

The Hawkeyer

Hey, Has Anyone Seen Any Bridge Center Phone Books Lately?

By Kathi Kellen

You know, those small purple covered ones. I heard Gregg had them all in his locker! Well, we're getting so organized around here that Dee appointed a committee (Lee Slorah, Marge Burnett, Harry Swanson and Kathi Kellen) to look into our data needs! But then the committee decided there's a larger issue of Bridge Center communications to address. The best way to tackle this issue is to create and maintain a Unit 216 communications data base.

This past year we have had several occurrences that have awakened us to a need to develop a data base of Unit bridge players. These have included:

- The need for a new phone book.
- The cancellation of tournament and regular game due to weather.
- A local player passed away and we didn't know whom to contact about him when he missed several bridge dates.
- The interest in sending the "Hawkeyers" by email when possible and where to send them to snow

birds during winter months.

- The need to clear out Gregg's locker.

The bridge community has for many years relied on the Des Moines Bridge Center Telephone Directory. This has been invaluable in finding a partner for a bridge game. Every few years the directory has been updated and reprinted. We plan to reprint the phonebook when we can get correct phone numbers. The phonebook is currently on the internet at www.Bridgeunit216.org, the unit web site.

Also in the past few months, local bridge players have known one of the worst winters in history. With snow and ice appearing several times a week, the great question often was, "Is there a Bridge Game today?" The general policy has been that games are cancelled if the Des Moines schools cancel classes. This is not always the case though and some people missed games because of the lack of communication. So, to notify people quickly, a database of email addresses would allow

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directors to notify players about a game.

Finally, to complete the database we would like to have your emergency contact, name and phone number, if you want to give one. If you become ill or do not show up for a game, or are taken to a hospital, a contact other than your home phone number will be available.

For these reasons we want to update and expand data about local players. The committee designed a database for this information.

(DB cont.on page 4)

Hawkeye Bridge Association

Officers

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

Board of Directors

2010 Stan Gustafson
John Gustafson
Kathi Kellen
Dee Wilson
2011 Mary Lou Agocs
Charlene Hendryx
Bob Smith
Harry Swanson
2012 Margie Brennan
Rod Burnett
Rich Newell
Pete Wityk

Committees

Advertising: Mary Lou Agocs, 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: Charlene Hendrx, 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
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)
12 pm (New 5/10/20)
Owner and Partnerships:
Nancy Wilson 285-9916

Tue. 11 am Free lesson by Nancy
12:00 pm (300/500/1250)
Owner and Partnerships:
Nancy Wilson 285-9916

Wed. 7 pm (300/500/1250)
Partnerships:
Pat Peterson 225-0712
Owner:
Gregg Walsh 771-4802

Thur. 11 am Free lesson by Joan
12 pm (20/50/100)
Partnerships:
Scott Riley 238-0606
12 pm (500/1500/open)
Partnerships:
Pat Peterson 225-0712
Owner:
Joan Anderson 277-0903

11:15am Free lesson by Gregg
12 pm (0-NLM)
12:30 pm (Open stratified)
Partnerships and Owner:
Gregg Walsh 771-4802

MARSHALLTOWN

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

OTTUMWA

MONDAY 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

Take the road to Des Moines for the.....

Spring
Festival
Sectional

April 8-11, 2010

Des Moines area
Bridge Center
10190 Hickman Ct,
Clive, IA

What Is Your Opening Bid?

By John Gustafson

Forty years ago, I was playing in a sectional tournament with J. Fred Benedict, a very capable player. I held the following hand as dealer, vulnerable versus non-vulnerable:

♠ Void
♥ Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5
♦ A
♣ A K Q 9

It obviously qualifies for a forcing 2 club opening but partner may have some good cards in spades which does not help or a vigorous spade preempt may cause further bidding problems.

In the 1950s, an expert had suggested that openings of five in a major asks partner to raise with an Ace or King in that suit.

I opened the bidding with Five Hearts and J. Fred raised to seven holding the Ace and King of Hearts and no other face cards. Making 7 was well above average.

A loser thinks, "It's up to me." A winner knows, "It depends on us."

Bobby Goldman

Views, Thoughts, And Happenings from The 99er's

By Jerry Burgess

As heard and seen on Thursday the 25th of February, The "99ers" have graduated two more of our proud group to the "Big Room" (possibly out of sight but never out of mind). We are happy to see our friends move upward. The good news is we are keeping our ranks somewhat full thanks to party bridgers who are joining the world of duplicate and soon, we will have the Snow Birds back from Florida and Arizona.

With this new influx of players sometimes it becomes clear that a lesson on duplicate etiquette would come in handy, not just for the new and returning players but for all of us who are playing with "Our Friends". Too often, little things take place or happen at the table that,

among friends, would not be noticed or commented on let alone have a director called. A head shake yes or no, hands pausing once or twice above the bidding box pulling bids halfway out and then pulling out the pass card, grimace on partners face before or after a play, playing a card without declarer calling it and comments on the pluses and minus of one's hand before play starts. All little things granted but bad habits that are overlooked among friends. Except, that at some point, will be an embarrassment in a tournament or other game where duplicate bridge is a contact sport.

Along these lines, the following was overheard at the Thursday Square Table Post Game Review and Wine

Tasting. One of our group had picked up a hand from the board that was already sorted -- ah ha, a passout. The bidding goes pass pass and then our player threw out all caution thinking a one bid can surely be made (ignoring the fact that the hand did not have enough value for any bid) and thereby be the only one to score a top board. It did give a top board -- to the opponents (and a 0 to the fated opener). The moral here, if you pass out a board mix up the hands before you put them back for the next table.

Still waiting to hear my name called at the end of the game -- The Olde 99'er.



(DB cont. from page 1)

The only information that will be posted on the internet is the phonebook information.

