

TABLE TALK

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WINTER 2016-2017

Next generation takes over top MBA spots

The MBA board has elected new board member Bob Ondo as president-elect and sectional tournament chair.

Ondo, 37, of Ann Arbor, has an engineering degree from the University of Michigan. He has been playing bridge for just three years.



Bob Ondo

"Until I figure out what I'm doing with my life, I've been directing and teaching bridge," Ondo said. "I had been coaching high school football and track until last year."

At the board's November meeting, Jonathan Fleischmann, 29, began his one-year term as MBA president after serving as president-elect and sectional chair for the previous 12 months. A graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, he is currently directing and playing bridge professionally.



Jonathan Fleischmann

Stacey Tessler and Bob Webber were re-elected as recording secretary and treasurer, respectively.

(Continued on page 2)

Ann Arbor sectional changes buildings

The Michael Graham Ann Arbor Sectional will be held at Eastern Michigan University again this year, but in a different building. The new site, McKenny Hall, is just off Washtenaw Ave. after the turn-in to the campus.

The tournament is Saturday-Sunday, Jan. 28-29. For directions and the schedule of events, see page 5.

Ondo, Owen Lien and Allan Tushman were elected to the MBA Board in voting at the October regional.

Lien, 27, moved to Michigan from North Carolina in 2015. He has been playing bridge for 17 years and has amassed over 8,000 master-points. Currently he is a student at Wayne State University planning to major in history.



Owen Lien

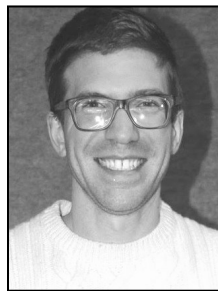
Tushman, a retired attorney, is 77, making him the oldest current member of the board.

Six seats were up for grabs in the October voting. Re-elected were Shelley Boschan, Grant Petersen and Patti Stoner.

Leaving the board are Rosanne and Willie Winokur, and Bob Katz. Thanks to them for their years of service.

Katz will continue to run the Ann Arbor sectional, at least this January.

Zach Wasserman, 29, will continue as



Zach Wasserman

chair of the Motor City Regional after running the tournament in 2016. Zach recently became certified as an emergency medical technician. He hopes to go back to school to become a physician's assistant.

MBA Board notes...

Entry fees charged at the Motor City Regional in October were inadvertently \$1 lower per player per session than they have been for the past several years. "No one even thanked us," quipped MBA Treasurer Bob Webber. Fees actually charged were \$13 per session in KOs (which includes a \$1 District 12 surcharge to fund the Grand National Teams) and \$12 in other events. A total of \$4 per player was added to the charge on Sunday to cover the cost of the lunch provided by the tournament.

The table count for the weeklong regional was 844.5 (up from 778 in 2015). So charging \$1 less per player per session cost the unit \$3,378. Webber reported that MBA netted \$5,332 for the week compared to a budgeted profit of \$8,100. The MBA treasury stood at \$37,173 at the end of October, down from about \$41,000 a year earlier, Webber said.

The increased table count at the regional probably was due to the switch to a morning-afternoon schedule.

Lunch on Saturday at the Motor City Regional was an experiment this year. The tournament brought in pizzas and sold slices for a dollar each. Tournament chair Zach Wasserman said he is considering expanding this practice at the 2017 regional. This might allow us to offer lectures during the break between the morning and afternoon sessions, he said.

Only one of three scheduled Flight B KO team events at the regional drew enough teams to be played.

Winners of the six-team Monday-Tuesday Flight B KO were William Smallwood, W. James Haidle, Warren Block, Thomas King III, Ronald Zurilla and Arnold Brandt, all from suburban Detroit.

The Flight B KO was limited to players with fewer than 2,000 masterpoints. Despite the small turnout, MBA may try to run the Flight B KOs again in 2017. Board members may attempt to promote the event by contacting eligible players and helping them form teams.

The regional schedule will be determined at the unit board's next meeting on Feb. 7. Also under consideration is adding pair games during the evening session.

Attendance at the Russell Roosen sectional in August was 361 tables, down from 375.5 last year. The tournament showed a profit of \$1,858.49.

NAP Update

Here are the results of the North American Pairs District Final, held Sept. 18 in Lansing. The top three finishers in Flight A and the top four in Flights B and C qualify to represent the district in their respective national finals at the Kansas City NABC in March.

FLIGHT A: 1, Owen Lien, Zachary Wasserman. 2, Robert Katz, Frank Treiber III. 3, Suzy & Chuck Burger.

FLIGHT B: 1, Renee & Cameron Shunta. 2, Richard Bauman, Ross Richardson. 3, Cheryl & Jim Bloom. 4, Robert Christensen, Jagit Singh.

FLIGHT C: 1, Barb Ferrera, Marilyn Collins. 2, Janet Schultz, Betty Shaw. 3, Stephen Leist, James Peresta. 4, Vance Senecal, Lynne Bruehlman.

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MBA Officers

Jonathan Fleischmannpresident
Bob Ondopresident-elect
Richard Temkinchairman
Stacey Tessler recording secretary
Bob Webber treasurer

Board of Directors

Shelley Boschan, Marilyn Crane, Kurt Dasher, Jonathan Fleischmann, Martin Hirschman (non-voting), Owen Lien, Marilyn Nathanson, Bob Ondo, Grant Petersen, Patti Stoner, Richard Temkin, Stacey Tessler, Allan Tushman, Zachary Wasserman.

MBA CLUB DIRECTORY

■**Ann Arbor BC**, Walden Hills Clubhouse, 2114 Pauline, Ann Arbor. Ray Gentz, 734-769-3994. Wednesday 7 p.m.

■**Burns Center Bridge**, 1320 Baldwin, Ann Arbor. Dick Fortune, 734-677-5674. Wednesday 12 p.m.

■**Burns Park Bridge**, 1320 Baldwin, Ann Arbor. Stacey Tessler, 734-623-8050. Thursday 12 p.m.

■**Downriver BC**, Southgate Veterans Memorial Library, 14680 Dix Toledo Rd., Southgate. Cono Emanuele, 734-675-3687. Tuesday 10:30 a.m.

■**Ford DBC**, Ford Motor Company World Headquarters, 1 American Rd., Dearborn. Ellen Silverest, 810-225-2278. Tuesday 7 p.m.

■**Friendly Friday BC**, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms. Tony Faint, 586-649-3575. Friday 12 p.m.

■**Neighborhood Club**, St. Paul

Evangelical Lutheran Church, 375 Lothrop, Grosse Pointe Farms. James Schmidt, 586-463-9835. Thursday 12 p.m., Sunday 1 p.m.

