



THE DECLARER



Fall 2014

Volume 57, Issue 3

Deb Crisfield, Editor

SILVER point opportunity for newpicate players!

Visit **NJBL.net** for complete fliers!

AUTUMNFEST

BRIDGE WEEKEND

Hosted by Jersey Bridge Club
185 Route 36, Bldg B, West Long Branch, NJ

SATURDAY, November 1

SILVER POINTS ALL DAY!

Newpicate Pairs \$13 per person 10 am and 2pm
play in both sessions for \$24

Free lunch between sessions with sign up
Panel discussion during lunch.

Bring your questions about leads, bids, and play.

SUNDAY, November 2

Charity Swiss Team Event
\$26 per person

Stratification by team average
Bagel brunch at 10:15

Seven round Open Swiss at 11:00

Dinner included and served after 5th round

(A separate 299er Swiss section will be created if enough attend. Put your team together!)

All Autumnfest events MUST have signups. Please contact
Jersey Bridge at
732-229-1430 or
jbc@jerseybridge.com

BIG CHANGE FOR THE DECLARER

The Board of Unit 140 has voted to make The Declarer fully digital as of 2015. This is both environmentally and fiscally responsible and is consistent with what the other units are doing. An email will be sent to the membership with a link to our website to read The Declarer online. Clubs may print out copies for their members if they desire. Please contact Peter Stein at stein193@msn.com if you have any questions.

NJBL FALL SECTIONAL

November 21-23, 2014

Hungarian American Citizens Club
95 Port Reading Avenue • Woodbridge, NJ 07095
Playing Site Telephone No. (732) 634-9697
Tournament Chair: Brett Kunin 973-243-2366

\$26 per pair per session for ACBL members
Stratified Flights*:

Open: A=2500+ B=500-2500 C=0-500
299er A=200-300 B=100-200 C=0-100

(*Strats may vary based on participation)

FRIDAY, November 21

10:00 Stratified Pairs (Open) • Stratified 299ers
2:30 Stratified Pairs (Open) • Stratified 299ers

SATURDAY, November 22

10:00 Stratified Pairs (Open) • Stratified 299ers
Youth Bridge (No fee to play!)
19 and under, 50 MP cap
Contact Barbara Clark at 973-736-1969

2:30 Open A/X (X=4000 and below)
B/C/D Pairs (2000/1000/500)
Stratified 299ers

(During Fri. and Sat. breaks: Plain pizza \$1 per slice,
slice with topping \$1.50 and soda \$1 per can)

SUNDAY, November 23

9:30 Light Breakfast (bagels - butter & spreads)
10:30 Bracketed Round Robin Teams (\$104 per Team)
The top bracket, played as an A/X Swiss, is open to all.
NEWPLICATE/INTERMEDIATE PLAYERS:

This format ensures that all your opponents will have roughly the same number of Masterpoints as you have. Food available all day; short break for brunch midday.

Need A Partner?

Try Our New Online Partnership Service:
GETMEAPARTNER.COM

Or you can contact George Browne

Phone: 973-819-0308

Email: brownege4111@gmail.com

UNIT 140 BRIDGE CLUBS

Atlantic BC

Manasquan
Jim DiNapoli
(732) 718-2291;
jamesdinapoli@msn.com
open

Bloomfield Rec. Comm.

Bloomfield
Joyce Fitzgerald
(973) 743-9074;
joious1der@aol.com

Bridge Center of Central NJ

Bridgewater
Bill Miller
(908) 872-7927
club (908) 927-9990
billsbridge@gmail.com
bridgecnj.com
open

Canoe Brook Country Club

Short Hills
Jan Weber
(973) 919-7870
janweber7NT@gmail.com
invitational

Capital City BC

Ewing
Joe Coult
(609) 558-4093
feedback@capcitydbc.com
www.capcitydbc.com
open

Deal BC

Ocean
Eliot Kramer
(917) NOTRUMP (668-7867)
sephardicbridge@aol.com
scbridgeresults.blogspot.com
open

Dover Dames

Dover
Bob Martin
732-280-1058
ramartinpi@aol.com
invitational

Essex Bridge Center (Essex)

Livingston
Ken Powell
(973) 535-9262
essexbc@essexbridgecenter.com
www.essexbridgecenter.com
open

Four Seasons

Lakewood
Harold Schachter
(732) 278-7132
orthodoc1@optonline.net
www.fourseasonsbridge.com
Invitational

