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ARCH and Play Like a Champion

by Harold Feldheim

Very often, the success or failure of either declarer play or defense is simply a matter of paying attention to the available clues and processing the information. A time-honored way to approach a bridge hand is via ARCH. This is an acronym for:

- Analyze the lead
- Review the auction
- Count your tricks
- How to use this information

The process of ARCH-ing should begin before you play to trick one. This should be your personal rule even if the first play is obvious. Thus, if LHO leads to dummy's singleton, do not begin the play until some form of ARCH is in place.

This hand is an easy/difficult hand; simple if you're attentive, impossible if you're not.

Dealer: West
Vulnerability: Neither

NORTH
 ♠ K 7 5
 ♥ A K 8 7
 ♦ A J 5 4
 ♣ 7 3

WEST
 ♠ 6 3 2
 ♥ 2
 ♦ 8 6
 ♣ A K Q 10 9 4 2

EAST
 ♠ 10
 ♥ Q J 10 6 5 3
 ♦ K Q 10 9
 ♣ J 6

SOUTH
 ♠ A Q J 9 8 4
 ♥ 9 4
 ♦ 7 3 2
 ♣ 8 5

West	North	East	South
3 NT	Dbl	4♣	4♠
All Pass			

Opening lead: ♣A

The auction: West's 3NT opening bid is gambling, showing a solid suit with little or nothing else in the way of high cards. North's double is of the hybrid variety, often converted to penalties. East's 4♣ is the standard escape bid showing the inability to stop three out of four suits, (the fourth suit is presumed to be partner's solid suit). South had no problem bidding 4♠, ending the auction.

The play: West cashed the ♣AK and switched to the ♥2. Analyzing the lead and reviewing the auction, declarer determined that for his 3NT opening West held a seven-card club suit and thus, the heart deuce at trick three was very likely a singleton. Counting up his tricks South could only come to nine tricks (six spades, two hearts, and one diamond). Needing more information, South drew trump, noting that West followed suit three times. By reviewing the lead and analyzing the auction, coupled with clues from the play, South had a complete count of the opponents' distribution and high cards. West held 3=1=2=7 while simple subtraction placed East with 1=6=4=2. By definition, the remaining red suit high cards lay with East. With the defenders having two club tricks in the bank, the problem was how to score a 10th trick. Without knowing about specific positions or methodology, it should be clear that if declarer continued to lead spades, East would be embarrassed in the red suits. Please note that we were not being specific,

but rather, making general statements based on our usage of A, R and C. We can make a plan. Since we have a full count of the distribution, it only remains to pay careful attention to East's discards. Assuming that East discards well, and protects against Declarer's red suit holding as best he can, this will be the six card ending (West's hand is irrelevant at this point):

NORTH
 ♠ - - -
 ♥ K 6 4
 ♦ A J 8
 ♣ - - -

EAST
 ♠ - - -
 ♥ Q J 10
 ♦ K Q 10
 ♣ - - -

SOUTH
 ♠ 6 3
 ♥ 8
 ♦ 7 5 3
 ♣ - - -

South plays the penultimate spade, discarding a diamond from dummy. East will be hard pressed. If he throws away a heart, South can simply lead his heart to dummy's king and ruff a heart, establishing his 10th trick. If, on the other hand East lets go a diamond, South plays the ♦A followed by the ♦J establishing the long diamond in his hand. If you can see the logic of this, you just executed a perfect squeeze.

How well you played this hand!





Don't Panic

by Geoff Brod

You're playing in the local duplicate and you pick up a hand with some interesting possibilities:

♠QJ7 ♥9 ♦AK754 ♣AQ102. No one is vulnerable and you are first to speak so you start with a normal 1♦. It goes 1♠ on your left and your partner contributes a negative double. RHO ups the ante with 2♠, you bid 3♣ passed to your partner who returns you to 3♦. As partner may not have a whole lot and has been forced to take a preference on what might be tepid diamond support, you have an easy pass when this comes back to you. Now however your LHO starts to think and you decide that if she should take the pump to 3♠ that you are going to smack it. Sure enough she bids 3♠ and when it comes back to you, you follow through with your plan and double.

The bidding has been:

You	LHO	Pard	RHO
1♦	1♠	Dble	2♠
3♣	Pass	3♦	Pass
Pass	3♠	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		

It's important to appreciate that your double here could easily backfire. It's anything but a lock and it's something that you would never do at IMPs. Here though it's matchpoints and you consider that with your extra values and partner's unforced entry into the auction, you must have decent chances of obtaining a plus score of 110 or perhaps even 130 declaring a diamond partial, despite the wastage in the spade suit. You hold what is a likely trump trick with prime values in your suits. Furthermore you are short in pard's heart suit and almost certainly she will not have four clubs and may not have four diamonds. As against that partner does not need a lot to contest at a low level with a negative double. Another negative attached to the double is that the opponents are not vulnerable so that if the best you can do is beat them a trick, your +100 may be inadequate compensation for the plus score you may be able to achieve in diamonds.

Pard leads the ♥K and the appearance of dummy makes it clear that you are not off to a good start:

DUMMY

♠ A 9 3
♥ J 10 7 6
♦ Q 9 8 3
♣ J 8

YOU

♠ Q J 7
♥ 9
♦ A K 7 5 2
♣ A Q 10 2

You play A from AK on opening lead so instantly you know that declarer has the ace and is likely to be able to develop some heart tricks for pitches. Not good. Declarer gobbles up the ♥K with the ace and then leads a spade to the ace in dummy. Now she leads a low club off dummy and you put up your ace. As it seems that she is looking to ruff a club or two in dummy, you switch to the ♠Q. Declarer wins the king in hand and, not unexpectedly, partner discards a heart. Now declarer shoots up a heart to the dummy, partner takes her queen as you discard an encouraging diamond spot. Dutifully partner puts the diamond jack on the table but when this gets to declarer she ruffs. Again not a good development. Nothing seems to be going right. First the lead, then declarer shows up with a sixth spade and now a diamond void.

Now declarer plays a heart from hand as partner follows helplessly. This is the position with you to play dummy having played the jack:

DUMMY

♠ 9
♥ J 10
♦ Q 9 8
♣ J

YOU

♠ J
♥ - - -
♦ A K 5
♣ Q 10 2

You have two tricks in and you need three more. If you are in a despairing mood, I understand, but it's important to get past that and consider what you know about the hand and how best to

proceed from here. Declarer has shown up with six spades and a diamond void. She is likely to have started with three hearts and therefore four clubs. (As an aside, were she to hold four hearts and three clubs best defense would be the same.) So if you do not ruff here she will lead a fourth heart and pitch a club. But even so, she will remain with two clubs in her hand and she will still need to ruff one in dummy.

It is essential that you do not ruff prematurely. You have to hope that you will be able to come into the lead and take the remaining trump off dummy. The only way that can happen is in the club suit. So let declarer take her two heart winners. Now, if she leads a club off dummy you can put up the queen. You have to hope that partner holds the king, a value she doesn't have to have given that she has already shown up with ♥KQ and ♦J10 but that's your only chance. Partner, bless her, does in fact hold the ♣K. Declarer tries to obfuscate a bit by ruffing a diamond to hand and then firing up a club to the jack but partner withholds her king, you win the queen, draw dummy's trump and cash another club. You breathe a sigh of relief as you post +100 in your private score.

