



The Hawkeyer

Busy Bridge Season Coming Up

By Dee Wilson

2011 is a full and busy year for Unit 216 players. We have our customary schedule of three Sectionals, a Stars Sectional, medallion party, mentoring program, annual membership meeting and holiday party.

In addition to these events 2011 is our year for a Unit 216 Regional. We host a Regional once every two years. This year's Regional is again held at the West Des Moines Sheraton. A full schedule of games (see page 16) is planned for all strata of players. The Regional begins on Tuesday, June 28 with an afternoon charity game and ends on Monday, July 4 with Swiss team games. A new event has been added this year for players with 0 - 750 points that pays gold points. It is a two session pairs game that is scheduled afternoon/evening Wednesday thru Sunday. Free parking, door prizes and daily hospitality make this event one that you should mark on your calendar.

This year the Unit 216 Grand National Teams finals are at the Des Moines Bridge House on May 1. We also will host the District 14 GNT finals at the Des Moines Bridge House on May 14 & 15. The Unit final is a two session Swiss team game. Each strata plays exclusively within their own flight. The event pays red and gold points. The Unit final profits will be used to fund District final entry fees for first place winners in each flight.

The District GNT final is a two day event Saturday, May 14 and Sunday, May 15. It is a two-session event each day. There are four flights in the District finals: Open flight: 0 - unlimited masterpoints; A flight: 0 - 5,000; B flight: 0 - 2,000; and C flight: 0 - 500 NLM. Each strata plays exclusively within their own flight. The flight designation is determined by masterpoint holdings effective ACBL's September 2010 masterpoint cycle. The event pays gold and red masterpoints. A portion of the field will be eliminated after the first day

March 2011 Highlights

Club Directories	2
Our Bridge Center	3
Logic and Probability	4
Good insights	5
Who's in Charge	6
Bidding Over Preempts	7
Book Review	8
Up the Ladder	9
Naming Conventions	10
Spring Mentoring	11
Easy Bridge	11
Is that Gerber.....	12
2010 Masterpoint Race	13
Classes.....	14
Tournaments.....	14-16

of play. Winners of each flight are eligible to play in the ACBL NABC in Toronto this summer and receive a cash award from the District to compensate expenses for travel to the NABC. There is a sectionally rated silver point two session Swiss team game on Sunday for teams eliminated on Saturday.

Mark these GNT games on your calendar and let's get some Unit 216 teams to represent us at the NABC.

Hawkeye Bridge Association

Officers

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

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2011 Mary Lou Agocs
Charlene Hendryx
Stan Gustafson
Harry Swanson
2012 Margie Brennan
Rod Burnett
Pete Wityk
Rich Newell
2013 Mike Smith
Gregg Walsh
Kathi Kellen
Dee Wilson
Novice Craig Nelsen

Committees

Advertising: Mary Lou Agocs,
Kathi Kellen, Joan Anderson,
Rod Burnett, Jerry Burgess

Appeals: Pete Wityk, Jim
Swanson, Val Laing

Audit: Stan Gustafson

Calendar: Scott Riley

Conduct and Ethics: Tom Ols-
son, John Gustafson, Larry
Harrington

Education: Joan Anderson,
Harriet Byers, Kathi Kellen

Hawkeyer: Terry Swanson

Intermediate/Newcomer Coor-
dinator: Nancy Wilson

Tournaments: Charlene Hen-
dryx, Kathi Kellen, Margie
Brennan

Mentoring: Nancy Wilson, Evie
Mintzer

Unit 216 Club Directory

AMES

Heartland Senior Services
205 South Walnut
Sun. 6:30 p.m. (open)
Jayne Larson 292-5616
Tue. 7:00 p.m. (open)
Ray Schoenrock 232-4717
Wed. 6:30 p.m. (newcomers)
Andy Terry 232-4717
Thur. 7:00 p.m. (open) Ira
White 292-5616

DES MOINES

Bridge Center
10190 Hickman Court,
Clive, IA 270-0868
Mon. 11 am. Free lesson by
Nancy
12 pm (1000/2000/open)
12 pm (100/200/300)
Nancy Wilson 285-9916

Tue. 11 am Free lesson by
Nancy
12:00 pm (600/900/1500)
12:00 pm (100/300/500)
Nancy Wilson 285-9916

Wed. 7 pm (300/750/1250)
Pat Peterson 225-0712

Thur. 11 am Free lesson by
Joan Anderson (Game Own-
er) 224-1854
12 pm (1000/1500/open)
Pat Peterson 225-0712
12 pm (300/750/1000)
Pat Peterson 225-0712
12 pm (20/50/199)
Scott Riley 238-0606

Sat. 11:15am Free lesson by
Gregg
12 pm (100/300/500 or
NLM)
12:30 pm
(1500/3000/3000+)
Gregg Walsh 771-4802

MARSHALLTOWN

Wed. 6:30 p.m.
Senior Center; 20 E State St.
Larry Park 641-752-6121

OTTUMWA

Mon. 6:30 p.m. (open)
Hotel Ottumwa
Rita Stegemann 641-684-8727

PELLA

Thur. 7:00 p.m.
(open/non-Smoking)
611 Franklin St.
Bill White 847-977-2380



Don't clown around,
get to the
Spring Festival
March 31-April 3

Newer Player
As Well As
Open Events

Thur. 3/31—7 pm
Fri. 4/1—1 & 7 pm
Sat. 4/2—1 & 7pm
Sun. 4/3—10 am
(playthrough Swiss)

Our Bridge Center: More Than a Gaming Room

By Terry Swanson

We had a sit-out at a game not too long ago. And as I sat, I looked around and I thought how happy I was to be there. I wasn't playing too well but just being there was comforting. I had come to the game feeling a little depressed because I'd had a kind of difficult week. I'd spent some time working with some women from one of the domestic violence shelters and also some time helping a couple of kids from Iowa homeless Youth. The woman was all alone, moving into an apartment complex where she didn't know anyone. The youngsters had aged out of the foster system and were heading out on their own—pretty much alone.