Grand Slam BC

Milltown
Howard Halpern
(908) 227-9626;
janh50@aol.com

Hollywood Club

Frances Rediker
passalot112@aol.com

Inter-Club

Vijay Ahuja
vkahuja_1@yahoo.com
invitational

Jersey Bridge Club (JBC)

West Long Branch,
Lynn Chapin
(732) 229-1430,
jbc@jerseybridge.com
www.jerseybridge.com
open

LVW DBC

Bill Beuka
lvwbridge@hotmail.com

Little Silver Duplicate

Little Silver
Roy Samitt
732-922-2988
rsamitt@gmail.com
www.jerseybridge.com
open

Monmouth Beach Duplicate

Monmouth Beach
Summer only (Monday aft.)
Lisa Walsh
lisawalsh@yahoo.com
invitational

Monmouth County Aces BC

Freehold
Arline Fulton
(732) 614-2292
mcaces@netzero.net
www.mcaces.com

Monroe Twp Duplicate BC

Monroe Township
Arnie Kohn
akohn71138@aol.com
(609) 395-8319

Montclair Country Club

Montclair
Duane Engelhardt
dhnj3@comcast.net

Mountain Lakes BC

Denville
BJ Moore
(973) 966-0892
birdybee@aol.com
open

Present Day Club

Princeton
Bill Miller
(908) 872-7927
billsbridge@gmail.com
invitational

Princeton Bridge Center

Princeton
Blawenburg
Bill Miller
(908) 872-7927
billsbridge@gmail.com
open

Prudential BC

Roseland
Henry Gibson
(973) 994-9252
open

Regency at Monroe

Monroe
Don Haback
908-839-8885
regencybridge@aol.com
restricted to residents and their guests

Rumson Country Club

Rumson
Roy Samitt
732-922-2988
rsamitt@gmail.com
invitational

Scotch Plains DBC

Scotch Plains
Jim White
(732) 308-9215
cuzzzzz@verizon.net
<https://sites.google.com/site/brucewitzelshomepage/>
open

Seabright Duplicate

Seabright
Summer only (Thurs a.m.)
Lisa Walsh
lisawalsh@yahoo.com
invitational

Shadowfax BC

Chester
Lauren Alcock
(908)-879-3895;
shadowfaxbridgeclub@gmail.com
open

Short Hills Club

Short Hills
Jan Weber
(973) 919-7870
janweber7NT@gmail.com
invitational

REMEMBRANCES

The Board of Directors of Unit 140 of the NJBL would like to offer its condolences to the families and friends of Richard Anderson, Buddy Bernstein, Howard Cowen, Millie Dankis, William Farrell, Joan Hopp, Maureen Gillespie, Elaine Goldberg, and Barbara Jaeger. They will be missed at the bridge tables. Please notify Dottie Koernig at 908-277-0174 or dkoernig@verizon.net of any deaths or illness within our membership. We would like to remember all who support and participate in this great game.

Shrine Center Bridge Club

Livingston
Cheryl Angel
(973) 303-3232
shrinecenterbridgeclub@gmail.com
www.shrinecenterbridge.com
open

Spring Lake BC

Spring Lake
Lynn Chapin
(732) 229-1430
Lynn@jerseybridge.com
www.jerseybridge.com/sl.html
open

Stafford BC

Manahawkin
Ed Litterio
(732) 928-8731
edlitterio@aol.com
www.shorebridge.net/staffordhome.html

Tinton Woods DBC

West Long Branch
Sonia Kaplan
732-542-6794
www.jerseybridge.com

Toms River BC

Lakewood
Ed Litterio
(732) 513-6569
edlitterio@aol.com
www.tomsriverbridgeclub.com

Two Rivers Duplicate Club

Rumson
Monthly, first Tues evening
Lisa Walsh
lisawalsh@yahoo.com
invitational

Westfield Women's Club Bridge Club

Westfield
Duane Englehardt
(908) 273-6244
dhnj3@comcast.net
open

Westlake Duplicate Bridge

Gary Moliver
52cards@gmail.com

White Meadow Lake BC

Rockaway
Robert Goldberg
(973) 625-1208
goldbergs6@msn.com
open

Women's Club

West Long Branch
Mary Mosher
(732) 542-0668
mcm6575@comcast.net
www.jerseybridge.com
open

CLUB NEWS**Spring Lake Bridge Club:**

Sanctioned bridge games, which begin at 6:30 P.M., recently relocated to the Spring Lake Railroad Station at Railroad Plaza at Warren Avenue. They are now being directed by Harold Schachter. A five-minute Bridge Tip presented to improve your bridge skills is discussed just prior to each evening's game. Come and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere. Partnerships can be arranged by calling 732-278-7132.

