May 2004

ASSOCIATION

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## The Super-Moysian Fit

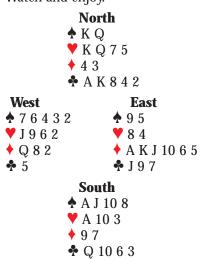
by Harold Feldheim

Alphonse (Sonny) Moyse was a well-known, super expert during the mid-20th century. He had a predilection for 4-3 trump fits and thus, these became known as Moysian fits.

This hand, from the 1950 Vanderbilt team championships, illustrates the main advantage of erroneous bidding; you get practice playing atrocious contracts.

The other maxim is that occasionally, faith in the fallibility of the defense can be well justified. With this hand, four great masters put on a bidding and defense sideshow.

Watch and enjoy.



Dealer: North

Neither side vulnerable

North	East	South	West
1 <b>♣</b>	1 ♦	1 🛧	Pass
2 💙	Pass	4 💠	Pass
4 🛧	All Pass		

In today's five card major parlance, South would have opted for a negative

double, reserving one spade for a five card suit. But Moyse was a fourcard devotee and a "natural" bidder. North's second bid was a reverse showing a gamegoing hand and South showed



**Harold Feldheim** 

values by leaping to four clubs.

North, believing that South was odds-on to hold five spades, tried four spades. With both sides looking at two diamond losers, that became the final contract.

Needless to say, a less imaginative five clubs was a 100% contract but the 4-2 super-Moysian fit was another story. The contract certainly had no play (a spade lead by West would be most destructive) without help from East. West led partner's suit and, after cashing the first two diamonds, East led a third diamond, planning to either shorten declarers trump or force declarer to ruff with an honor, perhaps promoting some spot-card in partner's hand.

But the results were catastrophic. Declarer ruffed the third trick in dummy and drew four rounds of trump and began to cash high clubs. When West ruffed with the master trump, he had no diamonds and was forced to lead a heart allowing declarer to claim the rest of the tricks; +420. Net result, +1 IMP! (the other table scored 400 in 5 clubs).

Bridge is such a great game!

## Save These Dates

#### **Regional Tournament**

in Sturbridge, MA at the Sturbridge Host Hotel will be held on **June 23 - 27** 

Please call Peter Cleveland at 207-934-2668 for information.

#### The Connecticut Summer Sectional

will be held

July 30, 31 and August 1 at the West Haven Knights of Columbus located at 263 Center Street in West Haven.

Please call Mary Witt 860-658-9395 for information.

#### The Jeff Feldman Memorial Sectional

will be held on

September 17, 18 and 19

at the Hamden Knights of Columbus, 2630 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, CT.

Please call Mary Witt 860-658-9395 for information.

#### **The Sid Cohen Sectional**

will be held

December 3, 4 and 5

at the Newington Knights of Columbus at 647 North Mountain Road, Newington, CT.

Please call Mary Witt 860-658-9395 for information.



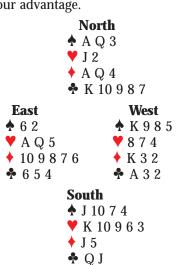
## **The Better Half**

By Gloria Sieron

Whether you are playing in a club game or a sectional, regional or national tournament, the most exciting part of the session is when the scores are posted and the rankings revealed. The pessimist starts at the bottom and works his way up. The optimist always thinks of first place. If the outcome shows you are below average most of the time, there are ways to improve your score up to average and, even better, to a winning percentage.

Play your hands well? If you are lucky, you'll play one-quarter of the hands. Sometimes you have a handhog for a partner and you'll be the dummy more than one-quarter of the session. On the average, your partnership will be declarer half the time. Being declarer is the most satisfying part of bridge. You are the star.

During an average duplicate game, you'll be defending twice as often as you are declarer. Want to improve your overall percentage? Concentrate on the art of defense. During an average duplicate game, you'll be defending half the time. When you improve your defense, you'll be looking at the recaps from the top. Playing a standard signaling system, a high card encourages and a low card is discouraging. However, let's look at a hand when a little detective work works to your advantage.





Gloria Sieron

The auction:

North opens 1 NT - 15 to 17. South responds 2 ♣ (Stayman). North rebids 2 ♦ (denying a four card major). South settles in 2 ♥.

What clues does South's auction disclose?

Since South rebid 2 ♥, he must have five hearts.

If all South had was 5 ♥ he would have made an initial transfer bid, instead of using Stayman.

Therefore, he holds  $5 \ \forall$  and  $4 \ \spadesuit$ .

South has 0 to 8 points. If he had more, he would have bid 2 NT.

You, sitting West, decide to lead your doubleton spade. South plays queen from Dummy. Partner wins the king and dutifully returns a spade to declarer's jack and your deuce.

The deductive process begins here.

What do you know? One of declarer's points is the Jack ♠.

Declarer plays the Queen ♣ and wins the trick. The bridge calculator in your brain gathers evidence.

You know declarer has at least three points.

The Jack • follows.

Now, you give declarer four points.

Declarer wins the Jack ♣. He plays a low heart (trump) to the jack and

you take the queen. You bravely shift to the 10 ♦. Declarer plays the Ace ♦ but partner follows with the discouraging three.

Declarer plays the Jack ♥ from dummy. You take your Ace.

Now to test your sleuth truth on a scale of one to ten.

If you can reach partner, he can give you a spade ruff. How discouraging is the three ♦? Should you disregard the discouraging signal in diamonds? Is declarer more likely to hold the King ♥ or the King ♦? Can declarer have both kings? No, he would have 10 HCP. Can declarer have more than 7 HCP for his bid? He shouldn't. Partner may own the King ♦ even if he plays the three. Sometimes partner isn't fortunate enough to be dealt an encouraging card

Don't be a puppet, blindly following partner's signals. Partner may not possess an encouraging high card. You want to be proactive in your partnership. Examine the auction, think about declarer's distribution and point count. Suddenly, you'll get to know what partner has in his hand.

It's like being able to see through the cards.

You'll be amazed at what a little analysis and some sleuthing can do.

You'll be a CBSI – Contract Bridge Scientific Investigator and enjoy The Better Half of duplicate bridge.

The art of defense. See you at the top of your section.

## **Discarding Tips**

from Richard De Martino

At a recent tournament, Richard De Martino gave a lesson on discarding. Some of the highlights follow.

Defenders throw away too many points by making faulty discards. Discarding correctly is a very important factor in defending well. On a large number of hands, your first discard is especially important, so plan your discard carefully.

It is often necessary to discard negatively (a small card) in suits you don't want led rather than positively (a high card) in a suite you want led. Partner must be alert to these situations.