■**Plymouth Community DBC**, Cultural Center, 525 Farmer, Plymouth. Jim & Cheryl Perna, 248-887-9283. Tuesday 11:30 a.m., Wednesday 11:30 a.m.

■**Thursday Evening Bridge**, Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor. Dorothy Kuhn, 734-761-6691. Thursday 7 p.m.

■**Trenton DBC**, 2700 Westfield, Trenton. Charles May, 734-301-3872. Thursday 7 p.m.

■**War Memorial**, 32 Lakeshore, Grosse Pointe. Judith Thomas, 313-372-4218. Monday 12 p.m.

■**Young Center BC**, R.A. Young Recreation Center, 5400 McKinley, Dearborn Heights. Joyce Kozma, 313-274-5587. Wednesday 11 a.m.

**Michigan Bridge Association's
MICHAEL GRAHAM
ANN ARBOR SECTIONAL**

January 28-29, 2017

NEW LOCATION: McKenny Hall at Eastern Michigan
University, 800 Oakwood, Ypsilanti MI, 734-487-1157

Saturday, January 28

Stratified Open Swiss Teams -- Playthru, 7 matches.... 11 a.m.

*Stratified Non-LM Pairs (single sessions)..... 11 a.m. & 3 p.m.

Sunday, January 29

Stratified Open Swiss Teams -- Playthru, 7 matches... 11 a.m.

*Stratified Non-LM Pairs (single sessions)..... 11 a.m. & 3 p.m.

*Starred events are open only to non-Life Masters with fewer
than 500 masterpoints

Stratified events: A=unlimited; B=0-3,000; C=0-1,000

Non-LM strats: (0-50) (50-200) (200-500)

as attendance warrants

Average masterpoints will be used to determine your strat

Free coffee and snacks. Free parking.

There will be a lunch break during which food will be provided.

Directions from Detroit suburbs:

Take M-14 to U.S. 23 southbound to exit 37A (Washtenaw
Ave. toward Ypsilanti).

Go east on Washtenaw Ave. for 2.9 miles.

When you first come to the Eastern Michigan University
campus, turn left (north). This is Oakwood St. (There is a traffic
signal but no street sign.)

Next turn right (east) into the first driveway. Drive past the pay
parking lot on your right. Enter the next parking lot which is a
faculty lot. Parking is FREE. McKenny Hall is in front of you.

Tournament chair:

Bob Katz, RJCAA@sbcglobal.net, 734-657-3091

Partnerships:

Marilyn Crane, MQCRANE@yahoo.com, 734-591-3431

IN MEMORIAM
Norm Bash
Donald Curtis
Shirley Gluklick
Elwood "Woody" Ott
Herbert Tyner

Elwood "Woody" Ott passed away in late November, just weeks after the death of his wife and frequent bridge partner, Betty. He was 92 and she was 90.



Woody was chairman of the Motor City Regional from 1988 to 1990. He was on the MBA board 1989-1991 and was president in 1990.

In the late 1980s and early 1990s, the Otts ran a massive Sunday evening game at the old Ramada Inn on Telegraph Rd. in Southfield.

The game was known for the huge and sumptuous spread of food put out by the Otts, particularly Betty and her mother, Frances Magnusson.

The Ramada game regularly filled the medium-sized ballroom to capacity with three sections totaling 45 tables in



play. When the game mushroomed to 48 tables, the 16th table in each section would be set up out in the hall.

In 1992, the Otts joined with Art and Linda Golumbia, Linda and Jack Schecter and Pat and Bob Newman to open the Detroit area's only full-time ACBL club, the Bridge Connection, with the Otts' Sunday game moving into the club.

"We enjoyed a wonderful, amicable partnership with them until 2009 when they decided to retire," Linda Golumbia said. "They were perfect partners, helping in any way they could and always willing to do whatever it took to keep the club successful, and brought a personal touch with their welcoming of new players, always making each and every one feel comfortable."

Woody was from Arkansas. After serving in the Army, he began working for Delta Airlines, eventually rising to vice president. The Otts met at bridge after Woody was transferred to Michigan in the late 1960s. They were married for 43 years. It was a second marriage for each of them after their first spouses passed away. They had children from their first marriages, and shared 10 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Woody was an avid golfer

and would even fabricate golf clubs in his basement shop for himself and friends.

"He was an excellent golf teacher and perfected my game," said Julie Kraus. "It was a treat to play golf with Woody and Norman Sweeting, and after Woody taught Betty to play, we'd be a fun foursome on the course. I'm sure many local bridge players remember our terrific golf scrambles and parties. Woody and Betty were my dear friends and treated me as a surrogate daughter. They told great stories and made everyone feel at home."

Woody was appointed to the national ACBL Goodwill Committee in 1987 and was the winner of MBA's Goodwill award in 1992. "He was like a father figure to me," said Joyce Bell. "He was a wonderful human being."

Donald Curtis

of St. Clair Shores died last April. He was 86. Don was a well-known player, teacher and director in the Grosse Pointe area. He had 2,800 masterpoints.



An Army veteran, Don taught art for 30 years in the Detroit Public Schools.

Judy Thomas reports that Don got her started as a director 30 years ago when he was looking to retire from running the game at the War Memorial in Grosse Pointe. Don later directed at the Assumption Cultural Center and the Country Club of Detroit.

"Don had a marvelous sense of humor," Judy said. "He would come up with new jokes that would become classics among his friends. He kept everyone entertained."

TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

Jan. 7-8: Jackson sectional

Jan. 28-29: Ann Arbor sectional (MBA)

Feb. 9-12: Southfield sectional

Feb. 25-26: Flint sectional

Mar. 10-12: Toledo sectional

Mar. 23-26: Southfield sectional (MBA)

Apr. 7-8: Bloomfield Hills I/N sectional

May 12-13: GNT District final (Southfield)

May 15-21: FARMINGTON HILLS REGIONAL

May 22-28: Spring STAC

June 11-16: BAY CITY REGIONAL

June 22-25: Joint MBA-SOMBA sectional (Southfield)

July 7-9: Lansing sectional

Aug. 14-20: KALAMAZOO REGIONAL

Aug. 24-27: Southfield sectional (MBA)

IT'S YOUR BID

By Marty Hirschman

There is a funny story behind this issue's hands. Originally they were part of a quiz I gave to my students. I thought I knew all the answers.

Not so fast...These problems so divided our panel that no bid got more than 50 percent of the votes on any of the problems. Wow!