Plus 100 turns out to be a 38% result. Interestingly, your double made no difference in the matchpoint result. Plus 50 would have been a 38% result as well. It would have been much better had your opponents been vulnerable. You are in fact cold for 130 in diamonds which explains why +100 didn't score better. However letting them make, either 140 undoubled or 530 doubled, would have been a disaster, a cold zero.

Partner had a hand (♠2 ♥KQ842 ♦J1062 ♣K76) where she might have competed to 4♦ either immediately over 3♠, or subsequent to the double. Your bid of 3♣, a suit not promised by the negative double, should show at least a little extra.

And finally, declarer could have given the hand a better play. It would be an improvement to start clubs immediately before touching trumps in order to insure that she could get at least one club ruff in dummy. If the defense achieves a heart ruff as a result, it is likely to be with a natural trump trick, given the auction.



Negative Inference (5)

by Larry Lau



Definition: Negative Inference (NI) is information deduced from a player's failure to take a specific or expected action in the auction or play (Bridgeguys.com).

The previous articles in this series have focused on NI during an auction. The following problem highlights NI on defense. It would have been a difficult problem for almost all of us. Only a very few top players in the CBA would have solved it "at the table." Never the less, this problem is well worth the study.

Al Wolf and I defended the following hand at the Rye regional against a strong player.

	DUMMY		
	♠ Q 5 2		
	♥ J 10 9 4		
	♦ Q 6		
	♣ K Q 7 3		
AL		LARRY	
♠ K 4		♠ 10	
♥ K 7 3 2		♥ Q 6	
♦ J 8 2		♦ - - -	
♣ J 10 8 6		♣ 9	
	DECLARER		
	♠ - - -		
	♥ A 8		
	♦ - - -		
	♣ A		

Declarer	Al	Dummy	Larry
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♠	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Trick one: ♣6, 3, 9, A.

Trick two: ♥A, 2*, 4, 6 (*encourages a club return – "reverse Smith echo").

Trick three: ♥8, 3, 9, Q

Trick four: ♠10.

Construct South's and East's exact distribution. Assume South had exactly four spades, and 1NT was 15-17HCP.

Let's first start with clubs. At trick two Al encouraged a club return by playing the ♥2 (reverse Smith echo.) Instead of returning a club, I returned the ♠10 through declarer's known four-card suit, thereby setting up the suit for declarer. What kind of idiotic play was that?

This is a clear NI situation. The failure to return partner's suit indicated that I did not have a club to return. This was underscored by the very unusual return of the spade. Declarer had four clubs in addition to his four spades.

Declarer's distribution was either 4-3-2-4 or 4-2-3-4. Which was it? This question is the more difficult part of the problem.

Review the line of play in the heart suit. With the J 10 9 4 in dummy, declarer played hearts in a way to take only two heart tricks. But he had a "no cost" play of trying to win three heart tricks by winning the club lead in dummy and finessing the ♥J. If I (East) had held Kx, Qx, or KQx he would score three winners. So why didn't he do this?

Look at the following heart positions.

	J1094	
(1) A8		(2) A85

In the first case, if declarer had won the club lead in dummy, and the heart finesse lost, the ♣J return would sever the club entry to the hearts. If he then won the ♣J in hand to cash the (now) singleton ♥A, and the remaining honor did not fall, he would need to get to dummy twice to set up and then score the second heart. But he would have had only one sure entry left in the club suit, and would have had to rely on the ♠K being on side.

In the second case, if the finesse had lost and the ♣J was returned, he could have won the club in hand and played the HA followed by the ♥8 to establish a second heart winner (or a third winner if the remaining honor fell). He would have still had one club honor to return to dummy.

So, it is now clear. Declarer played the ♥A first then the ♥8 because he was afraid of losing the finesse and having to rely on the spade being on side to get back to the established ♥J. The NI is that the failure to finesse meant that he had only two hearts.

Declarer's exact distribution was: 4=2=3=4.

Declarer planned to discard his diamond loser(s) on the hearts, and the dummy's fourth club on the fourth spade. He hoped to score: three spades, two hearts, one diamond and three clubs. So the defense was clear. Win the spade and return a diamond before the hearts were established for the diamond pitch(es). The defense might then realize one spade, two hearts and two diamonds.

Here is another defensive problem. East is defending 4♠ after a puppet stayman auction.

	DUMMY		
	♠ J 9 8 3		
	♥ 7 4 2		
	♦ 9 8 5		
	♣ K Q 10		
WEST		EAST	
♠ 7		♠ K 5 2	
♥ 3		♥ J 10 9	
♦ - - -		♦ K Q J 10	
♣ - - -		♣ 8 5 4	
	DECLARER		
	♠ 4		
	♥ Q		
	♦ - - -		
	♣ - - -		

Declarer	West	Dummy	East
2NT	Pass	3♣	Pass
3♦	Pass	3♥	Pass
4♠	All Pass		

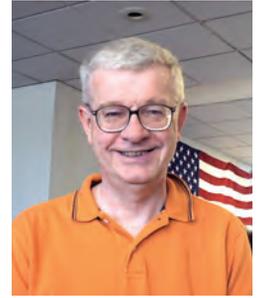
The opening lead is the ♥3 (4th best), which declarer wins with the Q. He then leads the ♠4 to dummy's 8, East winning with the ♠K. If declarer is 4-3-4-2 he threatens to discard his losing heart on the third club. Should East return a heart or a diamond?

See the answer in next quarter's bulletin.



Can't Cost – Chapter 34

by John Stiefel



In this deal from a recent National Knockout Team event, East defeated a slam by making a “can’t cost” play to Trick 2.

Dealer: West
Vulnerability: Both

Dummy and East’s hand were as follows:

DUMMY

♠ A Q
♥ Q
♦ A 10 9 8 7 6 4
♣ A 7 2

EAST

♠ 7 5 3
♥ A K J
♦ J 2
♣ K J 10 5 3

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♦	Pass	1♠
Pass	3♦	Pass	4♠
Pass	6♠	All Pass	

Opening Lead: ♥2 (lowest from an odd number)

The auction merits some discussion.

First, East has 13 high card points, but should not overcall 2♣. West is a passed hand, so it’s very unlikely that East-West can make a game. Also, the risk of bidding is considerable, and a “telephone number” is possible if the hand is a misfit. I would risk an overcall of 1♠ if the spades and clubs were reversed.

Second, Dummy’s (North’s) 3♦ rebid was aggressive but reasonable. With a broken diamond suit and a ♥Q whose value is questionable, he might have contented himself with a simple 2♦ rebid. On the other hand, the seventh diamond is a positive asset, he has good cards in the suit his partner bid and he does have 16 high card points. So, on balance, the hand probably merits the jump rebid.

Third, South’s 4♠ rebid shows lot of spades (at least six, probably more) and not much else.

Fourth, North’s final bid of 6♠ makes a lot of sense. He reasoned that his partner was likely to be short in diamonds and, if so, that suit could probably be set up with ruffs and provide discards for whatever losers South might have.