In this hand, South has bid two NT and North has raised to three NT. Partner leads the 5 ♦. Declarer wins with the 10 ♦, and plays another diamond. What is your plan?

## North ↑ Q 6 5 ♥ Q 6 5 ↑ J 10 8 2 ↑ Q 6 5

#### Your hand ↑ 10 9 4 3 2 ▼ A K J 10 ↑ ...... ↑ 7 6 3 2

#### South

- ↑ A K J ▼ 8 7 3 2
- ♦ K Q 7 3 • A K

continued on page 12

# Milestones Congratulations to...

#### **Bronze Life Master** (500 MPs)

Raymond Bykowski
Virginia Carron
Lynn Condon
Charlotte Dunlap
Irving Germain
Elaine Haut
Ruth Kuzman
William McGinness
Sally Morgan
Albert Poirier
Jill Rosen
Allen Segal
JoAnn Scata
Arthur Verney

#### **Life Master** (300 MPs)

Rita Doucette
Ed Finlay
Noman Johnson
Marilyn Kay
Fredda Kelly
Edwin Lewis III

#### **And Congratulations to:**

Bill Stiefel has been caddying at sectionals, regionals and nationals for the last eight years. This May he will graduate from the University of Hartford with a major in psychology and a minor in philosophy. In the fall he will start work at the University of Hartford toward a Masters Degree and certification in school psychology. Lucky for us, he'll still be around and still caddying.

## WELCOME to the 2004 North American Pairs!

Starting in June at clubs, this grass roots event is conducted in two stages (club qualifying & district final) and culminates in a national final held at the Spring 2005 North American Bridge Championship in Pittsburgh, PA.

Players compete in three flights (Open, 0-2000, 0-Non-Life Master with fewer than 500 masterpoints) determined by masterpoint accumulation. The winning pair in each flight in the District 25 Final receives three nights lodging and airfare subsidies; the second place pair receives airfare subsidy; and the third place pair is invited to represent the district at their own expense.

#### **New this Year:**

- Lower entry fees. Fees will be the same as those for other special club events (STaCs, Charity Games, etc.).
- More opportunities to qualify and earn more masterpoints (each club may now hold two NAP qualifying games per sanctioned session per flight)

Club qualifying games are held during June, July and August. Players are reminded to check with their local club managers and directors for days and times of the qualifying games.

For more information, contact Kay Howe, NAP Coordinator at 203-299-1630 or email to naopcoord@nebridge.org.

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



# The 'Can't Cost' (CC) Principle Chapter III

By John Steifel

To review CC: if you know a particular play can't cost, just do it. You don't need to figure out if or how it might gain, only that it can't lose.

Said another way; it's often easier to figure out a "can't cost" play to an early trick than all the details of what might happen later (deep thought or DT).

CC Chapter III features this hand from a recent matchpoint game.

Dealer - South

Vulnerability - N/S

Auction - 2♥, Pass, 2NT, Pass, 3♥, All Pass

Opening Lead - A



The auction is typical at matchpoints. You open 2♥ at unfavorable vulnerability without a care in the world; your partner feels the need to try for game and your 3♥ card says "we're quite high enough – thank you."

I agree with your decision to open 2♥ at matchpoints, even at unfavorable vulnerability. Sure, you might go for a number, but it's only one board. At IMPs, however, your partner might play you for more, the opponents will be more likely to double and the scoring is weighted toward big swings, so maybe you should have a little more, perhaps the 10 of trumps instead of the 4

At any rate, the defense starts with two high spades followed by a low spade to South's 10. West ruffs this with the 6 and dummy overruffs with the king. Now you draw the rest of the trumps at tricks 4, 5 and 6. (You keep all the clubs in dummy in case West started with K J x.) Then you lead a club to the queen at trick 7 and the ace of clubs at trick 8. West didn't start with K J x of clubs, so you can't set up your 10 with a ruff.

At this point, it looks like you've earned a good score because the defense has allowed you to get a spade ruff in dummy; so it's tempting to "save time" and concede the spade loser at this point.

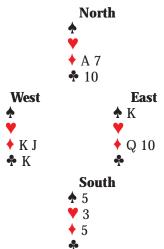
But how can it cost to play the hand out? (CC principle).

So:

Trick 9 - club ruff, East playing the jack and West the 9

Tricks 10 and 11 - lead the last two trumps (CC)

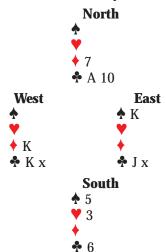
This is the end position as you lead your last trump to trick 11.



West can't throw his King ♣ - that would set up dummy's 10 - so he throws a diamond. Dummy throws the 10 ♣ and now it's East's turn to be squeezed. He can't throw his King ♠ - that would set up declarer's 5 - so he too, throws dummy's A 7 ♦ take the last two tricks. Making five!

Deep thought (DT) people would make two observations. First, this is a "double squeeze with diamonds as the central suit." It worked because West had to guard clubs and East had to guard spades, so neither could guard diamonds in the end.

Second, declarer could have tried for a "double squeeze with clubs as the central suit." That squeeze would have worked instead if West had had 4 (or more) diamonds instead of 4 or more clubs. To execute that squeeze, declarer would have had to keep 4 diamonds in dummy. Then after drawing trump, A of diamonds, diamond ruff, club to the queen, diamond ruff, trump at tricks 7 to 11. If West started with long diamonds, this would have been the 3-card end position.



On the lead of the last trump to trick 11, both defenders would have to pitch clubs and dummy's A 10 ♣ would take the last two tricks.

So DT people would know that there are two possible squeezes, but which squeeze would they go for? Answer; the "diamonds central suit" squeeze, the same one you did. Why? Both squeezes require the club king to be on-side, but it's more likely to be onside if West has four or more clubs than if he has three or fewer.

So, bottom line, you should have worked all this out (DT) before choosing your discard from dummy at trick seven. You didn't but, once again, CC came through for you.

## 5

### District Director's Report - March 2004

Richard De Martino

#### Reno NABC

Attendance at the Reno NABC was 14,955 tables, which makes this tournament the largest Spring NABC in history. There were fewer District 25 players at this NABC than usual but 148 New England players won masterpoints. The playing conditions were excellent and overall, the Reno NABC was a huge success and most of our players had a great time.