Other information will be kept at the Bridge Center or

to complete the form.

Unit or with Club owners for notice about cancelled games.

To collect this data, we will provide sheets similar to the following format, with your current information, at the

Bridge Center for Des Moines area players and mail sheets to out-of-area Unit 216 members.

We will print one sheet per person with the data we currently have and ask you

ACBL #	Title	First Name	Last Name	Address	City	State	Zip

If you do not have an ACBL number, a temporary number will be assigned until you join ACBL.

New phone number information:

Main phone number	Work or cell phone number	Nickname for phonebook

Check here if **you do not** want the phone number in the phone book___ or on the internet___.

Email address

If you do not have an email address or do not want to contribute it, put XXXs in the boxes, Complete all parts of your email address:

Address	@	.

Second/work email if you want us to use it.

Address	@	.

If you want to continue to receive the Hawkeye **by regular mail**, put an X in here _____. (There are generally plenty of copies available at the Bridge Center in Des Moines.)

Emergency contact information:

If you do not wish to provide this information, put XXXs in the boxes.

Full Name	Phone Number	Relationship
	()	

Snow bird Information:

If you have another address for part of a year, please give it to us.

Address	City	State	Zip

What months are you at this address? _____

We will begin collecting this information early this Spring, (end of March or first part of April). Think about what information you would like to provide us, complete the forms and return them to the Bridge Center in the designated box. We can then compile our new phone book

Good Insights, Great Thoughts and Some of My Stuff, Too

DOUBLING: You do your best; you hope it works

By Herb Strentz

In the last issue of *The Hawkeyer*, we looked at a week of play at the Bridge Center in which we and our friends played more than 300 boards and 3,000 contracts. What we found was that contracts were doubled 4 per cent of the time.

More important, however, was that it was clear that the more experienced players used the penalty double far more often. For example, in the Saturday open game, contracts were doubled 12 per cent of the time; in the Saturday C game, only 1 contract in 324 was played under the red card.

So more experienced players doubled more and subjected themselves to being doubled more — all a part of the game and recognizing, as Val Laing says, “Penalty doubles are just another option - no emotional issues involved - by trying to punish someone for bidding and not letting you be declarer.”

“Don’t look for certainty,” Val advises.

“Often neither pair really knows who owns the hand. Competitive auctions are for most experienced players

the most challenging aspect of bidding. They require judgment and guesswork. When your side bids 4S and the opponents bid 5D as a sacrifice, you have to decide what kind of a result you will have at match points if you go plus 300 instead of plus 620 or 650.”

“One short anecdote: A while ago David and I were playing match points against a strong player who bid aggressively to a vulnerable major suit game. My instinct was that he would make it and we would have a poor board, so I sacrificed at 5D, non-vulnerable. We were doubled and went down 2 for minus 300... which was a zero. Had we defended 4S we would have been minus 620, for the same zero. Sometimes you just can't win.”

Both Val and Helen Gustafson spoke to differences in doubling in pair games at match points as opposed to doubling in team games. At match points, an errant double might give you one bad board; in team games, the same double can cost you the match.

“The critical criterion,” Helen

points out, “is judgment... In a pair game with equal vulnerability and both sides bidding, you often double to protect what you would have earned as a part score or game. At IMPs, it generally is not wise to risk a gain of say 200 points — with a successful double — against a loss of 670 if the double doesn’t work out.”

“In both pair and team games as a general rule, with (values in) distribution it is better to bid rather than risk a penalty double,” Helen says.

But as it is said, if your opponents don’t make some of your doubled contracts, you probably are not doubling enough.

Jim McGinn reminds us that for penalty doubles to work, it is helpful if your partner properly identifies the double, which “is probably one of the most useful bids of the game and one that can have a multitude of meanings.”

Your well-placed penalty double is of little use if your partner is uncertain as to whether the double is for

(Herb cont. on page 10)

In Memory Of

We would like to begin remembering our Unit 216 partners and opponents who died. Sometimes, if a bridge friend has not played for a while, we may not learn of her/his death. Please let Margie Brennan or one of the directors know when you learn of such a death.

	<u>2009</u>		
		Homer Hansen	9/16/09
Art Stein	1/20/09	Linn Roberts	11/09
Dee Johnson	6/8/09	<u>2010</u>	
Arlene Hakes	8/5/2009	Kewpie Dorweiler	2/17/10
John Berg	8/30/09	Saundra Wells	2/24/10

Answer to December's Puzzle

By Terry Swanson

Puzzle: On a certain deal North has as many HCP as South and East together; West has as many HCP as North and East together. East has more HCP than South and no two players have the same number of HCP. How many HCP does each player have?

Answer: This is what you know $N=S+E$, $W=N+E$, $E>S$, and $N+E+S+W=40$ (total HC points in the deck)

Substituting $N=S+E$ and $W=N+E$

$$\begin{aligned} S+E + E+S+W &= 40 \\ S+E+E+S+S+E+E &= 40 \\ 3S+4E &= 40 \end{aligned}$$

Substituting: If $E=1$;
 $3S+4=40$; $3S=36$; $S=12$ but $E>S$ so $E \neq 1$

If $E=2$; $3S+8=40$; $3S=32$; 32 is not divisible by 3 so $E \neq 2$

If $E=3$; $3S+12=40$; $3S=28$;

28 is not divisible by 3, so $E \neq 3$

If $E=4$; $3S+16=40$; $3S=24$;
 $S=24/3$ or 8 but E must be $>S$ and 4 is not >8 .

If $E=5$; $3S+20=40$; $3S=20$;
 20 is not divisible by 3, so $E \neq 5$.

If $E=6$; $3S+24=40$; $3S=16$;
 16 is not divisible by 3 so $E \neq 6$.

