



The Hawkeyer



A New Look for *The Hawkeyer*

By Terry Swanson

Last Month Jean and Newt Bowers reported they were retiring after editing the *Hawkeyer* since about 1958. The 216 board is finding out just how hard it is to fill their shoes. I'm taking over as editor and will layout the paper but I'll have lots of help with stories and production.

Several talented people from the Bridge Center have offered to help. They include Kathi Kellen who will be writing about some of the interesting folks and activities here at the Bridge Center. Herb Strenz will pose a bridge question and then quiz a couple of local players to see how they'd solve it. Dr. John and Helen Gustafson will share stories about some of the colorful people, hands, and events they've known over the years. Peter Wityk will continue to analyze bridge hands and review bridge books. Margie Brennan will provide information about local point winners. Ann Long will make sure we know about local and national opportunities to shine. Joan Anderson will

share some stories she's encountered as a director on a cruise ship and she and the other teachers will share some of their hints and tips with us. And an anonymous reporter, the Cantankerous Cardmudgeon, will reflect on interesting bridge experiences he's had over the years. Lee Slorah will continue to maintain the mailing list.

If you have an idea for a story, would like to submit a story, or have a bridge question you would like answered, contact me at hawkeyer@bridgeunit216.org, give me a call at 224-1733, or track me down at the Bridge Center.

Another big change for *The Hawkeyer* will be the move from being only a paper newsletter to being accessible either in a paper format or online. This April issue will be the last one that will be mailed to everyone in the unit. The next issue, which will come out in June, will be mailed to people without internet access and be posted on our website, www.bridgeunit216.org, for the rest. The online issue will be IN COLOR!

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Now if you have an email registered with ACBL, instead of a dull black and white printed issue, you will receive an email with a link to the online copy. If for some reason we do not have your email address, please send it to hawkeyer@bridgeunit216.org. Of course if you are really, really opposed to receiving your issue online, let us know and we'll put you back on the US mailing list.

We welcome your input so don't be bashful; let us know what you think.

Hawkeye Bridge Association

Officers

Dee Wilson..... President
Stan Gustafson .Vice President
Mary L Agocs Secretary
Margie Brennan .Treasurer
Kathi Kellen Past President

Board of Directors

2009 Margie Brennan
Rod Burnett
Marilyn Jones
Evie Mintzer
2010 Stan Gustafson
John Gustafson
Kathi Kellen
Dee Wilson
2011 Mary Lou Agogs
Charlene Hendryx
Bob Smith
Harry Swanson
Novice Ann Long

Committees

Advertising: Mary Lou Agogs, Kathi Kellen, Joan Anderson

Appeals: Pete Wityk, Jim Swanson, Val Laing

Audit: Stan Gustafson

Calendar: Scott Riley

Conduct and Ethics: Tom Olsson, John Gustafson, Larry Harrington

Education: Joan Anderson, Harriet Byers, Kathi Kellen

Hawkeyer: Terry Swanson

Intermediate/Newcomer Coordinator: Nancy Wilson

Tournament: Nancy Wilson, Kathi Kellen, Margie Brennan

Mentoring: Nancy Wilson, Mary Lou Agocs, Jim McGinn

Unit 216 Club Directory

Ames

**Heartland Senior Services
205 South Walnut**

Sunday

Jayne Larson 292-5616

6:30 PM Open game

Tuesday

Ray Schoenrock 232-4717

7:00 PM Open game

Wednesday

Andy Terry 232-4717

6:30 PM Newcomers

Thursday

Ira White 292-5616

7:00 PM Open game

Des Moines

Bridge Center

**10190 Hickman Court,
Clive, IA 270-0868**

Sunday

Gregg Walsh 771-4802*

1 PM 500/2000/open

Monday

Nancy Wilson 285-9916*

11 AM Free lesson

12 PM New players 5/10/20

12 PM 1000/2000/open

May-December

6 PM Free lesson

7 PM New players 5/10/20

Tuesday

Nancy Wilson 285-9916*

11 AM Free lesson

12 PM 100/500/1000

Wednesday

Gregg Walsh 771-4802*

(Pat Peterson 225-0712)*

7 PM 300/750/1250

Thursday

Joan Anderson 277-0903

11 am Free lesson

12 PM 20/50/100

(Marge Bledsoe 277-0903)*

12 pm open stratified

(Pat Peterson 225-0712)*

Saturday

Gregg Walsh 771-4802*

11:15 AM Free lesson

12 PM 100/300/500 or NLM

(Johnny Ratcliffe 276-5897)*

12:30 PM Open stratified

BOLD=Game owner

*=Partnerships

Marshalltown

Senior Center

20 E State St.

Wednesday

Larry Parks

641-752-6121

6:30 PM Open game

Ottumwa

Hotel Ottumwa

Monday

Rita Stegemann

641-684-8727

6:30 PM Open game

Pella

611 Franklin St.

Thursday

Bill White 847-977-2380

Hey You!
Yes, You!
Plan to Attend
the
Des Moines Regional
June 29 - July 5
Watch for Details