### TOP CONNECTICUT FINISHERS IN NABC EVENTS

VANDERBILT - Doug Doub (9-16)
SILVER RIBBON PAIRS - John Stiefel,
Rich De Martino (6)

OPEN PAIRS II - John Stiefel (5) OPEN SWISS TEAMS - Doug Doub (7)

### HIGHLIGHTS OF ACBL BOARD MEETING

#### **Financial Status**

For calendar year 2003, the ACBL had a deficit of \$203,000. Despite the deficit, the overall financial status of the ACBL remains well within the guidelines previously established for our organization, primarily due to the large gains we realized in calendar years 2001 and 2002. Overall, the financial status of the ACBL continues to be excellent.

#### **CEO Report**

CEO Jay Baum reported that membership increased by almost 1,200 players during 2003. In addition, tournament participation was up over 2002: 3% for Regionals; 2% for Sectionals; and, 17% for STaCs.

#### **Age For Senior Events**

A motion was made to increase the minimum age for Senior Events, currently age 55, to age 60 in one-year increments starting on January 1, 2005, and ending on January 1, 2009. This is the second time in the past year that this motion has been presented.

The motion failed 14-11. I voted against the motion, both because passage of this motion would hurt our Senior Regional in Falmouth and because many who now play in these events are between 55 and 60. They play in the seniors because they perceive the events to be less competitive or because of earlier starting times for Senior Events.

#### **Stratified Swiss Team Games**

A motion was passed to allow sponsoring organizations the option in Stratified Swiss Team games of determining the stratification level of a team based on the average masterpoint holding of all players on the team rather than by the masterpoint holding of the top player on the team.

#### **NABC Schedule**

A Committee has been formed to review the schedule of NABC and NABC+ events to determine if any changes are desirable at this time. (The schedule of Regional events at NABC1s is at the discretion of the host District.) Should any of you have suggestions or opinions on this subject, please let me know.

As usual, the complete minutes of the Board Meeting will be posted on the ACBL Website within the next few weeks.



#### **Richard De Martino**

#### Top District 25 Masterpoint Winners - Reno NABC

		Total	Won In
Na	me	<b>Points</b>	<b>NABC</b>
1	John Stiefel	183.15	140.26
2	William Hunter	173.22	2.12
	S. Mukherjee	173.22	2.12
4	Walter Fontaine	157.18	2.12
5	Paul Kinney	127.94	12.50
6	Bill Irvine	126.70	1.76
7	Doug Doub	117.88	117.25
8	Rich DeMartino	109.14	53.60
9	Lloyd Arvedon	81.97	70.50
10	R. Zeckhauser	75.33	75.33
11	Nathan Glasser	70.44	-
12	Harold Feldheim	66.73	12.50
13	Simon Kantor	65.46	65.46
14	Judith Inker	60.89	-
15	D. Sondergeld	58.02	-
16	John Shufelt	57.08	-
17	Phyllis Fireman	56.80	-
18	Jean Shufelt	51.78	-
19	Brian Duran	49.20	-
20	Andy Avery	48.81	48.81
21	Victor King	48.51	36.66
22	Robin Hillyard	46.25	-
	Barry Margolin	45.23	1.25
24	Brad Bozick	45.22	-
25	Sharron Hinkley	44.49	-

I encourage all of our players, clubs and units to make every effort to support the North American Pairs this year. The ACBL is making a strong effort to revitalize this event. One important change is that the additional fee for NAP club qualifying games is reduced from \$1.75 to \$1.00. Hopefully, this will encourage our clubs to hold more games with more participation. The NAP is a great event and it would be unfortunate if it is discontinued by the ACBL Board because of lack of participation.

The Summer NABC is in New York City from July 8 through July 18. This will be the first NABC in New York City in over 30 years and I know the District 3/District 24 Committee is hard at work to make this a memorable NABC. Hope to see you there.



#### **Madison Bridge Club**

Margaret Mason and Lenny Russman, with a 71 percent game, were the winners of the first annual Scott Loring Club Championship at a Tuesday evening game at the Madison Duplicate Bridge Club in late March.

Mason and Russman are also first and second place leaders in the club's Master Point Race for the first quarter of the current year; Russman has 14.62 points, Mason 11.08. Others in the top ten in the MP Race include: Ogden Bigelow, 9.51; Roy Andrews, 9.29; Gernot Reiners, 7.08; Denise Lombard, 7.01; Lois Flesche, 5.95; David Hyatt, 5.89; Donald Brueggemann, 5.49; and Louise Cotsales, 4.28.

Winners in other Tuesday night special games at the Madison Club were: Split Local, February 3, David Hyatt and Lois Flesche. Ogden Bigelow and Gernot Reiners were in first place in the mid-March ACBL Wide Charity game.

Winners in special games on Thursdays included: January STaC game, North-South, Donald Stiegler and Larry Bauscher; and East-West, Karen Abate and Arlene Leshine. In the ACBL Wide Charity Game, Denise Lombard and Lenny Russman won first place. Louise Cotsales and Midge Ehrenfreund were second in the Charity Game and first in the B and C sections.

The Madison Club meets Tuesday evenings at 7:15 p.m. at the Madison Historical Town Hall, which is located at the most easterly end of the Town Green. Partners are available for the games. A call to directors David Hyatt, 488-7027 or Lois Flesche, 488-3585 would be appreciated if a partner is needed.

The Thursday game meets at 10 a.m., also at the town building on the Green. All Madison games are ACBL sanctioned and are stratified.

#### **Stamford**

The Bridge Mix of Stamford, located at 77 Third St., has changed its Monday time from 12 noon to 11:30 a.m. This earlier time should help players deal with the growing traffic problems in the area after 3:30. It is so wonderful to see the "snow birds" returning, which is my favorite sign of spring that says nice weather is on its way, too. It's been a long, cold, snowy winter and we're all glad to see it go. Hope it gets lost forever! We have such a great group of Bridge Players. Our club's top point achievers were Rita Doucette in January, Elliot Ranard in February and Doris Greenwald in March. Nice playing! Come join us and this terrific game. Call me for directions, Ann Cady, Director, 860-354-1457.

#### **Shoreline Bridge Club**

www.bridgeresults.com/results/5022/cal

Shoreline blasted off the new year by participating in the ACBL Interclub Internet game March 1st. Dave Hyatt and Dave Ross were the only qualifiers for overall and in the C division.

Section winners North-South were the above followed by Don Stiegler and Paul Proulx , Ruth Teitelman and Micki Schaffel, Helma Strauss and Betty Nagle. East-West winners Dee Altieri and Midge Ehrenfreund, Grace Postman and Cindy Michael, Betty Tobin and Fritz Reimers, Charlie Halpin and Kay Frangione. Any clubs interested in this game should contact Dave Hyatt as there are pluses but still some problems to be worked out.

