



## NEWSLETTER

April

VOL. II, NO 2

### WHERE ARE OUR BRIDGE CLUBS?

**Alpharetta Duplicate Bridge Club**

6250 Shiloh Rd. #30  
Back of Building Lower Level  
Alpharetta, GA 30005  
Larry Rich: 770-272-2429  
E-mail: [info@alpharettadbc.org](mailto:info@alpharettadbc.org)  
Website: [alpharettadbc.org](http://alpharettadbc.org)

**Atlanta Duplicate Bridge Center**

6761 Peachtree Industrial, Suite 200  
Atlanta, GA 30360  
Dan Papineau: 770-248-0306  
E-mail: [atlantaduplicate@bellsouth.net](mailto:atlantaduplicate@bellsouth.net)  
Website: [atlantaduplicatebridgeclub.com](http://atlantaduplicatebridgeclub.com)

**Bridge Club of Atlanta**

4920 Roswell Road., Suite 33  
Atlanta, GA 30342  
Sam Marks: 678-812-4324  
E-mail: [sam@sammarksbridge.com](mailto:sam@sammarksbridge.com)  
Website: [bridgeclubatlanta.com](http://bridgeclubatlanta.com)

**Buckhead Bridge Club**

Northwest Presbyterian Church  
4300 Northside Drive  
Atlanta, GA 30327  
Bill Marks: 770-855-6952  
E-mail: [billmarks13@gmail.com](mailto:billmarks13@gmail.com)  
Website: [billsbridge.com](http://billsbridge.com)

**Dan's Duplicate Atlanta North**

1715 Millside Terrace  
Dacula, GA 30019  
Dan Osburn: 678-827-1776  
E-mail: [danosburn@bridgeteachers.us](mailto:danosburn@bridgeteachers.us)  
Website:  
<https://www.facebook.com/DansDuplicateAtlantaNorth>

### President's Letter

#### War Stories

Jean Franke, local player and mentor-extraordinaire, recently related this interesting story from a recent game. "Here was 'Ken' asking about 'Barbie's' choice of leads early in the defense. The first three times Barbie gave what I considered to be reasonable and different responses in justification of her choice or against his suggestion; Ken clearly had his mind made up and would not be deterred by logic from someone who could not see his hand. After that I could see that Barbie just mentally gave up. Unfortunately Ken did not; brought it up five times in all. I believe Ken's quote when we were alone was 'She normally scores very well; I just don't understand why she always plays so badly with me!'" My reaction: It's obvious Ken doesn't understand.



As president of District 7, Sam Marks hosted its Goodwill Dinner last year. As part of his opening remarks, Sam told us how he used to be a real bear at the table. And then he changed, though I don't recall if he recounted what caused the metamorphosis. What he did say was this, "I was surprised at how much better partners played when I stopped criticizing them." Not exactly rocket science. Sam

*[continued p. 12](#)*

### Are YOU Missing in Action?

Editor's Request: If you change your e-mail address, or know of someone who is not getting this Newsletter, please send any names and correct e-mail addresses to [maryann.oakley@mindspring.com](mailto:maryann.oakley@mindspring.com). We are missing a lot of people, and there are far too many whose Newsletters bounce because all we have is an outdated e-mail address.

**Duplicate Bridge Association of Atlanta**

6761 Peachtree Industrial, Suite 200  
 Atlanta, GA 30360  
 George Powell: 770-594-1874  
 E-mail: [gpowell622@aol.com](mailto:gpowell622@aol.com)  
 Website: <http://www.dbaa.us/>

**KSU Bridge Club**

KSU Center  
 3333 Busbee Drive  
 Kennesaw, GA 30144  
 Janice Ripley: 770-726-9881  
 E-mail: [bridge4jr@gmail.com](mailto:bridge4jr@gmail.com)

**Marietta Country Club Players**

1400 Marietta Country Club Drive  
 Kennesaw, GA 30152  
 Priscilla Smith: 770-973-7717  
 E-mail: [cook201@bellsouth.net](mailto:cook201@bellsouth.net)

**Midtown Bridge Club**

Ansley Golf Club  
 196 Montgomery Ferry Drive  
 Atlanta, GA 30309  
 Alvin Daigle Jr.: 770-313-5124

**Play Bridge**

4920 Roswell Rd., Suite 33  
 Atlanta, GA 30342  
 Ina Parry: 770-713-1445  
 E-mail: [playbridgeusa@gmail.com](mailto:playbridgeusa@gmail.com)  
 Website: [bridgewebs.com/playbridgeusa](http://bridgewebs.com/playbridgeusa)

