A/X Pairs (81 Pairs)

- Bryan Coleman Fred King 1
- Tom Lavender Candy Clanton 2 1
 - Jason Rosenfeld Prah Rajkumar 2

Thurs. NVBA 0-200 Pairs (19 Pairs)

- Larry Gebbie Murat Berk 1 1
- 2 Stella Perry – David Dove
 - 2 1 Linda Szyszka Donald Szyszka
 - 2 Peggy Errington Mary Edge

Fri. AM B/C/D Pairs (20 Pairs)

2 2 2 Silas Wasserstrom - Michael Gottesman

Fri. Aft. 0-300 Pairs (22 Pairs)

- 1 William Gurley – Cathy Stryker
- 2 Nancy Detweiler - Marshall Fite

Fri. Eve. A/X Swiss (13 Teams)

James Geist - Ann Lindley -1 Jason Meyer - Tom Musso

Fri. Eve. B/C/D Swiss (7 Teams)

2 1 Thomas Din – Ray Dodson – Gloria Halstead - Rodger Kamuf

Fri. Eve. 0-300 Pairs (18 Pairs)

- 1 1 1 Larry Gebbie Murat Berk
- 2 2 Marshall Fite, Lorton VA; Nancy Detweiler

Sat. AM A/X Pairs (40 Pairs)

- 1 1 Hal Hindman – Mark Chen
- Betty Bursey M. Cassandra Smith 2

Sat. AM B/C/D Pairs (58 Pairs)

- 1 1 1 Rama Kapur Joe Lentz
- Jeff Kosnett John Glynn 2
 - 2 2 Michael Goldman William Mendez, Jr.

Sat. Aft. A/X Pairs (36 Pairs)

- Weizhong Bao Hailong Ao 1 1
- 2/4 Helene Bauman - Jim Wakefield
- Kenton Schoen Diane Walker 2/4

Sat. Aft. 0-300 Pairs (23 Pairs)

Lois Gregg - George Green 2 1

Sun. A/X BAM (36 Pairs)

Ai-Tai Lo - Alan Schwartz -

Mark Shaw - Bill Cole 2/3 Larry Kahn - Sven Pride -H. John Edmonds - David Genne

Sun. B/C/D Swiss (35 Teams)

- Jay Kelkar Aquil Ahmed -1 Shuba Dey – Dhirendra Ghosh
 - 1 1 Margaret Brown Elizabeth Parker -Marshall Fite – Nancy Detweiler
 - 2 2 Daniel Weinberg Walton Francis -Duke Wilson – William Prosser

ARLINGTON, VA NVBA SECTIONAL February 23-26, 2006

Thurs. A/X Pairs (97 Pairs)

2

Ann Lindley - Al Duncker

Thurs. 199ers @ NVBA (10 Pairs)

- Kathryn Miller Francesco Parisi-Presicce 1 1
- Lois Gregg Ellie Clark 2
 - 2 1 Bruce Kasold Gary Hinson
 - 2 Sharon Wynns Peyton Wynns

Thurs. Eve. 0-5 Game NVBA (14 Pairs)

- 1 John Holt - Kate Krauss 2
- Nancy Needleman Ruth Glen

Fri. Aft. A/X Prs (16 Pairs)

- John Klayman Tom Lavender 1 1
- Lowell Sawyer Don Probst 2
- 2 Lorraine Yarmowich - Carole Grob

Fri. Aft. B/C Prs (38 Pairs)

- 1 Shuba Dey - Deb Dhar
- 2 Donald Hunt - Ed Rodrigues
- Susan Strauss Richard Slater 1

Fri. Aft. 299er Pairs (28 Pairs)

- 2 1 Dick Verdow Jean Verdow
 - 2 1 William Woodward John Menzel
 - 2 Reiko Lynch Elizabeth Copp

Fri. Aft. 49er Pairs (8 Pairs)

- Peyton Wynns Sharon Wynns 1
- 2 1 Linda Burton – Jan Potter
 - Kenneth Duggin Robert Hollohan 2