At any rate, East won Trick 1 with his ♥K and had to figure out what to do at Trick 2. Can you find the killing switch?

In considering his play to Trick 2, East reasoned as follows.

1. If South has two diamonds without the king, the defense can always prevail. Just make a safe return (like a trump) at Trick 2, don’t discard any diamonds and wait for partner’s ♦K to take the setting trick (or East’s ♦J if declarer leads the ♦Q and West covers with the ♦K). On the other hand, if declarer has a singleton diamond (as is likely), declarer will be able to play ♦A, diamond ruff, trump to the ace, diamond ruff, draw trump, go to dummy with the ♣A and claim.

2. Based on his opening lead, West has five or seven hearts. So, declarer has two or four. Would a trump shift attack dummy’s entries to set up his diamond suit (in case, as is likely, declarer does have a singleton diamond)? This won’t work. Declarer will still be able to set up his diamonds (via ♦A, diamond ruff, back to the other high trump, diamond ruff) and have the ♣A as an entry to cash them.

3. Dummy only has two trump and East has three. If dummy can be forced to win the ♣A at Trick 2, East will still have a trump left to ruff dummy’s good diamonds after they are set up. So the only chance to set the contract is to play a club to Trick 2. It seems like partner will need the ♣Q for this play to work.

4. What, however, if declarer has a singleton ♣Q? Then a low club play might give declarer his twelfth trick by winning the ♣Q and discarding a heart or diamond on the ♣A.

5. So the ♣K play to trick 2 is a “can’t cost” play. If, for instance, declarer started with ♣Qx and a singleton diamond, he was always going to make the hand anyway.

The entire deal was as follows:

NORTH

♠ A Q
♥ Q
♦ A 10 9 8 7 6 4
♣ A 7 2

WEST

♠ - - -
♥ 10 8 7 5 4 3 2
♦ K Q 5
♣ Q 8 6

EAST

♠ 7 5 3
♥ A K J
♦ J 2
♣ K J 10 5 3

SOUTH

♠ K J 10 9 8 6 4 2
♥ 9 6
♦ 3
♣ 9 4

Some additional thoughts: An initial club lead always sets the hand and West might well have selected that lead. A heart lead rated to hit dummy’s shortness and, even if East held the ace, the defense would still need a second trick. Also, change declarer’s diamonds to Q3 and his clubs to Q singleton and the ♣K (as opposed to a low club) would be necessary to set the contract. Finally, in the end, North-South bid a good slam. It took an unlucky 3-0 trump split and inspired play by East at Trick 2 to set it.





A Lot of Hard Work for One IMP

by Brett Adler

Playing in a recent team event in Hamden, no one is vulnerable on a hand and you hold: ♠A87 ♥1096 ♦J ♣Q108653. The opponent on your left is dealer and opens 1NT which is weak (12-14). After partner passes, the opponent on your right bids 2♣ which is Stayman asking opener about their majors. You now have a decision – do you pass, overcall in clubs at the 3 level taking some bidding space away from the opponents, or double the artificial club bid telling partner you have a reasonable club suit and you want him to lead one if you end up defending. My teammate who held this hand correctly decided not to overcall at the three level in clubs as neither the suit nor the hand is good enough, but did double to show the six-card club suit. The auction proceeded with a redouble by the opponent on the left, followed by two passes and as he had nowhere to go, 2♣ Rdbl became the final contract.

I didn't get much of a description from my teammates of the play, but as you can see from the full layout below, North/South have great hands and proceeded to take 10 tricks. Making their redoubled contract with two overtricks scored 960. Apparently East won three trump tricks but never won a trick with the ♠A. Maybe he could have won his ♠A and saved an overtrick (worth 200 points), but maybe he would have then scored only two trump tricks. I'll leave the analysis of the hand in a club contract to another day.

Dealer: South
Vulnerability: None

NORTH
♠ K 6 4 3
♥ A Q 4
♦ A Q 10 9
♣ A 2

WEST
♠ J 10 9 5
♥ 8 7 3 2
♦ 7 6 5 3 2
♣ - - -

EAST
♠ A 8 7
♥ 10 9 6
♦ J
♣ Q 10 8 6 5 3

SOUTH
♠ Q 2
♥ K J 5
♦ K 8 4
♣ K J 9 7 4

However, I had a little challenge/fun of my own on this hand as I sat South and was declarer in 6NT. I had opened the bidding 1♣, and as a result, East at my table never even thought about entering the auction.

With no East/West interference, the bidding continued 1♦ by North, and after I rebid 1NT showing 12-14 High Card Points (HCPs), North aggressively bid 6NT rather than inviting slam by bidding 4NT. With 13 HCPs and a 5-card suit, I would have bid 6NT anyway if North had invited via 4NT.

Clearly I was missing one ace, and counting winners without being able to see the East/West cards, I only had eight (three hearts, three diamonds and two clubs). The first piece of good news on this hand was that when I played a high diamond from North, East played the singleton jack, so I was now up to nine tricks. I played a small spade off dummy and my Queen won the trick for 10 tricks. East can't afford to play the ace when I lead a small spade, or I would have two tricks in spades and 11 tricks in total, with a successful finesse in clubs fulfilling the small slam.

I now led a club to dummy's ace and got the good/bad/good news...

- Good news – the ♣Q must be on side so a successful finesse will get me another trick (11);
- Bad news – I only have one small club in dummy and can't finesse East more than once in clubs, (and I now know that clubs aren't breaking 3-3);
- Good news – This hand is easy to count out and I can envisage a nice end position.

I cashed all my heart tricks and then my diamond tricks. As I was about to cash my last diamond in dummy, this was the end position:

NORTH
♠ K 6 4
♥ - - -
♦ 10
♣ 2

WEST
♠ J 10 9
♥ 8
♦ 7
♣ - - -

EAST
♠ A 8
♥ - - -
♦ - - -
♣ Q 10 8

SOUTH
♠ 2
♥ - - -
♦ - - -
♣ K J 9 7

East can't throw a club away as a simple finesse will give me another four club tricks. Clearly East also can't throw A♠, so the 8♠ is discarded. As South I now discard my small club and can "claim" 12 tricks. I can lead my last club from dummy winning the trick by covering any card that East plays. Now I can exit with my precious saved 2♠, and when East wins he has to lead another club letting me take the club finesse again. I have my 12 tricks via one spade, three hearts, four diamonds, and four clubs.

I must say that at the score up with our teammates, I couldn't work out how our +990 could be worth exactly one imp, but finally they "fessed up" the story.





Bridge at the Lunatic Fringe— #21: Quick Trick Responses to 2♣ A remarkable hand with five story endings

by Alan Wolf



Here's another bidding gadget, an alternative to Control responses to 2♣. Instead of step responses to 2♣ (A=2, K=1), respond showing Quick Tricks (QTs). QTs are a very old method of hand evaluation, popularized by Ely Culbertson. QTs are calculated as follows:

- AK = 2
- AQ = 1½
- A = 1
- KQ = 1
- K = ½

Responses to 2♣ (without interference) then are as follows:

- 2♦ (1st step) zero or ½ QT
- 2♥ (2nd step) 1 QT
- 2♠ (3rd step) 1½ QT
- Etc.