**Roswell Duplicate Bridge Club**

St. David's Episcopal Church  
 1015 Old Roswell Rd.  
 Roswell, GA 30076  
 Bill Marks: 770-855-6952  
 E-mail: [billmarks13@gmail.com](mailto:billmarks13@gmail.com)  
 Website: [billsbridge.com](http://billsbridge.com)

**Ruff 'n Sluff Bridge Club**

1809 Roswell Rd.  
 Marietta, GA 30062  
 Priscilla Smith: 770-973-7717  
 E-mail: [ruffnsluff@mindspring.com](mailto:ruffnsluff@mindspring.com)  
 Website: <http://www.mindspring.com/~ruffnsluff/>

**Silver Belles and Beaus**

5285 Lakeside Drive  
 Union City, GA 30291  
 Bettie Harden: 770-306-3461  
 E-mail: [travell33@gmail.com](mailto:travell33@gmail.com)

**March was for Mentoring!**

by Roz Howell

By all accounts the 2014 version of the DBAA's annual Mentor Program was the best ever. With 6 of the 7 participating clubs reporting as of April 15, there were 165 unique mentoring events with 100 mentees and 74 mentors participating. This was, by the far, the best participation that we have had in recent memory.



For 2014, the format was tweaked so that all mentor games took place in the month of March. Mentors' entry fees were paid by the DBAA and the mentor received a free play to be used at a later date, also courtesy of the DBAA. Mentors have until May 31 to redeem their free play certificates. Mentors and mentees could participate in more than one club and their free plays are good in any DBAA club. To facilitate signup and to encourage participation, every club received advertising posters in advance.

Anecdotal reports from the clubs indicate that everyone was quite pleased with one exception. Many felt that the month of March was already full of special events and wished that the Mentor Program hadn't crowded the calendar. Thus, the DBAA board will probably move the 2015 event to January.

I look forward to expanding the program next year. We will encourage club managers and directors to take a more active role in arranging mentor relationships and try to include every non-life master who may be interested. My sincere personal "thank you" to every mentor who gave time and expertise to improve the bridge experience in Atlanta.

**Bridge Teachers**

Bridge Teachers are the lifeblood of the game. While they do help each of us to learn to play better, their vital role is in bringing in new players. New customers are key to any enterprise; given an average age around 70 for ACBL members, they are especially critical to the future of duplicate bridge. Whether you are looking to raise your game to the next level or know someone who wants to join our ranks, check out the list of Atlanta teachers at <http://whidco.com/DBAA>.







YOU ARE INVITED



# Godfrey's Grand Slam Bridge Benefit

Sunday, May 18, 2014

12:30PM Sign-In

1PM Lesson with Phillip Alder  
The Rollins School of Public Health  
at Emory University

1518 Clifton Road, NE  
Atlanta, Georgia 30322

REGISTER ONLINE AT  
<http://bit.ly/1haLJd9>  
BY MAY 4, 2014

(TICKETS NOT SOLD AT DOOR)

**TICKET PRICE**  
\$100  
PER PERSON

Includes:  
· Lesson by  
Phillip Alder,  
NY Times Bridge Columnist  
· Sanctioned or  
Social Bridge  
· Dinner and  
Silent Auction

**DOOR PRIZES!**

**DINNER ONLY:**  
\$50

Be a  
**GOLD SPONSOR!**  
\$1000

Receive 2 entries,  
2 tickets to  
evening reception (May 17)  
with Phillip Alder  
and name listed  
on program and banner

Be a  
**RED SPONSOR!**  
\$500

Receive 1 entry,  
2 tickets to  
evening reception (May 17)  
with Phillip Alder  
and name listed  
on program and banner

If you are unable to  
attend, but would like to donate,  
please make check payable to:  
The Center for Spina Bifida  
Rollins School of Public Health  
1518 Clifton Road  
Mailstop: 1518-002-8BA  
Atlanta, GA 30322  
or go to  
[www.sph.emory.edu/giving](http://www.sph.emory.edu/giving)  
Follow the links:  
• Give to Rollins • Make gift online  
• Select Fund • Click on  
"The Center for Spina Bifida"  
(bottom of  
drop-down menu)

For further information  
or to register by mail,  
email Janet or Brenda:  
[trumpspinabifida@gmail.com](mailto:trumpspinabifida@gmail.com)

A portion of the ticket price  
and all sponsorship levels  
are tax deductible

Handicap parking  
and assistance  
will be available.

Every year, 180,000 babies are born with Spina Bifida...

OUR GOAL IS THE TOTAL PREVENTION OF SPINA BIFIDA BY 2024!



LET'S TRUMP SPINA BIFIDA!