1983: Unknown Players Capture Crown

Contributed by the Gustafsons

The following article by Alan Truscott appeared in the New York times in 1983.

Bridge: 2 Unknown Players Capture National Mixed Pair Crown

MIAMI Beach, Nov 27—One of the world's great players thought he had won a major title at the American Contract Bridge League's Fall Nationals here Saturday, but found he had been overtaken by some unknowns from Iowa.

The title—the National Mixed Pair Championship—went to Dr. John Gustafson and his wife, Helen, of Des Moines.

Dr. Gustafson is in charge of several emergency rooms and is medical director of five insurance companies. He learned his bridge 35 years ago as a student at Columbia University. He and his wife zoomed past all the leaders by scoring almost 70 percent in the final session.

Garozzo in Second Place

Runners-up, with a score that would usually be enough to win, were Benito Garozzo of Rome and Lea DuPont of Greenville, Del. Last month in Stockholm, Garozzo was a member of the Italian team that lost the world title by a hairbreadth to an American team.

The final standing here were: first, Dr. and Mrs. Gustafson, 855.6 match points; second, Garozzo and Mrs. DuPont, 845.2; third, Mark Itabashi of Rancho Palos Verde, Calif., 814.4; fourth, Dianna Gordon and Robert Lebi of Toronto, 803.5; fifth, Neil Cahn of Shreveport, La., and Allan Falk of Lansing, Mich., 802.

Mrs. Gustafson scored well on the diagramed deal when a defender failed to rise to the occasion. The normal contract of three diamonds was reached as shown, and it was not difficult to make nine tricks. The problem at match-points, was to make 11 tricks.

West led a spade and South won in dummy with the ace. She finessed the club queen successfully, drew trumps in two rounds and cashed the club Ace. A club ruff, a

		NORTH (D)	
		♠A Q 10 8 5	
		♥8 7	
		♦A 10 7 4	
		♣8 3	
		WEST	EAST
♠9 3		♠K J 7 6 4	
♥A Q 10 5 3 2		♥J 6	
♦Q 2		♦9 8	
♣J 9 5		♣K 10 6 2	
		SOUTH	
		♠2	
		♥K 9 4	
		♦K J 6 5 3	
		♣A Q 7 4	

West led the spade nine.

spade ruff and another club ruff with the dummy's last trump left a five-card ending in which West had nothing but hearts.

A heart was led from dummy, and East missed the chance for a good play. Instead of putting up the jack he routinely played low. Mrs. Gustafson took the opportunity to play the nine. She now scored the heart king, and merged with 11 tricks and most of the match points.

My partner is a well-balanced player. He makes up for his inadequacy in the bidding with his ineptitude in the play.

Anonymous

Good Insight, Great Thoughts And Some of My Stuff, Too

By Herb Strentz

Welcome! In this space in each issue, we'll share some thoughts from people who hang out at the Bridge Center. We'll pose some questions each time and invite responses from anyone — including you — and then pull those together in a narrative for our mutual edification and alarm.

For openers, the cast of contributors was rigged to get something into print — choosing people generally acknowledged to be held in a measure of respect and/or affection by the rest of us. So what follows are some thoughts from Joan Anderson, Harriet Byers, Helen Gustafson, Valerie Laing and Jim Swanson. Yes, others were invited to contribute, too — our ranks of esteemed people mercifully are not that limited, and we'll include comments from others in the next newsletter.

But Joan, Harriet, Helen, Val and Jim took the time to respond this time around — Joan even reporting in from what she said was the basement of a mall in Rio. They were asked to comment about various bidding conventions — the good, bad and ugly — and to talk about tempo in bidding. Those topics suggested themselves because conventions and bidding do show up on a fairly regular basis in our environs.