As I looked around I realized how lucky I was to be part of this group of bridge players—these people, some of whom I only saw a couple of minutes each week as I sat and played a few hands of cards with them. Yet I knew them and I knew that they were a built-in support group if I should ever need them. I knew it because I've seen them in action.

I've seen people come back after illnesses and heard them tell of all the get-well

cards they'd received from their bridge partners—and more than, that from their bridge opponents. I've seen directors scurry to find partners for a woman whose only partner had been a spouse who passed away. I've seen folks stick with aging part-

*I expect to pass through life
but once.*

*If therefore, there be any
kindness I can show,
or any good thing*

*I can do
to any fellow being,
let me do it now,
and not defer or neglect it,
as I shall not pass
this way again. ~*

William Penn

ners who had lost much of their playing edge. I've heard people who'd lost a child say that coming back to bridge taught them that they could smile again, could find some comfort in a few hours of being distracted.

We spend a fair amount of time being sure we have zero tolerance—or if we don't have it, complaining about how we suffer as a result. We grimace as we tell each other

how so-and-so didn't even speak to us when we sat down. We whisper about how rude Xyz is and how she calls the director ALL THE TIME. We say Abc is so intimidating, the way he acts—forgetting that no one can intimidate us if we don't let them. (I like to imagine such folks with no clothes on—not even underwear, if that's what it takes. An old speech teacher taught me that!)

But to heck with all that. That's not very important. At least not compared with all the good vibes that come out of this place. Thanks to all you good folks who think of others, send cards, offer sympathy, visit the sick, and are generally good and kind.

And to the few of you who do have a thorn stuck in your soul, pull it out—'cause you sure look funny nekkid! Tee! Hee! Hee!

Now a couple of smiles:

"To teach the opponents not to preempt against you, you must not only double them, you must also beat them."

"The difference between a brave bid and a foolhardy bid is largely a matter of result."

Logic and Probability

By Pete Wityk

I am playing in a matchpointed pairs game with a strong, regular partner against a pair of Flight A ladies. I am third to speak at unfavorable vulnerability and pick up

♠Q7 ♥74 ♦J82 ♣KJ9832

Partner, as dealer, passes. West opens with One Heart. Should I make a preemptive jump overcall with three clubs? I have 9 losers, unfavorable vulnerability and a passed partner. Those all combine to say no! Therefore, I pass. East responds with One Spade. Partner passes and West rebids Four Hearts. I still have nothing to say and pass. East now jumps to Six Hearts. Three passes close the auction, which has been

N	E	S	W
		P	1♥
P	1♠	P	4♥
P	6♥	P	P
P			

It's my lead. What's it to be? After long thought, I lead the eight of clubs and the following dummy appears

♠AKJ10865 ♥83 ♦K7 ♣54

Partner wins the Ace and then goes into a long study after declarer plays the seven.

After long thought, he returns the six of clubs. When declarer follows with the ten, I win the Jack. After more thought, I lay down the king of clubs. Declarer claims with a statement of trumping high in dummy, discarding a diamond and then drawing trump and taking top tricks. The full hand was

	♠943	
	♥62	
	♦Q6543	
	♣AQ6	
♠AKJ10865		♠2
♥83		♥AKQJ1095
♦K7		♦A109
♣54		♣107
	♠Q7	
	♥74	
	♦J82	
	♣KJ9832	

Post Mortem

Six Spades down one was worth 7 of 7 matchpoints. No one else bid the slam, six pairs took 13 tricks and the seventh took 12. How did I know to lead a club? Well, I didn't. It was a matter of logic and probability.

The auction that we had pointed to two long suits with lots of tricks between them. If that were not the case, responder would have tried Roman Key Card. Why didn't responder use RKC? To avoid giving the

defense any help? Confusion? I really don't know what it costs or if it really gains anything in the event that a key card is missing.

In any event, that means that a major lead is eliminated. Assume that we have two cashing tricks in a minor or one minor trick and a major ace. If we have two aces, it probably doesn't matter, as it's unlikely both of them can go away. Between the minors, a diamond is right only when partner has the AK or the KQ and a major ace. A club is right if partner has the A or the Q and a major ace.

Since partner probably has some diamond length, he might have called Two Diamonds over One Spade as a lead directing bid. I am asking fewer things to be right with a club lead, i.e. the probability of being right in the cases where we can set the hand is higher with a club lead than it is with a diamond lead. Further, if I give up a trick with a club lead, it's likely to be the 15th or 16th winner.

Did you know: After a board has been played, you may not, without permission, remove someone's hand to look at it. If you have received permission, only one hand at a time may be out of the board.

Good Insights, Great Thoughts and Some of My Stuff, Too DIRECTOR, Please!!!!

By Herb Strentz

But I digress.

Long time ago, I became convinced that some university faculty delight in their tenured positions because they can serve on so many committees! At the University of North Dakota, the Arts and Sciences dean gave an award to the A&S faculty member who served on the most committees: a copy of Fyodor Dostoyevsky's *THE IDIOT*.

But, as I said, I digress.

The point is that some people must join the ACBL and play duplicate bridge because they can call the game or tournament director so many times.

This impression is reinforced with each issue of the ACBL's *BRIDGE BULLETIN* when I read Mike Flader's column, "Ruling the Game," and the endless list of misplays and calls for "Director, Please!"

Consider this excerpt from the February issue when a contributor inquires about a mis-bid by—get this—a "player who has been talked into playing many new conventions by a younger and prettier partner."

Forget about the convoluted auction. I did—as soon as I read "talked into playing many new conventions by a younger and prettier partner."

Why did the *BRIDGE BULLETIN* folks leave in that line in the first place? Why did Mike not spell out for the rest of us which bridge law it is that addresses indiscretions based upon youth and appearance?

Perhaps it speaks to the human condition that an inquiry into a bidding auction is put in the context of some apparent Lothario who has been "talked into playing many new conventions by a younger and prettier partner."

Given the tone, my guess is that those "many new conventions" probably included negative doubles and, Gad-zooks!, transfer bids.