If $E=7$; $3S+28=40$

$3S=12$ therefore $S=4$; $E>S$

$N=S+E$ or $N=4+7=11$

$W=11+7=18$

$11+18+4+7=40$ the number of high card points in the deck!



The Rule of 11

If you are defending AND your partner is leading fourth high in a suit (as against NT), deduct the led card from 11. The result is the number of cards in the other three hands that are higher than the led card.

If your partner leads the $\spadesuit 7$, the dummy shows the $\spadesuit A$, $\spadesuit J$, $\spadesuit 6$, and you have $\spadesuit K$, $\spadesuit 9$, $\spadesuit 3$. How many spades higher than 7 does the declarer have?

Good News and Bad News

Two bridge players decided that whichever of them died first would come back and tell the other if there was bridge in the hereafter.

Sure enough one of the players died. About a week later he returned and gave his report.

"I have good news and bad news for you," said the recently deceased.

What's the good news?"

There's lots of bridge in heaven. We have intramural games with ourselves and team games with the folks down in hell. We're called the Upper team and they're the Lower team and we always win."

"What's the bad news?"

"You're going to be captain of the Lower team next Thurs.

Lead-Directing Doubles

By Harriet Byers

Certain doubles are intended not so much to increase the size of the penalty but to give a better chance to defeat the contract. They do this by conventionally requesting a specific lead.

I Against 3 NT

1. If your side has bid
 - A. If your partner has bid a suit and doubles 3NT, lead his suit.
 - B. If you and partner have each bid your own suits and partner doubles, lead your suit.
 - C. If you have bid a suit and your partner doubles 3NT, lead your own suit. Partner has help for you
2. If your side has not bid, lead dummy's first bid suit if dummy has bid a suit. (However if dummy rebid this suit and is known to have length and strength, partner's double may not ask for a specific lead.) If the bidding has been 1NT P 3NT X, partner is asking for an unusual lead. Some books say this double asks for a spade lead and some say it asks you to lead your shorter major.

II Against voluntarily-bid games and slams that the opponents reach on strong-sounding auctions a double requests

an unusual lead – frequently this will be the lead of the dummy's first bid suit. You probably would not consider this lead if your partner had not doubled.

If partner doubles a suit contract, he may have a side void so you often lead your longest suit hoping he will ruff. Do not lead trumps, an unbid suit, or your partner's suit if he bid a suit.

III Against contracts the opponents reach on weak-sounding auctions, a double does not suggest a particular lead. Remember you may double inferentially in such cases.

IV Other doubles can be made to direct a lead or allow your partner to compete with length in his suit.

1. Avoid doubling a Stayman bid of 2C unless your clubs are at least K J 10 X X. Opener may redouble with 4 or more clubs
2. Double a Blackwood or Gerber response or a control-showing bid for a lead. If you do not double, your partner is entitled to take an inference that you do not want the suit bid.
3. Double a transfer request for a lead of that suit.

4. Bids of the fourth suit often suggests a partial stopper or A X X and suggests that opponent partner bid NT if possible.

S	W	N	E
	1♠	P	2♦
P	2♥	P	3♣*
X**			

* 4th suit forcing

** South hand is ♠5 4 ♥A 7 6 ♦7 6 5 ♣K Q 10 7 5
If you do not double 3♣ and opponents bid 3NT, North will probably get off to the wrong lead.

5. Double to show general strength, for example if the bidding is

S	W	N	E
		1♠	2NT
X*			

* This double show 10 plus pts (the balance of power), rather like a redouble when your partner's opening bid is doubled. Note: With this distribution of power, we should either be bidding or doubling the opponents.

Some Quick Thoughts about Lead-Directing Doubles

The double of an artificial suit bid (e.g., Stayman, Gerber, or a control-bid) asks partner to lead that suit.

The double of any notrump bid by the non-leader re-

(L-D doubles cont. on page 11)

Favorite Internet Sites

By Terry Swanson

If you're going to look online for good bridge material, you might want to try www.rpbridge.net. It is Richard Pavlicek's site and he certainly qualifies as a bridge guru. He began playing bridge in 1964 at the age of 18 while stationed in Germany with the Army. Upon returning to Florida in 1966 he started to play in bridge tournaments in his spare time.

Since then he has won over 400 events and accumulated more than 16,000 masterpoints. He is a Grand Life Master of the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) and World International Master of the World Bridge Federation (WBF). In 2004, he and his son Rich became the first father-son combination to win the Life Master Open Pairs.

You wouldn't particularly expect someone with such an accumulation of bridge honors to have a whimsical side. His site says differently. First of all it has pages for all levels of players from very new to very experienced and most every-

thing in between. For example, you can choose to try some of his **Bridge Quizzes**. **Bridge Quizzes** is divided into seven sections including Basic, Advanced, Bidding for Real, Opening Leads, Notrump Workout, and Mixed Workout. Those seem reasonable



enough but when you see the title of the actual quizzes, you begin to see his whimsical side. They include titles like, *A Whale of a Tale*, *Take me to Your Leader* and *Book 'em, Dano!*

Another really fun section is **Polls and Contests**. From Sept 2000 to Oct. 2007, he conducted monthly contests and you can not only try the problem but see how you did compared to the people who actual participated. People submitted answers from over 90 countries—that's how popular the problems were.

Another good section (but probably not for beginning players) is **Odds & Theory**.

Here he covers such topics as *Double Squeezes*, *Against All Odds*, and *High Card Expectancy*.

This site has more hands to play and then have explained than perhaps any site I've seen. The Instant Matchpoint Games alone has 720 hands. It's fun because you can download each hand by N, S, E, or W and make up the hands to play with friends or your social duplicate group. Then you can

even see how what you made compares to 100 other hands, and how many matchpoints you would have gotten.