Essex Bridge Center:

There are several special events at Essex Bridge Center in Nov and Dec.

- ACBL-Wide Charity Game on Wednesday, November 5 at 12:30pm
- 8 Is Enough Swiss on Friday, November 14 at 6:30pm
- 499 Swiss on Saturday, November 15 at 12:30pm
- Club Championship Week from Monday, December 8 to Sunday, December 14. All Open and 499 Games: Extra Points, No Extra Fees

The Shrine Center:

We've started a supervised play on Monday evenings at 6:30pm. One day a month we celebrate all birthdays of the month with lunch, dessert and a Club Championship game, check our website for dates. Play IMPs with Team Games every Thursday evening at 6:30pm.

STEP BY STEP

JUNIOR MASTER

Janice Beckman
 Maryanne Bennett
 Jane Berry
 L'nai Bryant
 Deirdre Caputo
 Beth Casola
 Yanjie Chai
 Gopal Chari
 Teresa Chek
 Barbara Daly-Schpok
 Jonathan Eskridge
 Nayelis Fernandez
 Edward Fisher
 Karen Friedman
 Cathy Fuge
 Lori Furda
 Abdul Gaffoor
 Sharon Gilman
 Richard Huzar
 Joseph Jiuliano
 Sheila Klein
 Albert Knight
 Sharan Kumar
 Maureen Leach
 Jules Leibowitz
 Timothy Lou
 Gilbert Meierhans
 Sue Moritz
 Kris Murphy
 Arleen Nebel
 Lila Nelson
 Laura O'Rourke
 Judi Ostberg
 Cynthia Gail Prell
 John Reeves
 Celeste Reingold
 Judith Rosenberg
 Carol Runyon
 Arthur Sabsevitz
 Laurie Smith
 Howard Solomon
 Pamela Stone
 Tony Tevold
 Nancy Trumposky
 Herman Waldman
 Sally Walker
 Richard Weissmann
 Jane Zsakany

CLUB MASTER

Paul Adler
 Alice Agrin
 Faye Arnett
 Cathryn Bergin
 Jon Bessinger
 Carolyn Butler
 Harriett Colby
 Kathy Deyo
 R. Fouchaux
 Harry Katz
 Lois Ann Kleiner
 Maureen Lee
 Sue Marcus
 Mary Ellen McCann
 Anand Mhaskar
 Michael Muller
 Alan Ozarow
 Melita Peckman
 Barbara Ramsey
 Nancy Rizzuto
 Jacques Schmied
 Angela Sgro
 Rona Stein
 Elizabeth Topilow
 Judy Waller
 Chung-Zong Wan
 JoAnn Weisel
 Mark Wininger
 Howard Wolfish
 Mary Zisko
 Linda Zissu

SECTIONAL MASTER

Joan Citron
 Nancy Devlin
 Phyl n. lis Huebner
 Alexander Iler
 Flo Lippman
 Rita Morgan
 Buffy Phillips
 Herbert Potash
 Bob Reynolds
 Clayton Reynolds
 Walter Schauben
 Chung-Zong Wan
 Renee Waas
 Eleanor Weisenberg
 Regina Weiss
 Mary Lou Weisser
 Nancy Wright

REGIONAL MASTER

Stanley Brandwein
 Charles Dvorkin
 Sandra Eisen
 Anita Feldman
 Trina Frankel
 Richard Freedman
 Karen Glaser
 Fran Grossman
 Ida Hirsh
 Elizabeth Hosny
 Thomas Hunter
 Jeff Kaplowitz
 Phyllis Kearse
 Sid Klotz
 Merry Leblond
 Kathleen Marass
 Fran Meyer
 Mary Newman
 Bruce Rothenberg
 Alan Saltzman
 Jerome Schultz
 Linda Schultz
 Adrienne Smith
 Leslie Smith
 Enid Smith-Helck
 Robin Stern
 Ruth Tenner
 Arthur Van Blerkom
 Paul Weiner
 Eleanor Wiener
 Robert Wink
 Sylvia Winters
 Stephen Young