Perhaps the letter writer is not as concerned about the auction as much as he or she is by being jilted in favor of a "younger and prettier partner."

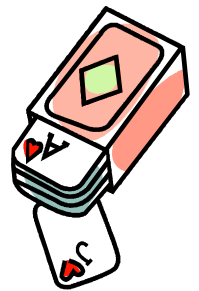
Still it might be worth asking Harriet, Gregg, Dee or

Nancy or others about the secret aspects of rulings that only ACBL directors are privy to. Why else would Mike and the *BULLETIN* not delete the line in question?

Well, at least you now know you will not be alone when a former partner dumps you for someone who is younger and prettier and likes to play many new conventions.

P.S. After using the Bulletin item for fodder for this column, I received a nice response from Paul Linxwiler, the managing editor of the magazine, who is less judgmental than I about ACBL members and who explained in part:

"... I understand your concern about the "younger and prettier" comment, even though I disagree about the decision (mine) to retain it for the final version. I found the comment to be mildly humorous and didn't feel that it reflected poorly on the writer. No doubt there will be many who agree with your position that I should have blue-lined the remark..."



Who's in Charge or Captain of the Hand Principle

By Joan Anderson

In every bridge partnership—like most life relationships—someone ultimately needs to be in charge; someone needs to be the captain. In bridge that captaincy changes with every hand.

Two phases govern the bidding of every hand

- In the Descriptive Phase, no one is in charge. The partnership is just exchanging information about the size and shape of their hands.
- When one of the players makes a bid that limits his hand to a specific range of points the Descriptive Phase ends and her partner becomes Captain of the Hand.

Quiz: Which bid ends the Descriptive Phase?

1. P 1♦ P 1♥ 2♥ Minimum hand & 3/4 ♥
 P 2♥ P 3♣

2. 1♣ P 1♥ P Still Describing
 1♠ P 2♦ P

3. P 1NT P 2♣ 1NT opener has 15-17 points
 P 2♠ P 3NT

4. Your hand Partner You
 ♠ AQxxxx P 1♥ P 1♠
 ♥ x P 1NT P ?
 ♦ Axx 1NT limits opener to a minimum hand
 ♣ Qxx

5. Your hand Partner You
 ♠ xx P 1♥ P 2NT
 ♥ KQxxx P 4♥ P ?
 ♦ AQJx 4♥ says partner has minimum hand (2NT says 12+ points but doesn't limit top number of points.)
 ♣ KJ

6. Your hand Partner You
 ♠ Kxxxx P 1♥ P 1♠
 ♥ QJxx P 4♠ P ?
 ♦ Ax 4♠ says partner has 19-21 points. Do you want to be silenced?
 ♣ Ax

Non-Forcing Bids

By Joan Anderson

“I didn’t think that was forcing.” “I didn’t think I could pass that bid.” Those two problems are probably the ones we face most as newer bridge players. Here are some guides to help you know what bids are NOT FORCING.

Non-forcing Bids by Opener or Bids Responder can pass

- Opening bids at the 1 level are not forcing.
- Rebids by opener in a new suit (but not a jump shift or a reverse) are not forcing.
 P 1♣ P 1♥
 P 1♠ P
- Opening NT bids or rebids limit the values of opener’s hand are not forcing.
- Rebids that raise a previously bid suit one level are not forcing.
- Rebids that raise a previously bid suit two levels are not forcing, they are invitational.

Non-forcing Bids by Responder or Bids Opener can pass

- A raise of partner’s opening bid.
 1♠ P 2♠ shows 6-9 points or a bad 10 points. (Lots of Qs and Js)
 1♠ P 3♠ shows a good 10-12 points and ideally 4-card support is invitational.
 1♠ P 4♠ shows 8 points or less with 5+ spades support and ideally a

(Non-Forcing cont. on page 9)

Bidding over Pre-empts

By Harriet Byers

You're sitting at the table looking at a pretty nice hand and your RHO (right hand opponent) opens with a pre-empt. You are at a disadvantage. They have robbed you of valuable bidding space. What are your options? You can bid or pass.

Bidding has the following choices.

An Overcall with a good suit and a good hand. Think about how high the bidding level is and how many tricks you're contracting for.

A Take-out Double when you are short in the opponent's suit and are looking for a fit with your partner. Your partner will respond to a Take-out Double over a pre-empt just as she would over a one-level opener. She'll jump with 9-11 points but won't bid past game.

2NT with 16-19 points and stoppers in the pre-empted suit. Your partner can still bid Staymen or transfers.

3NT when you have a stopper in the pre-empted suit and a good source of quick tricks.

4NT (Unusual) when you have at least 5 cards in each

of the lower unbid suits.

Balance in Borrow three points from your partner and find a bid if you can. Mike Lawrence says your partner will probably have 7 or 8 pts. (Joan Anderson reminds her student to ESP their partners: Expect Seven Points). If you are short in the opponents suit, it is important to try to get into the bidding if you can. Your partner could have a good hand and holds too many cards in opponents suit to bid. If you are the partner of the balancing bidder, remember to subtract those three points he borrowed from you. Then if you're left with less than six points, pass. Otherwise bid if you can.

If you can't bid, Pass!

Two caveats to this bidding over pre-empts:

Don't let yourself be pulled into the bidding just because they pre-empt. You have to get to the right spot with the right points to come out on the good side.

Sometimes we can catch them speeding. If they are red and you are black and your partner doubles a pre-

empt and you have strength and length in their suit, smile and pass! Down three will get you 800 points. It's a lot sweeter than making 3NT for 400—or even 600 if you're also vulnerable.

And an extra little bonus may be that they will show you a little more respect the next time they play you. That holds true even if you only set them one or two. They'll be a little more careful with you. And after the game when you talk of the hands—and you will talk of the hands, this is the one you talk about!

