



THE DECLARER



Winter 2014

Volume 56, Issue 4

Pat Berkowitz, Editor

We're Back to Woodbridge!

NEW JERSEY BRIDGE LEAGUE HOLIDAY SECTIONAL

February 28 - March 2

Hungarian American Club

95 Port Reading Avenue • Woodbridge, NJ 07095
PLAYING SITE TELEPHONE No. (732) 634-9697

Tournament Co-Chairs

Len Meyers (847)-445-2056

Brett Kunin (973) 243-2366

****\$26 per pair per session for ACBL members****

Stratified Flights*:

Open: A=2500+ B=750-2500 C= 0-750

299er A= 200-300 B= 100-200 C= 0-100

(*Strats may vary based on participation)

FRIDAY, Feb 28

10:00 Stratified Pairs (*Open*) • Stratified 299ers

2:30 Stratified Pairs (*Open*) • Stratified 299ers

SATURDAY, March 1

10:00 Stratified Pairs (*Open*) • Stratified 299ers

2:30 Open A/X (no point limitations - open to all)

B/C/D Matchpoint Pairs (2500/1000/500)

Stratified 299ers

(During Friday and Saturday breaks: Plain Pizza \$1 per slice, with topping \$1.50 and Soda \$1 per can)

SUNDAY, March 2

9:30 Lite Breakfast (*bagels - butter & spreads*)

10:30 7 Round Bracketed Round Robin Teams (*\$104 per Team*)

Bracketed by total MasterPoints.

Bracket 1 will be played as Swiss Team open to everyone.

Food available all day; short break for brunch midday.

NEWPLICATED / INTERMEDIATE PLAYERS: This Swiss team format allows you to play only against opponents with approximately the same number of Masterpoints as you have.

Need A Partner? Try Our New Online Partnership Service:

GETMEAPARTNER.COM

Our Pairing, Information, and Newplicate Coordinator George Browne will gladly help you find a partner or help you put together a team. Contact him by phone 973-819-0308 or by email at browneg4111@gmail.com.

DIRECTIONS: *From NJ Turnpike South* Exit 12 -At the toll booth, bear to the extreme right, and keep bearing to the EXTREME right at the ramp, following the signs to RAHWAY. The off ramp will put you onto Roosevelt Ave. You will pass a Holiday Inn on your right. The third traffic light (about ¼ mile) is Blair Road (there is a BP station on the SE corner). Make a left onto Blair Road, and proceed past the first traffic light, staying on Blair Road into the Industrial Park. After about 3/4 mi. from the light, the road narrows, and you will cross a freight RR track. Shortly thereafter, the road curves to the right. Stay to the extreme right, which is now Port Reading Ave. The Facility is less than 2 blocks from the initial curve in the road, making a right into the Parking lot. **From other routes:** NJ Turnpike Exit 11, Southbound GSP Exit 129, Northbound GSP Exit 127, follow to Route 9 North. Once on Route 9, take Main St. Woodbridge Exit (Route 514). Turn right and go 1 mile to railroad overpass. Look for monument. Turn left BEFORE monument and continue on Route 514 East. Go to 2nd traffic light and turn right onto Port Reading Ave. Club is Club is 1/4 mile on left. **From 287:** Stay southbound, past exit 1 and NJ Tpk exit, and take 514 East exit. Stay on 514 until monument in Woodbridge, and follow above directions.

New Jersey Bridge League's 2014 Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet

In Honor of New Life Masters

Sunday, February 23, 2014 11:00 a.m.

The Pines Manor

2085 Lincoln Highway South (Rte. 27)

Edison, New Jersey (732) 287-2222

UNLIMITED BRUNCH

Honoring the League's New Life Masters plus the

2013 Player of the Year and the

2013 Ace of Clubs & Mini-McKenney winners

BRIDGE & AWARDS CEREMONY

There will be a brief business meeting, including election of new members to the 2014 Board of Directors.