NABC MASTER

Glenis Austin
 Richard Banagan
 Mitchell Cayen
 Dominick D'Ascoli
 Janet Dzwinczyk
 Alan Echikson
 Naomi Fisch
 Michael Hewlett
 Vaishali Jategaonkar
 Orion Kanarek
 Carol Kaufman
 Michael Kessler
 Rita Kinkhabwala
 Muriel Klingler
 Dorid Lamb
 Jagdish Mody
 Bonnie Murphy
 Radu Nistor
 Amy Ross-Payne
 Bhartkumar Shah
 Stephen Steel
 Suzanne Sidorsky
 Susan Sussman
 Joan Vrba

ADV NABC MASTER

Stephanie Austin
 Radu Nistor

LIFE MASTERS

Nadine Armus
 Maryann Brewer
 Jane Carter
 Jerry Diller
 Charlotte Gold
 Kim Mattran
 Dorothy Nutkis
 Foster Osborne
 Michael Rosen
 Leslie Tropin

BRONZE

Nadine Armus
 Charlotte Gold
 Susan Goldberg
 Jane Grewcock
 Mary Lasser
 Barbara Lowenstein
 Deborah Sack
 J Eugene Salomon

SILVER

Seymour Bibuld
 David Cox
 Seshumani Das
 Dolores Gingold
 Cecil Good
 Anthony Iannino
 Lalji Pavagadhi
 Michael Rosen

GOLD

Sylvia Gindi
 Robert Imhoff
 Julia Zucker

DIAMOND

Judy Wirtenberg

EMERALD

Abe Pineles

THIS 'N' THAT

By Glenda Calkins

As I write this, I am looking forward to the upcoming regional in Danbury in October and the NABC in Providence in November. The tournament is actually held within District 25 and enjoys their full support and cooperation. It stands as an excellent example of the importance of inter-district cooperation and good neighborliness.

There are important new developments from ACBL headquarters:

- Some of you may be aware of the extensive discussion now taking place on line regarding the financial loss which accompanied the decision to scrap the new ACBL Score Plus program and to write off our substantial investment in it. Most of the board members – myself included – do not believe that we have had an adequate explanation from management of all that occurred here. We are pressing for more information, and I expect to have much more to report on this front after our meetings in Providence.
- In Las Vegas there was a first reading of motions to make some significant changes in masterpoint awards. These require a second reading in Providence, and I will report the outcome to you after that meeting. I think it is highly likely that at least some of these changes will be made effective January 1, 2015.
- If you have not yet done so, look at the new ACBL web page; one of the significant improvements is a “Learn to Play Bridge” program; the early feedback on the program has been positive.

Let me again say how much I appreciate the significant degree to which Unit 140 continues to contribute to the life and work of District 3. Our youth program continues to be a dynamic one, thanks in no small measure to the efforts of Barbara Clark and Betty Cox, as well as many other people from Unit 140, and Joan Brody has recently donned the mantle of Inter-District STAC Coordinator; thanks Joan for taking on this crucial task. Looking forward to seeing many of you in Danbury!

YOUTH IN LAS VEGAS!

Our Youth Bridge program continues to provide wonderful opportunities for our youngest bridge players, both at and away from the table. The nine kids from New Jersey did well in the tournament rankings, and those who were not in the overalls had average to above average ratings.

Sayed Bennett and Taylor Peart placed first in Flight C winning a trophy. Nayelis Fernandez and L'Nai Bryant from Oakwood Avenue School placed third overall.



“Bridge at its Best”

District 3 Autumn Leaf Regional

Danbury CT — Oct. 21–26, 2014

The Crowne Plaza Danbury
 18 Old Ridgebury Road • Danbury CT 06810 • 203-794-0600

\$108 Single/double plus applicable taxes.
 Reservation Deadline — October 6, 2014 Bridge rate rooms may sell out before deadline.

www.bridge-district3.org

Golden Opportunity Pairs
 (two-session events)
Wednesday – Saturday
 750/300 MPs
10 am & 2:30 pm
 GOLD POINTS for Overalls
 and section tops in top strat

Directions to Hotel — From the East: Rte 84 to Exit 2A. Follow Old Ridgebury Rd, around curve and up hill. Hotel will be visible on left. From the West: Rte 84 to Exit 2. Make left and then right following signs to US 202 and US 6. Make another right onto Old Ridgebury Rd. From the South: Rte 684 to Exit 9E and follow Rte 84 as above.

