

WUMBA VOICE

Editor: Dennis Ryan
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Introduction

This is my first effort as editor of the WUMBA newsletter. I inherited the job by default — no one wanted it. I would like to make this a source of useful information, news and a vehicle for communication between the membership. I would like it to be an interactive forum. Please tell me what you don't like, do like and what announcements you would like included in the newsletter. My email address is denr@wwt.net. Any articles anyone wishes to submit for inclusion should be in Word or PDF format.

An idea that I have had for some time is a team competition between the various clubs of WUMBA. This could be conducted online. It would be a knockout type event of perhaps 26 hands, leading to a unit champion over the course of the year. It is very easy to set up a team competition on Bridge Base Online (BBO). I'd like to get some feedback if this is something you would be interested in. Smaller clubs could combine to form a team.

Please spread the word that the newsletter is available online. I plan to

issue it every three months. Again, I encourage everyone to share their ideas on how to make the newsletter better.

Dennis Ryan

State of the Unit

The past year has brought many changes and considerations. In meeting those changes many people have come forth to help keep the WUMBA wheels rolling along well – and rolling along well they are. We are financially healthy, our membership growth is healthy, the I/N table count is way up, our support of youth programs continues, there were more sections of tournament playing opportunities for our membership than ever before, 0-5 players play free, 299ers ½ price, hand records are provided, excellent directorship, Lunch and Learn sessions, PLUS our tournaments are played at very nice facilities with wonderful hospitality. It all costs money. Your attendance past, present, and future is what keeps it rolling.

It takes more than money. Your organization depends on a wide range of services much of which is volunteer work. I want to thank those that are and have recently stepped up to take over board responsibilities both in the in-term and to those that have filled in entire slots.

Joan Schuette – has accepted some of the membership duties. I've been trying to do the remaining membership duties. If you would be willing to help us keep track of our membership – welcoming

new members , keeping track of who those folks are new (for second year free membership purposes), contacting those who's memberships have lapsed, and notifying ACBL of deceased members- let me know ASAP. It all can be done from the comfort of your own home. The membership position does not need to be filled by a board member.

Chelley Andress – has stepped right into Denise's slot in the I/N program working with Carol Konrad. Lunch and Learners please welcome her. Thank you Chelley.

Lee Prellwitz has handed over the Newsletter duties to Dennis Ryan. Thank you Lee and Dennis. We'll be looking forward to every issue.

It looks at this time that there is a high probability the board will need someone to fill the Secretary position. If all works out for Denise she will be living out of state. I have several boxes of stuff and a zip drive full of what is involved with the position.

Thank you Rose Sword for being willing to take notes and type up the minutes of the Three Lakes Meeting. If any members are interested in the actual position, The Secretary does not have to be a board member to hold the position.

Maria – has stepped up and has taken over the duties of Nominating Officer. Peter Loken did a wonderful job for many years and we thank him for his services as well as Maria for taking over.

Flo Erickson – has taken the new position as mentorship chair. She already has programs in progress.

Thank you and best wishes with this new adventure.

Don Schuette has been serving as our Treasurer for over 7 years. He informed me that he's going to give it one more year. Thank you Don for the not only the past 7 but giving us one more. He has done an outstanding job and we will miss him. The board will be in need of a Treasurer. The Treasurer does not need to be a board member to hold the position.

The enthusiasm and talents of so many more folks - not only concerning responsibilities of the board, but concerning our tournaments, club games, education programs and mentors, etc.- is so needed and appreciated. THANK YOU.

The state of the unit is in your hands.

Sincerely,
Bill Murphy

Lunch and Learn Program

The Lunch and Learn Program was launched last June at the Minoqua Tournament. It is a program designed for 299'ers to discuss one or two hands from the session they had just played. A panel of 3 experienced players will give suggestions regarding the bidding, play and defense of the selected hands. The participants are encouraged to suggest hands for discussion as well as to ask questions relevant to the topic. The sessions are held on Saturday between the first and second sessions. A sandwich lunch is served at a cost of \$2 for each 299'er that signs up in advance. The goal of these sessions is to help newer players to feel more comfortable with tournament play and increase their skill level.