Finally, the pre-empt mantra:
**Bid strength
over weakness
and
weakness over
strength!**

*Mary held a little hand
Whose points were few and
low.
She bid it very high one day,
Which was against the rules.
It made the others laugh and
play
To see a bidding fool.*

An Oldie but Goodie Bridge Book: *How to Read Your Opponents' Cards* by Mike Lawrence

Reviewed by Bonnie Newton

I was recently talking with Greg. He suggested a book that Mike Lawrence had written. He considered it, the best book he had ever read about bridge. It was Mike Lawrence's first book, *How to Read Your Opponent's Cards*. I am not a great lover of Mike Lawrence so I was skeptical. I had purchased his book *The Complete Book on Overcalls in Contract Bridge*. The only thing I can say about the book is that it is "complete" I would probably be a better bridge player if I actually read the book instead of using it for a sleep aid. I found it to be not a book that I could read but a good reference when I needed correction.

So I was a bit surprised when Greg recommended a Mike Lawrence book. Then to my dismay, I found it readable and interesting. My opinion, first books are always the best. But then aren't all firsts, well maybe not! There are a few firsts I wish had never occurred: Like my first Accident, Hearing I had Cancer, AND THE LIST GOES ON.

Anyway back to the book, Mike Lawrence tells you how to sneak a peek into the op-

ponents hand or how to play deceptively so that they do not get a sneak peak at yours. Lawrence approaches the reading of the opponent cards like a great "murder mystery".

Here is an example of what you will find in the first chapter "Sizing up the Case": (Taken from pages 2 & 3)

You are in 3 NT. Here are your hands

North:

♠Q107 ♥AK2 ♦J1054 ♣1032

South:

♠983 ♥QJ10 ♦AKQ3 ♣AJ4

How would you play 3NT in these three cases?

1. East-West did not bid and West leads heart.

2. East-West did not bid and West leads and wins the spade king and then shifts to a heart.*

**This book was written in the 70's. The lead of the K is from AKJ or KQJ*

3. West opened the bidding with a club and then leads heart.

Note: You have 8 tricks.

Where is your ninth trick?

Ideas:

1. With no clues to go on, your best play for the ninth trick would be to lead the spade 9 and finesse against West's hoped for Jack

2. West's lead of the Spade King tells you he holds the spade ace as well. This time you should lead a spade to the the Queen.

3. Your side has 27 points in high cards. The opponents have 13. If West truly has an opening bid he will have the ace and king of spades . . . lead toward the Queen. Do not lead the 9 and finesse-East just might have the J"

In the next chapter "Finding the Witnesses," Lawrence exhorts the declarer to take some time before playing to trick one. (Taken from page 9)

"Having counted, analyzed, counted some more, reviewed, you should then be involved in some thought processes like:

I wonder why. . .

That's odd . . .

Why didn't they bid . . .

On occasion, you might be able to tell where every missing ace, king and queen is located before you have played from the dummy at trick one. "

(Reading Cards cont. on page 9)

(Reading Cards cont. from page 8)
Next comes Analyzing the Clues. This chapter concentrates on very closely analyzing the opening lead. What does the card and suit tell you?

Conducting the Investigation tells of the first of 2 techniques; finding cards by the sheer act of playing and then making inferences using the clues you have collected.

The 2nd technique is described in Chapter 5 Checking the Evidence. This involves counting-but not your typical counting. But getting a count on the hand by what

was already played and what can be expected from each opponent's hand according to the opening lead, and what was bid or not bid.

Nailing down the Case, chapter 6 tells the reader; "If there is only one way to make the hand, then go for it."

The last chapter is the clincher. It tells us to read our opponents by their play tempo and their attentiveness at the table. It is a great reminder that hesitating to give clues is an illegal

action. That it is important to plan ahead and play in tempo. Lawrence tells his reader how to interrupt hesitations and fast play.

Another great aspect of this book is the quizzes at the end of each chapter. This is a great book to work through with your partner to improve your play of the hand. Hats off to Greg for an excellent suggestion! This book is available in our library in the beginner section. It will be available for check-out as soon as I return it.



(Non-Forcing cont. from page 6)
void or singleton: a "weak freak" hand.

- A NT response over a minor suit (implies you do not have a 4-card major).
1♣ P 1NT shows 6-9 or bad 10 points.
1♣ P 2NT shows 11-12 points and is invitational.
- A NT response over a major suit implies that you do not hold 3-card support for partner's suit:
1♠ P 1NT shows 6-9 or bad 10 points.
1♠ P 3NT shows 15-17 points.
- A bid by a passed hand:
N W S E
P P 1♣ P
1♠
N's first pass limits her values to less than an opening hand.

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

New Members: W. J. Latham, Chris Shelton, Diane Sweet

New Junior Masters (5 MP): Roger Bryan, Anita Madelbaum, William Hobson, Marcia Thompson

New Club Masters (20 MP): Susan Betsinger, Carol Panzer, Ellen Taylor, Diana Houlette, John Houlette, Carol Long

New Sectional Masters (50 MP): Marianne Gideon, Jack Horowitz, David Miller, Richard Sorfonden, David Ward, Peter Reed, Rita Reed, Barbara Schipper

New Regional Masters (100 MP): Claudia Blackman,

Norma Comp

New NABC Masters (200 MP): Bill Friedman

New Life Masters (300 MP): Mark Ravreby, Carol Frana



Unit 216 Friends Who Have Died

Pam Cox

Erna Bevington

Art Erickson

Darlene Eikenberry

Naming Conventions

By Kathi Kellen

In Bridge, if you develop a technique for improving bidding, it becomes a convention and generally gets your name. For example: Jacoby this or that, Stayman, Blackwood, Gerber and others. We thank these men (are any conventions named after women?) for improving the game and making it more interesting. But I'm a literal gal and I try to find words or techniques to help me remember conventions.

My regret is that the person's name doesn't help me much in remembering the specifics of a convention. My favorite name for a convention is the Texas Transfer. It is easy to remember because Texas is BIG so it's a big jump (to the game level) with lots of a major suit (6), that is a transfer after partner opens the bidding with a No Trump. After partner opens 1 No Trump the lowest level transfer is at the 2 level and is called a Jacoby transfer. Perhaps we should rename this little transfer the "Rhode Island Transfer". If any of you come up with a transfer at the 7 or 8 level, we could name it the Alaska Transfer.