What they had to say won't necessarily surprise you — bridge is a partnership game, for example — but on the other hand may include an item or two you wouldn't have thought of. For example, both Joan and Harriet flagged the “negative double” as the

convention they wouldn't leave home without. For my part, I had taken the negative double so much for granted — much like there being 13 cards in a suit — that it surprised me when Joan mentioned it in her

email. When I asked Harriet to guess what convention topped Joan's list, her prompt response was the negative double.

But enough of the welcome aboard stuff, here are comments from our Bridge Center colleagues.

Joan offered an admonition echoed by others: “There are a lot (of conventions) that are more trouble than they are worth. Good bridge is

about a solid foundation rather than a bunch of conventions that come up once every two years. One convention I would not be without is the negative double.”

In endorsing that, Harriet pointed out that many people at the Bridge Center were playing the game before the modern negative double was invented — that would have been in 1957 by Alvin Roth and Tobias Stone, according to *The Official Encyclopedia of Bridge*. So a lot of people recognize the value of a negative double in bidding wars while some of us just take it for granted.

Harriet also likes the takeout double, keeping the bidding alive and inviting partner to join in. She says newer players often are too reluctant to reopen the bidding when making the third and final pass is an option.

Joan Anderson, Harriet Byers, Helen Gustafson, Valerie Laing and Jim Swanson talk about conventions — the good, bad and ugly.

What's good? Joan and Harriet: Negative doubles

What's bad? Helen: Puppet Staymen

What's ugly? Jim: Leading 2nd best from 3 or 4 small

(Insight cont. on page 6)

Silence and The Art of Being Dummy

By the Cantankerous Cardmudgeon

A cursory reading of the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge shows that the dummy barely has the legal right to breathe.

Some years ago, while declaring a hand in a Chicago tournament, after about trick 8, my partner piped up and said, “I just feel I have to say something—NOBODY but me has the tricks turned correctly!” As declarer and a director, aghast at this outburst, and certain that the opponents would immediately summon the director and demand damages payable only in blood, I asked my partner to be silent. Not this partner, however, when she believed she was right! Again, she said words to the effect that no one else had the tricks turned correctly. After about my third request to *please* be quiet, she did and our opponents appeared unruffled and never, even after the hand, said a word about it. Perhaps they felt I was so distracted in my efforts to quiet my partner that any advantage gained would be theirs! Maybe they just believed her and looked at how she had the tricks turned.

My partner and I did not speak again of the incident until several years later, when she too, had become a director. We got into a conversation about rulings, the Laws, etc., and the discussion wound its way to dummy’s rights. “They are practically non-existent,” said she. “Really,” I said, “how do you know that?” “You taught me,” she replied, “at that tournament in Chicago years ago.” You have to love such a partner! For those who may be interested, and can stay awake while reading more than ten words or so of the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge, dummy’s rights are contained in Law 42.

I’ve long believed that once the bidding starts, conversation should cease, except for proper questions about the meaning of bids, etc. Then there can be no question about the verbal passing of information or other infractions. I’ve also long believed that silence should prevail after you have just gotten a really good result on a hand. There really is nothing to be gained by ‘rubbing it in.’

Probably Shouldn’t Lead from and Ace/Queen

By Terry Swanson

Several years ago, when I was so new at Bridge Center duplicate that I wasn’t sure how to use the bidding boxes, someone talked me into playing in a pro-am game. As luck would have it, I drew Dr. John for my partner. He asked what conventions I played. I told him I played Stayman. He nodded and said he’d like attitude. I smiled and had no idea what the heck he was talking about!

I prayed all evening that I wouldn’t get any cards, and I didn’t get many and didn’t have to play a hand. But on the very last hand, I was on lead. You guessed it. I like to think it was because I was so nervous, but not only did I lead from an ace, I led from an ace/queen.

Afterwards, unlike the limerick, my partner smiled at me kindly and said, “Oh, and you held the queen also.”

I nodded, to embarrassed to speak, and he continued, “Thank you for the game and for coming out tonight!”

In this day and age when kindness sometimes take a back seat to ego, I remember that night. The lesson I learned was way beyond not leading from ace/queen.

*A member who hailed from East Cheam
was heard at his partner to scream
Trump my ace if you must,
bid six with a bust,
but NEVER lead low from Ace-Queen*

(Insight cont. from page 4)

No support for support double
Harriet isn't as enamored of the support double — a bid made by the opener to show three card support for partner's suit, after an intervening bid, i.e. 1D, pass, 1H, 2C, Double. Too often one partner or the other forgets the convention or it runs the risk of getting too high with a seven-card fit.