I've told you lots about this site and haven't even touched on six other sections. They are **Bridge Articles** with titles like *Man's Best Friend*, and *Let Them Eat Clubs*; **Bridge Columns**: *The Squeeze is On*, *The Squeeze is Off*; **Duplicate Forms**; **Bridge Basics**; and **Bridge Calculators**.

I think I'd like to meet this fellow. He seems smart, and funny, and nice! What more can we ask?

♥♥♥♥♥♥

Bridge, Memory, and Healthy Aging

By Mike Harvey, D. O.

Little is more difficult than watching a close friend decline with dementia. Nearly all of us have witnessed the personal, financial, and social impact dementia has on families, friends and society.

Dementia is the loss of thought processes in a previously normal person, beyond that of normal aging. Some cases of dementia can be mild and non-progressive, although continued decline is most common. Thought processes include memory, attention, language and problem solving. Varying types of dementia will display different impairment patterns. Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia and dementia with Lewy bodies are the most common.

A medical evaluation is important to sort out normal forgetfulness from mild cognitive impairment and dementias. Medical evaluation can also find reversible or treatable causes for memory changes that can mimic dementia. Illnesses like hypothyroidism, B12 deficiency, depression, alcoholism, hearing or visual loss, toxins and trauma can cause cognitive symptoms. Medications, both over-the-

counter and prescription, can cause or aggravate cognitive impairment.

Many people naturally confuse normal forgetfulness with early dementia. Normal forgetfulness does not result in serious consequences. Forgetting where you parked your car or placed your keys is frustrating, but not harmful. Other examples are forgetting what you went to do in the other room, forgetting less relevant parts of conversations, an occasional missed appointment, words "on the tip of the tongue" and calling your grandson by your sons' name.

By definition, mild cognitive impairment results in more problematic consequences like forgetting a close relative's birthday or losing an important skill like reading time. Dementia disrupts work, hobbies and social and family relationships.

So what can we do besides worry if and when our turn will come? The answer: PLENTY. Many common-sense things can markedly reduce or delay your risk.

* Physical exercise – 120 minutes of aerobic exercise divided into 3 or more ses-

sions per week. Examples are walking, an elliptical machine, light weights and yard work.

* Eat healthy – Nutrients and anti-oxidants have been shown to delay dementia. Richly colored fruits and vegetables, red wine, legumes and nuts are helpful. Natural fats high in omega 3's are recommended as well.

* Get good quality sleep in sufficient amounts and a short nap can be important for cognitive function.

* Avoid smoking, excess alcohol and toxins including lead, mercury and carbon monoxide.

* Stay socially active. Participate in the community or clubs, volunteer, teach or otherwise use your skills.

* Do mental exercises like puzzles, Sudoku, tile games, card games and read. Develop and use new habits, cooking styles and driving routes. You can take an educational class or design a new home project. Practice eating with your non dominant hand, walk sideways or do other balance exercises.

Bridge has been the subject

(Memory cont. on page 12)

(Herb cont. from page 5)

takeout, is negative, is for “support” or is responsive.

Jim offers this synopsis: The direct double for takeout “indicates to partner that you have an opening hand with support for the unbid suits.

“The negative double is a must for a bridge player’s arsenal as it is used to show a particular type of hand and holding after partner has opened and the

right hand opponent has overcalled in a suit. In its simplest form, a double by responder...basically tells partner that you have enough points to make a response, have a holding in the two unbid suits and do not have sufficient length in either suit to bid it freely.

The support double is used by the opening bidder after a response by partner and an overcall by the right hand opponent. A double here tells responder that the

opener has three card support for the responded suit. “The responsive double is used after partner has overcalled or doubled an opening bid by your left hand opponent and your right hand opponent has raised opener’s suit. If the opening suit has been in a major, your partner’s double would normally promise a four card holding in the other major and some support for the minor suits as well.

“Doubles.

Use them wisely and well.”

We Do Not Play Reverses

By Mike Smith

“We Do Not Play Reverses.” That was the message on a slip our opponents placed on the table in a recent open game at the Village Card Club in Hot Springs Village, Arkansas. When I asked about the slip, the reply was that the slip is required by the club to notify opponents. I thought of the student in one of Harriet Byers’ classes who said, “but we don’t play reverses.” Harriet’s reply, “Oh yes you do, you just don’t play them correctly.”

A couple of days later I was playing at the same club with a local player who has 900+ masterpoints. We filled out a convention card together. We didn’t discuss reverses. He opened 1 heart; me - 1 no-trump;

partner - 2 spades. With 2-2-4-5 shape and 10 hcp in the minors, I raised to 3 no-trump and was down 1. After the hand I mentioned that I had assumed he would have more than the 13 points with 4-5-2-2 shape I saw in the dummy. He replied: “I don’t play reverses.”

That was when I understood “we don’t play reverses” could be stated more accurately as “our reverses don’t promise extra values.” The reverse bid isn’t an optional convention. As Harriet observed, it is something we all do with certain hands, both as opener and as responder. When done by the opener, it is a bid – rebid sequence in which the rebid typically is at the 2 level in a

higher suit than the first bid. One effect is to force partner to the 3 level to prefer opener’s first suit. That effect is the primary reason the experts recommend two requirements for a reverse bid by the opener: first, extra values (commonly at least 17 points); second, more length in the first-bid suit. See, e.g., Bill Root’s *Commonsense Bidding* (1986) at 48 – 50.

For me, the lesson from this experience is to remember that we all play reverses and would benefit from partnership agreements about reverse requirements.

Ed Note: See also <http://www.rpbridge.net/3c00.htm> for Richard Pavlicek’s excellent explanation of reverses.

You need a Stronger Constitution with Some Partners!

