

# THE KIBITZER

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A NEWSLET

THE CONNECTICUT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

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## Lateral Thinking

by Harold Feldheim

As a collector of immortal hands from international play, I have a special fondness for coups produced by the so-called lower profile internationalist. The following hand, from the 1964 World Championship in New York was produced by Raphael Muñoz, mainstay of the Spanish team, and ranks way up there as an example of quiet elegance.

### North

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

### West

♠ K J  
♥ J 8 7  
♦ Q 5 3  
♣ K Q 10 8 2

### East

♠ 10  
♥ Q 6 2  
♦ J 8 2  
♣ 9 7 6 5 4 3

### South

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

Neither side vulnerable

Opening Lead: ♣K

After a very optimistic bidding sequence best left to charity, South (Muñoz) found himself in a questionable small slam in spades. He trumped the first club, playing the jack from his hand, and surveyed his prospects. Chances were good if the ♠K dropped singleton, but when the ace felled the ten and jack, prospects for twelve tricks seemed non-existent.



Harold Feldheim

Lateral thinking is literally being able to think outside of the box; to consider an abnormal plan to deal with a seemingly impossible task. With this hint in mind, looking at all four hands, what practical idea did declarer try?

And please remember, he was only able to see his own hand and the dummy.

Since holdings like queen-jack doubleton of a red suit were too much to hope for, Muñoz decided to play for a

3-3 break and split honors in both red suits. At trick three he ruffed the ace of clubs in dummy and exited a spade to West's king placing West in an embarrassing position.

If he led a low card in either red suit, Muñoz would play low from dummy capturing East's honor with the ace followed by finessing the other honor through West, thus bringing in the entire suit.

And when the suit breaks, the thirteenth card will provide a discard for the loser in the other red suit. Nor would it help to provide a ruff-sluff by leading a club since he would ruff in dummy, discarding a red card from hand. Then, ace-king followed by a ruff would again establish the winning discard.

Two things raise this hand to immortal status. First, declarer must ruff the ♣A since discarding either red suit would be disastrous. And second, although we grant that finding diamonds and hearts behaving in such a friendly fashion is indeed fortunate, how many players would be able to capitalize on this stroke of fortune.

Well done!

## Strange but True

by Kay Howe

Playing at the Wilton Bridge Studio on a Wednesday night, I picked up a hand with ♠ K J xxxxxx, ♥ x, ♦ x and ♣ xxx.

My RHO opened one heart, and vulnerable vs. non vulnerable, I bid 4♠.

LHO bid 5♥, and partner carried to 5♠. RHO bid the slam, and after two passes, partner decided to sacrifice. Result: doubled down 4 for a goose egg.

The following night I am, once again, sitting North, but with a different partner. You guessed it... about round five, I pick up the same hand. After a brief discussion with the director, he requests that I

do the best I can under the circumstances since no one else at my table played or remembered playing the board from the night before. The bidding goes 1♥, 4♠, 5♥, 5♠, 6♥, all pass, for another goose egg, since our opponents were the only pair to bid the slam. Two zeroes in less than 24 hours on the same hand!



# The "Can't Cost" Principle - Chapter 7

by John Stiefel

To review CC: if you know a particular play can't cost, just do it. You don't need to figure out if or how it might gain, only that it can't lose. Said another way, it's often easier to figure out a "can't cost" play to an early trick than all the details of what might happen later (deep thought or DT).

CC Chapter 7 features this hand from the New England Grand National Teams.

<b>South</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>
		1 NT	2♦
2♥	Pass	Pass	2♠
3♥	All Pass		

<b>North</b>			
♠ K Q 10			
♥ J 4 2			
♦ K 7 5			
♣ K 8 6 4			
<b>West</b>		<b>East</b>	
♠ 9 4		♠ A J 7 6 5	
♥ K 8 7		♥ Q	
♦ J 10 9 8 6 2		♦ Q 4	
♣ A 7		♣ Q J 10 5 3	
<b>South</b>			
♠ 8 3 2			
♥ A 10 9 6 5 3			
♦ A 3			
♣ 9 2			

Dealer: North  
Vulnerability: N/S  
Opening lead: 9♠

North's 1NT was weak (12-14). I personally wouldn't dream of opening the North hand vulnerable at IMPs under any circumstances. There will be no game unless South can open and there is considerable risk that South will get the partnership too high by pushing for a vulnerable game. The risk of opening is even greater when 1NT is the required opening bid because the partnership will often go for a telephone number whenever South is broke while it might escape unscathed if the opening bid is 1♣ (playing 15-17 no trumps).