Fri. Eve. Open Pairs (46 Pairs)

- Ann Schwartz Alan Schwartz 1
- Issa Dorri Dennis Wick 2
- Helene Cooper Carolyn Becraft 1

2 Leon Fastovsky – Carl Noller

Fri. Eve. 299er Pairs (16 Pairs)

- 1 Madison Schepps Elizabeth Schepps
 - 1 Francesco Parisi-Presicce James Biss
 - 2/3 Lois Gregg George Green
 - 2/3 Susan Slattery Philip Slattery
 - 1 Blair Curry Judith Curry
 - 2 John Fisher Catharine Fisher

Sat. AM Open Pairs (36 Pairs)

- 1 Kathryn Kiley Lee Jensen
- 2 1 Mildred Hartshorn Hannah Moore

Sat. AM Senior Pairs (16 Pairs)

- 1 Ed Schwartz Gisela Glodeck
- 2 Antoinette Logwood Jack Armstrong

Sat. AM 299er Pairs (20 Pairs)

- 1/2 1 1 Linda Burton Phyllis Isler
- 1/2 Maribel Newby Nancy Cartwright2/3 Michael Lusick Robert Huley
- Sat. AM 49er Pairs (8 Pairs)
- Robert Hollohan Kenneth Duggin
- 2/3 Charline Coakley John Donohue
- 2/3 Gary Hinson Bruce Kasold

Sat. AM Newcomer 0-5 Prs (9 Pairs)

- 1 Tom Madden Irene Madden
- 2 William C. Timperley Ted Barila

Sat. Aft. Side Pairs (56 Pairs)

- 1 1 Ed Duffy Robert York
- 2 2 Scott Ruegg Terry Van Wyck 2 Joseph Pieper – Jim Hayes

Wm. Poissant Trophy Pairs (20 Pairs)

- 1 Barry Bragin Earl Glickstein
- 2 Ken Davis Sumner Steinfeldt

Sat. Aft. 299er Pairs (32 Pairs)

- Patrick Brown Elizabeth Parker
- 1 1 William Woodward John Menzel
- 2 2 Robert Hollohan Kenneth Duggin



Congratulations to Earl Glickstein (left) and Barry Bragin (right), winners of this year's William Poissant Trophy Pairs.

Consolation Pairs (35 Pairs)

1

1

- Janet Gookin Robert Gookin
- 1 John Korfonta Sam Westgate
- 2 1 Jeff Youngen Terry Jones
- 2 Thomas Din Gloria Halstead

Sat. Eve. 299er Pairs (14 Pairs)

- 1/2 Stephen Montague Ron Ozarka
 - 1 Edward Stoker Donna Stoker
 - 2 Joyce Wilkinson James Biss
 - 1 Juliana Madan Rabinder Madan
 - 2 Blair Curry Judith Curry

Sun. A/X Swiss (12 Teams)

- Steve Robinson Peter Boyd Bill Cole – Mark Shaw
- 2 Robert Bell Noble Shore Michael – Gill - Earl Glickstein
 - 1 Eugene Schuyler Diane Alexander Kathryn Kiley – Louise Sellers

Sun. B/C Swiss Teams (26 Teams)

- Shuba Dey Jay Kelkar V. S. Sharma – Dhirendra Ghosh
- 2 Nelson Waks Richard Hesse Mel Yudkin – Christon Johnson
 - 2/3 Helene Cooper Holly Wills Cathy Stryker – Marilyn Smebakken
 - 2/3 Madison Schepps Elizabeth Schepps Lawrence Latto – Roslyn Latto

Sun. AM 299er Swiss (12 Teams)

- 1 Shawn Stringer Roma Chandra Shlomit Rind – Ajaz Rahman
- 2 1 Murat Berk Larry Gebbie Linda Clover – Joseph Bekhor
 - 2 1 Linda Burton Phyllis Isler Jan Potter – Dianne Derbogosian
 2 William Waarburger, Jahn Mangel
 - 2 William Woodward John Menzel Kenneth Duggin – Robert Hollohan