The feedback from the sessions that have been held has been very positive. It is hoped that attendance will increase for the 299'er games. There are plans to have Lunch and Learn sessions at the Eau Claire sectional, June 29-July 1, and possibly the Green Bay sectional, May 18-20. Register early as the demand exceeded the availability at the Appleton sectional.

Carol Konrad
Lunch and Learn Coordinator

North American Open Pairs

The NAOP is a national rated event in which pairs represent their districts at the spring North American Bridge Championships (NABC), which will be held in St. Louis in March of 2013. The District 13 final will be held in Milwaukee (West Allis) on September 15. Club qualifying will be held from June 1 until August 31. The district representatives will receive money to cover some of their expenses. If you have an interest in participating in this event, contact your club manager for further information. Also, information is available at the district website, District 13, (<http://acbl-district13.org>) under the NAP tab.

CYBER BRIDGE – by Dennis Ryan

The internet is a very beneficial tool for bridge players of all levels. There are sites to play; sites to learn from top experts; sites to watch competitions on vugraph; and sites where you and your partner can practice bidding. In this article I will list some of these websites and what they have to offer.

Bridge base online is a site developed by Fred Gitelman, who is probably the foremost developer of bridge software.

He is an expert player and multiple times national champion. Bridge Base is a free site. One can play there in tournaments, team games and at tables which can be joined just for fun. They also have a vugraph section that shows many high level competitions with expert commentary.....both voice and typed. They will be showing the United States Bridge Federation (USBF) team trials, as well as the Italian Team Trials which will select teams to represent their countries at the World Bridge Games in Lille, France in August 2012. These are only 2 of many broadcasts. Another very useful part of Bridge Base (BBO) is the partnership bidding section. Many top pairs use this feature to practice bidding. You can program the hands and practice your favorite conventions or slam bidding. It is very user friendly. Another feature is Bridge Master. These are complimentary hands from a larger software program by Gitelman. They range from rather easy hands (Level 1) to very difficult (Level 5) featuring squeezes and advanced play techniques. The complete Bridge Master program is available for purchase through the site.

OKBridge is a site I belong to. It costs \$99 per year and \$49 if you want to play ACBL tournaments. BBO charges \$1 to play an ACBL tournament. The level of play is quite high.

Swan Games is a Danish site where you can play and watch bridge.

Bridgeguys.com is a site that defines conventions and gives information about systems. It is a very useful site.

A new site (about 1 year) which has become one of my favorites is Bridge Winners (bridgewinners.com). There is a great series of articles by Kit Woolsey called Kit's Korner. He takes you inside his head as he analyses bidding and

play decisions. I'm sure you will find this site quite interesting.

These are just a few of the myriad of sites to be found online. Many sites link to other sites. So please explore the wonderful cyber world of bridge.

Lightner Doubles – by Lee Prellwitz

In the April 2012 ACBL Bulletin August Boehm writes the following:

"In the 1940s, S.J. Simon [author of the classic book *Why You Lose at Bridge*] wrote that he would swap all sorts of asking bids and even Blackwood for the Lightner Double. In 1929, Theodore Lightner developed the concept that a double of a voluntary bid slam should request an unusual lead. The most common usages of Lightner occur against slams and uncontested 3NT.

Then and today, many players specified "unusual" as the lead of dummy's first-bid suit, but others, including Lightner, preferred an extended definition. Opening leader was expected to decide from his hand and the auction what the doubler had in mind."

I agree that the Lightner Double is a valuable tool, but it does not occur that frequently, and I am not certain I would be willing to give up some common, important conventions to keep the Lightner Double.

Two hands at the Appleton Sectional may have caused me to change my mind.