John Stiefel

At any rate, East's 2♦ bid was "Suction" showing either a heart 1-suiter or a black 2-suiter. When South's 2♥ bid was passed back to East, he competed with 2♠ (confirming that he had the black suits) and South's 3♥ bid ended the auction.

West led the 9 of spades, hoping for a ruff, and declarer called for dummy's king. The fate of the defense, as is so often the case, depended on East's play to trick one.

East reasoned that ducking his ace of spades was a "can't cost" play. For instance, if the opening lead was a singleton, he could give West a ruff; but West would have no way to get him back in for another ruff and he would never score his jack of spades. So East played the 7♠ to trick one.

What happened next was beyond East's wildest dreams.

- Trick 2; heart to South's ace
- Trick 3; ace of diamonds
- Trick 4; diamond to North's king
- Trick 5; diamond ruff
- Trick 6; heart to West's king

This was the 7-card end position.

<b>North</b>			
♠ K 10			
♥ J			
♦			
♣ K 8 6 4			
<b>West</b>		<b>East</b>	
♠ 4		♠ A J 6	
♥ 8		♥	
♦ J 10 9		♦	
♣ A 7		♣ Q J 10 5	
<b>South</b>			
♠ 8 3			
♥ 10 9 6			
♦			
♣ 9 2			

Note that South stripped the diamonds at tricks 3-5 because he was hoping that East had started with an original holding of KQ doubleton of trump. Then a trump at trick 6 would have left East on lead and assured the contract even if the East had the A♣ as well as the A J♠ that he was known to have.

At trick 7, West capitalized on his partner's "can't cost" play to trick 1 by cashing his A♣. Then he returned his 4♠ to his partner's jack. Next came the A♠ and West pitched his 7♣. A♣ ruff at trick 10 was the setting trick. Well done!

East might have reasoned as follows (deep thought).

1. Declarer is likely to be 6-3 in the majors.
2. He might be 2-2 in the minors.
3. If he is, partner might have A x of clubs.
4. If partner does, he might have the trump A or K.
5. If he does, the actual defense can be visualized.
6. Therefore, East must duck the ♠K.

This analysis is too much for me, however, and all it does is slow the game down. Isn't it easier to just make the "can't cost" play and hope for the best?

# BRIDGE IS A LOT LIKE LIFE, AND VICE VERSA



by Bernard G. Schneider

The reason I like Bridge is that it is more than a game; it is actually a great teacher about life. You have to listen closely to hear the music and it does require a little training, but it is always there. Like many Bridge players, I am reasonably good at remembering hands; but, inevitably as time passes, memory fades. Others, I remember over the years, and they become part of who I am.

I am not talking about hands where you (or your partner) executed a double reverse squeeze without the count to make seven spades doubled, or where Edgar Kaplan complimented you on a choice of bids. No, I'm thinking about something deeper. I played the following hand over thirty years ago, and I still think about it as to a lesson about life.

In 1973, I was a graduate student, and had gotten a summer government job in Washington, D.C. I didn't have that many possessions, but my friend Wally kindly offered to drive me down. That we were keenly interested in Bridge, and there was a sectional there that weekend, of course factored into the situation.

We played in the Saturday Open Pairs. In those days, such events were two sessions, and qualifying. We did well in the afternoon in a reasonable field, about two and a half boards over average. We were not among the leaders, but also not too far away. Because it was a qualifying event, the evening session would inevitably be more rigorous.

I have always liked the first board of a session to be uneventful. It is good to ease gently into the game, without immediately being under the gun. As a result, I was pleased when I picked up the following on the first board:

♠ J xxx, ♥ J xxx, ♦ xxx, ♣ J x.

With nobody vulnerable, my right hand opponent opens one club, I pass, and my left hand opponent bids one no trump. My partner bids two clubs in reasonable tempo.

Now you have to remember that this was thirty years ago, and even for better players, the extent of partnership understanding and discussion was not nearly as extensive as it is today. We had agreed that a direct cue bid over an opponent's minor was Michaels for the majors, but this was not the same auction. Perhaps a first cousin, but not the same.

Maybe my right hand opponent would save me by bidding something, but no such luck. He thought for a moment, looked at his cards, and passed reasonably in tempo.

My initial thought was to take a simple approach, and that his bid was Michaels for the majors. That is always an available alternative in life – keep it simple. But then a subversive thought began to cross my mind, and I looked at their convention card. They were in their early 20s, and playing a reasonably aggressive style. That included five card majors by opener, and a rather amorphous one no trump response, which could bypass a four card major. Keep the opponents in the dark, make them guess, and hope that partner can work it out.