You also need an understanding about how to handle interference. A good method, applicable to all conventions involving step responses, is to play a double or redouble as the 1st step, pass as the 2nd step, and bids up the line the 3rd step and higher.

This method can sometimes help to identify a critical queen, especially when coupled with a subsequent ace ask.

In the remarkable hand that follows, the professor held:

- ♠ A K Q J 10 5 2
- ♥ 6
- ♦ A 6 3
- ♣ A 7

In first seat, he opened 2♣, and LHO bid 2♥. His partner, Warren then bid 2♠, showing 1½ QT. Coincidentally this was the same bid that he would have made without the interference.

There were several possibilities for the 1½ QT, offering different chances for making a small slam in spades:

KQ in one minor, K alone in the other makes slam a virtually certainty.

Three kings or ♥K and a minor suit KQ makes slam a virtual certainty with the anticipated heart lead.

♥AQ, or ♥A and a minor suit king, or ♥KQ and a minor suit king and slam not assured. Help is needed.

Note that responding in controls rather than Quick Tricks, the response would show either 2 or 3 controls. After a 2-control response, slam would be much more doubtful, since that response might be made with only an unsupported ace, or two unsupported kings.

However, even with the “wrong” 1½ QT, partner could easily have a holding that would provide a play for the slam, i.e. an isolated minor suit queen, a useful jack, or a minor suit that could be established for an extra trick by virtue of its length.

With this in mind, the professor took an immediate shot at the spade slam, bidding 6♠ without further ado.

Warren then became declarer, facing the following:

- DUMMY
- ♠ A K Q J 10 5 2
 - ♥ 6
 - ♦ A 6 3
 - ♣ A 7

- DECLARER
(Warren)
- ♠ 9 8 4
 - ♥ A 8 4 3
 - ♦ K 7 5
 - ♣ Q 3 2

Minna as West led the ♥J, won by the A. Warren then immediately led a 2nd heart, ruffed in dummy, as Minna followed with the 9. This was a necessary maneuver, so that only East (Cecil Horne) could guard hearts in the end game. Warren then played three rounds of trumps, West having all three of the missing trumps.

Warren now made the key play of a low club from dummy toward the queen, hoping that the king was with East. In many cases, it is right to cash the ace first, but on this hand that would be wrong, as it would allow the defense to play a third round of clubs, forcing dummy to ruff, and killing the club threat. In any event, the ♣Q lost to the king, and now it is time to show all four hands:

- NORTH -
DUMMY
(Professor)
- ♠ A K Q J 10 5 2
 - ♥ 6
 - ♦ A 6 3
 - ♣ A 7

- WEST
(Minna)
- ♠ 7 6 3
 - ♥ J 9
 - ♦ 8 4 2
 - ♣ K J 9 6 5

- EAST
(Cecil)
- ♠ - - -
 - ♥ K Q 10 7 5 2
 - ♦ Q J 10 9
 - ♣ 10 8 4

- SOUTH
DECLARER
(Warren)
- ♠ 9 8 4
 - ♥ A 8 4 3
 - ♦ K 7 5
 - ♣ Q 3 2

ENDING NUMBER 1

In with the ♣K, Minna returned a club, to dummy's ace. On the first three rounds of spades, Cecil as East had discarded two hearts and a club. Now in with the ♣A, Warren ran off spade winners from dummy, producing the following four card ending:

<p>NORTH - DUMMY (Professor)</p> <p>♠ 2 ♥ - - - ♦ A 6 3 ♣ - - -</p>	<p>EAST (Cecil)</p> <p>♠ - - - ♥ K ♦ J 10 9 ♣ - - -</p>	<p>WEST (Minna)</p> <p>♠ - - - ♥ - - - ♦ 8 4 2 ♣ J</p>	<p>SOUTH DECLARER (Warren)</p> <p>♠ - - - ♥ 8 ♦ K 7 ♣ 3</p>
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On the lead of the last spade from dummy, a double squeeze took effect. East could not part with the ♥K, and so pitched a diamond. Now South could let go his ♥8, and West was squeezed in diamonds and clubs. She could not let go the ♣J, lest the ♣3 be good, so she too pitched a diamond. Now the ♦K, ♦A and ♦6 took the last three tricks. All congratulated Warren on pulling off the double squeeze, although Cecil wondered what might have happened had he kept the club guard.

ENDING NUMBER 2

In with the ♣K, Minna returned a club, to dummy's ace. On the first three rounds of spades, Cecil (East) had discarded three hearts. This left Cecil with one heart to declarer's two, providing the possibility that declarer could ruff out one heart and set up his other as a winner. However, Cecil knew from the bidding that Warren would not then have an entry to get back to the good heart, so these heart discards were safe.

As Warren began his run of the trumps, Cecil went into the tank, and then discarded first the ♦Q and then the ♦9,

stubbornly retaining his ♣10. Minna was a bit mystified by these discards, but vaguely realized that it might be important to hold on to the guarded ♦8 (exactly Cecil's intention in discarding this way). Finally, it came down to the following four card ending:

<p>NORTH - DUMMY (Professor)</p> <p>♠ 2 ♥ - - - ♦ A 6 3 ♣ - - -</p>	<p>WEST (Minna)</p> <p>♠ - - - ♥ - - - ♦ 8 4 2 ♣ J</p>
<p>EAST (Cecil)</p> <p>♠ - - - ♥ K ♦ J 10 9 ♣ - - -</p>	<p>SOUTH DECLARER (Warren)</p> <p>♠ - - - ♥ 8 ♦ K 7 ♣ 3</p>

On the lead of the last trump, Cecil discarded the ♦10. Warren could now let go of his ♥8, and Minna cooperated in this defense by discarding the ♣J. The lead back to the ♦K extracted Cecil's final diamond (♦J). Now on the lead of the ♦7, Minna played low, and Warren, realizing a missed opportunity, could not let the seven ride, for then he would be stuck in hand with the losing ♣3; so he overtook the ♦7 with the ♦A, and lost the last trick to the ♦8. All at the table reluctantly congratulated the gloating Cecil for his imaginative defense.

ENDING NUMBER 3

Exactly like Ending Number 2, except that Warren had brilliantly unblocked the ♦7, and instead of ♦K7 came down to ♦K5 in the end position. Now on the lead of the ♦5, Warren exultingly finessed against the ♦8, winning the last two tricks in dummy with the ♦6 and ♦A.

Everyone congratulated Warren on pulling off this unusual ending, finessing the ♦6, although Cecil was rather miffed that someone else was getting all the credit for brilliance.

ENDING NUMBER 4

The East-West hands were actually slightly different from what I have

shown. The first three endings were shown just to set up the final two endings. Cecil as East actually had five diamonds, ♦ Q J 10 9 8, and the ♣10 was with West.

The play went exactly as in Ending Number 3, with Warren unblocking the ♦7, and Cecil deceptively playing his diamonds Q 9 10 J. Now when Warren took the diamond finesse at the end, he was crestfallen as Cecil triumphantly won the last two tricks with the ♦8 and ♥K. Everyone congratulated Cecil on his fine deceptive defense, barely tolerating Cecil's obnoxious gloating.

