



The Fifth Column

February, 2016

Upcoming Tournament Calendar

FEBRUARY 2016

- 20-21 President McKinley Sectional, Canton OH **Cancelled**

MARCH 2016

- 11-13 Akron Sectional [Information](#)

APRIL 2016

- 1-3 Titusville Seven Cities Sectional [Information](#)
- 8-10 Buffalo Spring Sectional [Information](#)
- 8-10 Cleveland Ohio Masters Sectional
- 8-10 Pittsburgh Spring Sectional
- 30-May 1 District 5 GNT Final - All Strats - [Information](#)

Deadlines for Columns and Tournament Information

Send items to:
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April Issue - March 15
June Issue - May 15
August Issue - July 15

Ann McGilvery Award

It's time to nominate possible recipients of the Ann McGilvrey Award!

This award honors a District 5 player, or in some cases a pair, who epitomize(s) ethical behavior and good sportsmanship at the bridge table. On December 8, 1973 the District V bridge community suffered the loss of Ann Lytle McGilvrey, Ralph Vichill and Lee Caito in a tragic boating accident. In honor of Ann's memory, and her reputation as one who exemplified the highest standards of sportsmanship and ethical behavior at the bridge table, the Board of Directors of District V instituted the Ann McGilvrey Award. It is presented at the May Regional each year to a player or partnership who reflects those same positive qualities. These recipients are not chosen on the basis of service or bridge ability. Only past winners are invited to participate in the selection process. Typically the selection committee will look for someone who has established a district-wide reputation for active ethics and good manners. Email submissions are preferred (marcsylvester@hotmail.com), but paper submissions are also accepted: Marc Sylvester, 12330 Culbertson Drive, Edinboro, PA 16412.

TO BE CONSIDERED, SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 15, 2016!!!!

Year (if known)	Recipient
2015	Gladys Martin
2014	Sharon Robertson
2013	Barb Grzegorzewski
2012	Ron Franck
2011	Lynn Rafferty
2010	Pat Smith
2009	Susan Stark
2008	Bernie Fudor
2007	Peter Grover
2006	Ernie Retetagos
2005	Jim Reeve
2004	Pat Rasmus
2003	Sandra Fleischman
2002	Alice Williams
2001	Jim Zimmerman
2000	Mary Paulone Carns & Howard Lebow
1999	Roni Gitchel & Tom Wolstoncroft
1998	Alice Lind
1997	Jan Assini & Nomi Connell
1996	Sharon Fairchild
1995	Dick Early

1994	Joe Dragoun
1993	Marvin Melamed
1992	Judi Sonon
1991	Arthur Goldsmith
1990	John Toy
1988	Richard Fleischman
1986	Elmer Schwartz
1983	Gail Carns
1975	Grace Moore
1974	William Babb
Year Uncertain	Kay & Richard Barbaris
Year Uncertain	Irene & Jeff Darrow
Year Uncertain	Robert Freedman & Jim Mathis
Year Uncertain	Harry Ganelin
Year Uncertain	Julia Halloran
Year Uncertain	Keyla Lawton
Year Uncertain	Fred Sorensen
Year Uncertain	Woody Van Court
Year Uncertain	Joyce Wade
Year Uncertain	Yik Young

AKRON ALERT *BY JIM SULLIVAN*

Fall 2015 IMP League—The winners of the Fall session that ended in November were:

A 1st Mike & Jayne Stahr, Jill Smith, Rick Trogdon

2nd Ron & Susan Manne, Wayne Ward, Mary Spooner

3rd Gladys Martin, Mina Ronen, Bob Ryan, Jim Fasnacht, Michael Biamco

4th Jim Sullivan, Rose Cassmer, George Grant, Beverly Ganim

B 1st Ken & Wendy Gibson, Indira & Subash Agarwal

2nd Peg Miemeyer, Nancy Evans, Ashok & Bharati, Don & Helen Brock

3rd Jim Pivarski, & Mary Lou Vermerris, Mike Marks, & Larry Rosenthal

4th Georgia Laikos, Duane Smith, Lewis Sage, Keith Klafehn, Shirley Kmet

Congratulations to all of the winners. Another IMP League is planned for next fall.

Springtime Sectional March 11-13 - 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 Stratified 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, April 24.** 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 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. 5 – 12:30 A Unit Championship Game

Feb. 12 – 12:30 A Unit Championship Game

Feb. 19 – 12:30 A Unit Championship Game

Feb. 26 – 12:30 A Unit Championship Game

Mar. 4 – 12:30 A Club Championship Game

Mar. 11 – No Game Akron Sectional at the Quirk Center

Mar. 18 – 12:30 A Unit Championship Game

Mar. 25 – No Game Good Friday

Apr. 1 – 12:30 A Unit Championship Game

Apr. 8 – No Game Parma Sectional

Apr. 15 – 12:30 A Club Championship Game

Whistfully Yours by Bev Carter

We will be electing 4 new board members at our Spring Sectional in April. If you or you know someone who would like to become a member of our board, please contact **Bill Hogsett, 216-692-2184 or by email at bhogsett@gmail.com**. Board members look out for the good of our Unit by listening to the suggestions, complaints and comments of its members. By doing so in the past, we have initiated 0-229r, 0-499r, Master/Future Master events, held an annual membership game and dinner, which by the way will be coming up in May, changing the strats at our Sectionals to better accommodate our newer players, also changing the times to better accommodate everyone, seeking common area locations to host our tournaments, arranging for our team league location and structuring the event, etc. etc. etc. Being a board member only means meeting about once a month (dinner is provided), usually prior to the start of our Vichill league or during a break at the Regional, or at a common local club location and last about an hour, so it is no hardship to anyone to attend a meeting.

