



# The Fifth Column

## December, 2013

### Upcoming Tournament Calendar

#### DECEMBER 2013

- 9-15 District 5 Winter STaC [Information](#)

#### JANUARY 2014

- 3-5 Buffalo Winter Sectional [Information](#)
- 15-19 Cleveland Rock and Roll Regional [Information](#)

#### FEBRUARY 2014

- 15-16 Canton President McKinley Sectional

Deadlines for Columns and Tournament Information

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February Issue – January 15

April Issue – March 15

June Issue – May 15

## **UNIT 229 NEWS** *by Lois Porter*

It has been a great September and October for our unit. **Nick Tredennick** and **Art Aronson** scored a 76.25% game, **Sally** and **Anthony Sobota** a 70.37% and **Alex Bealles** and **Lynn Rafferty** a 70.83%, all at the Monday night Elwood City game. Congratulations to these pairs!

At the Unit game in New Brighton in September, **Cynthia Custer** and **Rita Furis** were first overall. Cynthia just became a Life Master in the Spring Sectional game. She was first taught bridge by her parents when she was a senior in high school. After college she became an elementary music teacher in Moon Township and bridge went on the back burner until 15 years ago. She began playing bridge on-line with BBO. After retiring 10 years ago she was able to play duplicate in person and has enjoyed updating her game and becoming a Life Master. Congratulations, Cynthia.

Beaver Falls is the home of another musician who recently has become a Life Master. **Brina Segal** began playing social bridge in her neighborhood. Life became too busy and it wasn't until 10 years ago that she learned to play duplicate at Franciscan Manor with a lovely couple - **Roy** and **Mildred Withrow**. Roy had a lesson before each game and the group was so welcoming that she enjoyed playing with many mentors and partners. Brina is a classical pianist and supports the opera and symphony in Pittsburgh. She enjoys cooking and counsels parents of autistic children. A busy lady, she enjoys her interesting life. Congratulations, Brina!

On October 23, **Alex Bealles** hosted a Club Appreciation Team game in New Castle. Each newer player pair was teamed with more experienced teams by lottery. Everyone agreed that it was a great night with seven full tables. First was the team of **Herman Feldman, Philippe Westreich, Charles Weber, and Lois Porter**. Besides the bridge, the food was delicious.

Have a wonderful holiday season and enjoy bridge!!!!

## **ERIE EXCITEMENT** *by Jim Mershon*

Congratulations to the following for achieving a new ACBL ranking: **Betsy Sceiford**, Junior Master; **David Davis**, Club Master; **Alan Koseff**, Bronze Life Master; **Dorothy Rimdzius**, Club Master; **Frank Grzegorzewski**, Adv NABC Master.

Our September Players of the Month were:

New Deal—**Pat Smith**

Grand Slam Newcomers—**Colleen Lamary** and **Jim Deininger**

Grand Slam—**Doris Kirsch**

Double Trouble—**Archie Narducci**

Our October Players of the Month were:

New Deal— **Judie Lamberton**

Grand Slam Newcomers—**Mary Listerman** and **Ann Moffatt**

Grand Slam—**Pat Smith**

The following is excerpted from “Bridge News” by **Judie Lamberton** as published in the Erie Times News Sunday Paper. My sincere thanks to her for letting me use her column.

Thanks to Chairwoman **Peggy Weibel**, her assistants **Eileen Cutri**, **Lois DiPlacido**, **Elaina Dylewski** and others who helped make the Great Lakes Sectional a success. **Shirley Irish** and **Marc Sylvester** tied for winning the most master points.

The North American Pairs were held in Erie on October 5 and 6. **Francis Tseng** and **Jim Davis**, both of Erie, came in fourth in Flight B. **Frank Grzegorzewski** and **David Brunton** made Erie proud by taking first place in Flight C and qualifying for the final round of North American Pairs to be held in Dallas.

Congratulations to **Jim Davis** and **Judie Lamberton**, who won the **Helen Larabee** Trophy Game at the Erie Bridge Club on October 21.