♠K732
♥QJ954
♦KJ
♣K8

♠1086
♥K83
♦Q753
♣972

♠5
♥A72
♦1098642
♣J105

♠AQJ94
♥106
♦A
♣AQ643

The opponents bid briskly to six spades. My esteemed partner, convinced that his RHO did not have good spade support suspected that his ace of hearts and my late spade trick would defeat the hand. So he doubled. I dutifully lead a heart, and we quickly collected the ace and king of hearts. Note that with any other lead declarer can discard a heart loser on the king of diamonds and make twelve tricks. I did not possess a late spade trick. Our opponents were not amused.

This next gem also occurred in Appleton and was reported to me. I did not have the pleasure, or misfortune, to be involved in this (mis)adventure.

[Spots approximate]

♠752
♥A
♦AKQ8742
♣94

♠ ---
♥108742
♦963
♣AKJ72

♠86
♥Q963
♦J105
♣Q1085

♠AKQJ10943
♥KJ5
♦ ---
♣63

All I know about the auction is that south opened two clubs, west doubled, and north ended up declaring 7NT. A diamond was led and north claimed 13 tricks. East-west can take the first five tricks on a club lead.

Several points. Two clubs would not have been my choice, as I am not afraid of it going all pass. However, south certainly did have a lot of playing tricks. I assume west's double showed clubs, which begs the second question, should west double 7NT, or would that double say forget my first double, and lead something else? If so, I would assume hearts if north had bid diamonds naturally, as I would be afraid of declarer being able to get 13 tricks in diamonds and spades. If a double would have meant I was right when I doubled two clubs, then lead a club. But be certain you know what both the first, and second, if 7NT had been doubled, doubles mean in your partnership.

2011 Mini-McKenney Awards

0 to 5 Masterpoints

Tom Brabec	Hazelhurst	34.49
Carrie Kaplan	Hudson	28.24
Christine Priest	Madison	22.76

5 to 20 Masterpoints

Charles Shoham	Madison	35.75
Mary Jane Brunt	Wausau	27.68
Cynthia Wilson	Middleton	24.20

20 to 50 Masterpoints

Julie Sirianni	Eau Claire	87.10
Barbara Voight	Middleton	64.62
Emalyn Nikstad	Wausau	57.53

Mini-McKenney (cont)

50 to 100 Masterpoints

Meng-Che Ho	Madison	202.53
Joyce Hyslop	Marquette, MI	118.96
Karen Reese	Marquette, MI	95.48

100 to 200 Masterpoints

Veronica Varney	Marquette, MI	130.02
Janet Sebranek	Eau Claire	86.77
Amelia Butzin	Appleton	71.63

200 to 300 Masterpoints

Orin Kriegel	Skandia, MI	204.40
Mollie Freier	Marquette, MI	144.84
Randi Brown	Eau Claire	68.29

300 to 500 Masterpoints

Elizabeth Bussiere	Marquette, MI	138.54
James Nikstad	Wausau	112.00
Michael Munz	Sturgeon Bay	83.68

500 to 1000 Masterpoints

Jim Jackson	Amasa, MI	401.73
Jim Mulbrandon	Verona	196.24
Eric McVickar	Appleton	154.91

1000 to 2500 Masterpoints

Nancy Ogreenc	Wautoma	369.78
Cerona Stevens	Marquette, MI	296.58
David Raitt	Madison	292.03

2500 to 5000 Masterpoints

S. Fuhrmann	Madison	284.16
Kun-Chieh Wang	Madison	252.57
George Bleshkachek	Eau Claire	234.33

5000 to 7500 Masterpoints

Libushe Zaporozec	Madison	164.99
Glenna Shannahan	Indian Wells, CA	90.94

Mini-McKenney (cont)

7500 to 10,000 Masterpoints		
Paolo Ranaldi	Eau Claire	533.86
Arthur Flashinski	Wausau	319.25

10,000+ Masterpoints		
Jacob Morgan	Madison	*1437.61
WorthVaughan	Madison	475.41
Diane Vaughan	Madison	430.10

* Jacob Morgan's 2011 Masterpoint total of 1655.36 was the 15th highest total in the country in the player of the year race.

