

December, 2012



Tournament Schedule for District 5

For further information: <http://www.d5bridge.com/TS.htm>

DECEMBER 2012

- 3-9 District 5 Winter STaC

JANUARY 2013

- 16-20 Cleveland Rock-n-Roll Regional
- 25-27 Buffalo Winter Sectional

FEBRUARY 2013

- 16-17 Canton Sectional

MARCH 2013

- 8-10 Akron Springtime Sectional

Deadlines for Columns And Tournament Information

February Issue – January 15
April Issue – March 15
June Issue – May 15

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AKRON ALERT by Jim Sullivan

Holiday Parties - December brings about many Christmas or Holiday Parties at the individual clubs. Check with the managers at your clubs and read the Akron Calendar/Newsletter for more information about these parties. The Akron Unit will hold its Holiday Party at 6 PM Friday, December 9 at the Quirk Center Ballroom. Dinner of meat, potatoes, drinks, and tableware will be provided by the Unit. Bring your favorite special holiday hors d'oeuvres' to share with everyone.

STaC Games – Many clubs will be holding STaC Games during the week of December 3 thru 9. Plan to play in these games and maybe you can win some of the big Masterpoint awards. The winners from these games receive more Masterpoints if they place in the District Overalls for that session. Check with the managers at your clubs and the Akron Calendar/Newsletter for more information about these STaC Games.

2013 Mentor/Mentee Program - The Mentor/Mentee program will begin its 7th year. This Mentoring Program is for the Akron Friday afternoon game at the Quirk Center. **Carolyn Sullivan** is the Program Registrar. Anyone wanting to improve his or her Bridge Game can sign up to be a Mentee. We need more players who are willing to be Mentors to the newer and improving players. Anyone willing to help a less experienced player improve his or her Bridge Game can sign up to be a Mentor.

Mentors/Mentees can sign up as a pair or contact **Carolyn Sullivan** to be matched. The Mentor/Mentee fee will be \$3 each for all 2013 Friday afternoon games at the Quirk Center.

The rules are: 1) Non Life Master Mentees must have a Life Master or above as a Mentor; 2) Life Masters and above, up to 1000 MP, can have a Mentor, but the Mentor must have at least twice as many Master Points as their Mentee; 3) Mentors can have more than one Mentee; 4) Mentees can use more than one Mentor; 5) Mentors and their Mentees each pay the Mentor/Mentee fee; 6) For Mentors with multiple Mentees, if the Mentor is playing with one Mentee at the same game that the other Mentees play they pay the Mentor/Mentee fee (The Mentor must be playing with another of their Mentees to be allowed to pay the the \$3 Mentor/Mentee fee); and

7) A Mentor may be a kibitzer to a pair of their Mentees (The Mentees pay \$3 each and the Mentor does not pay).

You can sign up for the 2013 Program via e-mail bridgenews@aol.com. A signup list will also be posted at the Quirk Center.

Friday Unit Games - What better way to start your weekend than to play Bridge at the Friday Unit Game? Come on out and enjoy the fun, competition, hospitality and win some of the extra Masterpoints. If you need a partner or more information, contact **Jim Sullivan** at sullivan01@aol.com or 330-659-4707. The schedule is:

Dec. 7 - 12:30 is a STaC Game (Sectional Tournaments at Clubs), where you can win those elusive Silver points.

Dec. 14 – 6:00 is the Annual Christmas Party, so bring your favorite side dish or hors d'oeuvres' and exchange recipes with everyone. Meat and potatoes will be provided. The Unit Championship Game won't begin until about 7:00 in order to allow time for socializing,

Dec. 21 - 7:30 is a Unit Championship Game.

Dec. 28 – No Game, Holiday Weekend.

Jan. 4 – 12:30 is a Unit Championship Game.

Jan. 11 – 12:30 is a Unit Championship Game.

Jan. 18 – 12:30 No Game, Independence Regional.

Jan. 25 - 7:30 is the first session of the winter IMP League.

Feb. 1 - 12:30 is a Unit Championship Game.

Feb. 8 – 7:30 is the second session of the Winter IMP League.

Bridge Teams League – The four-session 2013 Winter Team League starts January 25. The other nights will be February 8, March 1 and April 12. All the matches will be played at 7:30 at the Quirk Center in Cuyahoga Falls. This TEAM LEAGUE event will use the "Eight is Enough" format. Teams must be made up so the team total is no more than eight points; where A players (2000 or more master points) are 3 points, B players (750 to 2000 master points) are 2 points, and C players (0 to 750 master points) are 1 point. Teams will be placed in brackets based on the ACBL Masterpoints of the four highest team members. All matches will be handicapped based on the player used for each match. The handicap for each match will be assigned based upon the ACBL published team handicap table. Get a Team (4 to 6 players) together or contact **Marv Shapiro** at judi.shapiro1943@sbcglobal.net or 330-867-4797 for help in getting you on a

Team! Novices and Newcomers are very welcome. Learn or improve your Team skills. Pick up a flyer for more details.