A pairs game that counts towards Player of the Year

ALL FOR ONLY \$25

(\$25 for members of Unit 140 • \$35 for non-members)

**A GREAT EVENT SUBSIDIZED BY UNIT 140 TO SHOW
OUR APPRECIATION TO OUR MEMBERSHIP!**

All entries must be pre-paid. Send this registration form with your check (payable to NJBL Unit 140) to:

Lynn Chapin • PO Box 281 Manasquan, NJ 08736

Phone: 732-859-0126

Name _____

ACBL No. _____

Name _____

ACBL No. _____

NO ENTRIES WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR, and no money (cash or check) will be accepted at the door. This will be strictly enforced – no exceptions. Deadline for reservations & fee: **Feb. 17, 2014.** For directions visit www.njbl.net

**Listed here for your consideration is the slate of 2014
Unit Board Nominees to be elected at the annual
meeting on Feb. 23, 2014**

Bob Breen (I)

Barbara Clark

Debbie Crisfield

Tina Frankel

Neil Jaffe

Lynn Schlesinger

Ruth Steckelman

Peter Wright (I)

Peter Stein (I)

(I) the person is a current board member (Incumbent) who is either starting their 2nd term or replaced someone else and is now starting their 1st term;



President's Message By Peter Stein

Another year of Bridge gone by, I hope most agree, 2013 was a good year for Bridge in Unit 140. Attendance at our Sectionals was up 25% thanks in part to the work of our Publicity group. Attendance at STACs was up slightly. We had a tournament in a "northern" venue for the first time in several years. (Yes, we're looking at the possibility of a "southern site".) And we had pre-duplicated boards at a Sectional for the first time!

With the help of all the board members and others we overcame logistic issues to keep things running pretty smoothly at our Sectionals. And we have a functional web site (which seems a challenge these days) thanks to the work of our ace webmaster, Susan Slusky, at www.njbl.net. Check this out sometime if you haven't - lot's of good info there.

And in my first year as President, I've managed not to completely destroy the Unit, thanks to the support of my fellow Board members! Wishing everyone a Happy healthy New Year in 2014 and looking forward to seeing everyone at our Unit events.

Sectional Report By Brett Kunin

I acted as Tournament Chair for our November sectional held at the Shrine Center Bridge Club in Livingston. There were several "firsts" for the Unit: for the first time in seven years, the NJBL was able to secure a site in the northern part of the unit; and the Tournament Committee arranged for pre-duplicated boards for all matchpoint events. With the hard work of many volunteers, we were able to accommodate the largest crowd to attend an NJBL Sectional in several years. My thanks to all volunteers for their help, which substantially contributed to the success of the event.

Many players advised that they not only enjoyed the food (subsidized pizza on Friday and Saturday, and the bagel brunch on Sunday), but were impressed with both the facility and the Board's efforts in running a successful sectional. The Tournament Committee is planning a return to Shrine for the Holiday sectional in 2014, and hope you will attend. We look forward to seeing you at our next sectional, scheduled Feb. 28-March 2 in Woodbridge.

Novice Column - Hand Evaluation

By Arnie Kohn with Editor Note by Jay Korobow

My last article advocated that seven loser hands qualified as opening bids. There are two major exceptions to this statement. Hands that one would qualify as single suited "preemptive", often have only seven losers or less. Very often two suited hands also have the same quality. The seven loser qualification only applies, when the hand has some cards that take tricks. For example: ♠Kxxxx ♥QJxxx ♦x ♣x is a five loser hand, but will take very few tricks, defensively; ♠AQxxxx ♥Kxxxx ♦x ♣x is a five loser hand and will take tricks, if defending. Now I will give you the rest of the equation. The number of losing tricks from both opener and responder subtracted from 24 will give you the number of tricks available. A seven loser hand from responder plus the seven loser hand from the Opener, subtracted from 24 will tell you that there are ten tricks available. Of course there must be a "fit" between the two hands.

Editor Note: Many expert players use the "subtract from 24" loser count formula to ascertain whether to try for or bid a major suit game or not, after an auction that starts 1♥-2♥ or 1♠-2♠ or similar. When the total losers of both hands subtracted from 24 equal 10, that suggests 4♥ or 4♠ (both being 10 tricks) will make.

A simplified example is after 1-2, with a 5 loser hand you bid game, with a 6 loser hand you invite game (in your partnership's preferred method), with 7 losers or more you pass. One can google "loser count" and find many articles on how to apply this.

It should be noted that there are losers, and then there are "LOSERS". A suit with Axx is 2 losers, but so is a suit with Qxx. So adjustments and common sense apply. Experience will be the best teacher.