ENDING NUMBER 5

As with Ending Number 4, Cecil started with five diamonds, and Minna had the ♣10. However, in this ending Warren had carelessly failed to unblock the ♦7. Reading the situation to be the same as Endings 2 and 3, Warren was kicking himself for his failure to unblock. But as in Ending 2, he had no choice in the end game but to overtake the ♦7 with the ♦A. This time of course the ♦8 came down, and so the ♦6 was good for the final trick.

Minna praised Warren for having executed the simple squeeze against Cecil. Warren sheepishly accepted this praise, knowing full well that he had been forced into the winning line by his own carelessness. Cecil knew that as well, and was apoplectic that his brilliantly conceived deceptive carding had been foiled due to declarer's ineptness. It was just one more example of Cecil's claim to infamy: making the brilliant play that somehow fails to achieve its objective.

The professor, as dummy, meanwhile bemusedly took in the whole scene, contemplating what to advise this author on how to fit all the possibilities of this hand into a single Kibitzer article.

A FINAL NOTE

The astute reader may have realized that all of these interesting endings could be broken up if Minna had returned a diamond when she was in with the ♣K. This was a rather difficult play, as it could be giving declarer a free diamond finesse, perhaps eliminating a guess.

Cecil could not safely signal in diamonds (by discarding the ♦Q) on an early round of trumps. This would have been safe as the cards lie, but could have been disastrous if declarer had started with four (or more) diamonds to the king.



From the

Country Club of Darien

The winners of The Country Club of Darien's Fall series were:

1. Joan Bergen and Meredith Dunne
2. Rhea Bischoff and Liliana Geldmacher
3. Anne Geissinger and Lindy Beardsley

Bridge Forum (Hamden)

Year End News

TUESDAY

Leading Pairs: Their big lead through September was just enough to see Rita Brieger-Harold Miller in first at year's end, the charge of Brian Lewis-Bill Reich coming up just short. Howard Cohen-Pat Rogers were a distant but respectable third, well ahead of the battle for fourth, won by Hill Auerbach-Tracy Selmon over Bob Hawes-Jon Ingersoll.

Player-of-the-Year: With three key rank differentiations falling within the rounding margin, a technical three-way tie was declared between Rita Brieger (the 2011 defender), Jon Ingersoll (2010 winner) and Bill Reich. This was Jon's fourth title, his first coming in 1996. Brian Lewis finished fourth and Harold Miller fifth.

Van Dyke Cup: Bob Hawes had the good luck to be playing with Louise Wood in the final game, so that she could not overtake him. Bob, starting close to Jon Ingersoll (playing with Mary Connolly), built up a big lead in the first half and coasted in. Don Brueggemann had the best game of the four finalists and pulled ahead of Louise and Jon into second place.

FRIDAY

Leading Pairs: After spending all September in second place behind three different leaders, Harold Miller-Burt Saxon pulled well ahead in October. Burt left for Florida before the end of the year, but the rally of Norma and Stan Augenstein was curtailed by their needing to devote several weeks to selling their house and moving. Breta Adams-Karlene Wood had a chance to pass Hill Auerbach-Larry Stern for third

place on the last game of the year, but didn't. Lucy Lacava-George Levinson were fifth.

Player-of-the-Year: When Burt left for Florida, neither he nor Harold had played with any other partner. They were trading the lead with Stan Augenstein (who had played twice without Norma). Harold played twice in December without Burt, producing strong results to take the title decisively, almost winning all three categories. Burt, Stan and Norma finished second through fourth, while Arlene Leshine edged Louise Wood for fifth.

Reynolds Cup: Larry Stern built a big lead towards the end, only to have to go away on holiday. My mechanisms for separating the scores of a permanent partnership came in handy here, as Burt and Harold both qualified for the final. Burt had gone ahead of Harold with four weeks to go and maintained the margin. They managed a narrow win in the final for a 1-2 finish not far ahead of Stan Augenstein in the first all-male final for any cup.

OVERALL

553 of 829 small slams were successful, but only 51 of 97 grand slams. 544 of 739 doubles and 2 of 5 redoubles succeeded.

Louise Wood bid and made seven grand slams with five different partners. George Levinson-Lucy Lacava were the leading grand slam pair with five, but each had only one with anyone else.

We had 126 Passed Outs. Irene Kaplan, Vera Wardlaw and Harold Miller passed out most often, though George and Lucy may have set a record by passing out four times in one game.

Sylvia Alpert had the highest attendance of the seven players who played at least ten times without having a late board all year.

Harold Miller, who took the lead at the end of September, clinched the overall Player-of-the-Year title at the end of November. Louise Wood, trying to recover from a slow start, needed one or two more games to overtake Rita Brieger for second. Filling out the top twelve of 151 players: 4 Fredda Kelly, 5 Bill Reich, 6 Brian Lewis, 7 Jon Ingersoll, 8 Robert Klopp, 9 Hill Auerbach, 10 Burt Saxon, 11 Stan Augenstein, 12 Vera Wardlaw.

Woodway Country Club

Fall Series Winners

- 1st Karen Barrett and Susan Mayo
- 2nd Millie Fromm and Audrey Bell
- 3rd Belinda Metzger and Brenda Greene
- 4th Linda Cleveland and Barbara Johnson
- 5th Mary Beach and Ann Fuller
- 6th Ann Towne and Betsy Philips

Unit Wide Game

Flight A Overall:
Susan Mayo and Karen Barrett

Flight B Overall:
Carol Davidson and Linda Cleveland

Flight C Overall:
Ron Freres and Steve Thoma

Club Championship

- 1st Carol Taylor and Judy Stanley

Wee Burn News

The following players placed well in the Fall Series:

1. Belinda Metzger–Mary Ellen McGuire
2. Jean Thoma–Karen Barrett
3. Janet Soskin–Betty Hodgman
4. Kris Freres–Gail Ord
5. Molly Johnson–Brenda Greene
6. Ed Meyer–Peter Hussey

December Charity game:

1. Jean Thoma–Karen Barrett
2. Belinda Metzger–Mary Ellen McGuire

Swiss Teams:

1. Audrey Cadwallader–Susan Mayo–Jean Thoma–Karen Barrett
2. Joan Hoben–Carol Davidson–Lois Karcher–Kathie Rowland

Members of the following clubs and their partners are invited to play in the Winter and Spring series...as drop-ins or Series members: Tokeneke, Country Club of Darien, Woodway, and New Canaan Country Club.



MEMORY BOWL HAND FOR 2012

Without anyone taking a clear early lead, the Augensteins went in front just before they moved and missed most of the rest of the year. Tracy Selmon and Bob Hawes briefly held the lead before Louise Wood moved to the front and stayed there, winning the Memory Bowl for the third time and her 22nd cup overall.

MEMORY BOWL HAND

Lucy Lacava selected Bud Finch as this year's Champion's Honoree. Bud, a well-known radio personality, may be the only player who started with us after his 90th birthday. Bud only played about a dozen times with Dave Lenore over a year and a half, before he moved to Atria Larson and continued playing in my social game there until shortly before his death this past summer. Bud once declared the following hand in 3NT, with no interference in the auction (!).