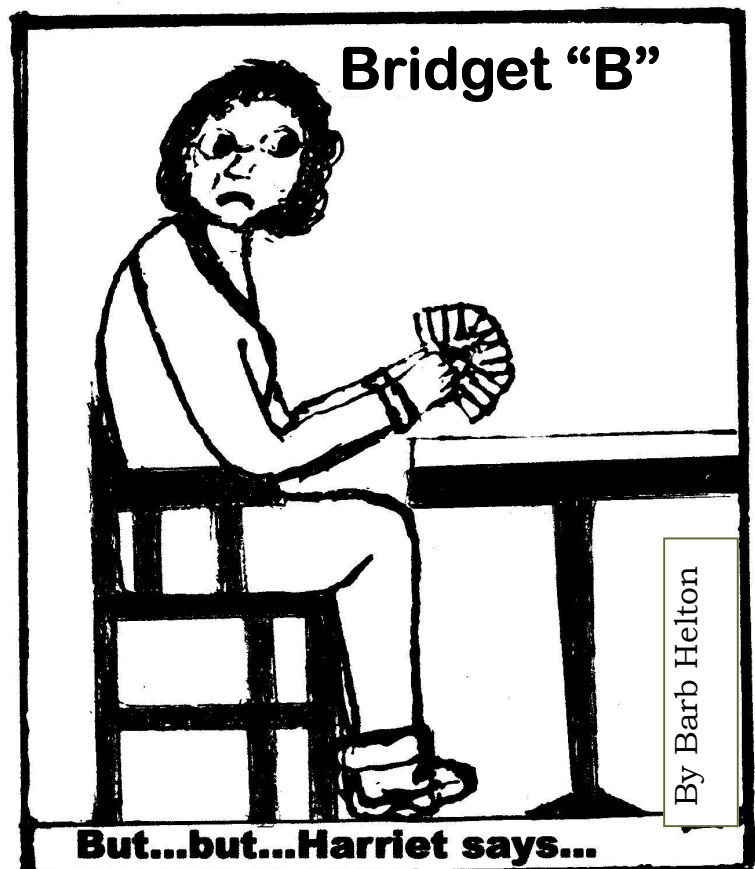
Another convention, Lebensohl, helps find the correct contract after the opponent's overcall your partner's 1 NT opener. I think of it as Slow Shows. Bidding to game slowly tells your partner that you have a stopper in the suit the opponents bid. In other words, getting to 3 NT by a series of bids shows a stopper in the bid suit. A direct jump to 3NT says, I don't have a stopper. Why not name the convention "Slow Shows"? Needless to say, there is much more to the convention but this helps with the first step.

Another convention, Rosenkranz doubles, shows a raise in partner's suit with

an honor in that suit when your partner has overcalled and your right hand opponent has also bid. With no honor, you simply raise the suit but with an honor you double. The convention should be named the Honorable Double. This helps me remember what it's about, that is when I *remember* we're playing Rosenkranz doubles.

If ACBL should adopt my suggestion for naming conventions, they could name it the Kellen system for naming conventions. After all calling it the "naming system that helps remember the convention" is much too complicated.

Some of you may rightly believe that I have too much time on my hands.



SPRING MENTORING PROGRAM 2011

By Nancy Wilson

Our spring mentoring program is scheduled for April and May. If you would like to participate in the program as a mentor or mentee, please contact Nancy Wilson. The registration forms are available at the Bridge Center or you can print one off of our website <http://www.bridgeunit216.org/>

This is an excellent time to get to play with a more experienced player and maybe work on some problem areas in bidding, play, or defense. In addition to improving your bridge playing skills it is a great way to have the social interaction between players of all levels. Most of our life masters welcome the opportunity to get to know some of our newer players and are eager to help out with this program.

We hope you will take advantage of it. The dates are April 8, 22 & May 6, 20. Free lunch at 11:30 and the games start at 12:30.

Nancy Wilson (285-9916) or e-mail (newilson@msn.com)

Good Bridge Manners

1. Make sure you and partner have identically filled convention cards.
2. Don't touch the bidding box until you are ready to make your bid.
3. Know when to alert your partner's bid.
4. If opponent asks you what your partner's bid means, respond with expected minimum card and point totals.
If you are to lead to the first trick, put the lead face down and ask your partner if she has any questions before playing your card.

NEW **EASYBRIDGE!** GAME

By Nancy Wilson

Tell All Your Interested Friends

EasyBridge!

First Four Games are FREE!!

The Bridge Center in Clive is offering four free **EASYBRIDGE!** games and lessons during the month of April to introduce you to this fabulous pastime. The lessons and games are for beginners and people returning to bridge after some years, or social players who want to learn modern bridge.

The **EASYBRIDGE** game will be held on Mondays, starting the first week in April from 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM. The free mini-lesson will be 11:00AM to 11:45 AM. You'll be playing bridge your very first day and meeting other new players in the community. These games and lessons are open to everyone and every age so bring all your friends and family with you and learn together.

If you need a partner, someone will be there to play with you and fun is guaranteed every week! Free parking and free refreshments.

For further information or to take advantage of this free opportunity contact:

Nancy Wilson (285-9916) or e-mail newilson@msn.com

5. Do not criticize your partner. If you make a mistake, just say, "sorry, partner"
6. Do not detach a card from your hand before it is your turn to play.
7. The only time you may ask an opponent what a bid means is when it is your turn to bid. Then you may ask the partner of the bidder what the bid means.

4 Clubs? Is that Gerber?

By Terry Swanson

The other day I heard a player say, "I didn't know if your 4 Club bid was natural or Gerber." I could identify with that because I've occasionally felt that way myself. I know some partnerships never have bidding mishaps but I and mine don't fall in that group.

For the most part, my partners and I play 4 Clubs is always Gerber over NT. Yet the other day we were playing Bridge Baron online when the bidding went

2♥	2NT ¹	P	3♠ ²
P	3NT ³	P	4♣ ⁴
P	P ⁵	P	

¹ Natural, 20-21 pts. (I've heard some people are playing that "Unusual" but we aren't that sophisticated.)