2011 Ace of Clubs Awards

0 to 5 Masterpoints		
Tom Brabec	Hazelhurst	24.65
Carrie Kaplan	Hudson	24.20
Terrence Liska	Wautoma	12.76

5 to 20 Masterpoints		
Charles Shoham	Madison	26.19
Cynthia Wilson	Middleton	17.64
Mary Kull	Sturgeon Bay	17.01

20 to 50 Masterpoints		
Julie Sirianni	Eau Claire	44.69
Barbara Voight	Middleton	40.44
Jan Kneer	Eau Claire	36.24

50 to 100 Masterpoints		
Joyce Hyslop	Marquette, MI	75.92
Karen Reese	Marquette, MI	59.28
Faye Bowers	Marquette, MI	52.71

100 to 200 Masterpoints		
Veronica Varney	Marquette, MI	88.82
Cindy Strohm	Madison	54.16
Elsbeth Schmitz	Appleton	48.32

Ace of clubs (cont)

200 to 300 Masterpoints		
Mollie Freier	Marquette, MI	53.27
Randi Brown	Eau Claire	49.89
Oren Kriegel	Skandia, MI	43.22

300 to 500 Masterpoints		
Elizabeth Bussiere	Marquette, MI	104.96
Victor Johnson	Evansville	62.36
Drusilla Kierzek	Marquette, MI	59.19

500 to 1000 Masterpoints		
Jack Herman	Gwinn, MI	101.83
John Peterson	Marquette, MI	88.90
Jim Mulbrandon	Verona	87.92

1000 to 2500 Masterpoints		
Mark Olsky	Madison	110.89
Mary Olsky	Madison	106.21
Cerona Stevens	Marquette, MI	97.32

2500 to 5000 Masterpoints		
Bob Esser	Madison	166.25
S. Fuhrmann	Madison	152.27
R.K. Nordeng	Madison	125.84

5000 to 7500 Masterpoints		
Libushe Zaporozec	Madison	97.54
Glenna Shannahan	Indian Wells, CA	45.31

7500 to 10,000 Masterpoints		
Paolo Ranaldi	Eau Claire	37.76
Arthur Flashinski	Wausau	35.81
10,000+ Masterpoints		
Worth Vaughan	Madison	132.83
Diane Vaughan	Madison	87.96
Jacob Morgan	Madison	5.20

2011 WUMBA Player of the year Results

0 – 100 Masterpoints

Meng-Che Ho	Madison, WI	52.79
Julie Sirianni	Eau Claire, WI	34.97
Mary Ann Romberg	New London, WI	24.77
Emalyn Nikstad	Wausau, WI	23.65
Judyann Terrault	Powers, MI	20.24
David McCall	Eau Claire, WI	15.44
Mary Jane Brunt	Wausau, WI	14.54
Mickey Barricklow	Eagle River, WI	14.00
Janet Welk	Green Bay, WI	13.58
Barbara Schultz	Hermansville, MI	12.03

100 – 300 Masterpoints

Oren Kriegel	Skandia, MI	86.82
Mollie Freier	Marquette, MI	58.36
Amelia Butzen	Appleton, WI	39.82
John Haessig	Stevens Point, WI	28.05
Janet Sebranek	Eau Claire, WI	27.68
Sally Haessig	Stevens Point, WI	26.79
Jack Weinert	Sturgeon Bay, WI	23.63
Nyla Jean Schroeder	Eagle River, WI	18.47
Eugene Trieglaff	Wild Rose, WI	17.73
Joyce Young	Green Bay, WI	15.74

300 – 1000 Masterpoints

Eric McVickar	Appleton, WI	86.36
Carol Konrad	Neshkoro, WI	55.31
James Nikstad	Wausau, WI	49.00
Jim Jackson	Amasa, MI	46.23
Maxine Kite	Eau Claire, WI	34.78
Jane Dupont	Suamico, WI	32.45
Jim Mulbrandon	Verona, WI	31.54
Rose Sword	Rhineland, WI	29.53
Sandra Manglitz	Onalaska, WI	29.46
Rochelle Andress	Green Bay, WI	29.45