If you would like to donate go to [www.sph.emory.edu/giving](http://www.sph.emory.edu/giving)

## A Different Opponent This Month!

by Janet Edward

Godfrey's Grand Slam Bridge Benefit is coming



soon and with it the opportunity to make your most admired opponent your new favorite partner. All for a great cause! On this day you will have the chance to bid on and win top players from the Atlanta bridge

community to be your very own partner at club, sectional and regional games. Yes! They can be yours, if only for a short time.

All of the donors to the Silent Auction are great bridge players and teachers. All of them have devoted countless hours to perfecting their bridge skills, as well as promoting the goodwill of a game that they love. Mike Kovacich, Randy Pettit, Tom Carmichael and Andy Eastwood are just a sampling of the people who have agreed to put themselves on the auction block to help raise money for the Center for Spina Bifida. In case you're not familiar with these names, as I wasn't, here's a little background.

They all began their love of bridge early in life. Tom Carmichael remembers playing his very first hand at the age of 4! He attended his first sectional when he was 10. He can still recount a hand that he and his dad bid to six spades, making, the only pair in the room to do so! He became a Life Master in 1991 at the age of 17. In 1997, he and his partner, Joel Wooldridge, became the youngest pair to ever win an open NABC event. In 2005 his team, ranked 29<sup>th</sup> in the Spingold KOs, made it all the way to the finals. Tom credits his participation in the ACBL Junior Bridge program for helping him develop his expertise. His favorite

thing about bridge is applying his problem solving abilities, a skill he also uses in his "real" job as an independent IT contractor and trainer.

Mike, Randy and Andy are essentially self-taught. Mike spent a summer reading a Charles Goren book. Randy spent (he would say misspent) his summers studying the bridge column in the local newspaper. Andy learned the basics by reading, re-reading and reading again a book on bridge while a student at Liverpool University. (He did his laundry on Penny Lane!)

The first game in which Andy Eastwood ever played, he and his partner walked away with enough points to become Club Masters. He was hooked! He says that the greatest experience and honor he has had was to represent Great Britain in the European Junior Championships in Italy in 1982. His team came in second. He still remembers the pride he felt when he heard his national anthem being played. Andy is a Life Master in both England and the U.S. He earned a PhD in biochemistry, but chose instead to pursue a career as a computer programmer, where he moved from the technical side to the business side. He retired in 2011 and returned to the bridge tables. He had a top 10 finish in last summer's NABC!

Randy Pettit didn't play in his first duplicate game until he was 21. By the early 70s he'd read enough advanced bridge books that when he played in a sectional in Montgomery he was able to pull off a double squeeze without having ever seen one done before. He spent his working career as a pension advisor and trainer for Cigna in its various financial divisions. When Randy entered semi-retirement in 1997 he decided, just for the heck of it, to see how many master points he could accumulate in a year. Traveling to tournaments around the country, picking up partners and teammates as he went, he

[\*continued on p. 6\*](#)

## From the Director's Table

by Dan Plato

Rarely a game will go by that you won't need to ask one of your opponents "What's that bid mean?" or "What are your leads?" or "What's your carding?" All too often we get the wrong form of response. "It's a cuebid." "It's modified Cappelletti." "It's upside-down Swahili discards with a hint of nutmeg." And the worst-- "It's *just* Bridge. . . B. . . R. . . I. . . D. . ." and let me finish spelling that for you, "Z. . . T." Looking down your nose at your opponents because they don't know as much as you is just boorish and uncalled for behavior.



Never give a name of a convention. It can be intimidating to beginners and intermediate-level players. Always explain as fully as you can both your agreement and the inferences available. Even if they interrupt you and claim "Oh! I know that! It's Mini-Roman!" it's important to finish the explanation because not every partnership plays the same wrinkles of that system. If you know what the shape of the hand is and the number of points, please share that information. If the bid could have many meanings share each and every one. What is obvious to you may not be so to your opponents. You owe them full explanations.

### From the Laws of Duplicate Bridge:

#### Law 40.B.6.a

6. (a) When explaining the significance of partner's call or play in reply to an opponent's inquiry (see Law 20), a player shall disclose all special information conveyed to him through partnership agreement or partnership experience, but he need not disclose inferences drawn from his knowledge and experience of matters generally known to bridge players.

### From The Introduction to the Alert Procedures:

The objective of the Alert system is for both pairs at the table to have equal access to all information contained in any auction. In order to meet this goal, it is necessary that all players understand and practice the principles of Full Disclosure and Active Ethics. Ethical bridge players will recognize the obligation to give complete explanations. They will accept the fact that any such information is entirely for the benefit of the opponents, and may not be used to assist their own partnership.