Sun. Aft. 299er Swiss (8 Teams)

- 1 Bryan Geer Lois Geer –
- Kathleen O'Toole David Mead 2 Shawn Stringer – Roma Chandra –
- Shlomit Rind Ajaz Rahman 1 Stephen Weiner – Louis Coccodrilli –
- David Epstein Azmat Ali 2 Peyton Wynns – Sharon Wynns –
- Susan Slattery Philip Slattery

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WILLIAMSBURG REGIONAL January 16-22, 2006

- Kickoff KO Bkt 2 (15 Teams)
- 1 Martha Lackey David Schultz Herb Fallin, Jr. – La Quitta Talbot
- Tues. Aft. Williamsburg Side Game (18 Pairs)1/2John Ashe Samuel Mills Jr

Tues. Eve. 0-300 Swiss (8 Teams)

- 1 Dorothy Bechtle Margaret Storey Vicki Dailey – Susan Slattery
- Tues. Open Pairs (38 Tables)
 - Robert Walsh Lorraine Yarmowich
 - 2 Helen Cheng Jesse Cheng

Tues. BAM (26 Teams)

2

1

- 2 James Goodwin Bob Pfeiffer Anne Duty – Ken Davis
 - Norma Pierzchala, William Bailey Maureen Shea – Carol Aitken
 1/2 Elliot Itkin – Robert Finkelstein –
 - John Gropp Paul Gropp

Jamestown Wed. AM Side Game (14 Pairs) 1 Elliot Itkin – Robert Finkelstein

- Wed. Aft. 0-300 Pairs (22 Pairs)
- 1 1 Elizabeth Huffman Mary Ann Kral

Wed. Open Pairs (42 Pairs) 2 Summer Steinfeldt –

Sumner Steinfeldt – Sarah Anne Cressy

Wed. Eve. 0-300 Swiss (10 Teams)

2 1 Ednamae Trevey – George Green – Ellie Clark – Lois Gregg

Yorktown KO Bkt 3 (28 Teams)

Leo Cardillo – Frank Cardillo – Marge Gazzola – J. Louis Hortobagyi – Robert Padgett

Yorktown KO Bkt 4 (16 Teams)

2 Elliot Itkin – Robert Finkelstein – John Gropp – Paul Gropp

Yorktown KO Bkt 5 (15 Teams)

- 1 Margaret Brown Elizabeth Parker Nancy Detweiler – Donald Brown
- 2 Helene Cooper Cherie Charles Marilyn Smebakken – Elizabeth Traylor

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Jamestown Thurs. AM Side Game (18 Pairs) 1 1 1 Elliot Itkin – Robert Finkelstein

Thurs. Early Bird 0-300 (16 Pairs)1Dorothy Bechtle – Margaret Storey

Thurs. Open Pairs (30 Pairs)

- Summer Steinfeldt Ed Gofreed

 Thurs. Eve. 0-300 Swiss (10 Teams)

 Dorothy Bechtle Margaret Storey –
- Vicki Dailey Susan Slattery 2 1 Ednamae Trevey – Ellie Clark – George Green – Lois Gregg

Thurs. Comp Consol Bkt 6 (6 Teams)

1 Arlen Carter – Carl Noller – Jeff Puckett – David Williams

Thurs. Eve. Zip KO (6 Teams)

- 1 Tom Musso Marsha Brown Daniel Traub – Jim Rankin
- 2 Elliot Itkin Robert Finkelstein Emerita Hayward – Brigitte Tetzner

Jamestown Fri. AM Side Game (12 Pairs)

Rich Zerilli – Ken Davis 2 2 Elliot Itkin – Robert Finkelstein

Fri. BAM Teams (15 Teams)

1

2

2 Marshall Kuschner – Sumner Steinfeldt – Lynn Jones – Paul Benedict

Fri. Eve. 0-300 Pairs (20 Pairs)