♠ Q
♥ Q 6 3 2
♦ K Q J 8 7 5 2
♣ Q

♠ - - -
♥ A 8 7 4
♦ A 10
♣ A K J 9 7 4 2

After a spade lead and the realization that he had clubs on both ends of his hand and no spades, Bud took all thirteen tricks, opening leader having quite reasonably led a low spade from AK8xxx x xxx xxx. That deal gave me the inspiration for this year's official Memory Bowl Hand.

Bud was also the only player I have ever seen actually to fall asleep in the middle of a hand. Luckily, there were nine or ten players at that time each week, so that someone sitting out was always at hand to watch Bud and fill in if he took a nap.

This year's official Memory Bowl Hand:

Dealer: West
Vulnerability: None

NORTH
♠ J 10 9 8 7 5 3
♥ J 3
♦ 8
♣ 6 5 3

WEST
♠ K 4
♥ 6
♦ Q J 10 6 5 4 2
♣ A 7 2

EAST
♠ Q
♥ A K 10 7 5 4
♦ A K
♣ Q J 10 8

SOUTH
♠ A 6 2
♥ Q 9 8 2
♦ 9 7 3
♣ K 9 4

Players at the local club were startled by an announcement halfway through the morning game that a Well Known Bridge Writer and her understudy had arrived. The director explained that their guests were scheduled to play an important challenge match that evening. One of their teammates having gone into hospital had left them a player short. Rather than forfeit, they had come to the only bridge club in the county and asked if they could recruit a volunteer. Almost everyone playing was delighted to have a chance to fill in on a team so high above the general local level of play.

Unfortunately, in their eagerness to impress the kibitzing visitors, almost all the players in the room made twice as many errors as usual. None of the players seemed at all a likely choice until the twosome, armed with hand records, watched the table where Bud Finch sat South.

E-W produced the uncontested auction:

1♦	1♥
2♦	3♣
3NT	4NT
5♦	6NT

North led the ♠J to dummy's queen and Bud's ace. With a casual glance at dummy but no pause for thought, Bud tabled the ♣K. West fingered a card, looked at dummy, then resignedly played the deuce, claiming the remainder before Bud could lead a low spade to the next trick.

Both visitors looked impressed, and adjourned to an empty corner. "What brilliant defense!" whispered the understudy. "I know it's probably an intermediate level play, but he found the necessary shift to the club king much faster than I did, and I was looking at all four hands. I think we've found our substitute."

"We certainly have," came the reply. The author then, much to her partner's astonishment, went and asked West to fill in for their missing teammate. When she returned, her understudy, in shock, asked, "But what about South finding the brilliant club switch?"

"You weren't being observant," answered the author. "South's spade ace was the end card in his hand. Then the club king became the end card, which he played next. But, when he tabled his hand, his other spade spots were on the end and his clubs were in the middle. He simply sorted the club king in with his spades. West, on the other hand, realized that the contract couldn't be made by taking the king unless North would be so silly as to duck a heart with queen-jack third. Just in case anyone else played in hearts, West took the sure one down, knowing 6♦ would always make but that 6♥ or perhaps 5♥ wouldn't, showing that he could still think even in the middle of a catastrophe."

[Note to readers: In case this deal looks familiar, it is a tweaked version of Board 1 from the October STaC Friday morning session. The South and East hands are almost identical. For the sake of the correct defense being due to a mis-sort, I made East's ♠K the king of diamonds, and gave South better heart spots and, the key to the hand, the ♣9, which guarantees the success of the switch, though I think the play more impressive if it's the only hope and not a sure winner.]

IN MEMORIAM

Connecticut residents as listed in the ACBL *Bridge Bulletin*

Sherwood Gerard, Hartford, CT
Barbara K. Gerstell, Darien, CT
Richard Harris, Avon, CT



UNIT-WIDE CHAMPIONSHIP

Thursday November 1, 2012

FLIGHT A EVENT LEADERS

- 1 **Audrey Cadwallader-William Wood**
- 2 Carolyn Olschefski-Virginia Labbadia
- 3 Thomas Lorch-Reginald Harvey
- 4 Belinda Metzger-Mary Ellen McGuire
- 5 Janet Soskin-Betty Hodgman
- 6 Judith Merrill-Bob Gruskay

FLIGHT B EVENT LEADERS

- 1 **Carolyn Olschefski-Virginia Labbadia**
- 2 Belinda Metzger-Mary Ellen McGuire
- 3 Janet Soskin-Betty Hodgman
- 4 Judith Merrill-Bob Gruskay
- 5 Lois Berry-Doris Friend
- 6 Raymond Fortier-Sheldon Rosenbaum

FLIGHT C EVENT LEADERS

- 1 **Lois Berry-Doris Friend**
- 2 Ed Meyer-Peter Hussey
- 3 Betty Gardner-Barbara Upson
- 4 Kris Freres-Gail Ord
- 5 Patricia Shimkus-Mary Beth Murphy
- 6 David Mordy-Spencer Brainard

UNIT-WIDE CHAMPIONSHIP

December 5, 2012

FLIGHT A EVENT LEADERS

- 1 **Karen Barrett-Susan Mayo**
- 2 Lesley Meyers-Ronald Brown
- 3 Carol Davidson-Linda Cleveland
- 4 Mark Stasiewski-Lenny Russman
- 5 Joan Salve-Mary Petit
- 6 Theodore Zdeblick-Paul Carrier

FLIGHT B EVENT LEADERS

- 1 **Carol Davidson-Linda Cleveland**
- 2 Theodore Zdeblick-Paul Carrier
- 3 Ron Freres-G Stephen Thoma
- 4 Barbara Thompson-Ronnie Bershada Sachs
- 5 Rochelle Shapiro-Dolores Wolf
- 6 Molly Johnson-Meredith Dunne

FLIGHT C EVENT LEADERS

- 1 **Ron Freres-G Stephen Thoma**
- 2 Molly Johnson-Meredith Dunne
- 3 Consuelo Nussbaum-Dorothy Scott
- 4 Judith Stanley-Carol Taylor
- 5 Martin Arnold-Mary Whittemore
- 6 Marge Fiedler-Phoebe Edwards

UNIT-WIDE CHARITY

Friday December 14, 2012

FLIGHT A EVENT LEADERS

- 1 **Larry Wallowitz-Howard Gelin**
- 2/3 Thomas Hey-Don Stiegler
- 2/3 Robert Rising-Susan Rodricks
- 4 Elliot Ranard-Jean Schiaroli
- 5 Robert Hawes-Paul Carrier
- 6 Helen Walker-Doris Andrews

FLIGHT B EVENT LEADERS

- 1 **Robert Hawes-Paul Carrier**
- 2 Helen Walker-Doris Andrews
- 3 Roger Crean-Carl Palmer
- 4 Jean Mazo-Janet Moskowitz
- 5 Margot Hayward-Donald Kimsey
- 6 Carole Hue-Myrna Raphan