### From The Introduction to the Alert Definitions:

To ensure full disclosure, however, at the end of the auction and before the opening lead, declarer is encouraged to volunteer to explain the auction (including available inferences).

[\*continued on p. 13\*](#)



## Board Meetings

DBAA Board meetings are open to all members. Come see how hard we work to enhance your enjoyment of bridge through our various activities and programs. You might even find an opportunity to volunteer. The *tentative* schedule for remaining 2014 meetings is as follows:

June 14	Bridge Club of Atlanta	9:30 - 11:30am
August 9	Bridge Club of Atlanta	9:30 - 11:30am
September 27	Bridge Club of Atlanta	9:30 - 11:30am
November 14	Roswell Sectional	5:30 - 7:15pm

In addition, the Board anticipates a special meeting in May to discuss the formation of an Atlanta unit and for determining the requirements for an on-line membership directory. It hasn't been scheduled as of the date of publication. If you are interested in attending, email DBAA Secretary Judy Fendrick at [bobfendh@bellsouth.net](mailto:bobfendh@bellsouth.net) and she will let you know when the meeting is scheduled.



Opponent  
[\*continued from p.4\*](#)

finished the year with 2,117 master points, more than any other player in the ACBL. For this he earned the Barry Crane Trophy, a feat almost unheard of by an amateur player! Randy is a Grand Life Master and was inducted into the Unit 114 Hall of Fame in 2003. Since 2006 Randy has devoted less time to bridge and more time to service in his community. His primary interests are as a pastoral care volunteer at Kennestone Hospital and as a platelet donor. So far he has donated platelets more than 400 times. Even in volunteer work he is driven to reach the top of the list!

Mike Kovacich's ascent into the ranks of the elite was slightly less meteoric, but nonetheless spectacular. Although he joined the ACBL in 1964, he didn't become a Life Master until 1980. He attended college and law school at UGA and then served in the Air Force as a JAG officer. In 1972 he left active duty and moved to Atlanta, where he has practiced law ever since. By 1989 he had earned 1000 points and in 1992 he earned his first Blue Ribbon qualification. The early 90s was also the time he got involved with the administrative part of bridge. He has been in continuous service at the local, regional and national levels for more than twenty years. He has placed in numerous national events, including the Spingold, Vanderbilt, and Senior KOs. To date he has earned 190 Blue Ribbon Qualifications and almost 17,500 master points! He was elected in 2009 as the seventh member of the Unit 114 Hall of Fame.

They all agree that it's the little surprises found in every hand and the inherent challenges that keeps them coming back to the tables. When asked what advice they have for aspiring duplicate players, they all say that bridge is a game. The more you play, the more you learn. No matter how much you learn there's always more to know. No matter how good you get, you will still fail. Don't let bridge become the most important thing in your life. Remember to respect the game, as well as the people playing it. Without them, there would be no game! But, first and foremost, have fun!

## Did You Know?

by Judy Fendrick, DBAA Secretary

Each year the DBAA hosts three sectional tournaments that are always among the largest in the country. However, the DBAA does much more than just run tournaments.

Some recent programs we conducted include the Mentoring program and hosting the Change of Rank events at each club. We are proud to support both of these programs each year and hope that more members will participate in the future.



The DBAA will help sponsor the American Bridge Association (ABA) 2014 Summer National Tournament that runs July 31 to August 9 at the Crowne Plaza Ravinia. Wednesday, August 6 will be ABA/ACBL Day. Details are on page 9.

The DBAA publishes a membership directory every two years, and is currently involved in developing an on-line database and directory so that players can update their contact information on-line and search for other members to contact. We will be providing demonstrations at clubs to help people learn how to do the updates and search. We hope to expand the programming eventually to provide an on-line Partnership Desk.

The DBAA conducted the elections for five Unit 114 Representative positions at the Roswell Sectional. The nine Unit 114 Representatives from the Atlanta area are also members of the DBAA board. Three incumbent representatives who were re-elected are Vicki Bell, Dick Myers and Marty Nathan. Two new representatives elected were Becky Butler and Josie Mitchell. For a complete listing of the DBAA board members, go to [http://dbaa.us/700\\_Officers.htm](http://dbaa.us/700_Officers.htm)

The DBAA is discussing the idea of forming a new ACBL Unit for the Atlanta (DBAA) area. More information will be made available once decisions are made.

If you have any questions or ideas about any of these topics, please contact DBAA President Marty Nathan at [mjaynathan@gmail.com](mailto:mjaynathan@gmail.com).