The welcome-back party (also celebrating March birthdays) was won by Dick Augur and Forrest Smith (A and B), followed by Helen Kobernusz and Margaret Mason, with Karen Allen and Sue Addiss first in C.

The first Swiss Team of the year was won by Charlie Halpin, Phyllis and Larry Bausher, and Don Stiegler; second and first in B were Don Brueggemann, Irene Pinski, Ken Graebe and Fritz Reimers.

The winners of the recent Split Local were: Helen Kobernuz and Bill Reich; second (1st B) Dick Augur and Forest Smith; third Ruth Teitelman and Micki Schaffel; fourth John McGuire and Len Russman; tie for fifth Sarah Corning and Cindy Michael with Elaine and Arthur Haut; first in C were Pieri Graebe and Sylvia Alpert.

The overall winners for 2003:

- 1 Dick Augur
- 2 Forest Smith
- 3 Joan Panico
- 4/5 Arthur and Elaine Haut
- 6 Helen Kobernuz
- 7 Sarah Corning
- 8 John McGuire
- 9 Irene Pinski (first in C)
- 10 Don Brueggemann

Attendance leaders were Irene Pinski and Dave Hyatt followed by Steve Brown of 87 participants who played more than once.

The Shoreline BC meets Mondays at 6:45 p.m. in the Branford Community Center and the schedule can be accessed on the web site or from Dave Hyatt at <a href="mailto:dkh2885@hot-mail.com">dkh2885@hot-mail.com</a>.

Partners can be arranged if notified a day in advance. Call Dave at 203-488-7027.

#### **Hartford Bridge Club**

The renovations to the Hartford Bridge have been completed. We now have a beautiful two-room bridge facility, an improved kitchen, expanded heating and air conditioning capabilities, upgraded lighting throughout and updated and expanded restrooms for both men and women.

To a large extent the renovation was paid for by the generous bequest of almost \$40,000 dollars by our departed friend, Helen Bensche. I think she would approve of the changes to the club.

Currently the club has games on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings at 9:30 a.m. and Tuesday morning at 10 a.m.; Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m.; Saturday at 12:30 p.m.; Sunday at 1 p.m., and Tuesday and Thursday at 7:15 p.m. In addition, there is a Supervised Novice game at 1:30 p.m. on Thursdays. Call for directions or partners, 860-953-3177.

#### **Club News**

Our club experienced a rough winter in terms of losing some longtime, stalwart members. We remember Flo Bredahl – a lovely, enduring woman whose warmth, humor, and friendliness extended to all who knew her. She possessed an indomitable, uncomplaining spirit and determinedly visited her beloved Barbados for the last time only a month before her death.

Buddy Joseph was a dear man who courageously railed against monumental pain and illness during the final two years of his life. He never let on how bad he was feeling, and he successfully struggled back to the bridge club during his last few months. The number of people who attended his funeral is testimony to how well regarded Buddy was by his friends and peers.

An engaging woman with a sad early childhood, Vera Becker overcame her past to lead a happy, fulfilled life in the U.S. surrounded by her adored family and many acquaintances. She enjoyed many interests, not the least of which was bridge, connecting her to so many friends at our club.

Additionally, we miss Ray Siuta, a welcomed addition to our midst, and Naomi Vogel, a refined and gentle woman.

Despite these sorrowful losses, we can enjoy the happy moments we share together. Amazingly, 100 people managed to keep Doug Deacon's surprise birthday party a real surprise! We all participated in - and benefited from - a wonderful party in Doug's honor while consuming mountains of delicious food and imbibing gallons of drink in our glorious new environs, all the while playing our favorite game gratis, thanks to Paul Tungatt's generous treat.

It was however, completely unnecessary for Doug and Paul's opponents to have felt compelled to ensure the duo's win just because it was Doug's party! Come on, now!

## The Woodway Duplicate Bridge Club

The Woodway Duplicate Bridge Club finished its winter series. Congratulations to all the winners, who were as follows:

- 1. Laura Wilks and Ann Fuller
- 2. Kathy Rowland and Joe Hoben
- 3. Ellie Allen and Jean Byrne
- 4. Betty McCoy and Ann Towne
- 5. Barbara Munson and Dottie Noyes

#### Norwalk Senior Center New Game In Town

Since January the Norwalk Senior Center located on Allen Road in Norwalk has been hosting an open duplicate game on Tuesday afternoon 1-4 p.m. The game is sanctioned for masterpoints and the fee is only \$5.00! It is fast-food bridge, you play 20 - 21 boards in 3 hours. Players without partners are always welcome. The Senior Center is handicappedaccessible. If you have any questions, please call Lynn Condon at 203-938-2968 or the Senior Center at 203-847-3115.

#### Bridge Forum (Hamden) First Quarter News

#### **Player of the Month:**

January - Fredda Kelly February - Fredda Kelly March - Muriel Romero

Tuesday Results: Muriel Romero and Billie Hecker were running a strong 1-2 for Player of the Year, and also took a little lead over Fredda Kelly - Helen Molloy for top partnership.

#### **Leonora Stein Cup:**

The Romero-Hecker partnership completed its trifecta by both making the three-week final for the Stein Cup (held after *The Kibitzer* deadline), which they have both won in the past. They were joined by 2001 runner-up Helen Shields and first-time finalist Judy Pieper, both of whom faced tough opponents in elimination rounds. Helen knocked out our top cup winner Louise Wood, and the current holder, Fredda Kelly, while Judy survived a record five elimination rounds.

Friday Results: The Player of the Year front-runners were Arlene Leshine and Carl Yohans, with new regular Burt Tenner well within reach of the lead. Before Florence Schannon's serious accident, she and Muriel Romero were the top pair, ahead of Jan Lewis and Helen Molloy.

#### **Aldyth Claiborn Cup:**

The Claiborn Cup was assured of remaining the only cup without a two-time winner, but any of the four finalists (Louise Wood, Fredda Kelly, Marcel Bratu and Jean Shepler-Miller) would make history by winning.

Louise would hold five of the six cups at the same time. Fredda would be the first player to win all four single-session cups. Marcel would be only the third male cup winner, joining Jon Ingersoll and the late Morse Ginsberg.

Jean would be the first "Lucky Loser" to win a cup; Florence had just qualified for the semifinals when she had her accident, and Jean, as the highest-finishing player to be eliminated the week before, was given Florence's place to avoid defaults.

#### Wee Burn News

Several Wee Burn players attended the Bermuda Regional last January and had these fine results: Charity Game, third overall: Janet Soskin, Linda Cleveland. Open Pairs, first overall: Jean Thoma, Karen Barrett. Third overall: Kathy Rowland, Joan Hoben. A.M. Knock-Outs, first overall: Marilyn Tjader, Martha Hathaway, Penny Glassmeyer, Lois Karcher.