1000 – 2500 Masterpoints

David Vaclavik	Appleton, WI	131.94
Denise Hoffman	Marquette, MI	112.22
James Rugowski	Hayward, WI	82.38
David Raitt	Madison, WI	76.53
Nancy Ogreenc	Wautoma, WI	72.45
Robert Webster	Ripon, WI	64.62
Marge Jones	Wausau, WI	61.66
Cerona Stevens	Marquette, MI	56.84
Florence Erickson	Rhineland, WI	56.69
William Murphy	Rhineland, WI	52.8

2500 + Masterpoints

Arthur Flashinski	Wausau, WI	224.31
Diane Vaughan	Madison, WI	158.25
Worth Vaughan	Madison, WI	157.89
Lee Prellwitz	Ripon, WI	109.27
Paolo Ranaldi	Eau Claire, WI	93.59
Kun-Chieh Wang	Madison, WI	68.29
George Bleskachek	Eau Claire, WI	68.27
Kyun Ja Chung	Madison, WI	52.96
Libushe Zaporozec	Madison, WI	50.08
Bob Esser	Madison, WI	46.84

WUMBA New Life Masters

**From the ACBL Bulletin
January - December 2011**

Trudy Bernsten	Middleton
Joan Boville	Sauk City
Randi Brown	Eau Claire
Nancy Fleming	Madison
Mollie Freier	Marquette, MI
Steve Freschl	Appleton
Elsie Gawry	Marquette, MI
Eric Giefer	Verona
Larry Huiras	Hudson
Sally Kemp	Eagle River
Oren Kriegel	Marquette, MI
Cyann Martin	Neenah
Jeri Nelson	Neenah

500 Masterpoints

Leona Amundson	Danbury
Elsie Gawrie	Marquette, MI
Victor Johnson	Evansville
Sally Kemp	Eagle River
Gwen Meehan-Braun	Manitowoc
J.E. O'Donnell	Madison
J. Randy Rea	Fitchburg
Janice Rich	Green Lake
Eleanor Scheel	Madison
Mary Shepro	Madison
Marge Wendt	Eagle River

1000 Masterpoints

Patricia Brish	Marquette, MI
Lucille Chaffee	Waupaca
Lorraine Frailey	Monona
Ronald Grosh	Middleton
Dottie Horn	Hudson
Jim Jackson	Amasa, MI
Lois Killinger	Eagle River
Eric McVickar	Appleton
Marjorie Morgan	Madison
Doris Pulling	Madison
Joan Kee Sparks	Madison
Robert Sparks	Madison

2500 Masterpoints

Mary Boyd	Appleton
Nancy Grimes	Marshall
Mark Olsky	Madison

5000 Masterpoints

George Bleskachek	Eau Claire
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Grand Life Master

Jacob Morgan has attained the rank of Grand Life Master, one that requires 10,000 masterpoints and a win in a North American Bridge Championship (NABC) event. Jacob's wins include the Jacoby Open Swiss Teams (which qualified Jacob for the Grand Life Master rank), the 0-5000 Mini-Spangold teams, the Bean Red Ribbon Pairs, and the Mini-Blue Ribbon Pairs.

Tournament Calendar - 2012

Green Bay May 18-20
 Gopher Regional, Bloomington, MN May 21-27
 Minocqua June 6-10
 Crystal Lake, IL Regional June 18-24
 Eau Claire June 29 - July 1
 St. Charles, IL Regional July 2-8
 Philadelphia Summer National July 12-22
 Madison, WI August 3-5
 North American Open Pairs Qualifier
 September 15
 Three Lakes September 14-16
 Glendale, WI September 28-30
 Lake Geneva Regional October 22-28
 San Francisco Fall National November 22 to
 December 2
 Madison December 7-9
 Milwaukee December 28-30

PLEASE NOTE: There will not be a Hayward Sectional this year (2012) because of a scheduling conflict. It will return next year (2013) in October.