As for Helen, "My favorite convention is the Forcing Club, however I only play it with four partners - John, Peter, Gregg and Ali - playing Two over One with most everyone else." (The Forcing or Strong Club convention conveys a lot of information at the lowest level of bidding.) "One convention John and I dropped a number of years ago was Puppet Stayman; we have had a lot better results with Smolen (a convention showing at least four-five distribution in the majors in response to a one-no opener) and Garbage Stayman." (A bailout bid in which you intend to pass whatever partner says in a Stayman response.)

"A convention I always say 'no' to is DONT (a defensive bid over NT that promises the suit named and one higher one); I prefer Cappelletti (which can also show two-suited hands) in direct seat, natural in balance. I've found over the years that there are good points and drawbacks to most every convention

and system; find one that is suitable to both you and your partner. After all, bridge is a partnership game."

Jim Swanson says, "One convention I am particularly fond of is 'mini-roman.' That is a 2-diamond opener to show 11-15 high-card points with two 4-card majors and a 4 or 5 card minor suit. I have always had good luck with this bid."

On the other hand, Jim has misgivings about some conventions on opening leads. "Leading second best from 3 or 4 small cards is supposed to help partner. For me, it only causes confusion. I have had many bad results because I could not work out partner's holding when he or she led second best."

Harriet, too, speaks to the need of having a good partnership understanding about how to read a partner's response to your lead. Does it show count or whether one likes the suit or prefers something else? Her preference is to show attitude in playing to the opening lead.

See you next issue. We'll continue one more time with the good, bad and ugly conventions and Val will talk about tempo in bidding. Send your thoughts to herb.strentz@yahoo.com



Word Search

DOUBLE	BID
CONVENTION	STAYMAN
GOREN	PARTNER
PENALTY	SLAM
ROMAN	DONT
SEVEN	HAWKEYER

A	L	G	D	D	J	F	G	H	Q	Y	T	L	N	N	E	P	O	C	V	P
W	E	O	R	K	C	O	N	V	E	N	T	I	O	N	Q	D	S	O	F	E
X	N	R	P	I	D	S	M	M	W	E	M	N	J	S	I	X	M	C	L	N
T	J	E	B	G	F	D	A	T	A	D	L	A	S	B	F	J	A	L	F	A
K	J	N	D	O	U	B	L	E	U	M	S	M	I	S	E	V	E	N	G	L
A	N	M	Y	A	T	S	S	A	R	E	O	O	J	D	S	H	X	C	V	T
N	N	A	M	Y	A	T	S	I	A	E	F	R	E	Y	E	K	W	A	H	Y
D	V	P	A	R	T	N	E	R	P	E	F	J	K	H	V	D	S	U	H	E

Favorite Internet Sites

By Terry Swanson



Bridge-A-Holics Anonymous



If you're an internet junky like I am, by now you've found enough bridge sites to kill a few thousand hours of your time. If you have a site you particularly like and want to share it, send the URL to me and I'll follow up with it in this column. One that I recently found was at www.bridgeaholics.com.

It's bright and colorful and chuck full of information from facts about bridge history through tips and tools to bridge psychology.

Here's a quick look at one of the gems you'll find on the site. "**Infinite Variety** A few dozen chromosomes, each containing a few thousand genes produce a nearly infinite

number of unique human beings. In bridge, four suits containing 13 cards, produce more than three trillion possible hands. Just as we never see the same person repeated, so we'll never see this exact hand again. Is it this never ending source of uniqueness combined with repeating patterns that makes for the fascination of this game?"

Check out the site and let me know what you think. And let me know if you have some favorites you'd like to share. Send to hawkeyer@bridgeunit216.org.



Up the ACBL Ladder (Dec., Jan., and Feb.)

New Members: Helen Hom, Betty Torgerson, Peter Reed, Susan Betsinger, Rosemarie Devine, Marie Walker

Transfers In: William Reynolds, Rita Reed, Myra Waggenpack, Amy Young

New Junior Masters (5 MP): Marianne D Gideon; William E Heng; Susan Jean Lehmann; Helen S Hom; David E Swieskowski

New Club Masters (20 MP): Jerry K Burgess; Ned Jones; Nolan L Rumbley; Mrs Alice E Wolvek; Mr Bill D Leech; Dianne Swieskowski; Bill D Leech; Dianne Swieskowski; James R Rush