Madison Schepps – Elizabeth Schepps
 2 1 Kathryn Miller – Carole Forsten

Fri. Eve. 0-300 Swiss (6 Teams)

- 1 Walter Herrick Daniel Traub Jim Rankin – Tina Hogan
 - 1 Jerry Nolte Elizabeth Nolte Winnie Yonkers – Lorraine Davis

Sat. AM 0-300 Pairs (22 Pairs)

2 1 1 Jerry Nolte - Elizabeth Nolte

Queens Lake Compact KO I (9 Teams)

2 Shuba Dey – Mahadeo Patwardhan – Erlinda Wehrman – Paul Johnson, III

Queens Lake Conso I (3 Teams) 1 Martha Lackey – La Quitta T

Martha Lackey – La Quitta Talbot – Herb Fallin, Jr. – David Schultz

Queens Lake Conso II (7 Teams)

Neal McKinney – John Miles – Martha Mangano – Barbara DiCicco

Queens Lake Conso III (6 Teams)

2 Nancy Noonan – Ramona Thiss – Dorothy Bechtle – Margaret Storey

Sat. Aft. Side Game (18 Pairs)

1 Pete Hughes – Ken Davis

Tidewater KO Bkt 2 (15 Teams)

- 1 Marge Gazzola Bob Walsh Rich Zerilli – Marsha Brown
- 2 Martha Lackey Herb Fallin, Jr. La Quitta Talbot – David Schultz

Tidewater KO Bkt 4 (16 Teams)

1 Leo Cardillo – Frank Cardillo – Robert Padgett – J Louis Hortobagyi

Tidewater KO Bkt 6 (12 Teams)

2 Kevin O'Brien – William Gurley – Ednamae Trevey – Ellie Clark

Sat. BAM (16 Teams)

2 Shuba Dey – Mahadeo Patwardhan – Erlinda Wehrman – Mary Sue Roach

Hampton Roads KO Bkt I (9 Teams)

2 Tom Musso – Barbara Ames – Ralph Hoffman – Ellen Cherniavsky

Hampton Roads KO Bkt II

1 Rob Meckstroth – Andrew Garnett – Jennifer Lin – David Banh

Sat. ZIP KO (8 Teams)

1 Lucy McCoy – Kathryn Kiley – Betty Bursey – Charles Pecarro

Sun. AM 0-300 Swiss (10 Teams)

- 1 1 Kevin O'Brien William Gurley Ednamae Trevey – Ellie Clark
- Sun. AX Swiss (20 Teams) 1 Shuba Dey – Mahadeo Patwardhan – Erlinda Wehrman – Mary Sue Roach
- Sun. AM 0-300 Swiss (9 Teams)
 - 2 Ross Bley Martha Bley Elizabeth Parker – Nancy Detweiler

SILVER SPRING, MD WBL SECTIONAL March 2-5, 2006

Thurs Eve A/X (82 Pairs)2Jason Rosenfeld – Prah Rajkumar

Thurs. 199ers @ NVBA (16 Pairs)

- 1 Nancy Odend'Hal David Garrett
- 2/3 1 Blair Curry Judith Curry
- 2/3 William Gurley Eric Poskanzer2 Kay Mc Kinney Rita Apter

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Fri. AM A/X (10 Pairs) 1 Ken Davis – Pet

Ken Davis – Pete Hughes

Fri. B/C/D (20 Pairs)

Michael Gottesman – Silas Wasserstrom
 James Andre – Gloria Halstead

Fri. Eve. BAM (30 Teams)

- 1 William Gurley Eric Poskanzer Alfred Duncker – Ann Lindley
- 2/3 Mel Yudkin Christon Johnson John Glynn – Jeff Kosnett

Fri. Eve. 0-299er (20 Pairs)

1 William Gurley – Eric Poskanzer

Fri. Eve. Flight B Pairs (20 Pairs)

1 Mel Yudkin – Christon Johnson

Sat. AM 0-299er (20 Pairs)