Congratulations to the five experts who tied for first with 480 points. Also congrats to Michael Betzold and Seymour Mandell, tied for high score among readers.

If strife is your life, jump right into the fray by sending in your answers to next issue's hands, found at the end of this article.

1. IMPs. None vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠QJ83 ♥8 ♦Q85 ♣K10732
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
Pass Pass
1♦ 1♥ Pass ?

Action	Score	Votes
Pass	100	8
1NT	80	6
1♠	60	4
2♣	30	0

The "correct" (see above) answer to this problem is Pass. Bidding something can get you into a lot of trouble, especially if partner plays you for a good 9 points or more, as he should, and keeps going. Even if 1♥ is a horrible spot, the doubling hasn't started yet; if you pass and it does go Dbl-Pass-Pass, you can redouble to make partner bid another suit.

Joe Chiesa (Pass): Other than the fact that I have no suit, no fit, no values, maybe no stopper, it's a great hand. With a good hand and four spades, partner might have doubled. A penalty double by the Klingons is more likely than a game by the Trekkies.

Bob Katz (Pass): If there is a problem here, I am missing it. There is no bid you could make that wouldn't both overstate your meager values and whatever suit you choose.

Don Rumelhart (Pass): 1♥ overcalls are not forcing. I can't think of any reason to enter the auction at this time.

Many panelists found a reason...

Gene Benedict (1NT): I want to get this bid in first, before

SCORES

Experts:

Bob Brent	480
Joe Chiesa	480
Jonathan Fleischmann	480
Bob Katz	480
Sheldon Kirsch	480
Dick Temkin	470
Brenda Bryant	460
Bob Webber	460
Marilyn Maddox	450

Readers:

Michael Betzold	440
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Seymour Mandell	440
Patricia Becker	430
Jim Reed	410
Allan Becker	380
Kerry Lafer	380
Jerry Viedrah	380
Val Enache	370
Barb Reed	360
Klaus Brondum	350
Marlene Mandell	340
Margaret Carden	330
George Pope	320
Mark Hugger	310

HOW THE PANEL VOTED

	1	2	3	4	5
Gene Benedict	1NT	2♥	3♦	Dbl	6♣
Bob Brent	1NT	1NT	Pass	Dbl	4♥
Brenda Bryant	1NT	1NT	Pass	Dbl	4♣
Chuck Burger	1♠	2♥	Pass	Pass	4♥
Suzy Burger	1♠	2♥	Pass	Pass	4NT
Joe Chiesa	Pass	1NT	Pass	Pass	4♣
Jonathan Fleischmann	1NT	1NT	3♦	Dbl	4♥
Bob Katz	Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass	4♥
Sheldon Kirsch	Pass	1NT	3♦	Pass	4♣
Morrie Kleinplatz	1♠	2♠	3♦	Pass	4♣
Marilyn Maddox	1NT	1NT	3♦	Dbl	6♣
Myles Maddox	Pass	2♠	Pass	Dbl	4♦
Howard Perlman	1♠	2♥	Pass	Pass	4♥
Irv Rosenstein	1NT	1NT	3♦	Dbl	5NT
Don Rumelhart	Pass	2♥	3♦	Dbl	4♦
Dick Temkin	Pass	1NT	3♦	Dbl	6♣
Bob Webber	Pass	2♠	Pass	Pass	4♥
Willie Winokur	Pass	3♥	3♦	Pass	4♥

opener has a chance to rebid something.

Chuck Burger (1♠): Enough to bid. Pard may bid 1NT or 2♣ or 3-card Pass or clog their defensive bidding if East was planning to pass a reopening double by his partner. Lots of reasons to bid, only one not to.

Jonathan Fleischmann (1NT): Given my overcall style, we might still have a game here. I prefer not to advance with a four-card suit, and this bid ensures that a notrump contract will have the opening bidder on lead.

Morrie Kleinplatz (1♠): This problem is really a question about the upper limits of overcalls. If your style is to double with many shapes holding 18+ HCPs then it is safe to pass. I expect that to be the majority choice. But if like me you prefer to keep doubles for appropriate shapes when possible, then the 1♥ overcall might be stronger than standard, and you must strain to keep the bidding open. 1NT feels rich with such a poor count and tenuous diamond stopper. 2♣ is pushy, even though not forcing, with a weak five-carder.

Howard Perlman (1♠): Mar-

ginal but has most upside. 1♥ may end the auction, and bidding may get us to 2♥ doubled. Still, partner could be 4-5 in the majors or bid 1NT or 2 of a minor, any of which rate to be superior.

2. IMPs. E-W vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠K53 ♥AQJ92 ♦102 ♣1082
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
Pass 1♦ Pass 1♥
Pass 1♠ Pass ?

Action	Score	Votes
1NT	100	8
2♥	80	6
2♠	60	3
3♥	50	1
Pass	20	0
2NT	20	0
2♣	10	0

The "correct" bid is 1NT. Partner is either balanced or has short hearts, or he will bid again over 1NT. Most of the time, anyway.

Dick Temkin (1NT): Compared to the other alternatives, this gives partner a better opportunity to further describe his hand if he can take another bid.

Jonathan Fleischmann (1NT): This is the value bid and keeps all strains in the picture. Anything else feels more awkward, so I'll worry about a club

stopper at a later date.

Bob Brent (1NT): A bit of an underbid, but probably the smallest fib concerning the club stopper.

Brenda Bryant (1NT): Not perfect but I do have 10 points. Anything could be right.

Joe Chiesa (1NT): 2♠ is the only other option for me. 2♥ and 3♥ deceive as to both strength and length. Non-vul. take the low road.

Marilyn Maddox (1NT): Spades might play better. Need four to raise.

Myles Maddox (2♠): Had a club in with my spades.

Morrie Kleinplatz (2♠): This is an old Bridge World staple. There is no "right" answer, but 2♠ makes up in strength for missing a 4th spade. It is likely a playable contract if partner passes. If partner bids again, we will almost certainly find our best game.

Bob Katz (2♥): I can pass with three spades, but not with this good a hand. It is between 1NT and 2♥. I am showing an extra heart that I don't have but I have a pretty good suit.

Gene Benedict (2♥): I don't

like raising spades with only three, since partner always expects four. With a weaker heart suit, I would have bid 1NT.

Chuck Burger (2♥): Not enough points or length in suit to invite. 2♠ has a certain charm, but 1NT does not.

Howard Perlman (2♥): Only five but good ones! Don't like 2♠ on a three-card suit, and 1NT even worse.

Don Rumelhart (2♥): Hearts is where I live. 1NT is my second choice but that has the disadvantage of wrong-siding NT contract when partner has enough for game.