### Limited Games - up to 500 MPs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Roswell DBC</b> 11:00 0-500	<b>Alpharetta DBC</b> 12:00 0-500 7:30 0-500	<b>Bridge Club of Atlanta</b> 12:00 0-100	<b>Ruff'n Sluff</b> 10:30 0-20 (10:00 lesson)	<b>Alpharetta DBC</b> 12:00 0-500	<b>Atlanta DBC</b> 12:00 0-500
<b>Play Bridge</b> 12:00 NLM	<b>Bridge Club of Atlanta</b> 12:00 0-500		<b>Play Bridge</b> 12:00 NLM	<b>Bridge Club of Atlanta</b> 12:00 0-750	<b>Bridge Club of Atlanta</b> 12:00 NLM
	<b>Ruff'n Sluff</b> 7:30 0-300 (7:00 lesson)			<b>Ruff'n Sluff</b> 10:30 0-750 (10:00 lesson)	<b>Bridge Club of Atlanta</b> 12:00 0-750
				<b>Roswell Duplicate Bridge Club</b> 11:00 0-300	

## DBAA Game Schedule

The DBAA game is held on Wednesday nights at 7PM at the Atlanta Duplicate Bridge Center.

Apr 30	Local Charity Double Points
May 7	Regular Game
May 14	Club Championship
May 21	ACBL Charity
May 28	Regular Game
June 4	Unit Championship
June 11	NAP Qualifier
June 18	Regular Game
June 25	AJB Charity
July 2	NO GAME—Norcross July 4th Sectional
July 9	NAP Qualifier
July 16	NAP Qualifier
July 23	ACBL Charity
July 30	Regular Game

## New Limited Game Coming in May!

A new 0-750 game will be added in May at the Atlanta Duplicate Bridge Center. Please check their schedule for day and time.

## Tournament Schedule

July 2014 – April 2015

Jul 2-6	Atlanta Sectional	Norcross North Atlanta Trade Center
Aug 1-3	NLM Sectional	Ruff 'n' Sluff Bridge Club
Aug 18-24	District 7 ST@C	Your Club
Aug 26-Sept 1	Atlanta Regional	Ravinia Crowne Plaza
Nov 12-16	Atlanta Sectional	Roswell Adult Recreation Center
Dec 15-21	District 7 ST@C	Your Club
Feb 4-8	Atlanta Sectional	Roswell Adult Recreation Center

Make your plans now to play in all of these tournaments!

## Upcoming Special Games



May 14 (Wednesday Afternoon)	ACBL-wide International Fund Game
June 6 (Friday Evening)	Worldwide Bridge Contest
June 7 (Saturday Afternoon)	Worldwide Bridge Contest
July 11 (Friday Afternoon)	ACBL-wide International Fund Game

The ACBL offers many special games to clubs, usually including expert hand analyses. Here is what is on tap for the upcoming three months, and all do indeed include a handout with expert commentary.

In addition, clubs can run North American Pairs games for three months starting in June. Not only do these games provide incredible points, but also you can qualify to play in the District Finals in Spartanburg in late November. You can compete there in the A or Open flight; the B flight for players with 2500 to 6000 master points; or the C flight for players with 0-2500 master points. Place among the leaders in your flight and win a stipend from the ACBL and/or District 7 to play for a national title at the Spring NABC next March in New Orleans.



## ***Another National Tournament for Atlanta***

by Jocelyn Jackson and Rosetta Boyd



The American Bridge Association National Tournament begins Thursday, July 31 at 3:00 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza Ravinia, 4355 Ashford Dunwoody Road across from Perimeter Mall. (This is the familiar site of the Atlanta Regional.) The American Bridge Association (ABA) will be hosting this national ten-day duplicate bridge tournament from July 31 through August 9 for more than 2,000 duplicate bridge players from across the United States and Canada. At \$10.00 per game, this tournament is a real bargain and should offer excitement to bridge players at all master point levels and experience. Here is the complete schedule. Please note that Wednesday is ABA/ACBL Day and players who win can ask that their points be awarded as either ABA or ACBL masterpoints. All other days, only ABA points are given. So maybe this tournament is a good time to join the ABA!