FLIGHT C EVENT LEADERS

- 1 **Carole Hue-Myrna Raphan**
- 2 Millie Nadel-Judy Glazer
- 3 Brian Denyer-Marg Fiedler
- 4 Rebecca Jacobson-Marvin Lerman
- 5 Bob Nardello-Jackie Del Negro
- 6 Jacquelin Mori-Iris Busch

JEFF FELDMAN SECTIONAL

Hamden, November 2-4, 2012

10:00 AM Open Pairs

- 1 **Richard DeMartino-Allan Rothenberg**
- 2 1 **Jatin Mehta-Laurel Koegel**
- 3 Lawrence Lau-Allan Wolf
- 4 Cynthia Michael-Constance Graham
- 5 2 Michael Dworetsky-Michael Wavada
- 6 Larry Bausher-Phyllis Bausher
- 3 David Blackburn-Linda Green
- 4 1 **Lincoln May-Ronald Talbot**
- 5 2 Judith Crystal-Veronica Tiedemann
- 3 Richard Fronapfel-Susan Fronapfel
- 4 Carol Hill-Lila Englehart

10:00 AM Senior Pairs

- 1 **Gloria Sieron-David Benjamin**
- 2 Richard Wieland-Gordon Kiernan
- 3 Mildred Fromm-Lois Zeisler
- 4 1 **Margot Hayward-Judith Hess**
- 5 2 1 **Karen Goodman-Joel Caplin**
- 6 3 2 Guy Hochgesang-Joyce Hochgesang
- 4 3 John Willoughby-Sandra Werkheiser

Friday 2:30 PM Open Pairs

- 1 **Richard DeMartino-Allan Rothenberg**
- 2 Constance Graham-Cynthia Michael
- 3 Lawrence Lau-Allan Wolf
- 4 Larry Bausher-Phyllis Bausher
- 5 Tania Reyes Hiller-Steven Lockwood
- 1 1 **Harold Salm-Norman Gross**
- 2 Jatin Mehta-Laurel Koegel
- 3 Michael Wavada-Michael Dworetsky
- 4 Linda Green-David Blackburn
- 2 Richard Fronapfel-Susan Fronapfel
- 3 Liz Brian-Richard Roth

Friday 2:30 PM Senior Pairs

- 1 **Gail Carroll-Nancy Earel**
- 2 1 **Esther Watstein-George Levinson**
- 3 Thomas Hey-Morris Feinson
- 4 2 Paul Miller-Katharine Goodman
- 5 Richard Wieland-Gordon Kiernan
- 6 Gloria Sieron-Susan Seckinger
- 3 1 **Guy Hochgesang-Joyce Hochgesang**
- 4 2 Leonard Messman-Woody Bliss

Saturday A/X Pairs

- 1 **Lawrence Lau-Jill Marshall**
- 2/3 Larry Bausher-Steve Becker

- 2/3 Victor King-Richard DeMartino
- 4 Tania Reyes Hiller-Howard Zusman
- 5 1 **Ausra Geaski-Bunny Kliman**
- 6 Gordon Kiernan-Richard Wieland
- 2 Susan Seckinger-Susan Rodricks
- 3/4 Leia Berla-Dean Montgomery
- 3/4 Linda Green-David Blackburn

Saturday B/C Pairs

- 1 **Louise Wood-Fredda Kelly**
- 2 Shirley Derrah-Robert Derrah
- 3 Michael Wavada-Peter Katz
- 4 William Niemi-Timothy Yentsch
- 5 Rita Levine-Sylvia Alpert
- 1 **Jesse Whittemore-Mary Whittemore**
- 2 John Jaquish-Dorothea Sullivan

Saturday 10:00 AM 299er Pairs

- 1 **Irene Rivers-Eric Vogel**
- 2 Margery Gussak-Lucie Fradet
- 3 Jacquelyn Fuchs-Carla Sharp
- 4 1 **Louise Noll-Lou Filippetti**
- 5 Carolyn Halsey-William Halsey
- 2 Robert Butterfoss-Phyllis Crowley
- 3 Rhea Bischoff-Liliana Geldmacher
- 4 Lucy Lacava-Linda Chaffkin
- 1 **Betsy Ryan-Judith Zwyer**
- 2 Helene Stancato-Susan Welton

2:30 PM A/X Pairs

- 1 **Richard DeMartino-Victor King**
- 2 Fred Hawa-Faye Marino
- 3 1 **Jatin Mehta-Hasmukh Shah**
- 4 Tania Reyes Hiller-Howard Zusman
- 5 Jill Fouad-Harold Feldheim
- 6 2 David Blackburn-Linda Green
- 3 Alice Hummel-Helen Kobernusz
- 4 Joan Martin-Lois Zeisler

2:30 PM B/C Pairs

- 1 **Frances Rothenberg-Seymour Rothenberg**
- 2 Judith Crystal-Veronica Tiedemann
- 3 Stanley Amelkin-Barbara Amelkin
- 4 Mary Petit-JoAnn Scata
- 5 William Niemi-Timothy Yentsch

2:30 PM 299er Pairs

- 1 1 **William Halsey-Carolyn Halsey**
- 2 2 Eric Vogel-Irene Rivers
- 3 3 Elizabeth Niehaus-Janice Martinez
- 4 Janet Bannister-Suzanne McMullen
- 5 4 1 **John Calderbank-Nancy Calderbank**
- 5 2 Judi Zucker-Linda Bradford
- 3/4 Bonnie Murphy-Randall Murphy
- 3/4 Stanley Kishner-Georgeann Kishner

Sunday Flight A/X Swiss

- 1 **Frances Schneider-Bernard Schneider-Allan Clamage-Dean Montgomery**
- 2 Richard DeMartino-Victor King-Larry Bausher-Jonathan Fieldman

2013 CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

12-18 Tues.-Mon. New England KO Team Regional, Cromwell
 20-26 Wed.-Tues. STaC with North Jersey (U106), Local clubs

MARCH

1-3 Fri.-Sun. Connecticut Winter Sectional, Hamden
 4 Mon. (Day) ACBL-wide Senior Game, Local clubs
 12 Tues. (Eve) ACBL-wide Charity Game #1, Local clubs
 14-24 Thurs.-Sun. Spring Nationals, St. Louis, MO
 25 Mon. (Eve) Local (Split) Championship, Local clubs
 28 Thurs. (Eve) Local (Split) Championship, Local clubs

APRIL

8 Mon. (Eve) Local (Split) Championship, Local clubs
 12 Fri. (Day) Unit-wide Championship, Local clubs
 18 Thurs. (Day) Unit-wide Charity, Local clubs
 24-28 Wed.-Sun. New England Senior Regional, Hyannis, MA

MAY

6 Mon. (Day) Unit-wide Championship, Local clubs
 8 Wed. (Aft) ACBL Int'l Fund Game #2, Local clubs
 17-19 Fri.-Sun. Connecticut Spring Sectional, Hamden
 23-27 Thurs.-Mon. New York City Regional, New York, NY

JUNE

7 Fri. (Eve) Worldwide Bridge Contest #1, Local clubs
 8 Sat. (Aft) Worldwide Bridge Contest #2, Local clubs
 13 Thurs. (Eve) Local (Split) Championship, Local clubs
 17-23 Mon.-Sun. New England Summer Regional, Sturbridge, MA
 24-30 Mon.-Sun. STaC with North Jersey (U106), Local clubs

JULY

10 Wed. (Day) Unit-wide Championship, Local clubs
 19 Fri. (Day) Unit-wide Championship, Local clubs

26 Fri. (Eve) ACBL Int'l Fund Game #3, Local clubs
 30 Tues. (Day) Unit-wide Championship, Local clubs

AUGUST

1-11 Thurs.-4th Sun. ACBL Summer Nationals, Atlanta, GA
 13 Tues. (Eve) Local (Split) Championship, Local clubs
 19 Mon. (Eve) Local (Split) Championship, Local clubs
 20 Tues. (Day) Local (Split) Championship, Local clubs
 23-25 Fri.-Sun. Connecticut Summer Sectional, Guilford

AUG.-SEPT.