2 William C. Timperley – Ted Barila

Sat. Aft. 0-299er (19 Pairs)

2 2 Ednamae Trevey – Ellie Clark

Sun. A/X Swiss (20 Teams)

- 2/3 Eugene Davidson Barry Falgout Robert Hopkins, Jr. – Joan Lewis
- 2/3 Fred King Vince Wilmot, Jr. Barbara Shaw – Ron Sukoneck – Vonnie Lavender

Sun B/C/D Swiss (20 Teams)

- 1 1 Lily Andre James Andre Thomas Din – Robert Gunnell, Jr.
- 2 2 Carl Noller Terry Jones Karen Fireman – Byron Siegel

Sun AM 0-300 Swiss (7 Teams)

1 1 David Mead – Kathleen O'Toole – Larry Gebbie – Murat Berk

Sun Aft 0-300 Swiss (5 Teams)

2 David Mead – Kathleen O'Toole – Larry Gebbie – Murat Berk

NVBA Newsletter

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HAIL AND FAREWELL

We would like to welcome the following new members into our Unit:

Christine H. Carr William G. Carr Marcia M. Cathey Albert F. Dimillio Meghan Dunn David M. Goldfrank Elizabeth B. Hahn Linda Ham Libby D. Heffern Jared Hermalin Margaret C. Hinson Michael S. Hirsch Jane Holman Bruce E. Kasold Chuck D. Kasten George Leef Pat A. Lonergan Alan F. Mager Janice M. Mager Judith A. McNellie Linda S. Montross Daniel I. Nylen Jonn D.O. Connor Bob Patel Thomas A. Pratt Rex H. Reed Tomoko Shibukawa Ronald J. Shoemaker Robert C. Staiman

We would like to welcome the following transfers into our Unit:

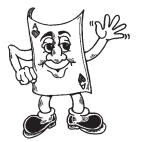
Eileen Aronovitch Martin Aronovitch Bill Brushwood Gerald N. Hoisington Robert C. Kerr Rosanne A. Kistler Pat H. Nevin Craig V. Olson Brewster J. Porcella J. Robert Powers W. Ward Rayner, Jr. Sandra K. Reavey Sandra J. Salva Bev Schuyler Nancy Toomey Rita Waldack

We give our regards to the following people who have transferred out of our Unit:

Gloria T. Brown Beth E. Cook Lee V. De Simone Thakor M. Desai John L. Fahs, Jr. Thomas P. Gallagher Torre C. Houlgate-West Elise G. Jacobs Rod Jansen Jennifer Marcum Parnell J. Porter Matthew Shufflebarger Ltcl. Carmon Lee Woodley

We are sorry to note the passing of these four of our members:

Sue C. Everest George L. Hawkes Michele A. Liebel Rosemary W. O'Leary



Better Basic Bridge

HIS SERIES of articles applies the concept of Pareto's principle to bridge. Pareto's principle is the "80/20 rule" – if you blindly apply the most common solution to a problem, you will get it right 80 percent of the time. All the other solutions taken together solve the problem only 20 percent of the time.

Newer players often have trouble recognizing and differentiating between similar situations and often select the wrong solution from several possibilities. Pareto's principle as applied to bridge (and paraphrased by me) states, "If you memorize one rule and apply it 100 percent of the time, you'll make the right play 80 percent of the time". This will improve your game in the short term, but you should realize that the words "always" and "never" are emphatically NOT in the bridge lexicon! As you play and read more, you'll start to recognize the subtleties of each situation and will learn when the alternative plays apply and when it's correct to deviate from the basic 80/20 rule.