Willie Winokur (3♥): Yes I thought the diamond 10 was a heart.

3. IMPs. E-W vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠107 ♥K ♦KJ107432 ♣J97

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	Pass	1♦	Pass
1♠	Pass	1NT	Pass
Pass	2♥	Dbl	?

Action	Score	Votes
Pass	100	9
3♦	100	9

The "correct" bid is 3♦. Your hand is worth four or five more tricks in diamonds than it is in hearts. Meanwhile,

partner is a heavy favorite to have just five hearts (no 2♥ bid earlier): Not good for playing 2♥ doubled with the heart length and strength behind him.

The panel is badly divided.

Dick Temkin (3♦): This hand will be worth very little opposite a partner who did not open or overcall. 3♦ rates to play much better than 2♥x, which could be a bloodbath.

Bob Webber (Pass): I think partner is decently placed in the black suits. We might make this.

Marilyn Maddox (3♦): Partner has passed twice so heart suit may be long but weak. 3♦ has trick-taking values as trump.

Myles Maddox (Pass) Partner has at least six hearts and I have the king of his suit.

Irv Rosenstein (3♦): Partner did not open 2♥, so has fewer than six. 7-1 or 7-2 diamond fit rates to play much better than 5-1 heart fit.

Suzy Burger (Pass): Not pulling to 3♦: A level higher and partner's possible (probable) void.

Sheldon Kirsch (3♦): Partner only has five hearts and my hand is virtually worthless in anything but diamonds.

Chuck Burger (Pass): Partner has a probable 4-6+ pattern. He didn't make a Weak Two Bid nor did he ask for our opinion in the auction. The king of hearts and 10 of spades will have to suffice.

Don Rumelhart (3♦): Partner is unlikely to have six hearts, and 3♦ rates to play at least one trick better than hearts.

Howard Perlman (Pass): Partner is pretty much marked for four spades and six or seven bad hearts.

Jonathan Fleischmann (3♦): I would have made this bid at my first opportunity, and I'm certainly doing it now. Partner can't have great hearts and not have bid them yet, so I'll run to the safety of my seven-card suit.

Joe Chiesa (Pass): East rates to be 2-4-4-3 (or perhaps 2-4-5-2). West 5-2-2-4 (unlikely to pass 1NT with a stiff heart or diamond). Ergo methinks partner has 4-6-0-3. 6-1 heart fit is one level lower than 7-0 diamond fit. Heart king, diamond king and jack of clubs all may be useful to partner.

Gene Benedict (3♦): The opponents probably have more hearts than we do. My diamond suit will be worthless

unless diamonds are trump.

Brenda Bryant (Pass): I have the king of hearts. Partner probably has spades and hearts, not diamonds. 3♦ likely has three losers in the trump suit. Hoping partner passed because he has six hearts and four spades.

Morrie Kleinplatz (3♦): My hand is mostly useless to partner in hearts, except for the king. But partner is marked with high cards on the auction, and they will help me in diamonds.

Bob Katz (Pass): 3♦ could be right, but partner should have a weakish seven-card suit. If 3♦ weren't a level higher, it would be a more attractive bid.

4. MTPTs. E-W vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠KJ732 ♥10 ♦AKQ ♣Q1052

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

-- Pass Pass 1♠

2♥ Pass 3♥ ?

Action	Score	Votes
--------	-------	-------

Pass	100	9
------	-----	---

Dbl	100	9
-----	-----	---

4♣	20	0
----	----	---

The "correct" bid is Pass. Partner couldn't raise spades or make a negative double, so he doesn't have much – unless he has a heart stack, in

which case he can double himself. So the opponents have at least half the high-card values and they already are at the 3-level. There is no likely upside to doubling. We very likely would wind up going for a number even if we have an eight-card fit, which is no sure thing. Even undoubled, we could easily be down hundreds of points.

The panel is badly divided.

Sheldon Kirsch (Pass): My hand isn't good enough for any action.

Myles Maddox (Dbl): Too many points to pass.

Morrie Kleinplatz (Pass): Partner could not raise spades or make a negative double. Yes, we might miss a club fit, but percentages favor defending, as the four-level rates to get doubled, and it is entirely possible we will beat 3♥. My short, strong diamonds, KJ of spades, 10 of hearts and Q10 of clubs are all looking like defensive values.

Don Rumelhart (Dbl): I am not ready to sell out. I have a good offensive hand if we have a fit, and defense if partner wants to convert the double.

Chuck Burger (Pass): Part-

ner is a passed hand, could not raise spades or make a negative double. Maybe they are going to game, maybe not. Not enough defense or spade suit to bid. If West passes, North could find a bid with both minors or one long one.

Bob Brent (Dbl): I have extras and can tolerate any suit. We could easily have a game in clubs or diamonds.

Suzy Burger (Pass): Partner has no spade fit, little strength. Hard to imagine four of a minor being right.

Gene Benedict (Dbl): I don't think we are getting many matchpoints if we let them play 3♥. It would be nice to know who the opponents are.

Joe Chiesa (Pass): Partner is a passed hand and could not make a negative double. Moreover, I am not in the death seat. I do not have the hand to force to the four level. East-West are not joking at this vulnerability.

Jonathan Fleischmann (Dbl): I'll trade on the favorable vulnerability and be a little bit pushy.

Bob Katz (Pass): Partner likely has a hand with at least eight cards in the minors but

not good enough to bid or make a negative double. We don't have a game, and I don't like looking for four-level minor suit saves over a part score.

Dick Temkin (Dbl): Need to compete at matchpoints. On a good day partner will be able to pass.

Howard Perlman (Pass): Don't have to protect partner. Awfully rich to bid when my anchor suit is bad and most of my hand is concentrated in my shortest suits. Not even close.

5. MTPTs. E-W vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠6 ♥AQ2 ♦AK1097 ♣A932			
WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
--	--	--	1♦
Pass	2♣*	2♥	3♣
Pass	3NT	Pass	?

*Game-forcing

Action	Score	Votes
4♥	100	7
4♣	90	4
6♣	70	3
4♦	60	2
4NT	50	1
5NT	50	1
Pass	20	0

The "correct" action is to move toward slam, while leaving partner an out in 4NT. 4♥ or even 4♦ are possible, but a

natural, exploratory 4♣ would leave partner the most room to cooperate (by bidding 4♦, 4♥ or 4♠) if he has good clubs, or decent clubs plus the ace of spades. After that, we can bid 4NT as a key-card ask. If partner bids 4NT over 4♣, he is advertising a poor hand for slam, and we probably should pass. Admittedly this is a mite conservative, and a good portion of the panel is planning to bid slam no matter what.