New Sectional Masters (50 MP) Judy K Erickson

New Regional Masters (100 MP): Mark Beckwith; Dean H McMullen

New NABC Masters (200 MP): Rick J Hendryx

New Life Masters (300 MP): Deon E Burns

New Bronze Life Masters: Laurie Taake

New Silver Life Masters (1000 MP): Bill Ezell

New Diamond Life Masters (5000): David Stark

Unit Statistics

Total Members = 433	Regional Masters (100+) = 55	Gold Life Masters = 19
Rookies (0-5) = 29	NABC Masters (200+) = 46	Diamond Life Masters = 2
Junior Masters (5+) = 36	Life Masters = 26	Emerald Life Masters = 1
Club Masters (20+)= 65	Bronze Life Masters = 66	Platinum Life Masters = 0
Sectional Masters (50+) = 47	Silver Life Masters = 39	Grand Life Masters = 2

Bridge at Merrill Middle School

By Kathi Kellen

The Merrill School program for 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students was started in the fall of 2008 at the request of Michael Stamper, the PTA president, and Alex Hanna, Merrill principal. Michael had seen an interview with Bill Gates and Warren Buffet and they talked about their interest in Bridge.

Michael contacted Nancy Wilson and the local website about his interest in starting Bridge at Merrill School. Brian Kelly and I had been working on a project to get Bridge into the area High Schools, with no success. So Nancy, Brian, and I met with Mike to discuss the program. Tuesdays after school was the time slot for the classes designated by the school, so Brian and I decided to teach the classes. Merrill promoted the classes. I recruited Harry and Terry Swanson, Susan Seitz, and Jan Kerrigan who went with me to the school during lunch in early December and had interested students to a room to play some cards. We found the students excited, well-mannered, interested, smart and looking for a challenge.

We had 22 preenrolled and 3 students who signed up late or just showed up for the class. I was thrilled with that much interest. With that many students we needed help so I recruited volunteers. Betty and Stan

Gustafson have been extremely helpful because they attend every week, make up the boards for the students, prepare review materials and mentor the students. Others mentors are Jane and Paul Hogan, Ann Long,



Hanne Gaukel, Merrill Middle School Student studies a bridge hand!

Jim McGinn, Herb Strentz, and as substitutes, Bonni Newton and Harry and Terry Swanson. We have one mentor per table. With only 1 hour a week and a goal to get keep the students playing at least 45 minutes of that hour, much of the teaching is done by the mentors as the students play.

The school is supportive of continuing the program this year and start again next fall.

While so far, this article is

about us in the Bridge Community, the real story is about the students. I find the students fun and energetic which makes it a challenge to most of us seniors. I asked the students to jot down a few things about their bridge experience and here they are.

“I think Bridge is fun, but challenging. Once you get it, it’s easy.” Another student said. “I like bridge because now I always know what people are playing when they say they are going to play bridge.” A third said “Bridge is a complicated game, but once you learn it, it gets easier to understand.”

It makes me wonder if we are talking about the same game. We do have fun, but I didn’t think they were to the easy stage yet. After 6 weeks we have about 16 students (give or take 1 or 2) who continue to come to the classes, about evenly divided between boys and girls. At this time we’re still on opening 1 of a suit bid and responding bids. We played “The Bid is Right” with a token to players who got their opening or responding bids correct. The token entitled the student to a prize at the end of class for each token they received.

Ann Long reminds us that bidding can confuse new players—and old ones too.

Total Tricks One

By Peter Wityk

I am playing in a sectional stratified pairs with a regular partner against a seeded pair. In second chair, vul against not vul, I hold
♠85 ♥J108643 ♦J6 ♣K109

On my right, East opens a 13-15 point **one notrump**. I have a clear cut **pass**. West also **passes** and partner balanced with a **double**. East **passes** and I bid **two hearts**. West now bids **three clubs**. After partner **passes**, so does East. My first inclination is to pass. Opener is behind partner and enough cards figure to be wrong that I could easily go down 200.

However, let's think about the law of total tricks. Partner must have three hearts for the balancing double and maybe even four. Otherwise, there would be a five card suit to bid. I know that 4-2-4-3 is possible, but not very likely. That means that we should have nine or ten trump. West has five clubs and East at least two, possibly three. So, call it 9 ½ and 7 ½ trump for 17 total.

If they make nine tricks, we're down one in a difficult to double three hearts. If we're making three hearts, they're down one in three clubs. Even if they're doubled, 140 still beats 100. It's too close to double and the matchpoint choice is to declare in cases like this. So I bid **three hearts**. This

is followed by three **passes**.