2012 Sectionals - The Akron Sectionals for the year 2012 are now history. Many Bridge players from near and far enjoyed the competition, hospitality and fellowship that these tournaments provided. Most earned some of the Silver Master Points that were awarded. Also, a big thank you goes out to Chairperson **Bob Ryan** and the many volunteers who made these tournaments successful.

Springtime Sectional March 8-10, 2013 - The location is the Quirk Center at 1201 Grant Avenue, Cuyahoga Falls, 44223

Whistfully Yours *by Bev Carter*

At the September board meeting an amendment to our Constitution to limit the size of our board to 12 members was discussed. The board voted to approve the motion to do so. As part of our regulations, the entire membership of Unit 125 is required to vote on this change. **Peter Miller** is checking with ACBL to see if this can be done by email. For those of you who do not have an email address, letters will be sent explaining the change as well as a card for you to send back with your vote. Notice will be posted on our website whistclub.org 30 days prior to the vote, which is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12th at the Vichill League team event. Since our Unit no longer sponsors a local game, it was determined that a 15-member board was no longer necessary.

It is with regret that the board accepted the resignation of **Fleur Howard** who served as our hospitality chairperson. Fleur was responsible for the wonderful food at our Sectionals. She will be sorely missed and we thank her on behalf of all our members for her dedicated service to our Unit. The board has appointed **Harvey Bernstein** to fill out the rest of her term.

We are sad to report that one of ACBL's nicest players, **Joe Dragoun** from Canton passed away recently. He will certainly be missed. Our sympathy goes out to his friends and family.

Congratulations to **Eric and Becky Shugart** of Lakewood for becoming Life Masters in October.

Our annual Master/Future Master game was held recently with 29- tables attending. North/South winners were: **Greg Michaels** and **Janet Ashe** (1st overall in A), **Barb Bacon** and **Norm Friedman** (1st in B), **Dennis Kelley** and **Charles Scholl** (1st in C). East/West 1st overall were **Kevin Robertson** and **Marge Lowenthal** who took the overall honors in A, B and C. *Congratulations to all!!!* Everyone had a great time scarfing up all the luscious desserts and enjoying an evening of bridge. There were tons of door prizes that lucky future masters enjoyed receiving. Our thanks to **Rosemary Kleis** who chaired the tournament and her 10 volunteers who helped make this a very successful event. Our annual 0-499'r Sectional will be coming up in the spring of 2013. Lots of great hospitality and guest lecturers will be on hand. Hopefully all our future masters will enjoy playing in this event as well. **Bev Carter** and **Judy Spooner** are chairing this event. More information as it becomes available.

Our Winter Sectional was held November 3rd through 4th at the Garfield Heights Civic Center. **Phil Becker** gave a lecture to our future life masters which was very well received. **Kathy Sulgrove** was in charge of the marvelous hospitality. Overall winners in all events were: **Kathy and Don Sulgrove** amassing 22.59 master points, **Mike Creager** with 19.94 points and **Chuck Ladiha** with 16.20. There were 34 teams at the Sunday event. First in both flights A and B was the team of **Jerri and John Harper**, **Connie Bogan** and **Jeffrey Tsang**. Flight C winners were **Patti Perlmutter**, **Nancy Fingerhut**, **Barb Peterman** and **Barb Speers**. Full results can be found on our website: <http://www.whistclub.org/>.

The Unit will be hosting a STaC team game on December 9th at the Solon Senior Center. Game time is 11:00am. **Kathy Sulgrove** is chairing this event. Flyers have been distributed to our local clubs with complete information. It is not necessary to pre-register your team.

And now, it is time for some other stuff:

The Universal Laws of Bridge:

- As soon as you notice you are having a great game, something bad will happen.
- No matter how many problems you anticipate on a hand, something you never anticipated will come up!

- As soon as a tough problem arises that you really have to think about, the director calls the next round and breaks your concentration
- Whenever you think you have pulled all the trump, someone still has one left.
- If your left hand opponent holds a stiff king and you can finesse it, there will always be an entry to dummy
- While there is only one way to play a hand correctly, there are always an infinite number of ways to play it wrong
- When you drop a card, spot cards fall face down—face cards fall face up!
- A contract that has only one chance in a hundred of going down will always go down.
- When opponents bid a 10% slam, they make it. When you bid a 90% slam, you don't.
- On a hand where everyone should get into the same trouble, no one does.
- And yes.....it is always partner's fault!!!