² Transfer to Minors

³ Thanks but no thanks

⁴ Please let me play Clubs

⁵ Surely that's not Gerber

Thank goodness my partner recognized that I really knew we couldn't play NT. I was sure glad he passed. I had 3 pts. with 7 clubs headed by the queen. I went down two, but 2NT was down three. Should I have passed and let partner play 2NT down three? Maybe. I don't know.

After this happened I decided to look up some of the rules for Gerber and discovered I only know a small percent-

age of all its possibilities.

In it's simplest form, Gerber is a four club ace-asking call. directly over an opening no trump call:

One no trump - four clubs
Two no trump - four clubs
Two clubs (strong) - two diamonds - two no trump - four clubs. These are pretty recognizable as Gerber asking for aces.

The responses are

4♦ Shows no Ace or 4 Aces
4♥: Shows 1 Ace
4♠: Shows 2 Aces
4 NT: Shows 3 Aces

John Gerber, originator of the convention, advocated that four clubs always be used as Gerber. This made a certain amount of sense in the days when bidding was less complex. In today's modern world of cue bids, splinter bids and asking bids this is no longer true.

So now some partnerships play a jump to five clubs as Super Gerber in ambiguous sequences. They play that when a four club bid can have two meanings, it is not Gerber (as in my bid?). Instead a jump to five clubs is Gerber.

Yo! Nothing is ever simple is it? Anyway, with all these

possibilities it's good to have a partnership agreement. Here are some suggested agreements I found:

- 4♣ is always Gerber.
- 4♣ is Gerber unless a natural club suit bid has been made. (How do you know if 1♣ is natural or convenient?)
- 4♣ is only Gerber following opening bids of 1NT, 2NT
- 4♣ is Gerber after opener bids 2C then rebids 2N.
- 4♣ is Gerber unless it could reasonably have another meaning (e.g. splinter and cue bids take precedence).
- 4♣ is always Gerber if the first or last bid suit is NT, including 3NT.

Plus I'm sure there are others but those were enough for me to process.

Additionally, there are several avenues to take after the 4C bid has been answered. You can get additional information at the following online sites:

- www.bridgeguys.com/Conventions/gerber_convention.html
- www.pattayabridge.com/conventions/BlackwoodOrGerber_main.htm
- www.associatedcontent.com/article/1838653/the_gerber_convention_for_duplicate.html

♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

2010 Masterpoint Races Results

<u>0 to 5 Ace of Clubs MP Race</u>	
Barbara L Schipper	31.67
Carol J Long	14.39
Pamela K Alvord	11.17
<u>5 to 20 Ace of Clubs MP Race</u>	
Claudia A Blackman	67.15
Craig J Nelsen	47.44
Sharon Calkins	37.64
<u>20 to 50 Ace of Clubs MP Race</u>	
John M Hampel	54.52
Mary M Hampel	52.95
Dianne Swieskowski	46.88
<u>50 to 100 Ace of Clubs MP Race</u>	
Helen S Hom	63.87
Marilyn K Jones	60.89
Bill D Leech	56.52
<u>100 to 200 Ace of Clubs MP Race</u>	
Kay E Henderson	92.02
Rodney L Burnett	68.74
Marjorie A Burnett	65.41
<u>200 to 300 Ace of Clubs MP Race</u>	
William Friedman Jr	61.70
Judith B Potter	43.18
Rovene Langwith	42.44
<u>300 to 500 Ace of Clubs MP Race</u>	
Michael H Smith	71.29
Floyd A Jones	65.53
Louise Dechant	65.08
<u>500 to 1000 Ace of Clubs MP Race</u>	
Bud Stowe	146.79
Paul D Devin	117.79
Toby A White	113.74
<u>1000 to 2500 Ace of Clubs MP Race</u>	
Judith J Wolf	140.70
James W McGinn	130.30
Kay F Stowe	120.32
<u>2500 to 5000 Ace of Clubs MP Race</u>	
Sandra Swanson	168.49
Ray J Schoenrock	146.18
Harriet L Byers	138.54
<u>5000 to 7500 Ace of Clubs MP Race</u>	
David P Stark	147.05
M. Ali Dogruyusever	124.46
<u>7500 to 10,000 Ace of Clubs MP Race</u>	
Valerie J Laing	124.34
<u>Over 10,000 Ace of Clubs MP Race</u>	
John E Gustafson	198.15
Helen R Gustafson	132.15
G M Prabhu	57.36

<u>0 to 5 Mini-McKenney MP Race</u>	
Barbara L Schipper	43.67
Carol J Long	16.17
Pamela K Alvord	11.17
<u>5 to 20 Mini-McKenney MP Race</u>	
Claudia A Blackman	87.38
Craig J Nelsen	65.22
Sharon Calkins	47.40
<u>20 to 50 Mini-McKenney MP Race</u>	
Roseanne Rinderknecht	73.06
John M Hampel	63.15
Mary M Hampel	61.58
<u>50 to 100 Mini-McKenney MP Race</u>	
Marilyn K Jones	87.97
Helen S Hom	83.45
Carolyn M Nielsen	79.85
<u>100 to 200 Mini-McKenney MP Race</u>	
Kay E Henderson	118.09
Rodney L Burnett	105.63
Marjorie A Burnett	102.30
<u>200 to 300 Mini-McKenney MP Race</u>	
William Friedman Jr.	101.81
Carol E Frana	93.43
Judith B Potter	55.86
<u>300 to 500 Mini-McKenney MP Race</u>	
Michael H Smith	125.16
Floyd A Jones	105.19
Susan M Seitz	94.96
<u>500 to 1000 Mini-McKenney MP Race</u>	
Bud Stowe	240.42
Toby A White	171.95
Paul D Devin	147.77
<u>1000 to 2500 Mini-McKenney MP Race</u>	
Kay F Stowe	208.35
Judith J Wolf	190.32
James W McGinn	166.17
<u>2500 to 5000 Mini-McKenney MP Race</u>	
Sandra Swanson	223.50
Evelyn Mintzer	208.32
Jim Proctor	183.60
<u>5000 to 7500 Mini-McKenney MP Race</u>	
David P Stark	368.55
M. Ali Dogruyusever	171.15
<u>7500 to 10,000 Mini-McKenney MP Race</u>	
Valerie J Laing	340.50
<u>Over 10,000 Mini-McKenney MP Race</u>	
John E Gustafson	281.05
Helen R Gustafson	184.32
G M Prabhu	63.90