By the Cantankerous Cardmudgeon

Or 7 NT Quickly Arrived At

At a time when I had been playing very little and was asked by a friend and very good player to play a session, I found myself at the bridge table.

I picked up a 3-5-3-2 hand with 12 high card points plus one for the 5th heart, and as dealer opened one heart. With the opponents silent, my partner bid 1 spade and I rebid one no trump, feeling that I had now done my duty with my bare minimum hand and sat back to relax.

Oh, no! Partner jumps to 3 clubs but this is no problem because I can now indicate

my 3-card spade support and bid 3 spades to show it. Now I was really convinced that I had said everything I had to say and sat back to relax.

If the story ended there it wouldn't be worth retelling. My clue should have been the unusual time it took my partner to reach for the bidding box for his next call. When he finally laid down his bidding box card it was for 7 no trump! He laid down a huge hand, of course, and together we had 5 – 3 fits in both majors and a lay down grand slam. It was clearly the right contract, but what a way to get there! My partner had the trust that I had the values I said I had for my opening –

and maybe he wanted to see the look on my face when he laid down that 7 no trump bidding box card! He may not have considered the wisdom of doing that to a partner who has a history of heart trouble – I'm not sure what the Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge say about a declarer who passes out before playing to trick one.

I was reminded of an earlier time when I saw a player gritting his teeth when coming out of the playing arena and heard him say, "Twenty-two high card points and my partner psyched an opening!"

You have to love bridge, don't you?

(L-D doubles cont. from page 7)
quests the lead of (1) a suit bid by your side, or (2) dummy's first bid suit.

The double of a voluntarily bid suit slam by the non-leader asks for the lead of (1) dummy's first bid suit, or (2) leader's longest suit *not bid* by your side.

To make a Lead Directing Double at a low level, particularly the two level, you need five or six cards in the suit headed by at least

three honor cards. To double an artificial bid made at the four level or higher, all you need is strength in the suit, not length (KQx), even QJx if the bid to your right shows the ace.

Remember: The biggest disadvantage of a lead-directing double is that they might redouble and play it there. Having the opponents make a redoubled contract against you would not be good for your score. Any bid you make can always backfire.

The odds are that you will not get punished. Above all, don't forget the golden rule: DON'T MAKE A LEAD DIRECTING DOUBLE IF YOU ARE ON LEAD.

During a bridge game, the man apparently had a heart attack and was rushed to the hospital emergency room. "What happened?" asked a nurse.

The EMS driver responded, "He's a bridge player and apparently his partner passed his cue-bid."

Up the ACBL Ladder (Feb. Apr. & Mar.)

New Members: Roger C. Bryan, Barbara Martin, Bruce Martin, Jordan White, Julia White, Gwen Copple, Marilyn Miller, Diane Patterson, Marcia Thompson, Shirlee Marcovis

New Junior Masters (5 MP): Jean Shires, Anna Sullivan, Ellen Taylor, Craig Nelsen, Joleen Sisson, Carol Testa

New Club Masters (20 MP): Mary Atherly, Colleen Clark, David Kelley, Daryl Cross, Claudia Blackman, Kathryn Dawley, Jill Southworth, Adele Villemez

New Sectional Masters (50 MP): Norma Comp, Robert Ewald, Ned Jones, Nolan Rumbley, Helen Hom

New Regional Masters (100

MP): Fran Mauldin, Marilyn Jones

New NABC Masters (200 MP): Marge Bledsoe

New Life Masters (300 MP):

New Bronze Life Masters (500 MP): Michael Smith

New Silver Life Masters (1000 MP): Ronald Stein, Sue Woolsoncroft, Carolyn Miller

District 216 Statistics

Total Members: 462

Rookie: 46

Junior Master: 47

Club Master: 66

Sectional Master: 56

Regional Master: 47

NABC Master: 37

Adv NABC Master: 0

Life Master: 27

Bronze Life Master: 68

Silver Life Master: 44

Gold Life Master: 20

Diamond Life Master: 2

Emerald Life Master: 1

Platinum Life Master: 0

Grand Life Master: 2

(Memory cont. from page 9)

of many studies, including a 20 year study of over 10,000 healthy 65 year old plus individuals at Laguna Woods Village in southern California by researchers at USC. Research has shown three or more hours per day of mental stimulation preserves cognitive function.

So, Bridge Friends, shuffle and deal. Try new partners, new conventions and new ideas. Let's improve the snack table and try to skip a cigarette break or extra alcoholic beverage. Enjoy the social nature of bridge. Live On.....for the moment is NOW.....

Like numbers? Here are some percentages of how hands are opened - based on American Standard bidding - to keep in mind

Bid.....%	Bid.....%
Pass.....56.7	3/4 level preempts.....1.8
1-level 5-card major.14.6	Strong 2 Club......2
1 level minor.....21.6	2NT......1
Weak 2.....5.0	

And this is how suits will break

Missing-Cards	Break	%	Missing-Cards	Break	%	Missing-Cards	Break	%
	1-1.....	52		3-1.....	50		4-2.....	48
2	2-0.....	48	4	2-2.....	40	6	3-3.....	36
				4-0.....	10		5-1.....	15
							6-0.....	1
3	2-1.....	78	5	3-2.....	68			
	3-0.....	22		2-2.....	28			
				4-0.....	4			

Scrambling

By Peter Wityk

I am playing in a club level matchpointed pairs game with a regular partner against a pair new to flight B. I am in fourth chair at favorable vulnerability and pick up

♠ 10 ♥ K1097 ♦ J63 ♣ AQ542

On my left, West as dealer **passes**. Partner opens **one spade**. East **passes**. We are playing a forcing no-trump and this hand qualifies. So, **one no-trump** is my call. After West's **pass**, partner jumps to **three no-trump**. This should be 19-20 HCP and five spades in a balanced hand according to our agreements. The lack of a fit and borderline values for a slam (we're a king below the normal requirements with no running suit likely) lead me to decide not to make any slam invitation. So, over East's **pass**, I also **pass**. West's **pass** closes the auction, which has been

N	E	S	W
			P
1♠	P	1N	P
3N	P	P	P

The 5 of spades is led and the following dummy appears

♠ AQ432
♥ AQ6
♦ AK2
♣ J10

5♠ led

♠ 10
♥ K1097
♦ J63
♣ AQ542

This is an interesting lead. Either West is short in spades attempting to lead through dummy or has 3 or 4 spades. It could be either way. I think that my best shot is to duck to the 10 and hope that West holds the J. If I'm wrong so that East wins with the jack, then I'm going to get a shift that should not fail to help me either with a trick or with a tempo.