The lack of established conventional methods caused problems for some panelists. Two of them, Chuck Burger and Bob Katz, stated they would bid 4♣ if it is "Minorwood," i.e. asking for key cards in clubs, otherwise 4♥. Since It's Your Bid has no provision for Minorwood, and most comments did not assume 4♣ was conventional, I have put those two panelists down as bidding 4♥.

If you are wondering, 4NT over 3NT is invitational for most experts, I believe.

Brenda Bryant (4♣): Can't bid 4NT as partner is unlikely to take that as Blackwood. Partner has the king of hearts? Wow....

Sheldon Kirsch (4♣): I'll give slam one try.

Joe Chiesa (4♣): Since I want

to be in slam opposite ♠xxx ♥xx ♦xx ♣Kxxxxx, I bid on. I probably wind up in seven when partner holds heart king, club king, spade ace. Only losing holding will be when he holds xxx of diamonds and Kxx of hearts. Over partner's presumed 4♠ will RKC and bid seven assuming we have all the buttons. As it's the silly game, will have to decide between clubs and NT.

Howard Perlman (4♥): Might make a grand or not have much play for six. If partner bids 4♠ I will be much better placed. If it gets 4NT I will give it up. Too many holes off the spade ace for starters.

Bob Brent (4♥): We could have a grand. If he bids 4NT (should be to play) I may still be sitting there. If partner's heart stopper is Jxxx, we may be down in 6♣ with a heart lead.

Chuck Burger (4♥): 4♣ key card with some partners. Otherwise 4♥. East must have a twist for his action. Seven-plus hearts and four-plus spades seem likely. Heart ruff possible. Therefore some number of notrump is in the game. My belief that partner has five or more clubs and my controls dictate continuing despite the dangers.

Suzy Burger (4NT): Interested in slam, but heart ruffs and bad breaks warn off a slam drive.

Jonathan Fleischmann (4♥): This hand requires one more move. I'll let partner know about my hearts on the way to a possible slam.

Willie Winokur (4♥): If she bids 4♠, I will then bid 4NT assuming it must be RKC for clubs. If she bids something other than 4♠, then I will close out at 6♣.

Morrie Kleinplatz (4♣): This must be forcing, and I will follow with Blackwood. But I would have splintered with 3♠ over 2♥. For those playing Minorwood or Kickback, 4♣ would have been reasonable over 2♥ as well. I think 3♣ was a poor choice.

Myles Maddox (4♦): Just guessing. It would have been easier if South had splintered at his second bid.

Bob Webber (4♥): Why didn't we splinter?

A splinter usually should show minimum range high-card values as well as shortness and a fit. Otherwise you take up a lot of room and leave partner guessing. 3♠

would have made it almost impossible to stop in any game, let alone a notrump game, which might be important since it is matchpoints. Just going for the gusto:

Gene Benedict (6♣): I would like to check for key cards in clubs, but I'm afraid 4NT sounds like a quantitative rise. I might have made a different bid at my last turn. If 3♠ is a splinter bid, that would have set clubs as the trump suit. Spades may be a weak spot in notrump.

Marilyn Maddox (6♣): Hand has great controls.

Dick Temkin (6♣): At first I was going to bid 4♥ (and then 5NT if I got a 4♠ cue in response). But on further consideration I decided bidding a grand slam was looking for too much, especially given East's vulnerable 2♥ call. Assuming some degree of sanity, there must be some basis for that call. Perhaps there is even a heart ruff on the opening lead. 6NT is not a consideration.

Irv Rosenstein (5NT): Pick a slam. Expect to play 6♣ or 6♦ or even 6NT.

NEXT ISSUE'S HANDS

1. MTPTs. Both vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠QJ10543 ♥Q105 ♦KQ106 ♣void
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- 1♥ Pass 1♠
Pass 3♥ Pass ?

2. MTPTs. None vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠J ♥A9 ♦KJ106 ♠KJ10972
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
2♠ 2NT 3♠ ?

3. MTPTs. None vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠KJ762 ♥Q73 ♦void ♠AKJ76
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- -- -- 1♠
Pass 1NT* 4♦ ?

*Forcing, 5-11 HCPs

4. MTPTs. N-S vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠A ♥7 ♦AK9854 ♠A8542
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- -- -- 1♦
Pass 1♥ Dbl 2♣
2♠ 4♥ Pass ?

5a. MTPTs. N-S vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠A7 ♥A65 ♦Q652 ♠AKJ8
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
-- 1♦ 3♠ ?

5b. What is the lowest contract you plan to play in?

Mail your answers to:
Table Talk Magazine
30660 Woodgate Dr.
Southfield MI 48076
Or email to:
MBATalk@aol.com

Detroit vs. Buffalo

When Detroit and Buffalo have a regional the same week, it's not good for either tournament. For October 2019, the ACBL has sanctioned both our Motor City Regional and Buffalo's tournament during the same week. MBA is contesting this decision, based on our traditional date being the week beginning with Columbus Day (now known in some places and circles as Indigenous Peoples' Day), while "Buffalo has no established 'traditional date' for its Regional," MBA Executive Secretary Paul Pomeroy reported.

In 2016, we held our regional a week later than usual to stay away from the Jewish holidays. That meant we were the same week as Buffalo, possibly adversely affecting attendance at both tournaments.

"To prevent future conflicts, we should settle this issue now," Pomeroy wrote. "It is much more logical for Buffalo to have the 'traditional date' for their Regional the week following our Regional as they have held it at that time 7 of the 11 years [since 2003] that they have had a Regional in the month of October. If we don't curtail this now, the issue will reoccur in the future."

Editor is tops at Motor City Regional

Table Talk Editor Marty Hirschman was on three winning teams and topped the masterpoint list at the Vincent & Joan Remey Motor City Regional.

That made him the winner of the William S. Mouser Trophy, awarded annually to the District 12 member who wins the most points at the tournament. He played with Bob Brent on all three winning teams.

Hirschman also won the Mouser in 1990, 1997 and 2013.