Tournament Info: Carol McMackin • 201-327-8579
 cmcmackin@verizon.net
Pairings: Lynn Baker lynn@lynnandjerry.com

Tuesday, Oct. 21
 Stratified Open Pairs10 am & 2:30 pm
 Intermediate Pairs (0-300)..... 10 am
 Bracketed Round Robin Teams..... 1 & 7 pm
 Top bracket played as Swiss – open to all teams.
 Side Game Series I (1st & 2nd)..... 1 / 7 pm
 Intermediate Pairs (0-300)..... 2:30 pm

Wednesday, Oct. 22
 Bracketed Compact KO Teams.....9 am & 1 pm
NEW! Golden Opportunity Pairs
 750/300 MPs10 am & 2:30 pm
 Stratified Open Swiss Tms (VPs)..... 10 am & 2:30 pm
 Intermediate Pairs (0-300)..... 10 am
 Strat. Open Pns (2500+, 0-2500).....10 am & 2:30 pm

Wednesday, Oct. 22 (continued)
 One Session Swiss Teams (Red)..... 1 pm
 Side Game Series I (3rd & 4th)..... 1 / 7 pm
 Intermediate Pairs (0-300)..... 2:30 pm

Thursday, Oct. 23
 Stratified Open Pairs
 (2500+, 0-2500).....10 am & 2:30 pm
 Intermediate Pairs (0-300)..... 10 am
 Golden Opportunity Pairs
 750/300 MPs10 am & 2:30 pm
 Stratified Open Swiss Teams (VPs)..... 1 & 7 pm
 Side Game Series I (5th & 6th) 1 / 7 pm
 Intermediate Pairs (0-300)..... 2:30 pm

Friday, Oct. 24
 Bracketed Compact KO Teams9 am & 1 pm
 Golden Opportunity Pairs
 750/300 MPs10 am & 2:30 pm
 Intermediate Pairs (0-300)..... 10 am
 Stratified Open Pairs
 (2500+, 0-2500).....10 am & 2:30 pm
 One Session Swiss Teams (Red)..... 1 pm
NEW! Stratified Open IMP Pairs..... 1 & 7 pm
 Side Game Series II (1st & 2nd)..... 1 / 7 pm
 Intermediate Pairs (0-300)..... 2:30 pm

Saturday, Oct. 25
 Bracketed Compact KO Teams9 am & 1 pm
 Golden Opportunity Pairs
 750/300 MPs10 am & 2:30 pm
 Stratified Open Pairs (2500+, 0-2500) 1 & 7 pm
 Intermediate Pairs (0-300)..... 10 am
 One Session Swiss Teams (Red)..... 1 pm
 Side Game Series II (3rd & 4th) 1 / 7 pm
 Intermediate Pairs (0-300)..... 2:30 pm

Sunday, Oct. 26
 Open Bracketed Round Robin Teams..... 10:30 am
 Top bracket played as Swiss –
 open to all teams. Short break for lunch.

Strats: A (2500+) B (1000-2500) C (0-1000)
 All team events are stratified by average MPs
 Mid-Chart (except Multi) permitted in top bracket
 of all bracketed team events
 In all KOs Top Bracket may be handicapped

Thanks to District 25 (New England) for the loan of Connecticut to hold our Regional.

SILVER POINTS!

By Joan Brody

You have all heard of designer jeans as well as designer genes.....but, have you heard the news about our designer tournament?

As you may have seen on the front page of The Declarer, the New Jersey Bridge League (Unit 140) is holding a Newpicate Sectional, which will award SILVER points, on Saturday, November 1. This event has been planned especially for those bridge players currently holding no more than 300 masterpoints. It is a two-session event, and a free lunch will be served in between. Each section will be scored separately. This event is unique in that it will provide newpicate players the opportunity to vie for those coveted SILVER points by playing solely with their peers.

The event is being held at the Jersey Bridge Club in West Long Branch.....you may call there to make a reservation (732) 229- 1430 or request a partner. All of this information is available on our website as well. So, come one, come all to this special event....it promises to be a great day. There is even a discussion and Q and A during lunch. Remember, this has been planned solely for newpicates.....so, we are counting on your enthusiasm and support.....and hoping to make it an annual event!

BRIDGE FUN AWAY FROM THE TABLE!

