



The Fifth Column

February, 2014

Upcoming Tournament Calendar

FEBRUARY 2014

- 15-16 Canton President McKinley Sectional

MARCH 2014

- 14-16 Akron Springtime Sectional [Information](#)
- 28-30 Pittsburgh Spring Sectional [Information](#)

APRIL 2014

- 4-6 Cleveland Ohio Masters Sectional [Information](#)
- 4-6 Buffalo Spring Sectional [Information](#)
- 11-13 Titusville Seven Cities Sectional [Information](#)

MAY 2014

- 3-4 District 5 GNT - Flights A & C [Information](#)
- 20-26 Cleveland All American Regional [Information](#)

Deadlines for Columns and Tournament Information

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April Issue – March 15

June Issue – May 15

August Issue – July 15

AKRON ALERT *by Jim Sullivan*

Fall 2013 IMP League—The winners of the Fall session that ended in November were:

- **1st Jim Sullivan, Rose Cassmer, George Grant, & Marilyn DeCarlo.**
- **2nd Dick Traxler, Chantal Whitney, Graham Kelly, & Alper Buldum.**
- **3rd Jill Smith, Doris Mikstay, Rick Trogdon, Mike Marks, & Larry Rosenthal.**
- **4th / 5th Terry Kessler, Carol Kulke, Bette Jo Walgren, Jill Otte, & Leo Mann.**
- **4th / 5th Glen Nazworth, Jolee Nazworth, Jim Fasnacht, & Georgia Laikos.**

Congratulations to all of the winners. Thanks to **Marv Shapiro** who chaired this IMP League.

Springtime Sectional March 14-16 - The location is the **Quirk Center** at 1201 Grant Avenue, Cuyahoga Falls, 44223. To get directions use one of the Internet directions finders, e.g. MapQuest. There will be a Stratified 499ers Pairs game and Stratified Open Pairs events at both sessions on Friday and Saturday. Times for the sessions will be **1 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Friday** and **11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on Saturday**. This should still allow players time for their Saturday night social events. The **Sunday event will be a Bracketed Swiss Team Game** starting at **11:00 a.m.** with lunch included in the price. The calculations for all of the events will be the average of the players.

Membership Meeting - Membership Meeting and Banquet will be held at the Quirk Center on **Sunday, May 4**. After the banquet, there will be a short meeting followed by recognition of new Life Masters and awards presentation. A **Unit Championship Game** will then follow.

Friday Unit Games – All of the Friday Pairs Games will have pre-dealt hands with hand records and automatic scoring. Get a partner, come on out to the Quirk Center and enjoy the fun, competition, and hospitality. If you need a partner call **Jim Sullivan** at 330-659-4707. See the Friday Unit games Schedule on the akronbridge.org Web Site, in the Newsletter/Calendar, or below:

- **Feb. 7 – 12:30 A Unit Championship Game**
- **Feb. 14 – 12:30 A Unit Championship Game**
- **Feb. 21 – 12:30 A Junior Fund Game**
- **Feb. 28 – 12:30 A Unit Championship Game**
- **Mar. 7 – 12:30 A Unit Championship Game**
- **Mar. 14 – No Game Akron Sectional at the Quirk Center**
- **Mar. 21 – 12:30 A Unit Championship Game**
- **Mar. 28 – 12:30 A Club Championship Game**

- **Apr. 5 – No Game Garfield Heights Sectional**
- **Apr. 11 – 12:30 A Charity Fund Game**
- **Apr. 18 – No Game Good Friday**

Whistfully Yours *by Bev Carter*

Our Unit is saddened by the sudden passing of **Louinia Mae Whittlesey** recently. Louinia was instrumental in the formation of our Scholarship Fund back in March of 1984. She remained a staunch supporter and member of the Committee until her death on January 3rd at the age of 89. A scholarship will be given in her memory at our Awards Dinner in 2014. Contributions are very welcome. They can be sent to **Bev Carter**, Chairperson, 4505 Grand Teton Dr., Medina, Oh 44256. Applications for scholarships are now being accepted from children or grandchildren of Unit 125 members (also send them to Bev). Forms can be found on our website, **whistclub.org** and should be emailed to bcarter@zoominternet.net no later than April 15th. Applicants must be a child or grandchild related to a member of Unit 125 who is actively engaged in bridge.