## By the Numbers

by Allan Clamage

In the past we've broken down the membership of Unit 126 by percentiles (number of master points for each 1% of the total number of players with at least one MP). That way you could see where you stood in relation to your friends and friendly competitors in Connecticut. If you want to see the latest Table of Percentiles, it's in the last *Kibitzer*. If you don't have a copy, it's on the CBA website (www.ctbridge.org)

But if you've wondered how you stood in relation to all of the 167,378 players in the ACBL as a whole, you can find the answer in table below.

#### Where Do You Rank in the ACBL?

Bottom	Тор	Number of	% of	Cum. %
of Range	of Range	Members	Total	of Total
10,000	$\infty$	306	0.2%	0.2%
9,000	10,000	90	0.1%	
8,000	9,000	93	0.1%	
7,000	8,000	178	0.1%	
6,000	7,000	261	0.2%	
5,000	6,000	447	0.3%	
Diamond L	.M	1069	0.6%	0.8%
4,000	5,000	778	0.5%	
3,000	4,000	1,585	0.9%	
2,500	3,000	1,469	0.9%	
Gold LM		3832	2.3%	3.1%
2,000	2,500	2,553	1.5%	
1,500	2,000	4,985	3.0%	
1,250	1,500	4,295	2.6%	
1,000	1,250	6,700	4.0%	
Silver LM		18,533	11.1%	14.2%
900	1,000	3,194	1.9%	
800	900	4,109	2.5%	
700	800	5,332	3.2%	
600	700	6,622	4.0%	
500	600	8,390	5.0%	
<b>Bronze LM</b>		27,647	16.5%	30.7%
400	500	10,167	6.1%	
300	400	12,421	7.4%	
Life Master		22,588	13.5%	44.2%
250	300	4,930	2.9%	
200	250	5,967	3.6%	
150	200	7,539	4.5%	
100	150	10,156	6.1%	
50	100	14,852	8.9%	
0	50	49,959	29.8%	
Non Life M	aster	93,403	<b>55.8</b> %	100.0%
<b>Total ACBI</b>		167,378	100.0%	

This chart is a modified version of the one on the ACBL site. It adds data on the percentage – and cumulative percentage – of members in selected master point ranges. However, to save space, it compresses some of the data on ranges below 300 MP. For example, there are more than 10,000 members (6% of the total) with less than one master point For the complete detail on the number of non-Life Masters, go on line: web2.acbl.org/misc/mbmp.

About 44% of the ACBL's members are Life Masters (or above). How does Connecticut compare to the ACBL as a whole? Take a look at the table below.

#### **How Connecticut Compares to the ACBL**

	ACBL		CBA	
Rank	Members	Percent	Members	Percent
Non-LM	93,403	55.8%	1873	68.3%
Life Master	22,588	13.5%	302	11.0%
Bronze LM	27,647	16.5%	323	11.8%
Silver LM	18,533	11.1%	198	7.2%
Gold LM	3,832	2.3%	33	1.2%
Diamond LM	1,069	0.6%	10	0.4%
10,000+	306	0.2%	3	0.1%
Total	167,378	100.0%	2742	100.0%

**Note:** Members are placed in each category according to masterpoints. These numbers do not reflect point pigmentations needed to achieve the rank.

As you can see, Connecticut has a smaller percentage of its membership in every LM category than the rest of the ACBL. And it has a far higher percentage in the non-Life Master group. What's the reason? Anyone can make a guess. But there's no guessing about the fact that we need programs to reach the 299ers (0-299 MP) and help them get more involved in tournament bridge and move up the ladder to becoming Life Masters (and beyond).



#### **From The Clubs** - continued from page 7

The 12 week Winter Series ended March 25. Winners were:

- 1. Ellie Allen-Ann Fuller
- 2. Dottie Noyes-Betsy Philips
- 3. Lois Berry-Jan Moller
- 4. Linda Cleveland-Karen Barrett
- 5. Barbara Munson-Jean Byrne
- 6. Kathy Rowland-Joan Hoben

The Spring Charity game was won by Carol Davidson and Susan Mayo with Lois Karcher and Betty Hodgman as runners-up. A Swiss team game on April 8th resulted in a tie for first: Barbara Munson, Jean Byrne, Dottie Noyes, Betsy Philips and Martha Murphy, Betty McCoy, Mary Beach, and Anne Towne

#### **Groton Tournament** March 5 - 7

The winner of the Barb Shaw trophy was Tom Gerchman.

#### FRI. AFT. OPEN PAIRS STRAT A

- Eileen Inman Jose Gaztambide
- David Richheimer Dick Augur
- Morgan Tyler Frank Blachowski
- 4 Harris Jacobs - Patrick Purdy
- 5 Judith Hess - Nicholas France
- John Stiefel Victor King

#### FRI. AFT. OPEN PAIRS STRAT B

- Eileen Inman Jose Gaztambide
- John Berry Ausra Geaski
- Helma Strauss Valerie Orefice 3
- Donald Brueggemann W. Kenneth 4 Graebe
- Dorothy Hulme Laury Heilpern 5
- Nicholas and Sandra Blazensky

#### FRI. AFT. OPEN PAIRS STRAT C

- Eileen Inman Jose Gaztambide
- Nicholas and Sandra Blazensky
- Edward Littman Richard Olson

#### FRI. AFT. SENIOR PAIRS STRAT A

- Richard Palmer Barb Shaw
- Elizabeth Nagle Kathleen Frangione
- Lenny Russman Henry (Roy) Andrews
- Janet Gischner Jane Smith
- Mary Leclair Julie Noyes
- Rita Brieger Aniko Richheimer

#### FRI. AFT. SENIOR PAIRS STRAT B

- Rita Brieger Aniko Richheimer
- Marjorie Ehrenfreund Lois Flesche
- Karen Abate Dibirma Burnham 3
- G. Dionne Frank Kappler
- Suzanne Goldstein J. Gail Schulze
- Ruth Werksman Eleanor Stone

#### FRI. AFT. SENIOR PAIRS STRAT C

- Ruth Werksman Eleanor Stone
- Barbara Flaherty Emily MacLachlan
- 3/4Joseph Goldberg Alfred Bruhn
- 3/4Larry Southwick Arthur Farago
- 5 Judith Dobbrow Marjory Sill