### **Day 1—Thursday, July 31**

10am G-1 Open Pairs (only session)  
3pm G-2 PRO-AM/HAM Open Pairs  
(AM's U/600, Ham's 600-1999, PRO's 0/2000)  
3pm Side Series Afternoon 1 of 6  
8:30pm G-1 F Alberta Peterson Scholarship Open Pair

### **Day 2—Friday, August 1**

10am & 3pm G-1 Belsaw Open Pairs  
10am G-3 Open Pairs (Only Session)  
3pm Side Series Afternoon 2 of 6  
8:30pm G-2 Speedball Swiss O/U 2000  
5 boards, 5 rounds, and 5 min per board  
8:30pm Side Series Evening 1 of 6

### **Day 3—Saturday, August 2**

10am & 3pm G-1 R Rex Watkins Men's Pairs  
10am & 3pm G-1 CR Christine P Jones Women's Pairs  
(Flight A Qualifying all others PlayThru) (Over/Under 2000)  
10am G-3 Open Pairs  
3pm G-2 Women's Pairs Consolation  
3pm Side Series Afternoon 3 of 6  
8:30pm Evening KO Teams  
(Registration by Mid-night Friday)  
8:30pm Side Series Evening 2 of 6

### **Day 4—Sunday, August 3**

10am & 3pm G-1 CR Pauline Taylor Mixed Pairs Championship  
(Flight A Qualifying all others Play Thru)  
10am & 3pm G-2 Women's Pairs  
10am G-3 Open Pairs  
3pm G-2 Pauline Taylor Mixed Pairs Consolation  
3pm G-3 Open Pairs  
8:30pm Evening KO Teams 2<sup>nd</sup> Round  
8:30pm PM KO Teams II (8 Team Flights)  
(Registration by Mid-night Sunday)  
8:30pm Side Series Evening 3 of 6

### **Day 5—Monday, August 4**

10am & 3pm Victor Daly KO Teams-Championship  
16 Team Flights (Registration by Mid-night Sunday)  
10am Side Series Morning 1 of 3  
8:30pm Evening KO Teams Semi-Finals  
8:30pm PM KO Teams II Semi-Finals  
8:30pm Side Series Evening 4 of 6

### **Day 6—Tuesday, August 5**

10am & 3pm Victor Daly KO Teams Semi-Finals/Finals  
10am & 3pm Second Chance KO Semi-Finals/Finals  
10am G-2 Open Pairs  
3pm G-2 Open Pairs  
8:30pm Evening KO Finals  
8:30pm PM II KO Finals  
8:30pm G-2R Non-mixed Pairs  
8:30pm Side Series Evening 5 of 6

### **Day 7—Wednesday, August 6 ABA/ACBL DAY**

9am GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
12pm & 5pm G-1 R National Non-Mixed Pairs  
12pm G-2 Open Pairs  
5pm G-2 Open Pairs  
9pm AWARDS CEREMONY AND BALL

### **Day 8—Thursday, August 7**

10am & 3pm G-1 C P.W. Goode National Open Pairs Championship  
Qualifying & Final (Under 5000 Non-Qualifying)  
10am Side Series Morning 2 of 3  
3pm Side Series Afternoon 5 of 6  
8:30pm G-3 Compact KO Teams (16 Team Flights)  
(Registration by 5pm Thursday)  
8:30pm Side Series Evening 6 of 6

### **Day 9—Friday, August 8**

10am & 3pm Will E. Richardson National Swiss Teams  
10am Side Series Morning 3 of 3  
10am G-2 Open Pairs  
3pm Side Series Afternoon 6 of 6  
3pm G-2 Open Pairs  
8:30pm Compact KO Teams (Semi-finals & Finals)  
8:30pm Zip Swiss Teams

### **Day 10—Saturday, August 9**

9am G-2 Swiss Teams (Only Session)  
9am G-1 President's Open Pairs (Only Session)

*[continued on p.11](#)*

## Bridge Hand

There are five ranges of balanced hands. Here is how Opener shows each HCP range:

- 12-14 Open one of a minor & rebid 1NT
- 15-17 Open 1NT
- 18-19 Open one of a minor, then jump in NT
- 20-21 Open 2NT
- 22-24 Open 2♣ & rebid 2NT

Responder has Stayman, Jacoby Transfers and other assorted tools to handle the second, fourth and last ranges, especially the quest for a major suit fit. But what about the other two ranges? You can use a handy convention called "New Minor Forcing." Responder bids two of the unbid minor to ask Opener to describe her major suit holdings. I call it "Stayman for the 12-14 and 18-19 point balanced hands." Here's an example.

North Deals None Vul		♠ A 8 ♥ 9 5 ♦ J 10 6 4 2 ♣ 9 6 5 4	
♠ K 9 7 3 2 ♥ A 10 7 6 ♦ A 8 ♣ J 2			♠ Q J 5 ♥ K J 4 3 ♦ 9 5 3 ♣ A Q 7
		<div style="display: inline-block; text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">             N W   S   E S           </div>	
		♠ 10 6 4 ♥ Q 8 2 ♦ K Q 7 ♣ K 10 8 3	
<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>	<i>South</i>
	Pass	1 ♣	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	1 N	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	All pass		
Lead: ♦ K			

2♦ is New Minor Forcing. East's first priority is to show her 4 hearts, a treatment overlooked by many players. (The 4-4 fit usually plays at least as well as the 5-3 fit, and often a trick better. I'll show you why in a moment.) If partner cannot raise hearts,

East can always bid spades later. West with hearts as well as a full opener bids the heart game.