Here are the results of the tournament, held Oct. 17-23 at the Costick Center in Farmington Hills:

MASTERPOINT LEADERS:

- 1, Martin Hirschman, 96.28
- 2, Robert Brent, 82.89
- 3/4, Jacob Morgan, 80.95
- 3/4, James Melville, 80.95
- 5, Hans Jacobs, 76.68
- 6, Jonathan Fleischmann, 76.42
- 7, William Arlinghaus, 68.32
- 8/9, Sheldon Kirsch, 67.82
- 8/9, Morrie Kleinplatz, 67.82
- 10, Chuck Burger, 61.43
- 11, Oren Kriegel, 58.60
- 12, Michael Alioto, 57.45
- 13/14, Yanping Zhang, 54.03
- 13/14, Henry Zhang, 54.03
- 15, Jakob Kristinsson, 53.89

- 16, John Koschik, 53.70
- 17, Edward White, 53.64
- 18/19, Daniel Korbel, 53.21
- 18/19, Sean Pryke, 53.21
- 20, Richard Temkin, 51.82

MONDAY OPEN PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, James Melville, Jacob Morgan. 2, John Koschik, Donald Rumelhart. 3, Jack Shartsis, Debra Eaves. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Stu Cohen, Manu Sheth. 2, Donald Jones, James Walter. 3, Beverly Onisko, Charlotte Miller.

MONDAY GOLD RUSH

PAIRS UNDER 750: 1, Genny Cesario, Mary Shultz. 2, Patricia & Tom Hill. 3, Susan & Charles Smith. **UNDER 300:** 1, Hills. 2, Smiths. 3, Graham Putnam, James Egan. **UNDER 100:** 1, Claudia Snyder, Valerie Straith. 2, Barbara Drake, Carol Kupinski.

TUESDAY OPEN SWISS

TEAMS FLIGHT A: 1, Martin Hirschman, Robert Brent, Bob Webber, Frank Sensoli, Michael Alioto. 2, Daniel Korbel, Sylvia Shi, Oren Kriegel, Sean Pryke. 3, Pamela Nisbet, Diane K.M. Gordon, Andrew Russell, Brenda Bryant, Michael White. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Dan Sutherland, Michael McGaw, Lee Easterbrook,

Gary Robertson. 2/3, Michael Kraut, John Tscholl, Thomas Thomson, Jim Overcashier. 2/3, Sue Berry Jim Koerber, Donald Schenk, Mary Lou Schaffer. **FLIGHT C: 1**, Berry team. 2, Pam Lumberg, Cydnie Reich, Fran Wigod, Brand & Susan Marwil. 3/4, Nance & John Medley, Philip Shafer, Larry Kennedy. 3/4, Satish Shah, Jerome Hasenjager, Lakshmi Vora, Ellen Silverest.

TUESDAY GOLD RUSH SWISS TEAMS UNDER 750:

1, Mark Whitehead, Mark Hugger, Bob Ondo, Gay White. 2, Laura Burke, Marilee Neef, Mary Scharff, Cindy Obermeyer. 3, Reuven AnafShalom, Renata Wasserman, Sonia Manchek, Linda Lutze. **UNDER 300:** 1, Whitehead team. 2, James & Alberta Smith, Stephen & Kathleen Leist. 3, Pearl Lim, Don Borseth, Nancy House, Mary Stewart. **UNDER 100:** 1, Smith team.

MONDAY/TUESDAY KO TEAMS FLIGHT A:

1, William Arlinghaus, Frank Treiber III, Hans Jacobs, Jonathan Fleischmann, Sheldon Kirsch, Morrie Kleinplatz. 2, Michael Crane, Richard Temkin, Joseph Ernsthausen, Gary Brinker. 3, Robert Brent, Martin Hirschman, Bob Webber,

Michael Alioto, Frank Sensoli. **FLIGHT B:** 1, William Smallwood, W. James Haidle, Warren Block, Thomas King III, Ronald Zurilla, Arnold Brandt. 2, Carrie Osborne, Paul Tilly, Michael Fant, Maria Conti.

WEDNESDAY OPEN PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Daniel Marcus, Chuck Burger. 2, Edward White, Jakob Kristinsson. 3, John Koschik, Michael Crane.

FLIGHT B: 1, Alan Cohn, Grant Petersen. 2, Henry Zhang, Yanping Zhang. 3, Scott Miller, Harry Jagtiani.

FLIGHT C: 1, Zhangs. 2, Miller, Jagtiani. 3, Satish Shah, Jerome Hasenjager.

WEDNESDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS UNDER 750:

1, Jerrie Sasson, Gerard Peplowski. 2, Raj Patil, Michael O'Neill. 3, Nancy & John Medley. **UNDER 300:** 1, Sasson, Peplowski. 2, Judy Mintz, Susan Smith. 3, Adele & Robert Forster. **UNDER 100:** 1, Don Borseth, Pearl Lim. 2, Barbara Kaluz, Carol Borich.

WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY

KO TEAMS: 1, Robert Katz, Robert Brent, Jonathan Fleischmann, Martin Hirschman, Kurt Dasher, Michael Alioto. 2, William Arlinghaus, Hans Jacobs, Jacob Morgan, James Melville, Sheldon Kirsch, Morrie Kleinplatz. 3/4,

Douglas Millsap, Larry Jones, Bill Cook, Robert Todd. 3/4, Sean Pryke, Daniel Korbelt, Sylvia Shi, Oren Kriegel.

THURSDAY OPEN SWISS

FLIGHT A: 1, Tengyun Tony Cao, Xiaoping Wu, Henry Zhang, Yanping Zhang. 2/3, Wilbur Argersinger, Bob Rasmussen, David Graff, John Koschik. 2/3, Michael Giordano, Lynne Cook, Walter Goldsmith, Debra Eaves.

FLIGHT B: 1, Cao team. 2, Argersinger team. 3, Michael Kraut, Thomas Thomson, John Tscholl, Jim Overcashier.

FLIGHT C: 1, Cao team. 2, Song Lin, Tai Chan, Ching-Po Wang, Xingyu Zhang. 3, Anita Green, Gerald & Fran Wigod, Cydnie Reich.

THURSDAY GOLD RUSH SWISS TEAMS UNDER 750:

1, Peter Krailo, Tim Thomas, David Denomy, Ron McCubbin. 2, David Dursum, Neal Gehring, Tom Baer, David Winer. 3, Carrie Osborne, Maria Conti, James Korte, Barb Ferrera. **UNDER 300:** 1, Krailo team. 2, Osborne team. 3, Judy Mintz, Marcia Boxman, Diana & David Donegan.

FRIDAY OPEN PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Chuck & Suzy Burger. 2, Sondra Schubiner, Susan Miller. 3, Grant Pe-

tersen, Sandy Birnholtz.

FLIGHT B: 1, Petersen, Birnholtz. 2, Peter Bolgar, Barb Marti. 3, J. Robert Parks, Robert Parks. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Parks. 2, Steven Kaplan, Larry Cohen.

FRIDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS UNDER 750 & UNDER 300:

1, Arnold Brandt, William Smallwood. 2, Michele Rambour, Joan Capuano. 3, James McNamara, Douglas Sweeder. **UNDER 100:** 1, Rambour, Capuano. 2, Mary Robinson, Jill Rastelli. 3, James & Alberta Smith.

FRIDAY/SATURDAY KO

TEAMS: 1, Oren Kriegel, Daniel Korbelt, Sylvia Shi, Sean Pryke. 2, William Arlinghaus, James Melville, Jacob Morgan, Richard Temkin, Irving Rosenstein.

SATURDAY COMPACT KO

TEAMS: 1, Robert Brent, Martin Hirschman, Sheldon Kirsch, Morrie Kleinplatz. 2, Tengyun Tony Cao, Xiaoping Wu, Henry Zhang, Yanping Zhang. 3, Edward White, Jakob Kristinsson, Dave & Patty Fred.

SATURDAY OPEN PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Michael McDonald, Sandy Birnholtz. 2, Suzanne Stevenson, Nadele Spiro. 3, William Winokur,

Hans Jacobs. **FLIGHT B:** 1, McDonald, Birnholtz. 2, Stevenson, Spiro. 3, Charles & Eileen Klees. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Kleeses. 2, Steven Winokur, Wilbur Argersinger. 3, Lynda Thal, Bonnie Weinstein.

SATURDAY GOLD RUSH PAIRS UNDER 750 & UNDER 300: 1, Mark Hugger, Mark Whitehead. 2, James McNamara, Douglas Sweeder. 3, Daniel Rose, Ronald Whitney. **UNDER 100:** 1, Rose, Whitney. 2, James Peresta, Stephen Leist.

MARILYN & MYLES MADDOX OPEN SWISS TEAMS
FLIGHT A: 1, Chuck & Suzy Burger, Jacob Morgan, James Melville, Brenda Bryant, Zachary Wasserman. 2, Martin Hirschman, Susan Parnes, Gordon Parnes, Lynne Schaeffer. 3, Donald Rumelhart, Stephen Mackay, Hans Jacobs, William Winokur. **FLIGHT AX:** 1, Jonathan Fleischmann, Oren Kriegel, Jordan Kaye, Kurt Dasher. 2, Richard Temkin, John Koschik, Dennis Carman, Irving Rosenstein. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Wilber Argersinger, Bob Rasmussen, Arthur Wasserman, David Graff. 2/3, James Walter, Marilyn Shore, Stuart Dombey, Chris Brewer. 2/3,

Jerome Hasenjager, Satish Shah, Scott Miller, Harry Jagtiani. **FLIGHT C:** 1/2, Walter & Hasenjager teams. 3, Bob Ondo, Alan Cohn, Neal Strand, Grant Petersen. **FLIGHT D:** 1, Melvin Waisanen, Phil Reynolds, Frederick Sill, Genadiy Hirscht. 2, Tom Bishel, James Bishel, John Bishel, James Bishel. 3, Inderpal & Martha Bhatia, Corey Powell, Renata Wasserman.

299er Winners at Motor City Regional

TUESDAY AM PAIRS: Gary Bergin, Bedford Embrey Jr.

TUESDAY PM PAIRS: Joyce Close, Rosalyn Monticciolo

WEDNESDAY AM PAIRS: Jerome & Margot Halperin

WEDNESDAY PM PAIRS: Marilyn & Leonard Brose

THURSDAY AM PAIRS: Linda Lutze, Mary Beebe

THURSDAY PM PAIRS: Edmund Baprawski Jr., Gary Boyers

FRIDAY AM PAIRS: Chris Hill, Ann Margosian

SATURDAY AM PAIRS: Joan Long, Michele Rambour

SUNDAY AM SWISS TEAMS: Chris Hill, Ann Margosian, Sandra Wolfe, Pearl Lim

1

Norm Bolton: 2 (2004, 2008)

Zhang and Zhang share 2016 Bluth Trophy

The Beverly Bluth Trophy is inscribed annually with the name of the MBA player who started the year with fewer than 2,000 masterpoints and wins the most points in MBA tournaments. Points won at the Motor City Regional count at 70 percent.

This year's winners, Henry Zhang of Ann Arbor and Yanping Zhang of Livonia, are a regular partnership but not a couple. They both started the year with about 135 points. They played only with each other in our tournaments in 2016, so had identical records in the Bluth race. A high point was their sweep of Flights A, B and C in the Thursday Open Swiss at the Motor City Regional with teammates Tengyun Tony Cao and Xiaoping Wu.

In response to emailed questions from Table Talk, Henry Zhang wrote:

"We are honored to receive the Beverly Bluth Trophy.

"Yanping and I first got to know each other when we worked at the same company about 10 years ago. One time, we happened to mention that we both enjoyed playing bridge during our college years in China, so we decided

to pick up this hobby a few years ago.

"Because Yanping had a strong bridge background when she played in China 30 years ago, she began to teach me and helped improve my skills.

"I respectfully call her sister since we have the same last name which means we share the same ancestor many generations ago.

"I came to the U.S. 21 years ago to get my graduate degree, then began to work for the auto industry. Yanping came to the U.S. in 1996 and also works in the auto industry. Although we are not in the same company now, we still try to find time to practice and participate in the tournaments."

Here are the final standings in the 2016 Bluth race (compiled by Marty Hirschman):

- 1/2, Henry Zhang, 67.31
- 1/2, Yanping Zhang, 67.31
- 3, Sandy Birnholtz, 53.61
- 4, Wilbur Argersinger, 49.32
- 5, James Walter, 41.02
- 6, Steven Winokur, 34.75
- 7, Zachary Wasserman, 34.16
- 8, Bob Ondo, 33.77
- 9, Lillian Back, 29.20
- 10, Genie Baker, 27.39

Steven makes dad proud, wins 2016 Winokur Trophy

The Willie Winokur Trophy is inscribed annually with the name of the MBA player who started the year with fewer than 750 masterpoints and wins the most points in MBA tournaments. Points won at the Motor City Regional count at 70 percent. Winners of the Bluth Trophy are ineligible to win the Winokur.

This year's winner, Steven Winokur, is a retired physician and is the son and frequent partner of the well-known player for whom the trophy is

named.