Having garnered this information, I now embarked on a journey down the road paved with good intentions. And we all know where that road will take you. I thought: What if my right hand opponent opened one club with 13 points and a three card suit, perhaps even three little (4-4-2-3 shape), an aggressive enough tactic. Continuing on my journey, what if my left hand opponent has only three clubs, or possibly even two clubs (with a 3-3-5-2 shape), or possibly bypassing a four card major with a balanced hand. The opponents combined point count would be about 20. OK. I'd passed the first two logical hurdles.

If I were correct, what would my partner have? A good hand, about 16 points, with a strong six card club suit. Elementary, my dear Watson.

And if he that hand, what would I be looking at; inevitably, a near Yarborough, with club shortage.

OK; with the mental exercise completed, it was time to return to the real world. I opened up my actual hand, and guess what? That is what I, in fact was actually holding. Right in front of my eyes, I had tangible proof.

Time to recheck. If partner had a good hand with the majors, why didn't he double? And if he had a weak hand with the majors, why weren't the opponents bidding more?

Mystery solved, thank you very much. I passed.

Left hand opponent passed quickly. A low spade was led, and when the seven won in dummy, I knew I was in trouble. This was confirmed instantaneously by the smoke coming out of my partner's ears, and the blood rushing to his face. He tried to cash a second spade, which was ruffed. The opponents proceeded to draw two rounds of trumps, cashed some diamond winners, crossruffed a bit, drew some more trumps, etc. Two tricks was the limit of the hand; down six. Minus 300.

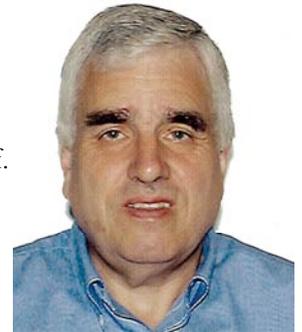
I apologized, and apologized again. It was no use. My partner, normally the nicest of people, would have none of it. I had betrayed him, and there was no recovery. Our game careened downhill and crashed into oblivion.

Here is the full hand:

Dealer: East

Neither side vulnerable

Opening lead: ♠x



**Bernard Schneider**

*continued on page 4*



continued from page 3

South	West	North	East
	1♣	Pass	1 NT
2♣	All Pass		

**North**

♠ J xxx  
♥ J xxx  
♦ xxx  
♣ J x

**West**

♠ x  
♥ K J x  
♦ A Q x  
♣ A Q xxxx

**East**

♠ Q xx  
♥ Q x  
♦ K xxx  
♣ K xxx

**South**

♠ A K xxx  
♥ A xxx  
♦ J xx  
♣ x

Do you see the point? I, of course, in the heat of the moment, had tried to put the entire hand out of my mind for the rest of the session. But when I looked at the score sheet at the end of the session, I found to my amazement (an understatement) that this whole (mis)adventure had resulted in a virtual top. We had gotten twenty one out of twenty five match points. Just about everybody had bid a game – either three no trump or five clubs. Two pairs bid to slam, off two aces, and two pairs had played a partial.

Look at what mischief my partner's two club bid had caused my right hand opponent. Over a double, or a bid of two spades, he would bid some number of clubs (confirming length), and his partner would invite or bid game. But what could he do over two clubs? Perhaps pray that the opponents would have a misunderstanding. What harm could there be in passing? And my left hand opponent – where's he going to go?

Bridge is a wicked game but, as I said at the beginning, it rewards us by being a good teacher. Whenever I find myself analyzing a hand at the table, and becoming more and more convinced of the righteousness of my position (and the error of my partner's or the opponents' way), I catch myself and am reminded of the hand I played so many years ago. I remember that life is more complex than I would like to believe, and that I am not nearly as smart as I think I am.

## Everything You Wanted to Know About Bridge; On Line

by Allan Clamage

If you're like most people you have access to a computer with an Internet connection. And if you're like most people, you're not getting as much information from it as you can. That's particularly true when it comes to information about bridge.

To find what you may have been missing, start with the primary source for bridge information: the ACBL, which has just spent a ton of money to reorganize and improve its web site. Type in [acbl.org](http://acbl.org) in your browser or search window (in most browsers, you don't need to type <http://www> any more) and you'll get to the ACBL's home page.

To see how you've been doing, click on *Your Masterpoints and More* in the upper left-hand corner of the home page (provide your ACBL number and make up a password the first time use enter this section).