Thus the auction has been

N	E	S	W
	1N	P	P
X	P	2♥	3♣
P	P	3♥	P
P	P		

The 2 of spades is led to the following dummy

♠AK976 ♥AQ5 ♦84 ♣J64

Remember, I hold

♠85 ♥J108643 ♦J6 ♣K109

I have two diamonds, at least one club and a probably heart to lose. They have at least two spades, a heart and at least one club to lose.

Looking at their convention card, they lead low from three small; so I don't know anything about the spade honors or distribution. It could be 1-5, 4-2 or 3-3, but not 2-4. The clubs are 5-2.

We have 19 HCP so they have 21. This means that West has six to nine HCP. The diamond honors are either split or all in the East hand. None of this tells me anything about where the queen of clubs lives.

I don't want to waste time trying to come to my hand and take a heart finesse. If it was winning, the ace and/or queen of clubs are in the East hand anyhow. So, if I'm passing on the heart finesse, how do I play the hearts? Ace and a small one gives me an entry to dummy

to cater for spades being 3-3 or take a club finesse if hearts are 2-2.

So, I cash the ace of hearts, which draws the seven, three and deuce. The five of hearts draws the king, the four and the eight of clubs. East returns the nine of hearts to the six, the three of diamonds and the queen of hearts. Since I can't establish spades with a ruff and still get back to them due to this inconsiderate heart return, I may as well play for a favorable club position.

I lead the 4 of clubs to the five, ten and Ace. West now continues with the three of spades. There's no point in ducking, so I play the king from dummy, East plays the jack and I play the eight from my hand.

Now what is going on here? Clubs must be 5-2 from the bidding. That means that East has the bare queen left. Otherwise West would have won the queen. Why isn't it occurring to either of them to play diamonds? Both of them have been on lead. It must be that one of them has the king and the other the ace queen. That way both of them would be afraid to break the suit and thereby give me a trick that I can't otherwise get. The diamonds must be 4-5 so that West has a 3-1-4-5 pattern and East is 3-3-5-2 holding

(Total Tricks cont. on page 10)

Help Wanted: Volunteers—No Pay, Great Payback

By Kathi Kellan

Currently three people coordinate the Sectional Tournaments. Margie Brennan, Kathi Kellen and Nancy Wilson. Margie coordinates the dates for the tournaments with ACBL and orders supplies that are needed. Kathi produces the flyers and mails them to clubs in the Midwest. Nancy enlists partnership contacts and a coordinator for the food provided by numerous players.

The food at our tournaments is one of the great draws and we thank everyone who brings that special recipe. Nancy also arranges for food during the Swiss Team and the hostess who keeps the snack table organized

and the coffee pots full. If anyone is interested in helping with these positions, please contact the person you would like to help.

Other volunteers who work

Terry Swanson who is the new editor of the Hawkeyer.

To maintain a vibrant organization we continue to need volunteers, teachers, mentors for new players and the school program, and

perhaps a person to recruit and organize volunteers. There are certainly more things we can do to put the Bridge Community's best foot forward in this area. If you are interested in volunteering to our organization please contact Dee Wilson at newilson@msn.com or (285-9916)

Volunteers are not paid—

not because they are worthless but because they are **priceless!**

Without volunteers the bridge unit would be a hollow organization. Players who serve on the Unit Board are unpaid and provide guidance and services to the bridge community. Many volunteers are needed for our Sectional Bridge Tournaments and Regional Tournament.

on a regular basis include: Scott Riley who began doing the monthly calendar in January of this year and

Thanks to all the players who do volunteer to help. You are indeed priceless.

(Total Tricks cont. from page 9)

something like QJx Kxx AQxxx Qx. That's consistent with the auction and the defense.