Our April Sectional will be held the **4th through the 6th**. We are again hosting it at the Garfield Heights KofC on Granger Road. Check our website whistclub.org for details. Our annual election of board members will also take place at this Sectional. Four new persons will be elected to replace those who are outgoing members. Leaving this year are: **Phil Becker, Ken Kranyak, Peter Miller, Sharon Robertson and Cathy Wolford**. When you see them, please thank them for their 3 years of serving our Unit. They have represented its members well. You may have noticed that only four new members will be elected. That's due to a change in our Constitution to reduce the size of our Board from 15 members to 12 over the next four years. The Board generally meets about 10 times a year—normally during Vichill or Summer IMP League to discuss Unit business. We would love your input, so if you would like to contribute to improving our service to our Unit members, please contact **Barb Bacon**, President, at **440-724-6539** or bcbacon@cox.net.

Congratulations to **David Bilek** who recently became a Life Master. The Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs winners are now listed on our website. Formal recognition will take place at our Annual Membership Meeting. We are also accepting nominations for our Annual Member of the Year Award. Our Unit selects an outstanding member who contributes their time and effort to make bridge in our Unit a great place to play. Qualifications are:

- *A member who actively promotes bridge within our Unit*

- *A person who shows the highest level of integrity and ethical conduct to their partners and fellow competitors*
- *Longevity as a member of ACBL and Unit 125 which shows a high level of involvement in Unit activities*
- *Nominees may be living or deceased.*

Awards are limited to two individuals a year and are open to all past or present Unit 125 members. Nominations must be submitted no later than 45 days prior to our Annual Membership meeting which will be held on Sunday, May 18th. You may submit them to our Unit Secretary, **Bev Carter**, by email or snail mail. For more information, call Bev at 330-725-6708.

Can't leave without our usual dose of bridge wisdom:

- Don't let worries get you down - play Bridge instead
- **A Notice at a Bridge Club:**
Those who failed the bridge course and are depressed with low self esteem, please attend the special extra class on Thursday at 7pm. Please use the back door.
- Partners are extremely important. Who else to blame when you lose?
- Declarers are like ducks. They look cool, calm and unruffled on the surface, but are paddling like crazy underneath.
- **The Impossible Dream** -- A Partner who only gives advice when asked.
- Bridge and potato chips are alike. You can never have enough of either.

Bridge is Cool in Buffalo by *Dian Petrov*

Happy New Year 2014 to all bridge players and their supporters!

The Unit 116 annual meeting and party was enjoyed by 21½ tables. Lots of good food, great bridge and the introduction of the new Unit board. The old and new board members met Monday, December 16. Officers were elected and committee appointments were filled. President - **Betty Metz**, Secretary - **Sue Neubecker** and Treasurer – **Tova Reinhorn**. The rest of board members are **Liz Clark**, **Dian Petrov**,

Larry Soong and **Paul Zittel** joined by the new members - **Jim Tao** and **Howard Foster**. Feel free to contact any of them - contact information is on www.unit116.com .

The Volunteer Hall of Fame has new members – **Kathy Pollock**, and **Bernie** and **Dick Czarnecki**.

Calendar of events - Upcoming Unit games - Pro-Am "Taste of Buffalo" will take place on February 23 at the Bridge Center and "Green IMPs" - an evening imps game on March 17 at Bridge Club Meridian.

Rank changes:

Ten-Pao Lee reached the level of Sectional Master. **Linda Milch** and **Pam Pollock** reached the level of Regional Masters.

Carl Hasselback, **Edith Knaszak** and **Paula Rosen** are now Regional Masters.

David Donaldson is a NABC Master – he is traveling to Dallas to play at Spring NABC North American Pairs.

Congratulations to all!

Pittsburgh Posting by Fran Prus

We hope that everyone had a joyful holiday season. Many thanks to **Jeannie Baseman** and **Ruthie Weafach** for their outstanding efforts to make our Unit Holiday Party such a rousing success!

Speaking of success, Unit 142 members fared very well in the overall Masterpoint Race during the December STaC week tournament. **Robert Quinlan** led all local members and was second overall in the district with a whopping 28.59 MPs! Well done!

Following closely behind were **Jean Prior**, **Judy Haffner**, and **Arlene Port**. The Sunday Swiss winners were **Richard and Patty Katz**, **Warren Oberfield** and **Bernie Fudor**. Special thanks to **Ken and Barb Bergman** for organizing the event. Congratulations to all of the participants and clubs that participated in the STaC week games.