Your masterpoint total is updated almost as soon as information is received from your club or from the Sectional, Regional or National tournament you've just played in. You can also find out how many points, and in what colors you need, to move to your next higher rank.

Want to know who's doing well this year? At the very bottom of the home page click on *Member Achievements* and then *Masterpoint Races*. You'll find Mini-McKenney, Ace of Clubs and Seniors leaders in our District (25) and in our Unit (126) for last year and this year to date. The list is updated on or about the 7th of each month.

Want to know how you stand in relation to all the players in the ACBL? Under *Membership Achievements* click on *Membership Masterpoint Holdings*. The chart analyzes the masterpoints of the ACBL's total active membership (156,135 players). It can tell you the number and percentage of the players who have more, or fewer, points than you. For instance, if you have 4,000+ MPs, you're in a group of 2,309 players and have more than 98.53% of our mem-

bers. If you have, say, 175 MPs, you're right in the middle with more than 50.18% of your fellow players.

There's a lot more on the ACBL site than we can cover here. Below is just a short list of items on the home page:

- **Find a Club:** A list of local clubs, by state and city with address, phone number and schedule. It's particularly handy if you're looking for a game while away from home.

- **Tournaments:** Every ACBL Sectional and Regional this year and next.

Check the calendar for upcoming dates and sites, as well as results of previous Regional tournaments. If you need details, copies of the tournament flyers are also available on-line.

- **Learn:** Basics, conventions, scoring and more. You can also get free *Learn to Play Bridge* software for your children and grandchildren. For more advanced players like you, check the highlights from the current issue of the ACBL's monthly *Bridge Bulletin*.

And be sure to click on *Great Bridge Links* for bridge news, resources and information from around the world.

- **Find a Teacher:** A geographical list of some of the accredited teachers from Bethany to Wethersfield. This list, unfortunately, is not complete. But it does give you a starting place to find someone to help you learn more about the game.

There's a whole lot more on the ACBL site and the ACBL is just the beginning.

Want to know about what's going on in New England? Go to [nebridge.org](http://nebridge.org). How about in Connecticut? Go to [ctbridge.org](http://ctbridge.org).

Both of these sites provide news of up-coming special events and schedules. Results and masterpoint winners, plus year-to-date leaders, are posted for District and Regional tournaments within a day or so after the end of the last event. And if you want to pass on a comment, complaint or compliment to your Unit or District representative or officers, their e-mail addresses are listed. The current *Kibitzer* is posted on the [ctbridge.org](http://ctbridge.org) site, as well as past issues

So if you haven't been taking advantage of your internet connection, now is the time to go on-line and browse. You may be surprised at what you can learn without ever leaving home.

# Shot for a Sheep

by Gloria Sieron

<b>North</b>			
♠ A J 10 9 7			
♥ Q			
♦ K 10 9 4 3			
♣ A Q			
<b>West</b>		<b>East</b>	
♠ Q 8 5 4 2		♠ 6	
♥ 5 3 2		♥ A K J 4	
♦ 8 7		♦ A J 6 5	
♣ J 10 9		♣ 5 4 3 2	
<b>South</b>			
♠ K 3			
♥ 10 9 8 7 6			
♦ Q 2			
♣ K 8 7 6			
<b>South</b>	<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>
		1♠	Double
1 NT	Pass	3♦	Pass
3 NT	All Pass		

Dealer: North  
Neither side vulnerable  
Opening lead: 2♥

North opens the bidding one spade. With a textbook take-out double, East places the red card with the white “X” on the table. Eight or nine HCP plus a suitable hand entitles South to bid one no trump over the take-out double. If South has ten or more points, South would find the elusive and pristine blue card with the double “X” indicating “redouble”.

A pass by West inspires North to throw the “stop” card on the table, followed by North’s jump shift to three diamonds. East passes.

On the horns of a dilemma, South is wary that East’s takeout double implies spades will break badly. As the take-out doubler of one spade, East should have four hearts.

“Three spades? Three no trump? Three spades? Three no trump?”

South’s personal “Bridge Baron” in set to the aggressive mode.

Also, South invokes the credo of the New Zealand sheep rustler – “You may as well be shot for stealing a sheep as a lamb.”

South decides to bid three no trump.