THIS and THAT

District Director ACBL District 3

By Glenda Calkins,

As we begin another year, I look to continuing to work with all of you to make District 3 the shining star of the ACBL. At the ACBL Board meetings in Phoenix in November we elected a new president, Phyllis Harlan from District 15, an Oklahoma City resident, who has been an active and productive member of the Board for a number of years. I have served on several committees with Phyllis and have a very high regard for her dedication and her competence. We continue to be very pleased with the leadership of our new - since late 2011 - CEO, Robert Hartman. The board voted unanimously to extend the ban on smoking at national tournaments to cover electronic smoking devices. For now this ban only applies to national tournaments, but it is clearly an issue that should be addressed at the district and unit levels as well. Five key initiatives were approved for 2014:

1. Online learn to play bridge. This will be launched with a general marketing campaign and the results will be tracked.
2. Win-Win membership incentives. This will replace the current system and will reward members for success in recruitment. It will be open to all members and teachers.
3. Membership recognition program. This will reward members based on both rank achievements and years of membership.
4. OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute). Funded by the Bernard Osher Foundation, this program will help fund lifelong teaching programs.
5. Bridge at college. A program to encourage organized bridge programs at the college and university level.

Of interest to all of you is the change in membership dues; as of April 1, 2014, new member dues will increase from \$28 to \$29, and regular one year dues will increase from \$37 to \$39. There will be no increase in Junior or Patron memberships. In addition, tournament sanction fees will be increased by 1.5% beginning April 1, 2014.

The Board also overwhelmingly approved a new Youth Protection and Abuse Prevention Policy. We felt strongly that this was long overdue.

I have heard that your recent Sectional was very successful and that the pre-duped boards were a hit. Our Winter Regional Tournament will now be the Joan Gerard District 3 Winter Regional. A formal renaming of this tournament and to celebrate Joan's hard work and devotion to the District was held on January 19. I hope many of you were able to attend this event. I look forward to seeing you all at the tables.



Our Superstars!

70% or Higher!

- B. Esberg & R. Ross - 77.81% & 71.02%
- P. Berman & A. Schwarz - 75.00%
- D. Sobel & R. Hyken - 75.00%
- L. Sokolower & C. Angel - 74.68%
- A. Rosen & D. Celler - 73.84% & 70.97%
- C. Hage & L. Chapin - 73.21%
- L. Samuels & G. Gordon - 72.92%
- M. Huppert & V. Bhise - 72.56%
- B. Barnes & V. Ahuja - 72.46%
- M. Greenberg & B. Fischbein - 72.22%
- D. Thompson & W. Ehlers - 71.76%
- B. Clark & V. Ahuja - 71.35%
- S. Freedman & M. Huppert - 70.83%
- J. Rothstein & J. Leznicki - 70.83%
- D. Mayer & J. Phillips III - 70.64%
- J. Mancini & J. Garlic - 70.37%
- J. Mancini & S. Wiener - 70.24%

Please go to www.njbl.net for all the latest news and tournament results for Unit 140.

LIFE MASTERS

- Agnes Barenti
- Nancy Bloom
- Karen Cane
- Ronald Cane
- Donald Davidson
- Arne Ildsgaard
- Laura Khachadurian
- Barbara Kirk
- Ken Levy
- Sandra Tauber
- Terry Zuckerman
- BRONZE**
- Agnes Barenti
- Barbara Kirk
- Marlene Levitt
- SILVER**
- Susan Braun
- Lee Gunning
- Neil Jaffe
- Donald Lepore
- GOLD**
- Ivan Lee
- Maurice Silberman
- Carla Van Den Heuvel
- DIAMOND**
- Vijay Ahuja
- EMERALD**
- Jiang Gu

So, you need a partner for the Tournament
by George Browne

The NJBL has determined to make the Partnership Desk work for our members. We have begun an active campaign to encourage players to plan ahead and we are working to guarantee you a partner for pairs games. For team games, we will try to find you one, two, or three teammates, but no guarantees. Here are some guidelines for those seeking partners.

- 1) Plan ahead. As soon as you know you want a partner, e-mail (browneg4111@gmail.com) or call (973-819-0308) George Browne. He will take pertinent data and try to find you a partner with similar profile. Be ready to give him an e-mail and phone for easy contact.
 - 2) Plan to play a simple card. Especially if you are a 299er, your partner options may be ready to play only the most common of conventions. Insisting that your partner must play your pet system makes confusion when he/she misunderstands or forgets. Simple, thoughtful bridge should work better.
 - 3) Points Schmoins. Remember that the points a prospective partner has earned is only a rough measure of her/his ability. You need to be ready to work with someone who may have 200 or even 1000 points less or more than you do.
 - 4) If you want the guarantee to work for you, you must work at finding a partner among those who are already at the Partnership Desk. If none of them are "suitable" for you, you will go to the back of the line for the "guarantee" partner. If you decide to arrive at the last minute, the "guarantee" partner may already have been assigned to someone else.
- We need volunteers to play the role of "guarantee" partners, and are prepared to reward them with additional playing time, on us. We need volunteers for the 299er games and for the open pairs, one of each for every Pairs session. If you are interested, please contact me at browneg4111@gmail.com.