Classes and Education

Free Classes before Games at The Bridge House

MON 11 AM
Nancy Wilson 285-9916

TUE 11 AM
Nancy Wilson 285-9916

THUR 11 AM
Joan Anderson
224-1854

Saturday 11:15 AM
Gregg Walsh 771-4802

Hints by Harriet

MON. Mornings 9:00-11:00

Continuous \$5/week

Harriet Byers 225-6855

Learn All About Weak Two-Bids

Wed. afternoons 12:30-2:30

Starting April 6th

4 weeks \$20

Joan Anderson

224-1854

- Opening bid requirements.
- Responding to an opening bid.
 - Defensive bidding after an opponent opens a weak two-bid.

Declarer's Play for the Advancing Player

Tues. evenings; May 4-25; 7-9pm

6 week course for \$30;

Learn how to figure out the best play for the greatest chance to make your contract. This course will include: Worse Case Scenarios, Bad Trump Splits, Unexpected Singleton; Increasing your Percentage Play; Best Line of Play, and other exciting topics.

Bonnie's Classes

bjnbridge@live.com 225-6907

Beginner's Evening Supervised Play

Wed. evenings- 6:30 to 9pm

\$5 per session

The Month of May

If you have taken the classes but cannot find the game or the people to play and you need to get some experience under your belt. Bring your own partner or just come and we will set up tables as people come. Come build your confidence at the table. Make your mistakes in this non-threatening environment.

New Bridge Study Group Being Formed

At the Bridge Center

Fridays from 1 to 3 PM

(unless center is otherwise being used)

Everyone Welcome; Come and Discuss

- Problem Areas
- Fearlessness
- Discipline
- Focus
- Passion

More Information

Call Scott at 238-0606 or

Irene B. at 238-5798



Free Parking
at the
Sheraton
West Des Moines

2011 Des Moines Regional Bridge Tournament

Tuesday June 28 through Monday July 4

Sheraton West Des Moines

Tournament Committees

Coordinators

Nancy Wilson & Dee Wilson

Partnerships

Mary Lou Agocs

515-225-2454 or lagocsjr@aol.com

Janice Kimm

515-277-8604 or r2kimm@aol.com

Director in Charge

Mike Flader

NEW EVENT IN 2011

**IOWA POT of GOLD 0-750 Pairs
Game**

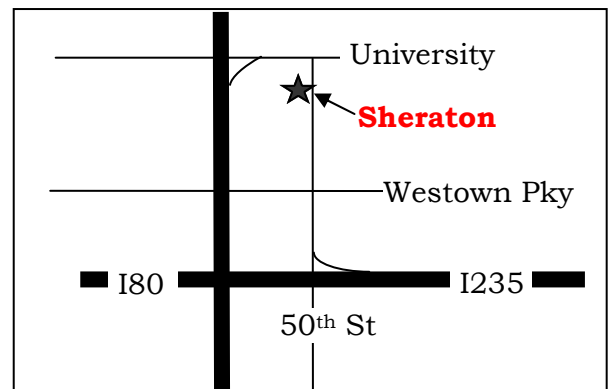
Pays GOLD points

Two session event every day

Wednesday - Sunday

Accommodations

The tournament will be held at the Sheraton West Des Moines at 1800 50th Street in West Des Moines, which is close to the intersection of I-35, I-80 and I-235. Mention the bridge tournament and receive a rate of \$86 per night. The rooms have either a king, or two double beds accommodating up to 4 individuals. Call 515-223-1800 by June 6, 2011 to secure these rates.



Information or Questions

For questions relating to the tournament visit our Unit 216 website

<http://www.bridgeunit216.org>

or call Nancy Wilson, 515-285-9916
newilson@msn.com

Make Your Reservations Online At:

<http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/hawkeyebridge2011>

A ZERO TOLERANCE TOURNAMENT

PLAY & HAVE FUN

2011 Des Moines Regional Schedule of Events

JUNE 28 *****1:30 PM**
 TUES Open Charity Pairs
*****7:00 PM**
 Knockout One 1st Session
 Evening Side Game Series 1st of 6 Sessions

JUNE 29 *****9:00 AM**
 WED Knockout One 2nd Session
 Morning Side Game Series 1st of 5 Sessions
*****1:30 PM**
 Knockout One 3rd Session
 Afternoon Side Game Series 1st of 5 Sessions
 Wednesday A/X Pairs 1st Session
 IOWA GOLD (0-750 Pairs) 1st Session
 0 – 100 Pairs
 Compact Knockout 1 1st Session
*****7:00 PM**
 Knockout One 4th Session
 Evening Side Game Series 2nd of 6 Sessions
 Wednesday A/X Pairs 2nd Session
 IOWA GOLD (0-750 Pairs) 2nd Session
 0 – 100 Pairs
 Open Swiss Teams – single session
 Compact Knockout 1 2nd Session

JUNE 30 *****9:00 AM**
 THURS Thursday/Friday Open Swiss Teams 1st Session
 Morning Side Game Series 2nd of 5 Sessions
*****1:30 PM**
 Knockout Two 1st Session
 Afternoon Side Game Series 2nd of 5 Sessions
 Thursday A/X Pairs 1st Session
 IOWA GOLD (0-750 Pairs) 1st Session
 0 – 100 Pairs
*****7:00 PM**
 Knockout Two 2nd Session
 Evening Side Game Series 3rd of 6 Sessions
 Thursday A/X Pairs 2nd Session
 IOWA GOLD (0-750 Pairs) 2nd Session
 0 – 100 Pairs
 Open Swiss Teams – single session