It's not too early to start planning to attend our Spring Sectional, March 28-30.

Our condolences to the family members of **Ed Belle**, **Herb Wolstoncroft**, **Bob Wolf**, and **Manny Miller**.

ERIE EXCITEMENT *by Jim Mershon*

Congratulations to the following for achieving a new ACBL ranking:

Deanie Skrypzak, Junior Master and Lori Benacci, Gold Life Master.

On Sunday, December 1, 2013, the Erie Bridge Association held its annual Christmas party with great food and 9 tables. On Friday, December 6, 2013, the directors of the Monday and Friday games, **Doris Kirsch and Shirley Irish** hosted a Christmas party at the Erie Bridge Association. They put on a spectacular meal for the 72 people in attendance.

Having trouble with overcalls, doubles, what suit to bid, Blackwood, Gerber, interference and more? Come to Play of the Hand lessons on Thursdays, 9:30 a.m., at the EBA, 1221 Grant Ave, Erie, PA. You don't need a partner. Cost is \$5 per session. Call **Judie Lamberton**, 838-7637, for details.

Unit 229 News *by Lois Porter*

Happy New Year. Wishing you good bridge games and good friends.

Scores from the duplicate game in Elwood City on Monday evenings are always mentioned in this article. This game survived because a remarkable woman and Gold Life Master, **Jane Crowley**, took over after a death. How many of us learned to play bridge by looking over our parents' shoulders when we were 12 years old? Or remember one important slam against them with a boyfriend? It was after this slam that her future husband proposed on his way out the door!! Jane attended Carnegie Tech and when Jerry relocated to Philadelphia and attended law night school, she began taking bridge lessons from an excellent teacher, **Bennett Disbrow**. When they moved back to Elwood City in 1960, she had all of 5 master points. While working in Jerry's law office, she began playing women's pairs and teams. She has fond memories of her team at the Pittsburgh Regional. The first year they were in a three-way tie for first, the second year a two-way tie and the third year-AN OUTRIGHT WIN!! She has had many memorable partners over the years - **Iola Croner, Harry Ganelin and Herman Feldman** to mention a few. She achieved Life Master in 1975 and Gold Life master in 2010. She loves the game and feels that fellow players are like family.

Jane hosted a Holiday bridge game on December 2 at Jo Jo Beans in Elwood City. **Helen Greenberg** of Elwood City and **Art Aronson** of Renfrew were first place winners with a 62.22% game with **Mary Lou Ford** and **Chuck Weber** coming in second. On the

23rd she also hosted a pizza party at which **Henry Nelson** of Zelienople and **Jim Wheeler** of Edinburg scored 66.81% to win overall. We owe a debt of gratitude to **Jane Crowley** for her gracious hosting along with her friend and helper **Helen Greenberg**.

The highest percentage game in our unit was in Elwood City on November 25. **Bill Lindgren** of Slippery Rock and **Sid Steiner** of New Castle had a 77.08% game. Well done!!

STaC week was fun and the results are as follows: Elwood City -**Alex Bealles and Lynn Rafferty** placed first in open pairs with 60.42%. New Castle - **George Cross and Jane Crowley** placed first in open pairs tied with **Lynn Rafferty and John Samarco** with 60.42%. Butler – **Alan Leaver and David Ruppert** came in first with 63.49% and ended up second in the Thursday Evening Championship Pairs. Sewickley - **David Ruppert and Lois Porter** came in first with 63.49% and first in the Friday Afternoon Championship Pairs.

The Holiday Unit Game was held at the Connoquenessing Country Club on December 7. It was another wonderful evening of good food and bridge. **Carl Hamill** of Moon Township and **John Killmeyer** of Pittsburgh were first overall with a 68.15% game. Second were **David Ruppert and Alan Leaver** with **Pat Wilde and Herman** first in east-west.

Please contact me if you have news items to share. Happy 2014 to all.

Recent Tournament Results

2014

[Rock'n'Roll Regional](#) - Jan 15-19, Independence, OH

[Buffalo Winter Sectional](#) - Jan 3-5, Williamsville, NY

2013

[District 5 Winter STaC](#) - Dec 9-15, Various Locations