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 EBA, 1221 Grant Ave. You don't need a partner. Cost is \$5 per session. Call **Judie Lamberton**, 838-7637, for details.

## Akron Alert by *Jim Sullivan*

**Holiday Parties** - The **Akron Unit** will hold its **Holiday Party at 6 PM Friday, December 13 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. At 7 PM there will be a **STaC Game** that will award

Silver Points. The winners from this game receive more Masterpoints if they place in the District Overall for that session. . Pre-registration is requested, but not required, so that pair assignments can be set up in advance. For more information contact **Susan Bedall** at 330-864-9396.

Other Christmas or Holiday Parties will also be held at the individual Clubs. Check with the Managers at your Clubs and read the Akron Calendar/Newsletter for more information about these parties.

**STaC Games** – Many clubs will be holding STaC Games during the week of December 9 thru 15. Plan to play in these games and maybe you can win some of the big Masterpoint awards. The winners from these game 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.

**2014 Mentor/Mentee Program** - The Mentor/Mentee program will begin its 8th 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 their 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 their Bridge Game can sign up to be a Mentor. Mentor/Mentee can sign up as a pair or contact Carolyn Sullivan to be matched. **The Mentor/Mentee fee will be \$3 each for all 2014 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](mailto: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. All of the games will have pre dealt hands with hand

records and automatic scoring. If you need a partner or more information, contact **Jim Sullivan** at [sullivan01@aol.com](mailto:sullivan01@aol.com) or 330-659-4707. The schedule is:

Dec. 6 - 12:30 is a Unit Championship Game.

Dec. 13 – 6:00 is the Annual Christmas Party. The STaC Game, where you can win those elusive Silver points won't begin until about 7:00 in order to allow time for socializing.

Dec. 20 - 7:30 is a Club Championship Game.

Dec. 27 – No Game, Holiday Weekend.

Jan. 3– 12:30 is a Unit Championship Game.

Jan. 10 – 12:30 is a Unit Championship Game.

Jan. 17 – 12:30 No Game, Independence Regional.

Jan. 24 – 12:30 is a Grass Roots FUND Fame.

Jan 31 - 12:30 is a Unit Championship Game.

Feb. 7 –12:30 is a Unit Championship Game.

**2012 Sectionals** - The Akron Sectionals for the year 2013 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 Chairpersons **Rick Roberts** and **Jim Fasnacht** and the many volunteers who made these tournaments successful.

**Springtime Sectional March 14-16, 2014** - The location is the **Quirk Center** at 1201 Grant Avenue, Cuyahoga Falls, 44223.

## **Pittsburgh Posting by Fran Prus**

As we go to press, we've just completed our very successful Fall Sectional! Many thanks to all who contributed, especially co-chairs **Barb Weinstein**, **Arlene Cullen** and **Ron Franck**. 285 members brought home silver masterpoints, with **Ken** and **Barb Bergman** each bringing home 21.64 masterpoints and their teammates **Jane Marshall** and **Ron Franck** not far behind with 20.76. If you are still interested in earning more silver points, STaC week is being observed at your local clubs the week of December 9-15. The unit is sponsoring a special team game 11 AM on Sunday December 15 at the

Glenshaw Moose that includes breakfast and lunch. Reservations must be made in advance so gather your team and call **Ken** or **Barb Bergman** at (724)935-4591 with your team slate.

Another special game is being held on December 6, with dinner being served at 6 PM in Wilkins Twp. It is the Unit 142 Annual Holiday Party. Grab a partner and bring an appetizer or dessert to add to the festivities and join in the celebration!

The month of October saw four new club games added (surely due to the high demand)! Please make a point of scheduling a game or two at any of the following additional venues: Temple Sinai, Monday evenings at 7 PM; Sewickley Hills Monday Night Bridge Club, Borough Bldg, 349 Magee Rd, 6:30 PM; 20<sup>th</sup> Century Club Luncheon Game, 4201 Bigelow Blvd., Tuesdays at 11 AM; and the Sewickley Hills Thursday Evening Bridge Club, Borough Bldg., 349 Magee Rd, 6:30 PM.