Could clubs be 4-3 so that I should take a second club finesse? No! If they were, West would have either five diamonds and bid a four card club suit instead of the five card suit, or been 4-1-4-4 and would certainly have tried Stayman rather than the initial pass. Could West have won the club ace holding the queen in an effort to get me to waste the

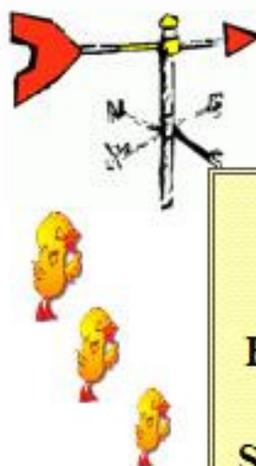
last entry to dummy? Even if that is the case, I can't do anything about it. It's nice playing against people who are reliable enough to let me make such inferences. Well, that certainly simplifies my choices. I call for the six of spades from dummy, East contributes the queen as I ruff with the eight of hearts and West drops the ten of spades. I now lay down the king of clubs. West plays the deuce and dummy the six. I ask East to be a good sport and play the queen. Well, whether she's a good

sport or not, the queen appears. The nine of clubs to dummy's jack provides the entry to discard both losing diamonds on the good spades. This starts a discussion between West and East about the failure to break diamonds.

It's not enough to win the tricks that belong to you. Try also for some that belong to the opponents.

Alfred Sheinwold

Get your ducks in a row and come to the....



Spring Festival April 2-5, 2009

Des Moines, Iowa - Bridge Center

Sectional Bridge
Tournament
Sanction #0904006



New Player Events
 Strata for newer player events:
 A 50-100, B 20-50, C 0-20

Friday, April 3	1 p.m. 99er pairs
	7 p.m. 99er pairs
Saturday, April 4	1 p.m. 99er pairs
	7 p.m. 99er pairs

Events held if sufficient attendance.
 Newer players are also welcome in all Open Events.



Open Events

Strata for pairs events: A 1500+, B 500-1500, C 0-500



- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Thursday, April 2 | 7 p.m. Stratified pairs |
| Friday, April 3 | 1 p.m. Stratified pairs (single session)
7 p.m. Stratified pairs (single session) |
| Saturday, April 4 | 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Two session Stratified pairs
(Single session available) |
| Sunday, April 5 | 10 a.m. Strata-flighted Swiss Teams
(2 session play-through - 2 session fees +\$4 for lunch) |

Zero Tolerance
tournament, play and
have fun.

Ramada Inn (Clive)
1600 NW114th St.
or 1-515-226-9022
\$65./night plus tax.

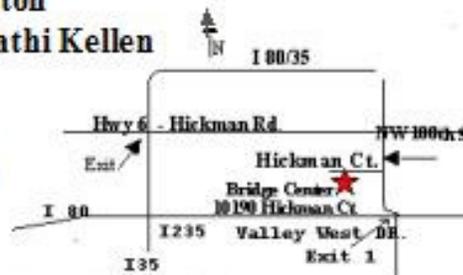
or
Sleep Inn
11211 Hickman Rd.
Urbandale, IA
515-2702424
\$65/night
group #3734
limited selection of rooms

Flight A/X 0-2000 and 2000+
Strata B/C/D 0-200, 200-500, 500-750
Table fees \$7/person/session for ACBL members
and paid up life masters and \$8 for non & unpaid members.

Tournament Director: Ron Johnston
Coordinators: Margie Brennan, Kathi Kellen
& Nancy Wilson 515-285-9916
email newilson@msn.com

Partnerships: 300+ Dee Wilson
515-285-9916
0-300 Ann Long
515-223-9877 ann.long@mchsi.com

For results information visit our web site
www.bridgeunit216.org



Bridge Center
10190 Hickman Court
Clive, IA 515-270-0868
West suburb of Des Moines

2008 Ace of Clubs final Standings for Unit 216

0-5	Mary Stark, Phyllis Kitchen, Scott Riley
5-20	Marilyn, Jones, Carolyn, Nielsen, Dean Ulrichson
20-50	Gloria Ward, Rod Burnett, Marjorie Burnett
50-100	Russ Hale, Bill Friedman, Rick Hendryx
100-200	Kay Alvord, Mike Smith, Alberta McKinley
200-300	Dick Ameen, Gary Oliphant, Linn Robert
300-500	Rae Gene Burger, Cindy Rovner, Earl Rozeboom
500-1000	Pat Reddin, Kenneth Kernen, Betty Gustafson
1000-2500.....	Kay Stowe, Jim McGinn, Judy Wolf
2500-5000.....	Ray Schoenrock, Evie Mintzer, Al Mintzer
5000-7500.....	Ali Dogruyusever
7500-10000.....	Valerie Laing
Over 10000	John Gustafson, Helen Gustafson, G M Prabhu

What Are the Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs Races?

By Ann Long

I have been playing bridge at our club for over five years now and there is so much I do not know! With help from Terry, (Editor's note: That's the blind leading the blind!) I hope to shine a light on some of the things, other people like me, might not know. This month—Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney.