#### FRI. PM OPEN PAIRS STRAT A

- Richard Palmer Robert La Tourette
- Victor King John Stiefel
- Lou Kelleher Donald Robertson
- Sonja Smith David Rock 4
- 5 Allan Clamage - Don Stiegler
- Kathleen Frangione Elizabeth Nagle

#### FRI. PM OPEN PAIRS STRAT B

- Sonja Smith David Rock 2/3 Curtis Bristol Jr - Pere Pittard
- 2/3Thomas Hyde Edwin Lewis III 4 Ausra Geaski - Thomas Gerchman
- Nicholas and Sandra Blazensky
- 6/7Lois Flesche Marjorie Ehrenfreund
- 6/7 Eleanor Papineau Louis Brown

#### FRI. PM OPEN PAIRS STRAT C

- Nicholas and Sandra Blazensky
- Eleanor Papineau Louis Brown
- 3 Marjory Sill - Judith Dobbrow
- Ruth Werksman Eleanor Stone

#### SAT. AM STRATIFIED A/X PAIRS STRAT A

- 1 Shome Mukherjee William Hunter
- Maeve Mahon Lawrence Lau
- Elliot Ranard Thomas Hey
- James Greer Allan Clamage
- Richard and Elaine Jaworowski

#### SAT. AM STRATIFIED A/X PAIRS STRAT X

- Elliot Ranard Thomas Hey
- 2 Paul Burnham - John Campbell
- Mary Leclair Charlotte Zultowsky
- John Berry Henry (Roy) Andrews

#### SAT. AM B/C/D PAIRS STRAT B

- 1 Constance Graham Richard Palmer
- 2/3Suzanne Goldstein J. Gail Schulze 2/3Susan Seckinger - Elizabeth Nagle
- Thomas Gerchman Ausra Geaski
- David Wright T. Karnkowski
- Susan Rodricks Judith Jacobson

#### SAT. AM B/C/D PAIRS STRAT C

- Suzanne Goldstein J. Gail Schulze
- David Wright Tadeusz Karnkowski
- Susan Rodricks Judith Jacobson
- Mike Marcy Walter Nason
- Barbara Fontaine Rosamund Barber
- Curtis Bristol, Jr. Pere Pittard

#### SAT. AM B/C/D PAIRS STRAT D

- Suzanne Goldstein J. Gail Schulze
- 2 David Wright - T. Karnkowski
- Mike Marcy Walter Nason
- Barbara Fontaine Rosamund Barber
- Curtis Bristol, Jr. Pere Pittard

#### SAT. AM 299ER PAIRS STRAT E

- Elizabeth Robertson Frank Marston
- Donald and Mary Macmillan
- 3 Nicholas and Sandra Blazensky
- Thomas O'Reilly-Pol Larry Pol
- Arthur Farago Larry Southwick

#### SAT. AM 299ER PAIRS STRAT F

- Donald and Mary Macmillan
- Nicholas and Sandra Blazensky
- Thomas O'Reilly-Pol Larry Pol
- Arthur Farago Larry Southwick
- Donald Migliaro Vivien Novicki

#### SAT. AM 299ER PAIRS STRAT G

- Nicholas and Sandra Blazensky
- 2 Thomas O'Reilly-Pol - Larry Pol
- Donald Migliaro Vivien Novicki
- 4 Karen Largay Sheila Gillin

#### SAT. AFT. A/X PAIRS STRAT A

- Terry Byrne Joyce Regan
- Jane Smith Richard Palmer
- Frank Blachowski Morgan Tyler
- Elliot Ranard Thomas Hey Don Stiegler - Larry Bausher
- Cynthia Michael Sarah Corning

#### SAT. AFT. A/X PAIRS STRAT X

- Elliot Ranard Thomas Hey
- Gary Seckinger Beda Wettenschwiles
- Vesna Hauptfeld Craig Bode
- 4/5 Virginia Carley Claire Wagenbach 4/5 Mary Leclair - Charlotte Zultowsky

#### SAT. AFT. B/C/D PAIRS STRAT B

- William Cowdell Marguerite
- Thomas Gerchman Ausra Geaski
- Joel Tames W. Kenneth Graebe
- Mike Marcy Walter Nason
- Donald Brueggemann Irene Pinski
- Jo-Anne Kerr Peter Smith



#### SAT. AFT. B/C/D PAIRS

#### **STRAT C**

- 1 William Cowdell Marguerite Guillet
- 2 Joel Tames W. Kenneth Graebe
- 3 Mike Marcy Walter Nason
- 4 Donald Brueggemann Irene Pinski
- 5 Jo-Anne Kerr Peter Smith
- 6 Susan Rodricks Judith Jacobson

#### SAT. AFT. B/C/D PAIRS STRAT D

- 1 Joel Tames W Kenneth Graebe
- 2 Mike Marcy Walter Nason
- 3 Jo-Anne Kerr Peter Smith
- 4 Barbara Fontaine Rosamund Barber
- 5 Judith Hess Karen Xia
- 6 Peter Leighton Marc Hawley

#### SAT. AFT. 299ER PAIRS STRAT E

- 1 Sandra Reiners Gernot Reiners
- 2 Thomas O'Reilly-Pol Larry Pol
- 3 Judith Dobbrow Marjory Sill
- 4 Ruth Werksman Eleanor Stone
- 5 Eileen Inman Janice Bradley
- 6 Mary Brennan Joan Moen

#### SAT. AFT. 299ER PAIRS STRAT F

- 1 Sandra Reiners Gernot Reiners
- 2 Thomas O'Reilly-Pol Larry Pol
- 3 Ruth Werksman Eleanor Stone
- 4 Eileen Inman Janice Bradley
- 5 Mary Brennan Joan Moen

#### SAT. AFT. 299ER PAIRS STRAT G

- 1 Thomas O'Reilly-Pol Larry Pol
- 2 Eileen Inman Janice Bradley
- 3 Mary Brennan Joan Moen
- 4 Ron Breault Bob McLellan

#### SAT. AFT. 0-20 PAIRS STRAT H

- 1 Sandra Browne Susan Addiss
- 2 Donald Migliaro Vivien Novicki

#### SAT AFT. 0-20 PAIRS STRAT I

1 Karen Largay - Sheila Gillin

#### SAT. PM OPEN PAIRS STRAT A

- 1 Jane Smith Richard Palmer
- 2 Sonja Smith David Rock
- 3 Cynthia D'Arrigo Virginia Carley
- 4 Lesley Meyers Virginia Naugler
- 5 Barb Shaw Peter Marcus
- 6 Lou Kelleher Donald Robertson