October was also the time of year for our Annual Pro-Am Charity game. Nearly 100 pairs donated over \$2700 for Alzheimer's research. An outstanding job of planning and hosting this event was undertaken this year by **Jane Marshall**, **Marcella Retetagos** and **Sandra Spear-Brand**. I'm certain that everyone in attendance is looking forward to next year's event.

Unit 142 will be well represented in the North American Pair games to be held in Dallas, Texas in March. Flight A qualifiers are **Frank Cymerman** (with **Ken Kranyak**), and **Mary Paulone Carns** and **Bernie Fudor**. Flight B qualifiers are **Karen Bock** and **David Collura**, and **James Gray** and **Wayne Obitz**. Congratulations and best wishes for continued success at the Nationals.

Our sincere sympathy to the families of **Jim Wilde**, **Francie Hausman** and **Larry Marrassino**.

## **Whistfully Yours by *Bev Carter***

If you haven't checked out our website lately, you are in for a treat. Programming guru **Bill Hogsett** is busy bringing us into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. When you click on the "Tournament" link, you will find the results of all recent tournaments complete with masterpoint results and hand records with analysis of how each hand should have been bid, played and defended. If you click on the "Announcement" link, it will tell you who did what, where and when. More improvements and changes are being worked on and will be available soon. Our thanks to Bill for putting in the time and effort to make this one of the finest websites in the bridge world.

Our very popular **STaC Swiss Team** game will be held on **Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>** at the Solon Senior Center, 35000 Portz Pkwy, in Solon. It is being combined with the Unit's Holiday Christmas Party so the desserts should be fantastic. A great dinner buffet is also in the works. To register your team in advance, contact **John** or **Judy Spooner** 440-238-2846 or by email at [johnbspooner@yahoo.com](mailto:johnbspooner@yahoo.com). Cost to enter is \$24 per person for both sessions, which includes breakfast, dinner and a dessert buffet. Donations of your favorite desserts are most welcome.

Plan now to play at our upcoming **Regional** to be held at the Holiday Inn, Rockside Road, in Independence Ohio. Dates are January **15<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014**. Click on [whistclub.org](http://whistclub.org) under Rock N' Roll Regional "results" button for flyer.

Congratulations to **Ellie Sanow** who became a Life Master in October.

Would love to hear from you folks at our local clubs about the happenings going on at your games.....high scores, funny stories, great and terrible hands, etc. etc. etc. Just email me at [bcarter@zoominternet.net](mailto:bcarter@zoominternet.net) at any time and I will make sure to pass them on. We always can find out what goes on at our major events from the results posted on the website, but local stories hardly ever get told, so.....send them to me to see them in print also.

**OK,,,,,,,,,,,,,humor time:**

- To play good bridge, you need skill and imagination, and also to be a bit of a con artist.
- Universal Laws of Bridge:
  1. Whatever you bid is wrong
  2. When your opponent makes a bad bid, it works out well for them.  
When you make a bad bid it also works out for them
  3. The probability of a bad trump break increases in direct proportion to how high you bid, whether you are doubled and whether or not you are vulnerable. Corollary: If you bid game, trumps don't split. If you don't bid game, they do.

# RECENT TOURNAMENT RESULTS

**District 5 NAP Finals, Erie, PA, October 5-6, 2013**

<http://www.d5bridge.com/Results/13NAOP.htm>

**Buckeye State Sectional, Garfield Heights, OH,  
November 1-3, 2013**

[http://www.bridgeresults.net/cal\\_list.cgi?trnid=34](http://www.bridgeresults.net/cal_list.cgi?trnid=34)

**Pittsburgh Fall Sectional, Pittsburgh, PA,  
November 8-10, 2013**

<http://web2.acbl.org/tournaments/results/2013/11/1311046.htm>



**HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!!!!!**