Our newest and youngest players had fun both at the table and away from it, visiting the Grand Canyon, Hoover Dam, and other exciting sites around Las Vegas.



BIG NOVICE GAMES!

Stuart Rosenblatt and Muarry Laulich	79.77
Joyce Michaelson and Amy Durschlag	77.49
Sherry Exon and Blanche Goldstein	76.74
Edmond Fursa and Barbara Alper	75.00
Mary Lee Sena and Bernadine David	74.40
Ed Lyons and Jean Lyons	74.17
Sheilah Ziccardi and Dorothy Gerhardt	73.81
Murray Laulich and Allen Goldberger	73.21
Steven Feigin and Rick Finkel	73.02
Betsy Topilow - Jennie Meskin	72.93
Ilene Cowen and Robert Cowen	72.50
Fred Malamut and Sherry Lieb	72.37
Barbara Fuchs and Kit L Wong	71.92
Faith Hook and Patricia Savage	71.05
Estelle Finkel and Paul Finkel	70.64
Virginia Disch and Mary Jo Herr	70.83
Karen Fels and Reva Oren	70.83
Elliot Sommer and Deb Wyman	70.80
Stuart and Audrey Rosenblatt	70.28
Deb Wyman and Bernardine David	70.24
Lisa Celona and Lisa Toffey	70.24
Foster Osborne and Charles Harff	70.14
Elayne Nestor and Pat Donahue	70.08
Martha Chamberlain and Bev Lawrence	70.00

NOVICE CORNER

By Arnie Kohn

PREEMPTION

Preemptive bidding is one of the most valuable tools available. A preemptive bid is made on a long mono suited hand with a minimum of defensive values. One should base the bid on the number of tricks available in their suit and the vulnerability of the two sides. The bid has nothing to do with points, but solely on *trick expectancy*. One can expect to be doubled, so the resulting score, must be less than the score the opponents would obtain by bidding and making a game. For example you are dealt S AKQxxxx H xx D xx C xx and the opponents are vulnerable and your side is not vulnerable, your correct call is **Four Spades**. The opponents Game Contract is worth 600 + Points and your seven sure tricks will hold your losses to 500 points. Should the vulnerability be equal your call is **Three Spades**. The loss you would incur will be less than the opponents would score for making a game. Should the vulnerability be unfavorable, I recommend not bidding. Please forget any rules, such as "a seven card suit and less than ten points" as a guideline. I do not recommend preempting with an Ace or King outside your suit. If you have that outside card, for now you can probably open one of your suit. The next article will discuss other types of preempts.

“THE BEST BID THAT WASN’T MADE”

BY JAY KOROBOW

Sometimes making a good bid will lead to a good result, or possibly a bridge article. A double is considered a “bid,” while a “pass” is considered just an “action.” It’s all semantics of course.

S KJ8642
H JT96
D 9
C T6

S 10	S 7
H AQ	H K875432
D AKQJT832	D 74
C 72	C K83

S AQ953
H
D 65
C AQJ954

W	N	E	S
		P	1C
X	1S	4H	4S
5D	5S	P	6S
7D	P	P	7S

The above hand is from BBO (<http://www.bridgebase.com/>).

This popular online bridge network is free to join and several of the diversions available are also free, including being a spectator for their online coverage of bridge events worldwide. There may be something as remote as the Bulgarian team trials or, as above, the finals of the prestigious Vanderbilt from the March 2014 team championships in Dallas.

The online coverage is called Vugraph and tracks the play and bidding in real-time. There is also play-by-play commentary, which I was privileged to be part of this year, along with famous faces such

as Mike Passell and Kit Woolsey. When the play analysis gets too technical, I find it easier to resort to color commentary, and let the superstars provide the insights.

When this board came up in the 4th quarter, the defending champion “Monaco team” was leading the well-known “Nickell” team by 16 imps, with just seven boards remaining in a relatively quiet fourth quarter.

I remarked to the several thousand spectators that Board 58 was the most exciting of the day; as I had just “peeked” into the replay-room telecast and had seen North-South subside in 5S. With the club finesse on, slam is unbeatable, and the player sitting West there was Eric Rodwell, of the famous Meckwell duo (with Jeff Meckstroth). With both vul, a spirited auction came to him at 5S, and he took several minutes before electing not to bid 6D with the West hand. Because of the NS slam, this pass turned out to be a rather good result for his team (Nickell) and was a prime candidate for “the best bid that wasn’t made.”