Now, that's the kind of play that I like; even if I'm wrong, I still have a chance to win. Before making that play, let's think about the whole hand to see if that changes my mind about anything. I have one spade trick, three heart tricks, two diamond tricks and three club tricks even with giving one up. Thus my contract is safe and this being matchpoints I need to think about over-tricks.

A favorable lie of the heart suit (3-3 break or the jack dropping) gives me one extra trick. A favorable division of the club suit can give me one or two extra tricks. The diamond queen may drop doubleton. If I duck the opening spade

lead and lose to the king, I have an extra spade trick. I may have communication problems as I have only two entries to my hand: in clubs and in hearts.

Well, it's show time. Deuce of spades from dummy, nine from East and I win the ten. So it would seem that West has the king and jack of spades. I play the seven of hearts from my hand, West plays the deuce and I 'finesse' the queen. East follows with the trey. By simply playing in tempo – don't tell the world where the king is by playing too quickly, showing expectation of winning the trick or giving some other 'tell' just because you know where it is- and not playacting – not feigning surprise or any other emotion when the queen wins, you can ethically and honestly mislead your right hand opponent as to the location of the king. Who know what will happen because he decides that his partner has it? I call for the jack of clubs from dummy. This draws the trey from East, my deuce and the six from West.

Nine tricks are assured now; two spades, three hearts, two diamonds and two

(Scrambling cont. on page 14)

(Scrambling cont. from page 13)
 clubs. It's now a matter of playing for overtricks. I can let the second club run. This would give me an extra club trick. I can then cash the ace of spades and two hearts ending in my hand. If clubs and hearts break or the jack is doubleton, I'm taking the rest of the tricks. But, that's not a very likely occurrence – it will happen about 20% of the time. And, I'm odds on to only take 10 tricks if this parlay doesn't come home because I don't have the entries to bring home long clubs. Now, what if I settle for 11 or 12 tricks by overtaking the second club? I can set up a long club if they're 4-2 in addition to having the same opportunity for 13 tricks if they are 3-3.

That's an easy decision. Ten of clubs from dummy, seven of clubs from East, queen of clubs from my hand and eight of clubs from West. On the ace of clubs, West discards the five of diamonds; I throw the trey of spades from dummy and East plays the nine of diamonds. On the five of clubs, West discards the four of hearts; I throw the four of spades from dummy and East wins the King. East returns the jack of hearts to the ace and I claim. The ace of spades provides a place to discard a diamonds. Then,

the top two diamonds and a heart to my good hand explain the claim to the opponents. The full hand was

- | | |
|---------|--------|
| ♠ AQ432 | |
| ♥ AQ6 | |
| ♦ AK2 | |
| ♣ J10 | |
| ♠ KJ85 | ♠ 976 |
| ♥ 842 | ♥ J53 |
| ♦ Q1075 | ♦ 984 |
| ♣ 86 | ♣ K973 |
| ♠ 10 | |
| ♥ K1097 | |
| ♦ J63 | |
| ♣ AQ542 | |

Post Mortem

Taking 12 tricks for plus 490 was 10+ of 11 matchpoints. This is not an easy hand to play after a spade lead. First you need to decide what to do at trick one. Playing the ace is definitely wrong. Percentage-wise, it's a close call between playing the queen and ducking to the ten. The advantage of ducking to the ten is that you gain even when you lose to the jack. Then you need to decide how to take advantage of the limited communication. Once the club finesse works, overtaking the second clubs gains when clubs break 4-2 as well as 3-3. There is just a lot of scrambling and waiting to see how things develop on this hand.

Someone might ask what if West ducked the king of clubs when the jack was led? This would be good de-

fense. My read of West is that this would not happen.

Another point of interest is the play at IMPs. At that form of scoring, a club to the jack at trick two guarantees 10 tricks – two spades, three hearts, two diamonds and three clubs. Plus, additional overtricks are possible. Clubs may break, hearts may lie well (a 3-3 break or the jack dropping), the diamond queen may drop or one of various squeezes may develop. At Matchpoints, you can't afford to give up on the club finesse as you could quite likely give up a trick to the other declarers when Kxx is East's holding.

From Joan Anderson:

This is an excerpt from an article by Jerry Helms. He is a great guy and a true asset to bridge.

The question he was asked dealt with an experienced pair who got a bad board because the opponents made the right decision.

His response: "I have expressed the following opinion many times: It is acceptable to be wrong, but unacceptable to be wrong loud! It is even worse to be wrong by questioning someone's ethics in a public fashion."

Negative Doubles

By Gregg Walsh

Negative doubles are used by a player to show the two unbid suits. Three things are required to be able to use the negative double.

These are

1. Your partner opens the hand.
2. Your right hand opponent overcalls a suit.
3. Point requirements.
 - To force your partner to bid at the 1 level you must have 6 playing points.
 - To force your partner to bid at the two level you must have 8 playing points.
 - To force your partner to bid at the three level you must have 10 playing points.
 - To force your partner to bid on the four level you must have 12 playing points.