East sees a loser in each suit, with normal breaks. She does have a two-way heart finesse, a standard club finesse and a spade suit to work with. The spades have value only if she can pitch clubs on them, and that means keeping North from leading through the ♣Q before the spade suit is established.

Step 1 is ducking the opening lead -- North now can't get in via diamonds. Declarer wins the diamond continuation and plays the ♥A and another to the jack. This loses, but South cannot attack clubs. Declarer ruffs the diamond continuation in dummy, pulls the last trump and leads a spade toward her hand. North finally gets to lead a club, but Declarer rises with the ♣A and discards her clubs on the good spades. A club ruff now provides the tenth trick.

In 4♠ you must guess the heart finesse right to make the contract. You can't avoid the losers in each of the other three suits. Playing in spades, there is no club discard available in the 4-4 heart suit. Risking your contract on a finesse is a 50/50 proposition.

Playing 4♥ gives you an extra chance; you make the hand even if you lose the heart finesse as long as the spades are 3-2. That makes the probability of success closer to 80%.

New Minor Forcing is an important convention, critical for handling the 12-14 and 18-19 balanced hands. This example is certainly not an exhaustive summary of its use. Any of our fine local bridge teachers can help you learn how to play it.

*Thanks to Marty Nathan for contributing this hand.*

## Atlanta Junior Bridge Is On the Move!

by Patty Tucker

Atlanta Junior Bridge is organizing its 10th year of Summer Bridge Camps for Kids! AJB free summer camps are held 2 hours each day for one week. Children will learn the basics of bridge and be ready to join one of our summer weekly classes and play in the July tournament. All of AJB's teachers are in the process of finalizing their camps throughout the city; the camps will be listed on the AJB website

([www.atlantajuniorbridge.org](http://www.atlantajuniorbridge.org)). Several in Alpharetta are already up on the site. Look for a camp nearby for your young relatives!

Congratulations to the 2014 Georgia Youth Swiss

Team Champs! AJB's newest Georgia State Youth Swiss Team Champions are **Vincent Zhu, Alec Zhan, Sidhesh Desai** and

**Nisarg Shah**. Second place went to **Hansen Horvath, Ricoh Das, Wilbert Liu** and **Niraj Jinan**. AJB's Cardroom Game winners were **Jackson Moncour** and **Aaron Wang**.

AJB extends hearty thanks to their director, James Dover, and all their great volunteers!

ABA

[continued from p.9](#)

### What is the ABA?

Founded in 1933 in Buckroe Beach, Virginia, the American Bridge Association (ABA)--an organization of predominately Black duplicate bridge players--has its headquarters in Atlanta at 2828 Lakewood Avenue SW. The organization hosts two national tournaments annually in key cities in the United States, as well as hosts a weekly slate of local and sectional tournaments. In Atlanta, the ABA has seven duplicate bridge clubs, five of which play duplicate in the Cascade area of Atlanta and two in DeKalb County. Atlanta, like many cities, has ABA members who also hold membership in the ACBL. The national president of the ABA is George Hudson of New York; its vice president is Atlantan Gloria Christler. For more information about us or our upcoming national tournament, visit us at [www.aba-ss.com](http://www.aba-ss.com) or [www.ababridge.org](http://www.ababridge.org).

## A Note of Thanks

To the members of ACBL Unit 114 and the Duplicate Bridge Association of Atlanta,

I would like to express my sincere thanks for the gesture of appreciation accorded me at the recent Roswell Sectional, in recognition of my impending retirement, and for the Samsung Galaxy Tab3 tablet presented to me on that occasion.

Tournament directing is hard work and often stressful. The appreciation of the players is one of the few rewards we have to look forward to. It means a lot. I thank you all.



Left: Marty Nathan, DBAA President  
Right Olin Hubert

Olin Hubert,  
Tournament  
Director

## Joke Time

### Daffynitions

**Free Bid** — all of them, once you pay your entry fee.

**Gerber Convention** — a meeting of baby-food manufacturers.

### QUOTE OF THE MONTH



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

### BRIDGE SONG

"It's Not Unusual" — partner's scream after you misinterpret his 2 NT bid.

### BRIDGE MOVIE

*Double Indemnity* — removing all the redouble cards from your opponents' bidding boxes.

**President's letter**  
[\*continued from p.1\*](#)

now is the model of deportment (well, usually) at the table.