If you don't plan to attend our Spring Sectional, you may request an **absentee ballot** by contacting **Bev Carter, 330-722-8214 or by email at becarter@zoominternet.net** prior to the start of the Sectional.

Not sure if you've heard about the new Masterpoint rankings that were initiated this January. ACBL has included new categories of **Ruby** and **Sapphire** for those of us who are stuck between Silver, Gold or Diamond Life Master. The new **Ruby** rank is for players with 1500 to 2499 points and requires 300 colored points (red, silver, gold, platinum). **Gold** remains the same with a new requirement of 500 colored points. To reach **Sapphire** you need 3500 points of which 700 must be colored with at least 350 gold or platinum. But don't panic!!! These new requirements are in effect after certain dates: if you are a Member who became a Life Master prior to January 1, 1990 you are exempt from the pigmented point requirements for this rank. Each player who has attained the rank of Life

Master as of December 31, 2011, will not have to fulfill the pigmented point requirements for their next rank advancement. After attaining their first rank after January 1, 2012, all players will be required to fulfill the pigmented point requirements for subsequent rank advancement (this also applies to the new ranks added in 2015). For example, a current Silver Life Master on December 31, 2011 would retain the current requirements for Gold Life Master, would not have any pigmented requirements for Ruby Life Master, but would need to fulfill the new requirements for Sapphire and Diamond Life Master.

Our January Regional is now a thing of the past (results can be found by going to our website, **whistclub.org**) so we are looking forward to the Akron and Canton Sectionals as well as our own Spring Sectional. Dates and event information can be found by looking on our website under the Event category. Hope to see you there.

Classes have just begun in Middle Schools in our Unit and we are in need of players who would like to help out. Class meets just once a week at a local school from now till the May Regional for about one hour a day. **If you would like to volunteer** to help out at any of these schools, or start a program at a school in your area, please **contact Doug** at **440-356-2825**. It has been proven that the students who participate in this program test out significantly higher in all areas of scholastic education than those who don't.....except in language (go figure that one???) so it has proven to be a very worthwhile endeavor—one your local junior high should be participating in. Doug is willing to go to any school you suggest and present the program to the school officials and board of education upon request.

Now it's **Humor Time:**

- There has never been an addiction with the grip of bridge...unless it is alcohol and, of the two, you hear of reformed alcoholics, but who has ever heard of a reformed bridge player???
- Did you know that: Whist led to Bid Whist, which led to auction bridge, which led to contract bridge, which led to duplicate bridge, which led to murder, divorce, suicide, mayhem and other social evils.

- Did you know that the phrase “What would have happened if you.....” among bridge players is a phrase that generally means.....You idiot, why didn't you.....”
- And lastly.....a comment by Barry Crane “partner, please don't put cards in my hand because I won't have them.” How true is that!!!!

UNIT 229 NEWS *BY LOIS PORTER*

Happy 2016 to all and may your bridge games be the best ever!

The Unit 229 Christmas party was a huge success at Connequenessing Country on December 5. **David Ruppert** and **Alan Leaver** were first with a 61.86% game and **Jan Metcalfe** and **Carol Kinney** were 3rd with a 58.57%. Thanks to **Jane Crowley** and her committee for making it so special. She followed this up with an Ellwood City Christmas party at the Creekside Commons on December 7 during SRAC week. Again the food was great and **Pat Wilde** and **Alan Leaver** were 1st with a 65.07% game placing them 2nd in the District. **John Samarco** and **Jim Wheeler** placed 4th in the District with a 63.78% game.

In Zelienople, **David Ruppert** and **Alan Leaver** tied with **Barbara** and **Ken Bergman** for 1st with a 67.26% game. They were tied for first for Tuesday Evening small games. On Wednesday in New Castle **George Cross** and **jane Crowley** were 1st in the District for small games with a 63.54% game. STAC week is always a fun week!

Butler Bridge Club had a wonderful Christmas dinner and game at the Butler Country Club. **Lorraine Worsley** was a wonderful hostess. **Yvonne Coursen** and **Alex Bealles** came in first with a 64.42% game and **Hazel Allen** and **Barbara Walwik** 2nd with a 62.28% game

We had two 70%+ games in the Unit. **Alex Bealles** and **Lynn Rafferty** a 71% game in New Castle and **David Ruppert** and **Alan Leaver** a 73.96% game in Zelienople. Congratulations!!!!