Here are the final standings in the 2016 Winokur race (compiled by Marty Hirschman):

- 1, Steven Winokur, 34.75
- 2, Bob Ondo, 33.77
- 3, Brad Dracka, 26.96
- 4, Beth Kordt, 24.20
- 5, Maria Conti, 22.65
- 6, Steven M. Miller, 21.15
- 7, Susan R. Smith, 19.48
- 8, Mark Hugger, 19.43
- 9, Barb Ferrerra, 18.93
- 10, Dennis Ebendick, 18.14

Letter: Regional complaint

To the Editor

The recent Motor City Regional had a new schedule that I found flabbergasting. Only on Monday evening could you play a pairs game. Other nights you could play only Swiss teams.

The explanation given was that more players are getting older, don't work, and prefer playing days. That's fine for them, but I thought the ACBL was concerned that our game might be dying out and therefore we should be doing active recruiting of

younger players.

Having few opportunities for people with jobs or daytime duties to play pairs games seems like it's designed to stymie newer younger players, who might not yet be able (or don't want to) play Swiss teams.

The directors I talked to said they thought the new format was great. I think it's disastrous.

I note that the only game I could attend, on Monday night, had a packed hall, giving the lie to the idea that we should no longer play so much in the evening.

- Michael Betzold

Down, down, down...

MBA's membership has dropped by more than 500 in the past 15 years, according to figures provided by ACBL.

MBA had 1340 members at the beginning of 1991, the first year for which the league has membership figures in its computer system. We had just 823 members at the beginning of 2016.

The decline has occurred in fits and starts. Membership remained in the low 1300s in 1991-1994, then dropped to 1215 in 1995. Our numbers plateaued out in the low 1000s in 1999-2004, then went down steadily over the next nine years, reaching 833 in 2013.

It is believed that MBA membership was over 2,000 at one time.

Neighboring unit SOMBA, which includes the north suburbs of Detroit, dropped from 1328 in 1991 and 1353 in 1992 to 1027 in 2013, then

rebounded somewhat to 1084 in early 2016.

West Michigan, now with the most members of the five units in District 12, had 1198 members in 1991, 1204 in 1992, then dropped steadily to 837 in 2004. After that, West Michigan's membership increased to the low 1100s by 2013 and stood at 1105 at the beginning of 2016. Population increases in Traverse City and Petoskey, plus active player development programs in Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo have been credited with the membership upturn.

Eastern Michigan had 272 members in early 2016, down from 546 in 1991.

Northwest Ohio had 248 members in early 2016, compared to 502 in 1991.

All the numbers in this article reflect membership in mid-winter. Membership in this area is about 5 percent higher in the summer months when snowbirds transfer back north.

CONGRATULATIONS JOYCE BELL, MBA'S 2016 GOODWILL AWARD WINNER

Joyce writes:

To the board and everyone who stood up and clapped...

Thank you all for this most appreciated award.

It was a very emotional moment for me.

I so love this game and the folks I spend my day with.

Thank you.

MOVING UP...

JUNIOR MASTERS

Gail Beron
Peggy Blaylock
Joe Feldman
Jeffrey Harness
Lucinda Prost
Gail Soderling

CLUB MASTERS

Donna Dotson
Steven Dotson
Rodney Guest
Betty Kaiser
Shirley Lindberry
Jill Rastelli
Michele Rambour
Mary Robinson
Mary Jane Zorzit

SECTIONAL MASTERS

Michael Fant

REGIONAL MASTERS

Beth Kordt
Sarah Lampert
Steven M. Miller

NABC MASTERS

Mary Beebe
Maria Conti
Patricia Hill

CONGRATULATIONS NEW LIFE MASTERS

Barb Ferrera
Susan R. Smith

Tom Hill
Tyrone Loving
Carrie Osborne
Norman Rotter
Henry Zhang
Yanping Zhang

ADVANCED NABC MASTER

Bob Ondo

BRONZE LIFE MASTERS

Thom Allen
Klaus Brondum
Paul Chirgwin
Marlene Gouth

SILVER LIFE MASTERS

Roland Meade

RUBY LIFE MASTER

Wilbur Argersinger

GOLD LIFE MASTER

Mark Bendure

DIAMOND LIFE MASTER

Irv Rosenstein

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Claire Considine
Curtis Estes
Sondra Gunn
Lucy Hallock
Gwen Handelman
Alice Hart

Beth Hoyt
Bonnie Lucido
Edward Chip Miller
William Moylan
Donna Shea
Nancy Silver
Alicia Treder
Dorothy Trent

Rita Whitcomb
Sandra Williams

WELCOME, TRANSFERS

William Buhl
Robert Murray
Michael McDonald
Karen Rosenstein

Solution to Defense From Back Page

	NORTH	
	♠8763	
	♥AKQ	
	♦A32	
	♣432	
WEST		EAST
♠109		♠52
♥543		♥10987
♦K107		♦J865
♣J10987		♣AKQ
	SOUTH	
	♠AKQJ4	
	♥J62	
	♦Q94	
	♣65	

Declarer started with five spades, three hearts and two clubs, so three diamonds. To beat the contract, the defense will have to take two diamond tricks.

If declarer has the Kxx of diamonds you have no chance.

Likewise, if declarer has Q10x of diamonds. Since you did not open the bidding and have shown nine high card points, declarer will not play you for the king. That would have given you 12 HCPs, a hand that most players would open. So he will play a diamond to the 10.

If declarer has Q74 of diamonds, he will try to duck the first diamond to partner (who

will have started with K109), endplaying him into leading away from the king of diamonds or giving a ruff-sluff.

To prevent that, you must play the jack when declarer comes off dummy with a low diamond.

If declarer started with Q9x, playing the jack is still necessary, but may not work. If you don't play the jack, declarer will simply put in the 9, endplaying partner. If, however, you play the jack, declarer will have to guess whether you or partner started with the 10 of diamonds. If partner has it, declarer needs to cover the jack with the queen. But if you have it, declarer must duck the jack, forcing you to lead away from the 10 next.

On the road...

■After leading at the halfway mark, Bert Newman and Dennis Kasle wound up third overall in the two-day Super Senior Pairs at the Fall NABC in Orlando. Newman was second in the event the previous two years.

■Owen Lien topped all players at the Puerto Vallarta Regional in November. He was on the winning team in all three KOs and won over 120 masterpoints for the week.

DEFENSE

By Marty Hirschman

IMPs. None vul.

NORTH

♠8763

♥AKQ

♦A32

♣432

EAST

♠52

♥10987

♦J865

♣AKQ

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
		Pass	1♠
Pass	2NT*	Pass	4♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	

*Game-forcing raise of spades

Opening lead: Jack of clubs

You, East. play three rounds of clubs, declarer ruffing. Declarer pulls trump in two rounds, partner following with the 9 and 10. Next comes dummy's three heart winners, everyone following.

Plan the defense. Solution, page 27.