Autumnfest Success By Cheryl Angel

On the weekend of November 9th, Unit 140 hosted its Autumnfest Weekend. On Saturday, the Jersey Bridge Club hosted a newplicate game won by Jacqueline & Michael Hewlett. Following a break for pizza and salad, Michael continued his winning streak in the Pro-Am game paired with Neil Jaffe. On Sunday, a charity Swiss game was held at the Shrine Center Bridge Club. The day began with a bagel brunch followed by several rounds of competitive bridge. There was a brief pause for a plentiful and delicious dinner, with deserts provided by many of the players and board members and then back to the game. Richard Ross, Bill Esberg, Stephen Arshan and Gregory Gorshkov emerged as winners but everyone enjoyed a winning day of bridge against good competitors. Overall, 36 tables of players participated in our weekend Autumnfest. We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all who participated. Thanks to your contributions a donation will be sent to the ACBL Charity Foundation.

CLUB CALENDAR

ESSEX BRIDGE CLUB: Swiss Teams 8 Is Enough, Friday evening, Feb 7. We have two opportunities for 499 Swiss, first on Saturday, Feb. 8 and again on March 12, Wednesday afternoon. We will have an open Swiss on Friday evening, March 14th.

JERSEY BRIDGE CLUB: HAND of the WEEK, with Bill Esberg - free lesson! Learn from a Grand Life Master! Sunday 12:30 games will begin at 12:15 with a mini-lesson, selected from hands that were played at the Club. Come early to get the lesson, and a light brunch. BOTH FREE. Check our website, www.jerseybridge.com, for our upcoming monthly Swiss and IMP pairs games. Pre-registration required. Come to our mentored play sessions, Wed aft 1pm to 3pm and Thurs eve, 6:30 to 8:30. Ask questions, improve your game.

SHRINE BRIDGE CLUB Come to our Super Bowl Sunday lunch and enter our Super Bowl Pool. Prizes given for winners of each quarter. Sunday, Feb 2. Every Wednesday evening at 6:30pm improve your skills with our popular Mentor Sessions and Play - N - Learn Games. One day each month we are celebrating all birthdays of the month with a Club Championship and Lunch and Desert provided by our Birthday Club. Check our web site for dates. Play IMPs with Team Games Thursday evenings 6:30pm twice a month. Pre-registration required, check our calendar for dates. Watch for our February Special!

NJBL Double KO Event for 2014

This is an opportunity to join the NJBL's premiere event, The NJBL Double KO. This year the event will be run in 2 Brackets: Open and Flight B. All members of a Flight B Team must have fewer than 2500 MPs as of 12/31/2013. You may field a team in one or both events. It's called a Double KO because you must lose TWICE before you are eliminated. Matches are scheduled once every 3-4 weeks by the team captains at a site and time convenient to both teams. You may play at a local club, or at someone's home. Should there be sufficient interest, the NJBL Board will contemplate running a separate 0-500 Double KO event. This is an opportunity to play IMPs in a more relaxed atmosphere than at a tournament. Remember, master points earned in the events count toward the POTY (player of the year) standings. Teams are limited to 4-6 players, and players from units other than Unit 140 may participate. Conditions of contest will be distributed before the beginning of the event.

Please call or e-mail Neil Jaffe (609-306-2154), njaff50@aol.com for further information, or simply fill in the attached entry form below and mail it with the nominal \$20/team entry fee to Neil Jaffe, 89 Mill Pond Rd, Belle Mead, NJ 08502 (checks should be payable to "NJBL-Unit 140") by 4/1/14. No team will be permitted to participate until the entry fee is paid.