#### SAT. PM OPEN PAIRS STRAT B

- 1 Sonja Smith David Rock
- 2 Albert Votolato Barry Sullivan
- 3 G Dionne Frank Kappler
- 4 Lorna and Kendall Patterson
- 5 Paul Burnham John Campbell
- 6 Edith Swatzburg Alfred Bruhn

#### SAT. PM OPEN PAIRS STRAT C

- 1 Lorna and Kendall Patterson
- 2 Donald and Mary Macmillan
- 3 Eleanor Papineau Louis Brown
- 4 Roger Norris Joe Stankewich
- 5 Sandra Reiners Gernot Reiners

#### **SUN. FLIGHT A SWISS TEAMS**

- 1 Mark Aquino William Hunter -Shome Mukherjee - Steve Becker
- 2 Deborah Noack Bill Reich Frank Blachowski - Morgan Tyler
- 3 Allan Clamage Sandie Campbell Charlie Tupper Don Stiegler
- 4/5 Barb Shaw Elaine and Richard Jaworowski - Robert La Tourette
- 4/5 Robert Casey Ilse Rothman -Edward Rothman - Harris Jacobs
- 6/8James Greer Maeve Mahon -Arthur Crystal - Debbie Benner
- 6/8Kay Howe Lawrence Lau -William Wood - Russell Friedman
- 6/8Thomas Hyde Jane Lowe Tucker Merritt - John Woodman

#### SUN. B/C SWISS TEAMS STRAT B

- 1 Thomas Gerchman Terry Fair -Ann Carta - Ellen Meinke
- 2 Judith Hess Marc Hawley Peter Leighton - Robert Hawes
- 3 Claire Sauer Karen Abate -Dolores Johnston - D. Burnham
- 4 Edward and Kathy Shepherd -Nancy Hall - Raymond Hall
- 5 Flora Schannon Louise Wood -Muriel Romero - Fredda Kelly

#### SUN. B/C SWISS TEAMS STRAT C

- 1 Thomas Gerchman Terry Fair -Ann Carta - Ellen Meinke
- 2 Judith Hess Marc Hawley Peter Leighton - Robert Hawes

#### East Hartford Tournament April 16 - 18

#### FRI. AFT. OPEN PAIRS STRAT A

- 1 Don Barnett Victor King
- 2 Richard De Martino John Stiefel
- 3 Allan Clamage Richard Wieland
- 4 Frank Blachowski Rachel Brown
- 5 Margaret Mason Helen Kobernusz
- 6 Marylin Noll Betty Levine

#### FRI. AFT. OPEN PAIRS STRAT B

- 1 Marylin Noll Betty Levine
- 2 Edwin Lewis III Thomas Hyde
- 3 Pamela Palmer Betty Payton
- 4 Robert Kendrick Aldona Siuta
- 5 Ausra Geaski Robert Hawes6 Helma Strauss Ruth Kuzma

#### FRI. AFT. OPEN PAIRS STRAT C 10 Pairs

- 1 Marylin Noll Betty Levine
- 2 Pamela Palmer Betty Payton
- 3/4Janet Moskowitz Jean Mazo
- 3/4John O'Shea Nancy Ramseyer

#### FRI. AFT. SENIOR PAIRS STRAT A

- 1 Constance Graham Charlotte Zultowsky
- 2/3Eva Hunt Michael Bolgar 2/3James Brown - Ned Wilmer
- 4 Phyllis Bausher M. Stasiewski
- 5 Sandra Werkheiser Hilda Campbell

#### FRI. AFT. SENIOR PAIRS STRAT B

- 1/2 Eva Hunt Michael Bolgar
- 1/2James Brown Ned Wilmer
- 3 Sandra Werkheiser Hilda Campbell
- 4 Joel Tames Muriel Dane

#### FRI. AFT. SENIOR PAIRS STRAT C

- James Brown Ned Wilmer
- 2 Sandra Werkheiser Hilda Campbell

#### FRI. PM OPEN PAIRS STRAT A

- 1 Allan Clamage Richard Wieland
- 2 Richard De Martino John Stiefel
- 3 Ausra Geaski Thomas Gerchman
- 4 Don Barnett Victor King
- 5 Jan Kulas Zbigniew Gudanek
- 6 Constance Graham Charlotte Zultowsky

#### FRI. PM OPEN PAIRS STRAT B

- Ausra Geaski Thomas Gerchman
- 2 Jan Kulas Zbigniew Gudanek
- 3 Joel Tames Muriel Dane
- 4 Janet Moskowitz Jean Mazo
- 5 Margaret Franco Marjorie Lennon

#### 6 Rosemarie Manger-Tilney - Judy Pieper

#### FRI. PM OPEN PAIRS STRAT C

- 1 Jan Kulas Zbigniew Gudanek
- 2 Janet Moskowitz Jean Mazo

#### SAT. AM A/X PAIRS STRAT A

- 1 Harris Jacobs Robert Casey
- 2 Larry Bausher Don Barnett
- 3 Don Stiegler Howard Zusman4 Allan Rothenberg Richard De
- Martino
- 5 Igor Alex Borcea Facundo Chamut
- 6 Kay Howe Pat Hartman

#### SAT. AM A/X PAIRS STRAT X

- 1 Igor Alex Borcea Facundo Chamut
- 2 Joyce Stiefel Sandra De Martino
- 3 Sonja Smith David Rock
- 4 Ronald Brown Jeanne Striefler

#### East Hartford continued

#### SAT. AM B/C/D PAIRS STRAT B

- 1 Douglas Thompson Karen Barrett
- 2 Michael Heider James Osofsky
- 3 Fredda Kelly Louise Wood
- 4 Joan Libucha Marjorie Lennon
- 5 Paul Hoffmann David Keller
- 6 Jose Gaztambide Lea Selig

#### SAT. AM B/C/D PAIRS STRAT C

- 1 Joan Libucha Marjorie Lennon
- 2 Paul Hoffmann David Keller
- 3 Jose Gaztambide Lea Selig
- 4 Seymour and Irene Friedman
- 5 David Wright Tadeusz Karnkowski

#### SAT. AM B/C/D PAIRS STRAT D

- 1 Seymour and Irene Friedman
- 2 David Wright Tadeusz Karnkowski
- 3 Carole Amaio Robert Gruskay
- 4 Marilyn Kay Raymond Fortier
- 5 Joel Tames Muriel Dane

#### SAT. AM 299ER PAIRS STRAT A

- 1 Henry Elliott Howard Gelin
- 2 Sandra Werkheiser Florence Girard
- 3 John Silliman Thomas Brett
- 4 Joanne Douglas Marilyn Watt