Usually the negative double is played through 3 spades but can even be played to a higher level if your partner agrees. This is marked on your convention card in the upper left hand corner of the front page.

Here are a few examples:

Part. Opp. You
1♣ 1♦ double

This negative double promises 4 hearts and 4 spades and 6 playing points. If you only have one 4-card major bid

Part. Opp. You
1♣ 1♥ double

This negative double promises

- at least 6 playing points.
- 4 spades and either 4 diamonds or club tolerance (usually 4).
- A 1 spade bid in this auction shows 5 spades and at least 6 playing points.

Part. Opp. You
1♥ 1♠ double

This negative double promises

- 4 clubs and 4 diamonds with at least 6 playing points. (4/3 shape in the minors can be tolerated if your hand is at least 8 playing points.)

Part. Opp. You
1♠ 2♦ double

- This negative double shows at least 8 points and at least 4 hearts and either 4 clubs or a spade tolerance.

Note: This double always promises 4 hearts.

Part. Opp. You
1♠ 3♦ double

- This negative double is like the one above except at a higher level so it requires at least 10 points and at least 4 hearts and either 4 clubs or a spade tolerance.

There is a case where you can make a negative double with only one of the unbid suits. This occurs when you have 5 or more cards in a suit but don't have enough points to bid the suit at the level required.

Here is an example:

Part Opp. You
1♠ 2♦ double

Here is your hand:

♠76 ♥AQJ987 ♦643 ♣J4

A 2♥ bid would show 10 points but a double first followed by a heart bid tells your partner you have a long heart suit and that you don't have enough points to freely bid at the 2 level.

Rebids after a negative double by partner:

1. If the opener bids at the lowest possible level, he shows a minimum hand of 12-14 points.
2. If opener jumps the bidding, he has a medium hand of 15-17 points.
3. If the opener makes a double jump, he has a maximum hand of 18-19
4. If opener cue bids the opponent's suit, he has a huge hand of 20+ points.

You know you're in trouble when the opponents decide to draw trumps—and you're the declarer!

Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race

0 to 5 Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race	
Richard B Sorfonden	26.53
Colleen J Clark	24.59
Joanne M McPhail	23.84

5 to 20 Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race	
Helen S Hom	38.20
William E Heng	34.55
Roseanne Rinderknecht	25.77

20 to 50 Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race	
Scott Riley	48.17
Bill D Leech	38.12
Marilyn K Jones	34.74

50 to 100 Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race	
Marvin Winick	52.24
Joann L Friedman	44.19
Marjorie A Burnett	43.19

100 to 200 Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race	
William Friedman Jr	60.51
Judith B Potter	48.28
Russ H Hale	45.12

200 to 300 Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race	
Terry K Brown	76.54
Rovene Langwith	59.38
Mr Floyd A Jones	57.60

300 to 500 Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race	
Kay L Alvord	90.52
Rae Gene Burger	90.25
Alberta McKinley	83.75

500 to 1000 Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race	
Carolyn M Miller	100.79
William L Ezell	91.49
Patricia K Peterson	89.89

1000 to 2500 Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race	
Kay F Stowe	151.54
James W McGinn	119.96
Judith J Wolf	115.28

2500 to 5000 Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race	
Evelyn Mintzer	183.25
Gregg Walsh	171.50
Albert J Mintzer	154.78

5000 to 7500 Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race	
David P Stark	38.34
M. Ali Dogruyusever	36.51

7500 to 10,000 Ace of Clubs MP Race	
Valerie J Laing	59.86

Over 10,000 Ace of Clubs Masterpoint Race	
John E Gustafson	248.20
Helen R Gustafson	161.87
G M Prabhu	29.81

Mini-McKenney Masterpoint Race

0 to 5 Mini-McKenney MP Race	
Joanne M McPhail	30.50
Richard B Sorfonden	30.33
Colleen J Clark	26.44

5 to 20 Mini-McKenney MP Race	
Helen S Hom	55.64
William E Heng	40.10
Roseanne Rinderknecht	40.01

20 to 50 Mini-McKenney MP Race	
Scott Riley	66.49
Marilyn K Jones	54.51
Carolyn M Nielsen	52.68

50 to 100 Mini-McKenney MP Race	
Rodney L Burnett	89.63
Marjorie A Burnett	87.20
Marvin Winick	71.27

100 to 200 Mini-McKenney MP Race	
William Friedman Jr	76.77
Judith B Potter	71.08
Russ H Hale	69.75

200 to 300 Mini-McKenney MP Race	
Terry K Brown	162.38
Susan M Seitz	109.51
Floyd A Jones	89.77

300 to 500 Mini-McKenney MP Race	
Rae Gene Burger	154.40
Kay L Alvord	149.27
Michael H Smith	136.04

500 to 1000 Mini-McKenney MP Race	
Dee Wilson	185.86
William L Ezell	168.04
Paul D Devin	146.99

1000 to 2500 Mini-McKenney MP Race	
Richard U Newell	230.56
Nancy E Wilson	210.81

Kay F Stowe	200.32
2500 to 5000 Mini-McKenney MP Race	
Gregg Walsh	317.93
Peter Wityk	291.82
Joan L Anderson	236.29

5000 to 7500 Mini-McKenney MP Race	
David P Stark	267.11
M. Ali Dogruyusever	41.32

7500 to 10,000 Mini-McKenney MP Race	
Valerie J Laing	290.67

Over 10,000 Mini-McKenney MP Race	
John E Gustafson	445.55

Thinking about Doubling?

By Harriet Beyers

How do you know if you should make that penalty double your gut is encouraging to make? Of course if you have all the setting tricks in your own hand, you should double in a minute. But since that's seldom the case, here's a little something you can use to help you decide if you should smile and slap down the double card. If your partner opens or overcalls the bidding, you have some trick information.