In the last column, I discussed takeout doubles and the kind of shape needed. In this article, I'm going to talk about a defensive concept that many novice players get wrong time after time:

KEEP EQUAL LENGTH WITH THE OPPONENT'S SIDE SUIT WHEN YOU HOLD A STOPPER

Your opponents end up in $4 \blacklozenge$ and your partner leads the \blacklozenge K. Assuming you're leading Ace from AK and King from KQ, you know partner has the \blacklozenge Q. Dummy hits with:

- **♦** KJ84
- ♥ 96
- ♦ T82
- AKQ6

Let's say you're dealt:

- ♦ 9♥ QT53
- ♦ 1763
- ***** 7532
- 1552

Since you have the $\bigstar J$ and it's safe for partner to continue the suit, you should play the $\bigstar 7$ (using standard signaling methods), encouraging. Declarer ducks the first round of diamonds. Partner, knowing you have the $\bigstar J$, continues with the $\bigstar Q$. Declarer wins the $\bigstar A$ and proceeds to reel off four rounds of spades. After following to the first spade, you need to make three discards.

What do you discard?

Well, you can easily pitch a small diamond, keeping the \blacklozenge I to cover

continued on page 14

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by Ron Kral

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Better Bridge Basics - continued from page 13

dummy's 10. But on the third round of spades, you need to decide – pitch a small club or a small heart?

The correct play is the \checkmark 3. When declarer leads a fourth round of spades, pitch the ♥5! YOU are the only one in your partnership who can "protect" the clubs – your +7 is higher than dummy's *6. You MUST protect what you can see (KEEP LENGTH WITH **DUMMY!**) and hope that partner can protect the hearts. Many novices look at the "quality" of the hearts and clubs and decide the clubs aren't worth keeping. Pitching **EVEN ONE** club will get your side a bad result, since now declarer will lead a club to dummy, play the clubs from the top, and get an additional trick (and pitch) when dummy's fourth club sets up. Allowing this overtrick at pairs will cost you many matchpoints. Note that you pitch a SMALL heart to tell partner HE is responsible for protecting the hearts.

The corollary is, if you hold, say, four spades and you KNOW declarer holds four spades in the closed hand (based on the bidding), YOU are responsible for protecting spades and you must discard accordingly – cling to all four of your spades until you see declarer pitch one. Keeping length with dummy and declarer will improve your matchpoint scores immediately.

Further reading about defensive plays:

• *How to Defend a Bridge Hand –* William S. Root

• Demon Defense – Augie Boehm

• Introduction to Defender's Play – Edwin Kantar

• Eddie Kantar Teaches Modern Bridge Defense – Edwin Kantar

The above books are available at **www.ACBL.org** with a member's discount.

Announcing a special prize at the 4th of July Alexandria Regional!

Come and play on Saturday, July 1, in the Flight B Machlin Pairs play-through event or any two sessions of the 299er game and have a chance to win free hotel and convention registration fees at the October 2006 AARP Convention in Anaheim, CA. "The Road to Anaheim" is being sponsored by AARP in conjucttion with ACBL and promises to be lots of fun, as there will be many "tournaments" at the convention for you to play in as well as attending AARP's informative sessions. All you need is an AARP membership and the top two percentage scores on July 1 to win-two pairs will qualify for this prize. See the NVBA, WBL, District 6, or MABC websites or look for the special fliers at your local clubs for more details.

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MILESTONES

Congratulations to the following players who have reached these new milestones!

♦ NEW JUNIOR MASTERS **♥**

Carolyn W. Baird Clifford I. Feldman Amy Fielder Kelva F. Frailey David J. Maddrell Sally Wall Akiko Yamashita

♦♦ NEW CLUB MASTERS ♥♥

Carolyn W. Baird Gail S. Hennessa Grant W. Hennessa Debbie S. Massey Sandra K. Reavey Charles C. Shank Hannelore M. Suffridge

★◆ NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS ★♥

Dr. Albert C. Casabona Judith A. Curry Ethel P. Hoffman Reiko O. Lynch Mabel Paul

♦ NEW REGIONAL MASTERS *****

Ellie Clark Larry A. Gebbie Willis Paley Hume Michele A. Liebel Carl W. Noller Kevin R. O'Brien Brian K. Sims Ednamae H. Trevey