26-1 Mon.-Sun. New England Fiesta Regional, Nashua, NH

SEPTEMBER

13 Fri. (Day) Unit-wide Championship, Local clubs
 18 Wed. (Day) Local (Split) Championship, Local clubs
 19 Thurs. (Day) Unit-wide Championship, Local clubs
 21 Sat. (Day) Local (Split) Championship, Local clubs
 24 Tues. (Day) Unit-wide Championship, Local clubs
 27-29 Fri.-Sun. Sid Cohen Sectional, Hartford

OCTOBER

2 Wed. (Eve) ACBL-wide Instant Match Point, Local clubs
 7-13 Mon.-Sun. District 3 Regional, Danbury
 14-20 Mon.-Sun. STaC with North Jersey (U106), Local clubs
 19-20 Sat.-Sun. District 25 NAP Qualifying
 31 Thurs. (Day) Unit-wide Championship, Local clubs

NOVEMBER

1-3 Fri.-Sun. Jeff Feldman Memorial, Hamden
 6-10 Wed.-Sun. New England Masters Regional, Mansfield, MA

NOV.-DEC.

28-8 Thurs.-1st Sun. ACBL Fall Nationals, Phoenix, AZ

DECEMBER

9 Mon. (Day) Local (Split) Championship, Local clubs
 10 Tues. (Eve) Local (Split) Championship, Local clubs
 18 Wed. (Day) Unit-wide Championship, Local clubs

Results continued

- 3 Lawrence Lau-Allan Wolf-Brett Adler-Jill Marshall
- 4 1 **Roonie Kennedy-Rory Millson-Michael McNamara-Fred Hawa**
- 5 2 H Jay Sloofman-Paul Lewis-Timothy Baird-Faye Marino
- 3 Bill Reich-Brian Lewis-Simon Rich-Robert Hawes
- 4/5 Gordon Kiernan-Thomas Proulx-Richard Wieland-Paul Burnham
- 4/5 Judith Hess-Donald Brueggemann-Esther Watstein-Don Stiegler

Sunday B/C Swiss Teams

- 1 **Paul Miller-Francine Gilbert-Linda Green-Rochelle Shapiro**
- 2/3 1 **Richard Tisch-Bruce Adler-Carolyn Halsey-William Halsey**
- 2/3 Michael Smith-Susan Smith-Robert Derrah-Shirley Derrah
- 4 2 Carol Hill-Patricia Fliakos-David Landsberg-Lila Englehart
- 3/4 Michael Wavada-Michael Dworetzky-Jerry Hirsch-Kenneth Leopold
- 3/4 Joseph Pagerino-Irene Kaplan-Lucy Lacava-George Levinson

Milestones and Congratulations

New Life Masters

Mary Eisenberg
 Richard Fronapfel
 Toby Schuman
 Barbara Simons

Gold Life Master (2500 MP's)

Elliot Ranard

Silver Life Master (1000 MP's)

Dianne Elie
 Martha Hathaway
 Robert Hawes

Bronze Life Master (500 MP's)

Donna Doyle
 Mary Eisenberg
 Karen Largay
 Peter Marcus
 Toby Schuman

Jeff Feldman Trophy for 2012



The winner of the Jeff Feldman Trophy for 2012 is Richard DeMartino. Congratulations on another great year.

Jeffrey Feldman 1962 – 1994

Who was Jeff Feldman? Jeff was an avid and enthusiastic Connecticut bridge player. His love of bridge was known to all who had the pleasure of playing either with him or against him. He was an outstanding young player who unfortunately was taken from us at the very young age of 32.

In the short time he played, he accumulated 2,700 masterpoints and won numerous sectional and regional events. Most notably, he won the Connecticut Governor's Cup Trophy in the two years preceding his untimely death. He also won the prestigious NYC Regional KO Teams for three consecutive years, the last year on a team with Paul Soloway. Jeff's regular partners included Jay Borker, Rich DeMartino, and Jeff Goldman.

The Jeff Feldman Fund and memorial trophy were established with contributions from his family, friends and business associates. The monies from the fund are used to support the 299er Sectional held each year in Connecticut.

Congratulations from the CBA

Connecticut bridge players have many reasons to be proud. Among those reasons are the DeMartinos who not only make us very proud of their bridge prowess, but in addition represent us at the highest level of the ACBL, spreading the spirit of Connecticut throughout the country.

This year Rich has been reelected by the players in District 25, New England, as our representative to the ACBL Board of Directors where he has served for several years and is ACBL past president.

At the recent San Francisco National Tournament Goodwill Committee meeting, Sandy was appointed chair of the Goodwill Committee and will begin serving her 3-year term in 2013. No one is better suited for this leadership role on the committee designed to assure the enjoyment of the game and to promote volunteerism upon which the success of our games is dependent.

We extend to both DeMartinos our congratulations on their achievements. They are most deserving of the regional and national recognition of their talents and devotion to the game. It is nice to have this acknowledgement as an example of everything that is good in the Connecticut bridge family.



Sandy and Rose Meltzer
Photo courtesy of the ACBL

THE KIBITZER

The Kibitzer is published quarterly by the Connecticut Bridge Association, Unit 126 of the American Contract Bridge League.

All comments, news, items related to the bridge world and of interest to our readers are welcome. Please send all items for the next Kibitzer by April 15, 2013.

Editor: Tom Proulx
34 Saint Mary's Lane
Norwalk, CT 06851

Phone: 203-847-2426
Email: twproulx@optonline.net

Your CBA

President	Phyllis Bausher	203-389-5918
Vice President	Sandy DeMartino	203-637-2781
Secretary	Debbie Noack	203-924-5624
Treasurer	Susan Seckinger	860-513-1127
Past President	Burt Gischner	860-691-1484
Tournament Coordinator	Susan Seckinger	860-513-1127
Unit Coordinator	Don Stiegler	203-929-6595
Recorder	Leonard Russman	203-245-6850

Your Link to the Board

Central	Kay Frangione	860-621-7233
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	Joyce Stiefel	860-563-0722
	Bill Watson	860-521-5243

You can see The Kibitzer in blazing color at the CT bridge site: <http://www.ctbridge.org>

If you would like to receive The Kibitzer via e-mail, let us know. Email Tom Proulx at twproulx@optonline.net