I am constantly amazed when I see partner abuse. Do the “Kens” of the bridge-playing world really think reaming out partner will make her play better on the next hand? Does anyone play better under those conditions? Do you want partner thinking about the last hand or the next one? I often think some bridge players learned all their interpersonal skills as high school football players. Those coaches do scream and perhaps that is necessary to get the attention of a 17-year-old. Most bridge partners have a few more years under their belts, and I doubt this works well for them.

There are ways to deal with these overbearing partners. Here are a few creative suggestions from the battlefield.

Jean's tale reminded me of another story, this one from Kish Devaraj. Kish is playing with “John,” a top player with a reputation for pounding on partner. And John is in his usual form today, repeatedly lambasting Kish (who happens to be an expert player himself). Kish finally turns and asks, “John, do you think I am trying to lose?” John was quiet for the rest of the session.

Bill Kulbersh has his own unique solution to the problem. When asked by a domineering partner why he made that bid / took that line of play / gave that signal, he calmly replies, “Because I hate you.” I can understand how that might put partner in place!

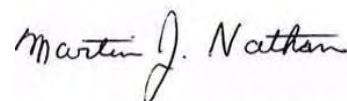
Here's another suggestion that might work if partner is a good guy who sometimes just can't help himself, or perhaps you are the one who can't control your emotions. Agree on a “safe

word.” When partner says the safe word, it is the signal that you've gone too far. After the safe word is uttered, you have only one option. And that is to shut up!

There are two categories of bridge table discussions: system and judgment. System issues tend to be black or white, yes or no. “Didn't we agree to play Drury in fourth seat?” You won't raise partner's blood pressure if clarifying your agreements. Judgment issues are another matter. “Why would you switch to a trump?” may well be heard as “What kind of idiotic play that was!” Circle the board number on your private score and save the judgment issue for after the game. Who knows, you might even learn something.

Let's move to the other side of that table. You do not have to listen to those belligerent opponents. There's actually a law against it, specifically Rule 74 of the *Laws of Duplicate Contract Bridge*. You have the right to ask the opponents to stop discussing hands or doing anything else that reasonably makes you uncomfortable. If they persist, call the director. If you aren't comfortable confronting such behavior, leave the table and tell the director. She gets paid to deal with these problem characters. If nothing else, consider it your civic duty; you are doing this not just for yourself but also for every other player in the room.

As a director, boorish behavior is the complaint I get most often. Let's all work together to make bridge enjoyable for every single person who plays.





## July Sectional in New Location

by Dick Myers

### From the General Conditions of Contest for all ACBL events:

All players have an obligation to disclose their agreements according to the procedures established by ACBL. When asked, a full explanation of the agreement must be provided. Stating the common or popular name of the convention is not sufficient. The opponents need not ask exactly the "right" question. Any request for information should be the trigger. Opponents need only indicate the desire for information -- all relevant disclosures should be given automatically. The proper way to ask for information is "Please Explain".

### One Final Note:

Players should never offer explanations phrased as "I think it means..." or "I'm taking it as..." If you cannot remember the partnership agreement, say just that. If you know a bid should be alerted but can't remember the meaning, then please alert the bid. The opponents may wish to call the director when you say "I can't remember!" Encourage them to do so. If you cannot remember discussing an agreement in this bidding sequence simply say "It's undiscussed." In this situation you have to use your best bridge judgment to proceed and the opponents must do the same.

The Independence Day Sectional will be in a new (to us) facility. We will have more room, more parking space, more restrooms and continuous food service. I hope you will come to the North Atlanta Trade Center to experience this excellent facility. Due to location, cost and availability, I expect to schedule this facility again in the future.

### The ACBL Nationals Are Coming? The Nationals *Are* Coming!



No, this isn't a reprint from last year. This is *new*!

After its March Board of Directors meeting, the ACBL made a startling announcement. Atlanta has been awarded not only the Summer 2018 NABC, but the Fall 2023 NABC as well. That will give us three in the space of just ten years. This is a first in ACBL history, for which all of us here in Atlanta should be very proud.

The NABCs will be held at a new location, the Atlanta Marriott Marquis. You won't need new directions; it's just across Peachtree Center Avenue from the Hyatt.

Hotel logistics and our great airport surely contributed to our selection. The great Atlanta volunteers were a major factor. The member survey after last year's NABC put Atlanta in a very favorable light, and those who volunteered made us look good indeed.

What is not breaking news is that bridge players are not the youngest of folk and many of those volunteers likely will not be able to contribute as much over the next nine years. That's where *you* come in. Yes, it is a ways off, but start thinking about how *you* can contribute.

Heavy planning won't start for a year or two. In the meantime congratulations to all of us.