In the match I was commentating, the Monaco West player Geir Helgemo bid 7D as a hopeful insurance call when the Nickell pair of Levin and Weinstein bid to 6S, as shown. Perfect defense can get this for 1100, and Steve Weinstein, playing from New Jersey for most of his stellar bridge career, could have doubled this apparent sacrifice. Because of these critical 7-level decisions, expert players have universally accepted that a pass of any such high-level sacrifice promises first round control of that suit, just in case that is helpful to partner,

who may reevaluate and bid the grand slam available.

A few decades back, a famous hand turning on this bridge tenet occurred in a Swiss teams played in our sectional between players who will remain nameless. Both teams reached a small slam, but the pesky opponents at both tables took a sacrifice, and the next player dutifully passed to show first round control. In both matches the cold grand slam was then bid, and the opps now bid 7 of their suit. Neither slam-hungry team was content, so as their suit was now outranked by the sacrifice, both partners bid 7NT.

With 15 or so winners, 7NT, which was doubled at both tables, had promise except for one slight problem. The first round control was in actuality a void, and the opponents took the first seven tricks for +2000. The comparison of scores was quite a tumultuous affair, and a push for the ages was achieved.

Steve Weinstein took full advantage of this set of circumstances by passing 7D, in effect psyching a void, knowing how everyone would likely interpret it. His partner Bobby Levin carried on to the contract of 7S as a result, and the East player on opening lead led a heart instead of a diamond as a result. The effect was a 30-imp swing (win 17 versus lose 13) as +2220 was rolled up. Nickell went from down 16 to up by 1, and went on to win the 2014 event by 2 imps.

Steve’s creative thoughtful and winning “pass” is my choice for “the best bid that wasn’t made” by far!

UNIT 140 BIG GAMES

Rochelle Imhoff and Merle Poller	80.08
Rosalie Slutsky and Howard Halpern	75.00
Dougin Walker and David Rountree	74.58
Susan Robbins and Joe Garlic	74.52
Arline Fulton and Carlotta Niles	74.43
Ronald Kraft and Richard Ross	74.31
Dominick D'Ascoli and Jonathan Thompson	74.24
Robin Shamah and Donna Dulet	74.18
Jim White and John Dellosa	74.17
Joel Lipset and Linda Endy	74.02
Liz Evans and Leonard Blessing	73.86
Jim White and John Dellosa	73.84
Kathy Hunter and Stephen Arshan	73.24
Nancy Kaercher and Sheldon Per	73.13
Gene Keidan and Walter Maxymuk	73.11
Herb Cohen and Cecily Palludan	72.92
Marilyn Schwebel and Stand Dickson	72.62
Ronald Kraft and Ronald Panitch	72.54
Henry Stadelmann and Dorel Livescu	72.53
Mel Weinstein and Asish Sengupta	72.44
Frank Hymus and Peter Wright	72.33
Julien Abramovici and Dan Goldstein	72.32
Mel Weinstein and Asish Sengupta	72.12
Satya Pabuwal and Roland Bechade	71.99
Sumner Freedman and Ruth Zowader	71.63
Carolyn Silvera and Rochelle Djmal	71.49
Alexander Allen and Richard Ross	71.36
Freeman Bunn and Bruce Witzel	71.25
Robin Shamah and Sonia Bibi	71.23
Melvin Klein and Robert Zeckhauser	71.15
Lester Sokolower and Cheryl Angel	71.05
Adeline Some and Barbara Pearlman	71.01
Ann Hawley and Janet Rotchford	70.85
David Schachter and Harold Schachter	70.83
Peter Stein and Richard Ross	70.79
Lydia O'Hara and Kay O'Brien	70.71
Jesse Reisman and Mark Brighthouse	70.67
Ronald Kraft and Ronald Panitch	70.42
Patricia D'Adamo and William Stogitis	70.42
William Becker and Marjorie Becker	70.40
Richard Hyken and Lawrence Lerner	70.27
Horia Ioanid and Hans Neuteboom	70.24
Alice Tarlach and Frederic Marston	70.24
Melvin Klein and Robert Zeckhauser	70.19
Ronald Kraft and Richard Ross	70.10
Nathan Petschenik and Leonard Chazanoff	70.03
Patricia Weiss and Lois Rossin	70.00

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NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The nominating committee for 2015 new members will be posted on the Web site in October. Interested members should contact the nominating committee with suggestions.

THE DECLARER

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