In the Unit game on January 2, **Pat Wilde** and **David Ruppert** were first with a 65.43% game. We welcome all to our Unit games held at 4:00 PM. The food and company are great at the YMCA in New Brighton. **David Ruppert** is now president and **Lois Porter** is Vice-President of Unit 229. Please contact them if you have any questions and contact **Pat Wilde** if you need a partner at 724-774-8177.

We are sorry to report that a wonder bridge player and person, **Barbara Norante** passed away on December 23, 2015. She will be sorely missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her. A memorial service will be held March 12, 2016. Here is a link to her obituary: [Barbara Norante Obituary](#)

Chuck Weber Sr. is celebrating his 98th birthday this January. He and his son play in the Zelenople game and make a fine pair. His son was 10 days old when he went off to war in 1943 to serve in the Army in France, Germany and Belgium. He served with the 2nd Field Artillery Observation Battalion. After the service he returned to Ellwood City and then to Matthews Conveyor Company in Danville, Kentucky. He resides in the Passavant Community and has been active in the bridge games and has helped **Jane Morrison** in her teaching classes. Happy Birthday, Chuck, and many more bridge games in the future.

Please contact me if you have any news for this column-Happy New Year!

BRIDGE IN BUFFALO BY HOWARD FOSTER

Unit 116 held its Annual Meeting on December 6, combining business and pleasure. A new venue, Rescue Fire Hall in North Tonawanda, was comfortable and welcoming. Twenty-one tables of players enjoyed a delicious chicken barbeque along with a lively afternoon of bridge orchestrated by **Brian Meyer**. The game was preceded by various business reports and a Board election. Newly elected Board members were **Carol Bedell, Jim Gullo and Betty Metz**. Kudos and thanks were offered to outgoing members **Liz Clark, Sue Neubecker and Larry Soong** for

their many contributions to the bridge community. **Linda and Paul Zittel**, who had arranged for the lunch as well as numerous other services throughout 2015, were celebrated as the Unit's Volunteers of the Year.

At its first meeting, the new Board elected its officers for 2016: **Betty Metz, President; Carol Bedell, Vice President; Howard Foster, Secretary; and Tova Reinhorn, Treasurer.**

After an unseasonably warm autumn and early winter, things returned to normal as the Unit's first event for 2016, the STAY WARM Winter Sectional, approached. In addition to three days of bridge in an always comfortable setting – Main-Transit Fire Hall in Amherst – players get to enjoy the usual breakfast treats, plus hot fudge sundaes on Friday and **Jim and Elaine's** famous hot chili on Saturday. Co-chairs **Elaine Kurasiewicz and Jim Gullo** worked hard to welcome the Buffalo winter in grand fashion. By the time of the Spring sectional on April 8-10, players will no doubt be ready to wave goodbye to winter.

The next Unit event will be a Pro-Am pairs game on February 28. This will be a "Taste of Buffalo" gathering, with players bringing their favorite dishes and competing for prizes. See the Unit web site for details. There will also be a week of club-hosted Unit games throughout the week of May 15-21.

A number of members attained new masterpoint rankings in late 2015. They are:

Junior Masters: **Margot Banta, Leslie Curtiss, Elizabeth Defeo, Burt Freiman, Kusum Phadke**

Club Masters: **Judy Bailey, John Lyth, Barbara Scott**

Sectional Masters: **Dordy Bales Donaldson, Patricia Haynes, Ruth Nawotniak, Michael Taeger**

Regional Masters: **Val Derenda, Janet Dimet, Jim McClure**

NABC Masters: **Gene Nawotniak, Bill Rich**

Adv. NABC Master: **Ron Henrikson**

Life Masters: **Dave Donaldson, Howard Foster, Joyce Greenspan**

Bronze Life Masters: **Sharon Chang, Howard Foster, Joyce Greenspan**

Silver Life Master: **Judy Kaprove**



**EMBASSY
SUITES**

New Location

Starting in May, 2016, the All American Regional and the Rock 'n' Roll Regional will be moving to the Embassy Suites, in Independence, Ohio!



PLEASE NOTE! CHARITY FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE!

District 5 has \$30,000 available from the ACBL Charity Foundation to award to worthy local charities. Five organizations will be chosen to receive awards of \$6000 each. These organizations will be nominated by bridge players who reside in District 5. Organizations must be 501c3 qualified. Players may nominate organizations by sending a brief synopsis of the mission and procedures of the organization. Proof of 501c3 qualification must accompany the nomination. Nominations must be sent by email to Sharon Fairchild shortsuit@sbcglobal.net no later than April 1, 2016. Voting will take place at the meeting of the District Board to be held in May.

RECENT RESULTS

2016

[Cleveland Rock'n'Roll Regional](#), Jan 13-17, Independence, OH

2015

[Pittsburgh Fall Sectional](#), Nov 13-15, Pittsburgh, PA

[Buckeye Sectional](#), Nov 6-8, Parma, OH

[Buffalo Regional](#), Oct 20-25, Buffalo, NY

[Rocky River NLM](#), Oct 17-18, Rocky River, OH