OPEN or Flight B DOUBLE KO: team MPs _____
 Captain: _____ Email: _____
 ACBL No. _____ Phone: _____
 Name _____
 ACBL No. _____ Phone: _____
 Name _____
 ACBL No. _____ Phone: _____
 Name _____
 ACBL No. _____ Phone: _____
 Name _____
 ACBL No. _____ Phone: _____
 Name _____
 ACBL No. _____ Phone: _____

GRAND NATIONAL TEAM FINALS



Saturday April 12, 2014
 Saint Gregory's Armenian Church
 1131 North Street, White Plains, NY 10605

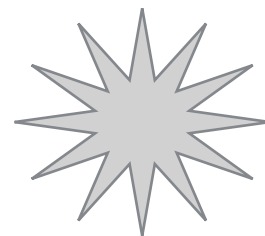
12: 30 start time,
 with complimentary Brunch @11:30 am
 For additional information contact
 Dan Wolkowitz 914-330-1497 or
 dan.wolkowitz@gmail.com

Championship Flight: No MP restrictions
Flight A: 0 - 5000 MPs
Champion & Flight. A - Seeded KO will continue Saturday evening and then until a winner determined.

Flight B: 0 - 2000 MPs & Flight C: NLMs up to 500 MPs
Flights & C: Swiss Teams (2 sessions only, no KO).

Gold points awarded in all flights.

SILVER POINTS
AT THE CLUBS
 March 10 - 16



MOVING UP

JUNIOR	S Muppalla	F David	M Durant	S Chandonnet
MASTER	P Nash	M Deb-Roy	M Durkin	K Galanty
D Bakalar	L Petrino	V Disch	E Friedman	J Glaser
C Bergin	B Ramsay	F Freed	D Heyman	R Lum
I Bernstein	E Sack	R Gilbert	S Kaplowitz	N Smith
E Black	M Sackheim	L Gindi	D La Porta	M Sochor
C Cohen	S Sayia	E Josell	M Lebersfeld	M Van Handle
H Colby	A Schade	P McNamee	L MacBeth	
M Cotton	B Smith	D McNamee	R Matthews	NABC
D Crane	L Smith	J Meskin	E Meelheim	MASTER
J Domanico	B Strauss	F Oberst	J Messina	D Adamczyk
S Dubroff	R Strauss	B Pilchman	B Nutkis	S Austin
R Gomez	A Todaro	C Rosenberg	D Santangelo	J Cooper
F Gordon	M Todaro	K Sandulli	R Schack	J Hewlett
R Gurak	L Tompkins	J Slate	G Schwartz	J Knecht
B Harrison	J Totaro	M Slonaker	B Shandler	X Lin
T Horger	M Vikan	B Sterrett	A Thayer	R Macpherson
H Katz	P Vikan	I Walter	E Voorhees	D Mayer
J Klatsky	J Weisel	M Wells	J Yarian	R Miller
S Klatsky	C Weisser	H Zwisler	H Zimmerman	M Perkons
J Krandel	H Wolfish	SECTIONAL	REGIONAL	J Phillips III
M Laffey	CLUB	MASTER	MASTER	P Rodilosso
S Marcus	MASTER	H Ayselrod	P Amato	M Thompson
C McCabe	G Beardslee	M Anderson	M Barnett	ADV NABC
B Merkin	S Bressler	R Arora	P Berman	MASTER
A Mhaskar	M Clancy	D Barcan	N Berson	T. Boyer
W Miller	G Cukrow	P Buckley	G Cauwels	

c/o Deborah Wasik
P.O. Box 275
South Orange, NJ 07079

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Memories of Leona Leyton

By Arnie Kohn

Leona, Phil and I all began playing bridge in the late fifties. I had the honor of playing with both of them and we became good friends. Lee and Phil were a professional dance team who married as teenagers.

They were very devoted to each other and when they played together, they extended this devotion. I remember, when Route 280 was built,

they were so happy that their commute time from Jersey City to West Orange was greatly reduced. They were two of the original members of the Plaza Bridge Club. Lee served on the NJBL Board of Directors, where she administrated our Annual meeting and Awards Dinners for many years. The bridge world will miss Lee and her smiling face.

Our Condolences

Unit 140 would like to offer their condolences to the families of **Lee Leyton, Pat Light, Irwin Klugler and Bernice Frank**. We will miss them at the bridge table.

2014 Tournaments

Feb 23	Unit 140 Annual Brunch and Awards, Edison
Feb 28 - March 2	Unit 140 Sectional
March 10 - March 16	STaCs
March 20 - 30	Nationals, Dallas, TX
April 12	District 3 GNT finals
May 16 - 18	Unit 140 Sectional
June 2 - June 8	District 3 Regional, Saratoga Springs, NY
June 6 & 7	Worldwide Pairs Game
June 9 - June 15	STaCs
July 11 - 13	Unit 140 Sectional
Aug 18 - 24	District 3 Regional,

THE DECLARER

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