Erie Excitement by Kathy Dammeyer

On Sunday December 2 the EBA will host our Christmas party and **Dick Mack** Trophy Game. We are looking forward to this event and hope to see all our members there.

Although our September Sectional is behind us, we want to thank our tournament chairman, **Peggy Weibel** for organizing our event, **Kathy Dobrzynski** , our Board Chairman and our Board of Directors for all their

help and especially **Lori Benacci** who did such a great job encouraging participation. We had a wonderful turn-out!

Saturday AM

North-South: **Rose Jaskiewicz** and **Bob Rizzo** took 1st.

East-West: **Allen Selling** and **Barb Grzegorzewski** took 1st place with **Shirley Irish** and **Marc Sylvester** 2nd and **William Lea** and **Steve Grzegorzewski** 3rd.

Kay Kramer and **Mary Avery** took 1st place in the B and C flights.

Saturday PM

North-South: **William Lea** and **Steve Grzegorzewski** took 1st place in "A" and **Grant Shorts** and **Alan Koseff** were 1st in "B" and "C".

East-West: **Kathleen Horan** and **Pat Smith** were 1st in "A" and **Tom and Jane Yusavage** were 1st in "B" and "C".

Sunday Swiss Team

"A" 1st: **Vern De Jong, Delores Bloom, Pat Smith, Ed Bissell**

"B" 1st: **Doris Kirsch, Lois DiPlacido, Elaina Dylewski, Peggy Weibel**

"C" 1st: **Scott Baldwin, David Brunton, Grant Shorts, Coletta Conoboy**

Our overall master point winners were **Pat Smith**(1), **Rose Jaskiewicz** and **Bob Rizzo** (2 and 3)

During the Summer Nationals in Philadelphia **Marc Sylvester** and his teammates placed 3rd in the Mini-Spingold 1 KO teams. Marc has also become a Gold Life Master. Congratulations, Marc!

Congratulations also to **Pat Smith** who won the most points in the recent regional tournament in Grand Island, NY.

Our October Player of the Month Awards:

Monday New Deal Game: **Pat Smith**

Friday Grand Slam: **Doris Kirsch**

Friday Newcomer Game: **Mary Listerman** and **Ann Moffatt**

Steve and Elaina Dylewski placed 2nd in the North American Pairs "C" division qualifying for the finals next spring in St. Louis. Good luck to Steve and Elaina!

Bridge is cool in Buffalo - by Dian Petrov

Elections to Unit 116 Board of Directors

December 2 (Sunday) will be our annual meeting, lunch and game held the Knights of Columbus–Cheektowaga. Tickets for the lunch and game must be purchased in advance from any board member. Of course, anyone with or without a ticket may attend the meeting. Ballot boxes are at participating local clubs in early November through early December and prior to the annual meeting until 12 noon. Candidates are **Sue Bergman, Liz Clark, Richard McGowan, Sue Neubecker, Larry Soong and Eleanor Whelan.**

Read their statements at www.unit116.com.

Our "Eight is Enough" Team game took place on November 11, 2012 at the Bridge Center of Buffalo. **Tova Reinhorn** put together a wonderful event. Everyone had fun in a friendly competition. The teams were mixture of players with more than 2000 masterpoints (counting as 3), players with masterpoints in range 500-1999 (counting as 2) and players with less than 500 masterpoints - counting as 1. Every team must have less than 8 points of "experience".

This year the winners were **Donna Steffan - Fred Yellen - Dorothy Soong - Larry Soong.**

District 5 NAP finals took place at Erie on October 6-7, 2012.

Representing Unit 116 at the Spring NABC 2013 at St. Louis for Flight A will be **Dan Gerstman** with his partner, **Ken Kranyak.**

Bridge milestones:

Paul Zittel and **Jeffrey Bender** became Life Masters during our Buffalo "Spooktacular" Regional, **Bill Boardman, Joseph Rooney, Usha Khurana and Arthur Matthies** are NABC Masters, **Elaine Moon** is a Regional Master, and **Edward Rupp** is a Silver Life Master.

Congratulations to all!

Bridge is cool in Buffalo and you are invited to join us at the Winter Sectional – January 25- 27, 2013.

RESULTS

Greenburg NLM Sectional, Greenburg, PA, September 22, 2012

<http://web2.acbl.org/tournaments/results/2012/09/1209167.htm>

Buffalo's Spooktacular Regional, October 23 - 28, 2012

<http://www.d5bridge.com/1210Buf.htm>

Buckeye State Sectional, Garfield Hts., OH, November 2-4, 2012

<http://web2.acbl.org/tournaments/results/2012/11/1211025.htm>

Pittsburgh Fall Sectional, Pittsburgh, PA, November 9-11, 2012

<http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/Results/1211Pghres.htm>

Happy
New
Year!!!