♦♦ NEW NABC MASTERS ♣♥

Carolyn H. Becraft Martha D. Bley Ross A. Bley Robert A. Brady Abdul W. Etemadi Don N. Henry Elizabeth A. Parker

♦ NEW LIFE MASTERS **♥**

Mary Ann Craft Irish Grandfield John S. Mason, Jr. Hazel M. Murphy Mahadeo R. Patwardhan Prahalad Rajkumar Clara R. Siewick

★ NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTERS *****♥

Neal McKinney Prahalad Rajkumar Katherine Schultz

♦♦ NEW SILVER

LIFE MASTERS ↔♥ Herb K. Fallin, Jr. Dale E. McDaniel

♦♦ NEW GOLD

LIFE MASTERS ♣♥ Shirley J. Kollas Lucy B. McCoy

Intermediate/Novice Program at the July 4th Alexandria Regional

There's a FULL SLATE of events for ALL intermediate/novice players at the annual July 4th Regional held in Alexandria VA. Come out and play with your friends! Meet some new people and players. Enjoy the famous DC hospitality. Play when you want - three session times almost every day. NEW THIS YEAR - we'll be running Steve Forsythe's "Instant Bridge" program on Wednesday, June 28 (time To Be Determined). Tell your non-bridge playing friends. Come yourself for a refresher.

Date (2006)	10:30	3:00	8:00	Event	Masterpoint limits	Notes
Wed, June 28	TBA	_	_	Instant Bridge class	0-5	
	-	-	Х	Charity Pairs	5/20/50/100/200/300	Single Session
Thurs, June 29	Х	Х		Trophy Pairs	0-5	0-5 PLAY FREE!
	Х	Х	Х	Side Games	5/20/50/100/200/300	Single Sessions
Fri, June 30	Х	Х	Х	Side Games	5/20/50/100/200/300	Single Sessions
Sat, July 1	Х	Х	Х	Side Games	5/20/50/100/200/300	0-5 PLAY FREE!
Sun, July 2	Х	Х	Х	Side Games	5/20/50/100/200/300	Single Sessions
	Х	Х	-	0-20 Trophy Pairs	0-20	Single Sessions
Mon, July 3	Х	Х	Х	Side Games	5/20/50/100/200/300	Single Sessions
Tues, July 4	Х	Х	-	Side Games	5/20/50/100/200/300	Early start @ 2:30
The Guaranteed partners! The Special separate playing area for Intermediate/Novice!						

Taily FREE lectures!

Section top prizes! The Registration gifts! Taily FREE snacks!

Two special receptions just for Intermediate/Novice

players—2.00 p.m. Thursday, June 29 and Sunday, July 2

Trophy pair events TREE drinks and hospitality every night

Thild care available (call in advance)

Come out and play Bridge!

Questions? Call Ron or Mary Ann Kral @ 703-478-0077 or email us @ DCINprogram@gmail.com.