#### SAT. AM 299ER PAIRS STRAT B

- Sandra Werkheiser Florence Girard
- 2 John Silliman Thomas Brett
- 3 Joanne Douglas Marilyn Watt
- 4 Roger Norris Joe Stankewich

#### SAT. AM 299ER PAIRS STRAT C

- 1 John Silliman Thomas Brett
- 2 Joanne Douglas Marilyn Watt
- 3 Saroj Gulati Doris Andrews
- 4 Paul Johnson David Kavanagh

#### SAT. AFT. A/X PAIRS STRAT A

- 1 Larry Bausher Don Barnett
- 2 Harris Jacobs Robert Casey
- 3 J. Kuklinski Robert Serenyi
- 4 Allan Rothenberg Richard De Martino
- 5 Victor King John Stiefel
- 6 Morgan Tyler Frank Blachowski

#### SAT. AFT. A/X PAIRS STRAT X

- 1 J. Kuklinski Robert Serenyi
- 2 Igor Alex Borcea Facundo Chamut 3/4Stuart Carlsen William Wood
- 3/4 Constance Graham Robert La Tourette
- 5 Myrna Butler Virginia Carley

#### SAT. AFT. B/C/D PAIRS STRAT B

- 1 Patrick Salve Joan Salve
- 2 Thomas Hyde Edwin Lewis III
- 3 Betty Hodgman Penelope Glassmeyer
- 4 Ellen Dutcher Ed Finlay
- 5/6 Donald Brueggemann Irene Pinski
- 5/6 Kathleen Frangione Elizabeth Nagle

#### SAT. AFT. B/C/D PAIRS STRAT C

- 1 Betty Hodgman Penelope Glassmeyer
- 2 Ellen Dutcher Ed Finlay
- 3 Donald Brueggemann Irene Pinski
- 4 Judy Pieper Rosemarie Manger-Tilney
- 5 Shirley Fruchter Rita Levine
- 6 Carole Amaio Robert Gruskay

#### SAT. AFT. B/C/D PAIRS STRAT D

- 1 Betty Hodgman Penelope Glassmeyer
- 2 Judy Pieper Rosemarie Manger-Tilney
- 3 Shirley Fruchter Rita Levine
- 4 Carole Amaio Robert Gruskay 5/6 Joel Tames - Muriel Dane 5/6 Arthur Giovannangeli - H. Lane, Jr.

#### SAT. AFT. 299ER PAIRS STRAT A

- 1 Ted Przedpelski David Fisch
- 2 Saroj Gulati Doris Andrews
- 3/4 Ann Carta Ellen Meinke 3/4 Merle Spiegel - Allen Kasden
- 1 0

### **SAT. AFT. 299ER PAIRS STRAT B**1 Saroj Gulati - Doris Andrews

- 2 Merle Spiegel Allen Kasden
- 3 Terry Parla Lenny Parla

#### o lelly luna Benny luna

#### SAT. AFT. 299ER PAIRS STRAT C

- 1 Saroj Gulati Doris Andrews
- 2 Terry Parla Lenny Parla

#### SAT. PM OPEN PAIRS STRAT A

- 1 Rolland Taylor James Schuyler
- 2 Jane Smith Barb Shaw
- 3/4Morgan Tyler Frank Blachowski 3/4Myrna Butler - Virginia Carley
- 5 Patrick Salve Joan Salve
- 6 Karen Xia Dean Montgomery

#### SAT. PM OPEN PAIRS STRAT B

- 1 Rolland Taylor James Schuyler
- 2 Helma Strauss Ruth Kuzma
- 3/4 David Domizi III Susan Domizi 3/4 Mary Witt - Helen Pawlowski
- 5 Emma Antonio Vince D'Souza

#### SAT. PM OPEN PAIRS STRAT C

- 1 Rolland Taylor James Schuyler
- 2 Shirley Fruchter Rita Levine

#### **SUN. FLIGHT A SWISS**

- 1 Victor King Don Barnett-Gregory Woods -Thomas Smith
- 2 Joyce Stiefel John Stiefel Sandra De Martino - Richard De Martino
- 3 Russell Friedman Don Stiegler Paul Proulx - Allen Wolf
- 4 James Greer Debbie Benner -Maeve Mahon - Arthur Crystal

#### SUN. B/C SWISS STRAT B

- 1 Jose Gaztambide Lea Selig -Robert Gruskay - Carole Amaio
- Bernard Miller Seymour Friedman
   Irene Friedman Stanley Michalski
- 3 Thomas Hyde Edwin Lewis III -Ogden Bigelow, Jr. - Philip O'Deane
- 4 Richard Gauthier James Schuyler Rolland Taylor Sally Gauthier
- 5 David Rock Sonja Smith Ronald Brown - Jeanne Striefler

#### SUN. B/C SWISS STRAT C

- Richard Gauthier James SchuylerRolland Taylor Sally Gauthier
- 2 Marylin Noll Betty Levine Betty Pratt - Betty Payton
- 3 Jean Mazo Sally Title Selma Moffie - Arline Small



## **Discarding Tips** continued from page 5

East must recognize that he cannot afford to discard a high heart (it's probably the setting trick.) East should therefore discard first the 2 ♠, then the 2 ♣. West should be able to work out that a heart switch is required.

Another rule to remember is to try to keep the same number of cards as dummy for as long as possible, assuming you have a chance to win a trick.

South bids one NT, North answers 2 ♣, South responds 2 ♦ and North goes to 3 NT.

#### North

- **↑** A Q 9 3
- **7** 6 4
- **♦** 5 4
- ♣ K Q J 10

#### Your hand

- **↑** 10 7 5 2
- ♥ 9 3 2 ♦ J 10 9 7
- **♣** 76

#### South

- **↑** K 6 4
- **∀** A 8
- ♦ K Q 6 3
- ♣ A 9 8 3

West leads the King ♥, then the 10 ♥. Declarer wins the second round with the Ace, then plays the Ace ♣ followed by a club to dummy. Partner plays the 2 and the 4 ♣. What do you discard on the 3rd and 4th ♣?

You must hang on to the spades. If declarer has the Ace and King ♠, he has nine tricks (four clubs, one heart, two diamonds, and two spades with a finesse). But, if partner has the Ace ♠ and declarer the King ♠, declarer will make nine tricks if you discard a spade. You should discard a heart and a diamond or two diamonds, but protect your 10 ♠.

# It is not the handling of difficult hands that makes the winning player. There aren't enough of them. It is the ability to avoid messing up the easy ones. Alan Sontag

## HE KIBITZER –

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If you have something to say, suggest, or complain about ...tell your representative, who is a Board member and your link to being heard.

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