Our unit recognizes Ace of Clubs winners and Mini-McKenney winners each year.

What is the difference? The Mini-McKenney winners are the members in our unit who have acquired the most master points during the year at their respective levels (Rookie, Junior Master, etc.).

The Ace of Clubs competition recognizes only the points earned in local club games. This would exclude points earned in STaCs, NABC fund-raiser events, North American Open Pairs, progressive sectionals and the Grand National Teams.

What are STaCs, North American Pairs ,and Grand National Teams? Ah! Those are topics for another day.

Are there some “bridge things” you’ve wondered about? Are there terms dropped around the Bridge Center that you can’t define? Are there bridge rules or regulations you’d like explained?

Send your questions to ann.long@mchsi.com. and I’ll do my best to run down someone who can explain them for us.

Until next month, have a good game!

When playing bridge, learn from mistakes of others. You won't live long enough to make them all yourself.

Spring 2009 Bridge Mentoring Program

By Nancy Wilson

Program Goals

To help new players feel comfortable playing in duplicate games
To help the mentee

- Gain self confidence at the bridge table
- Understand bridge etiquette and director rulings
- Explore basic conventions and learn how to apply them

Rules and Guidelines

There will be four special mentoring games held on Fridays: May 1, 15 & 29 and June 12
Fees will be \$2.00 for the mentor and \$4.00 for the mentee.

The unit will provide a free lunch starting at 11:30 and the game will begin at 12:30.

The committee will be responsible for partnering mentors with mentees.

Players with less than 300 points, are welcome to participate in the mentoring program.

Players with at least 300 points are needed as volunteer mentors.

Registration forms are on the bulletin board and easel near the front windows.

Contact Nancy Wilson, Program Coordinator, newilson@msn.com (285-9916) or Jim McGinn jimcat@mchsi.com (321-9536) for more information.

Spring Classes

By Joan Anderson

Hints by Harriet (\$5/session)

Mon. 9-11:30 AM

Ongoing

Call Harriet Byers 225-6855

Play of the Hand (\$25)

Wed. 1-3 PM

Mar. 11, 18, 25, & April 1

Throw in plays, timing the hand, when to take

winners early, when to take winners later,

loser on loser plays, recognizing a dangerous

opponent by Harriet, Joan, Jessie

Call Joan Anderson 224-1854

1 NT Forcing and 2/1

Wed. 1-3 PM

Apr. 8, 15, 22, 29

Book by Audrey Grant and Eric Rodwell \$18

Harriet, Joan and Jessie

Call Joan Anderson 224-1854

Absolute Beginners (\$25)

Wed. 12:30-2:30

Apr. 15, 22, 29, & May 6

Materials/Handouts \$5

Call Bonnie Newton 225-6907

The Rule of 20

Newer players, here is a good test devised by Marty Bergen to help you decide if you should open a hand in 1st or 2nd seat. It's called the Rule of 20: To help you decide if you should open a hand, add your high card points to the number of cards in your two longest suits. If the total is 20 and you have 2 quick tricks, open the bidding. ♠K Q 4 3 ♥5 ♦A J 8 6 3 2 ♣7 5. You have 10 high card points, a total of 10 cards in your two longest suits (spades and diamonds), and two quick tricks. Open the bidding! What's a quick trick? Ace & King in a suit=2 quick trick; Ace & Queen in a suit=1.5 quick tricks; Ace=1 quick trick; King/Queen in a suit= 1 quick trick; King/x=.5 quick trick. Try it, you'll like it.

Mark Your Calendar

Unit 216 Sectionals

Des Moines Bridge Center
10190 Hickman Court
Clive, IA

Spring Festival

April 2-5, 2009

Stars of Tomorrow

August 29-30, 2009

Cornbelt

September 17-20, 2009

Hawkeye Holiday

January 7-10, 2010

District 14 Regionals ACBL Nationals

Gopher Regional

Bloomington, MN
May 19-25, 2009

Iowa Regional

Des Moines, IA
June 30-July 5, 2009

Nebraska Regional

Council Bluffs, IA
August 3-9, 2009

Okoboji Regional

Okoboji, IA
October 1-11, 2009

Spring

Houston, TX
Mar 12-22

Summer

Washington, DC
Jul23-Aug2

Fall

San Diego, CA
Nov 26-Dec 6

THE HAWKEYER
UNIT 216 OF ACBL
10190 Hickman Court
CLIVE, IA 50225