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ACE OF CLUBS Winners - 2005

ROOKIE

OF THE YEAR Eric Poskanzer Charles Shank Richard Leonardon

JUNIOR MASTER

OF THE YEAR Larry Gebbie David Fitzwilliam Mark McEnearney

CLUB MASTER OF THE YEAR

Nancy Detweiler William Gurley Ross A. Bley

SECTIONAL MASTER OF THE YEAR Elizabeth Parker John Miles

REGIONAL MASTER OF THE YEAR

Margaret Brown Ernest Klimonda Leo A. Orleans

Mary Aurillo

NABC MASTER OF THE YEAR

Gerry Higgins Martha Mangano Dr. Barbara Macknick

LIFE MASTER

OF THE YEAR Salam Saidi David Schultz Richard Hesse



A

BRONZE LIFE MASTER

OF THE YEAR Herb Fallin, Jr. Ed Rodrigues Jay Kelkar

SILVER LIFE MASTER OF THE YEAR

Robert Hartmann Marge Gazzola Bruce Houston

GOLD LIFE MASTER OF THE YEAR

Don Geerhart Tom Cogan Enid Hughes

DIAMOND LIFE MASTER OF THE YEAR

Ken Davis Zeke Letellier Andy Gabrilovitch

EMERALD LIFE MASTER OF THE YEAR

Jeff M. Roman Don Probst

PLATINUM LIFE MASTER OF THE YEAR Ed Lewis Robert Gookin

MINI - McKENNEY Winners - 2005

ROOKIE OF THE VEAP

OF THE TEAK	
Eric Poskanzer	30.49
Charles Shank	18.58
Jim Sears	14.28

JUNIOR MASTER

OF THE YEAR	
Larry Gebbie	93.82
David Fitzwilliam	50.36
Judith Curry	40.25

CLUB MASTER

OF THE YEAK	
Martha Bley	173.97
Ross Bley	172.04
Nancy Detweiler	126.93

SECTIONAL MASTER OF THE YEAR

Elizabeth Parker	124.54
Carolyn Becraft	100.26
Susan Brawn	96.19

REGIONAL MASTER OF THE YEAR

David Banh	216.43
John Mason Jr.	164.62
Helene Cooper	161.26

NABC MASTER OF THE YEAR

Prah Rajkumar	229.47
Gloria Halstead	155.33
Gerry Higgins	151.41

LIFE MASTER OF THE YEAR

Sam Bowlin	514.47
David Schultz	389.40
Salam Saidi	141.78

BRONZE LIFE MASTER

464.49
257.85
227.72

SILVER LIFE MASTER OF THE YEAR

La Quitta Talbot	364.12
Marge Gazzola	274.82
Bruce Houston	231.91

GOLD LIFE MASTER

OF THE YEAR	
Don Geerhart	443.85
Sumner Steinfeldt	351.32
Ai-Tai Lo	306.63

DIAMOND LIFE MASTER OF THE YEAR

Ken Davis	737.28
Zeke Letellier	417.07
Janet Gookin	304.74

EMERALD LIFE MASTER OF THE YEAR

Jeff Roman	453.98
Alan Schwartz	308.33
Don Probst	99.62

PLATINUM LIFE MASTER

OF THE TEAK	
Robert Gookin	485.93
Ed Lewis	259.08
Gil Cohen	203.26
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NVBA wants your Email Address!!

The NVBA would love to have your email address. We'll use it sparingly to notify you of upcoming bridge events. We will **NEVER** sell it or use it for anything BUT bridge related notices. We'd also like to send you the NVBA newsletter via email. This saves the unit significant time and expense. If you've already registered your current email address with the ACBL, you can stop reading now. BUT, if you haven't registered, OR you've recently changed your email address, here's how to update it - get online and go to www.ACBL.org (NOTE: .org NOT .com). In the upper left corner of the ACBL home page, click on "My ACBL". If you've never registered your information with the ACBL, click on "Click Here" in the bottom box to register. If you're already registered, sign on with your player number and password. Once signed on, click on "Change my email address" and follow the instructions. Eventually, that information will filter down to us in the unit. OR, if you DON'T want to register with the ACBL, you can send an email with your name and newsletter preferences (paper only, email only or both) to: Newsletter@NVBA.org. We'll update our local database. The NVBA board encourages you to register to receive the newsletter via email only, and so we can notify you of upcoming events.



Life Master/Non-Life Master game

It's that time of year again... Mark your calendar – May 18 is the annual Life Master/Non-Life Master game. This is the week IMMEDIATELY AFTER the annual meeting on May 11th. Everyone comes without a partner, and we match up people with less than 300 masterpoints with a Life Master. We stratify the game so everyone has a chance to win. **WE NEED BOTH LMs AND NLMs** to come out for this. This is a fun event where you get to meet some new people in the "other" game. We will have signup sheets at the annual meeting so we can get an idea of how many people plan to participate. Last year, we had too few LMs, so it's especially important for the Life Masters to come out and support this event. For any non-LMs who do not want to participate, we will run a small novice game if necessary. Questions? Email **Newsletter@NVBA.org** or call Ron Kral at 703-478-0077.