JULY 1 *****9:00 AM**
 FRI Thursday/Friday Open Swiss Teams 2nd Session
 Morning Side Game Series 3rd of 5 Sessions
*****1:30 PM**
 Knockout Two 3rd Session
 Afternoon Side Game Series 3rd of 5 Session
 Friday A/X Pairs 1st Session
 IOWA GOLD (0-750 Pairs) 1st Session
 0 – 100 Pairs
 Compact Knockout 2 1st Session
*****7:00 PM**
 Knockout Two 4th Session
 Evening Side Game Series 4th of 6 Sessions
 Friday A/X Pairs 2nd Session
 IOWA GOLD (0-750 Pairs) 2nd Session
 Open Swiss Teams – single session
 0-100 Swiss Teams – single session
 Compact Knockout 2 2nd Session

JULY 2 *****9:00 AM**
 SAT Saturday/Sunday Open Swiss Teams 1st Ses-
 sion
 Morning Side Game Series 4th of 5 Sessions
*****1:30 PM**
 Knockout Three 1st Session
 Afternoon Side Game Series 4th of 5 Sessions
 Saturday A/X Pairs 1st Session
 IOWA GOLD (0-750 Pairs) 1st Session
 0 – 100 Pairs
*****7:00 PM**
 Knockout Three 2nd Session
 Evening Side Game Series 5th of 6 Sessions
 Saturday A/X Pairs 2nd Session
 IOWA GOLD (0-750 Pairs) 2nd Session
 Open Swiss Teams – single session
 0-100 Swiss Teams – single session

JULY 3 *****9:00 AM**
 SUN Saturday/Sunday Open Swiss Teams 2nd Ses-
 sion
 Morning Side Game Series 5th of 5 Sessions
*****1:30 PM**
 Knockout Three 3rd Session
 Afternoon Side Game Series 5th of 5 Sessions
 Sunday A/X Pairs 1st Session
 IOWA GOLD (0-750 Pairs) 1st Session
 0 – 100 Pairs
 Compact Knockout 3 1st Session
*****7:00 PM**
 Knockout Three 4th Session
 Evening Side Game Series 6th of 6 Sessions
 Sunday A/X Pairs 2nd Session
 IOWA GOLD (0-750 Pairs) 2nd Session
 0 – 100 Pairs
 Open Swiss Teams – single session
 Compact Knockout 3 2^{ns} Session

JULY 4 *****9:00 AM**
 MON StrataFlighted Swiss Teams
 0 – 100 Swiss Teams

OPEN GAMES	0 – 100 GAMES	POT of GOLD
A 1500+	A 50 – 100	0-750 GAMES
B 500 - 1500	B 20 – 50	A 300-750
C 0 - 500	C 0 – 20	B 0-300

STRATA FLIGHTED	A/X GAMES
A 3000	A 1500+
AX 0 – 3000	B 0-1500
B 750 – 1000	
C 300 – 750	
D 0 – 300	

ENTRY FEES \$12.00 per session
 \$2.00 additional for unpaid or non ACBL members

Don't clown around, get to the....



Sectional Bridge
Tournament
Sanction # S1104002



Spring Festival
March 31- April 3, 2011
Des Moines area - Bridge Center
10190 Hickman Ct, Clive, IA

New Player Events

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

Friday, April 1 -- 1 p.m. 99er pairs
7 p.m. 99er pairs
Saturday, April 2 -- 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

Zero Tolerance
tournament, play
and have fun.

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

Thursday, March 31 7 p.m. Stratified pairs

Friday, April 1 1 p.m. Stratified pairs (single session)
7 p.m. Stratified pairs (single session)

Saturday, April 2 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Two session Stratified pairs
(Single session available)

Table fees \$8/person/session for ACBL members and paid up life masters
and \$9 for non & unpaid members.

Sunday, April 3 10 a.m. and TBA Strata-flighted Swiss Teams
(2 session play-through - \$80/team)

Flight A/X 0-2000 and 2000+

Strata B/C/D 0-200, 200-500, 500-750

(Teams averaged within flights)

Tournament Director in charge of clowns: Larry Brobst

Clown Coordinator: Charlene Hendryx 289-0505
crhendryx@q.com

Partnerships: 0-300 Scott Riley 238-0606

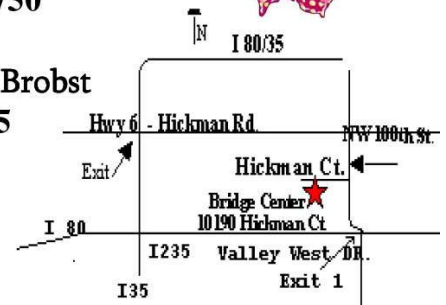
scottriley7@ hotmail.com

300+ Mary Lou Agocs 225-2454

LAGocsjr@aol.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

Motel reservations

Ramada Inn (Clive)
1600 NW114thSt.

or 1-515-226-1600
\$59.95

Mention Hawkeye
Bridge
or

Sleep Inn

11211 Hickman Rd.
Urbandale, IA
515-270-2424

\$79.96

Make reservations as
soon as possible.

THE HAWKEYER
UNIT 216 OF ACBL
10190 Hickman Court
CLIVE, IA 50325

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DES MOINES, IOWA

Mark Your Calendar

Unit 216 Sectionals

Des Moines Bridge Center
10190 Hickman Court
Clive, IA

Spring Festival

Mar 31-Apr 3, 2011

Stars of Tomorrow

August 27-28, 2011

Cornbelt

September 15-18, 2011

Hawkeye Holiday

January 5-8, 2012

District 14 Regionals

Gopher Regional

Bloomington, MN
May 24-30, 2011

Iowa Regional

Des Moines, IA
June 28-July 4, 2011

Nebraska Regional

Council Bluffs, IA
August 1-7, 2011

Sioux City Regional

Sioux City, IA
Sep 28-Oct 2, 2011

ACBL Nationals

Spring

Louisville, KY
Mar 10-20, 2011

Summer

Toronto, ON
Jul 21-31, 2011

Fall

Seattle, WA
Nov 24-Dec 4, 2011