You know your partner promised

- 3 to 3/12 quick tricks if he opened 1 NT
- 3 quick tricks if he made a take-out double
- 2 to 2 1/2 quick tricks if he opened 1 of a suit
- 1 quick trick if he made a simple overcall
- 0 quick tricks if he pre-empted

What does this tell you about who should be making penalty doubles. It's probably you if your partner started the bidding. It's probably your partner if you started the bidding.

**And don't forget about re-opening with a double. If you have opened the bidding and your left-hand overcalls, your partner passes, and your right hand passes, it's time to get the kiss card out - especially if you are short in the opponent's bid suit. It may be just what your partner is waiting for. He may have a fist full of the opponent's bid suit and if not he'll have a fit for you somewhere.

Try it. Those 500, 800, and 1100 scores are mighty pleasant sights when they are on your side of the card!

Counting Quick Tricks

Quick tricks are usually defined as

- Ace-King:2 quick tricks
- Ace-Queen: ..1.5 quick tricks
- Ace:1 quick trick
- King-Queen: .1 quick trick
- King-x:5 quick trick

Counting losers

1. 3 or more cards in a suit: look at the first 3 cards and count any below a Q
2. Doubleton: count a loser for each card below K
3. Singleton: count a loser unless it's an A

Cards losers	Cards losers
AK.....0	KQ..... 1
xx.....2	AJx..... 2
Axx.....2	KJx..... 2
Axxx.....2	KQx..... 1
Kxxx.....2	A 0
AJ 1	xxxx 3

Classes and Education

THE LEARNING GAME

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOONS

1:00-3:15p Starting Mar. 3rd

LEARNING TO HAVE FUN. . . WITH BAD CARDS!

MONTHLY - \$25/MONTH OR \$6/TIME

On your own? With a partner? With a foursome? All comers welcome

Joan and Jessie (225-1301)

FUNDAMENTAL BRIDGE BIDDING

Fridays 12:30 to 2:30 March 12- May 14 (no class April 2 & 9)

COST: \$40 (if you want the tax credit for the contribution - make the \$40 check to LLS)+ \$7 book

Pre-requisite- Some bridge experience or absolute beginner class

Bonnie Newton 255-6907

How well do you know your basics?

If you need a brush-up on 20th Century Bidding or just want to cement those bids into your memory, this class is for you.

This class will start with a brief Review followed by Opening 1 NT- Stayman, & Transfer Responses; Opening 5 card majors and responses with or without a fit. Opening with a minor and responses, Counting Dummy points with a fit: Responder's NT ranges: Openers NT ranges. It will NOT cover any 2 bids. We will cover Blackwood and Gerber conventions.

Hints by Harriet

MON. Mornings 9:00-11:00

Continuous \$5/week

Harriet Byers 225-6855

Mentoring Program begins 5th Year

The mentoring program games for the spring session will be on April 23 and 30 and May 7 and 14. The games begin at 12:30 PM with a free lunch at 11:30 AM. Registration forms for players with less than 300 points who would like to participate are available at the Bridge Center. Contact Nancy Wilson at 285-9916 if you have questions.

Take the road to Des Moines for the.....

Sectional Bridge Tournament
Sanction # 1004006



Spring Festival

April 8-11, 2010

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 9	1 p.m. 99er pairs
	7 p.m. 99er pairs
Saturday, April 10	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 8	7 p.m. Stratified pairs
Friday, April 9	1 p.m. Stratified pairs (single session)
	7 p.m. Stratified pairs (single session)
Saturday, April 10	1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Two session Stratified pairs
	(Single session available)
Sunday, April 11	10 a.m. Strata-flighted Swiss Teams
	(2 session play-through - 2 session fees +\$4 for lunch)

Zero Tolerance tournament, play and have fun.

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.



Make any motel reservation early as there are many activities in Des Moines that week.

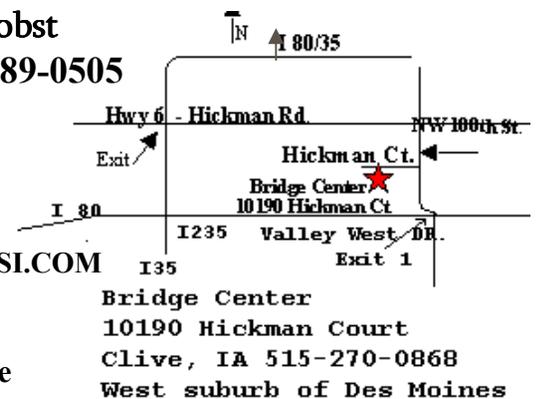
Ramada Inn (Clive)
1600 NW114th St.
or 1-515-226-9022
or

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

Tournament Traffic Cop: Larry Brobst
Coordinator: Charlene Hendryx 289-0505
crhendryx@q.com

Directing partnership traffic:
0-300 Rod Burnett 515-965-6763 or
cell 515-710-7148 email: RODB2@MCHSI.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

Mark Your Calendar

Unit 216 Sectionals

Des Moines Bridge Center
10190 Hickman Court
Clive, IA

Spring Festival

April 8-11, 2010

Stars of Tomorrow

August 28-29, 2010

Cornbelt

September 16-19, 2010

District 14 Regionals

Minnesota Regional

Bloomington, MN
May 25-31, 2010

Iowa Regional

Bettendorf, IA
June 29-July 4 2010

Nebraska Regional

Council Bluffs, IA
August 2-8 2010

ACBL Nationals

Spring

Reno, NV
Mar 11-21, 2010

Summer

New Orleans LA
Jul 22-Aug 1, 2010

Fall

Orlando FL
Nov 25-Dec 5, 2010

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