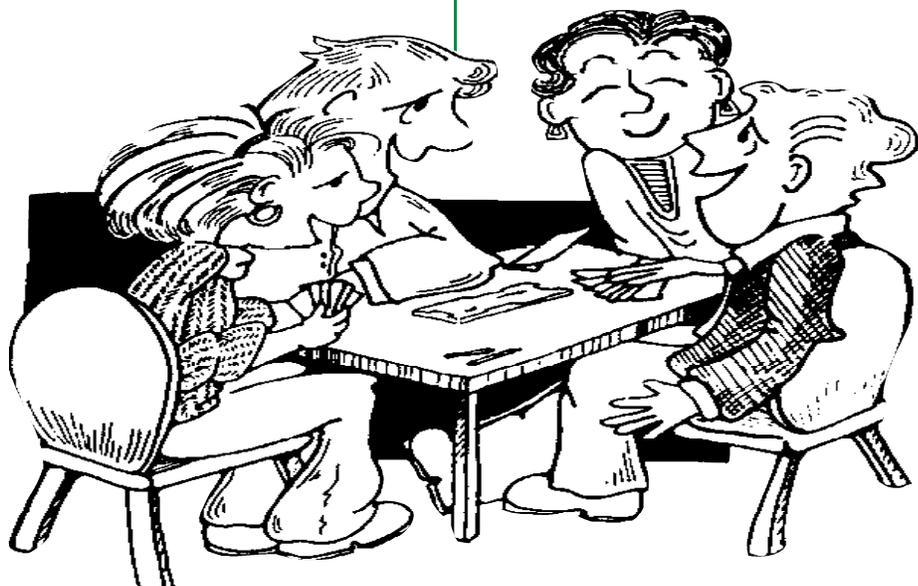


Gloria Sieron

West leads the ♥2. When South sees dummy, he thinks to himself - “Now, where is the hand North held during the auction?” The heart queen is some consolation, but take a peek at those diamonds!

Three no trump is the contract; nine tricks have to be made, so let the games begin.

What should East lead at trick two? Do you want to declare or defend this hand? Before you decide, look at the spots in clubs. Declarer will make four club tricks. A successful spade finesse will net three more tricks. Will declarer’s entries allow him to make three no trump?



## MILESTONES and CONGRATULATIONS

**Diamond Life Master** (5,000 MPs)  
Geoffrey Brod

**Silver Life Master** (1,000 MPs)  
Karen Barrett  
Paula Beauchamp  
David Benjamin  
Walter Johnson

**Bronze Life Master** (500 MPs)  
Jane Julius  
Aldona Siuta  
Warren Williams

**Life Master** (300 MPs)  
Paul Burnham  
Martha Hathaway  
Christine Pokorski

And congratulations to **Rich De Martino** who has achieved the 15,000 MP milestone. Rich is a Grand Life Master with two NABC victories having won the 1980 North American Swiss Teams and the 2000 Senior Knockout events.



# From the

# S

## Fairfield

### Some Things Are Worth Repeating

We all have addictions, good and bad. Bridge of course, is a good addiction, those of us playing it will agree, but do we know how good?

An article I saved and passed around from time to time, claimed that Bridge was a mechanism to help keep us healthy. It is positive thinking that helps control the level of white blood cells. That study was done by a Professor of Integrative Biology at Berkeley and presented to the Society of Neuroscience in November of 2000. Something I think is worth repeating.

Just think about the exposure to germs we all have while playing bridge; the numbers of people packed in room, sometimes, in very close quarters; too warm a temperature; passing cards from one hand to another.

And then think about how seldom we hear someone coughing, or of getting sick? How many clubs have players in their 80s and 90s?

Definitely a good addiction so keep working on those white blood cells.

Come to the STAMFORD game on Mondays at 11:30 a.m. at Sterling Glen located at 77 Third St. near Strawberry Hill.

Come to the FAIRFIELD game on Fridays at 11:00 a.m. at the Scandinavian Club at 1351 So. Pine Creek, near exit 21 off I-95, near the Fairfield Railroad Station.

Most often, partners are arranged for everyone, just call at 860-354-1457 or e-mail at [www.cadybrook@aol.com](mailto:www.cadybrook@aol.com). All game results are on a website:

[www.Bridge-Results.com](http://www.Bridge-Results.com) within hours of each game. You can check it out by getting to the web site and clicking on "see our clubs" then pull up "Bridge Mix in Ct." for both the Fairfield and Stamford games. Click the date on the calendar that you want to see.

Bridge is becoming much easier in many respects for the Directors and far more interesting for the players when

we can see the results so quickly and so completely thanks to computers... well most of the time, when the computers are working properly and the Director is working properly and, of course, we must not forget to plug them (the computers) in for them to work properly.

## Stamford

The Stamford Bridge Club had its annual meeting and dinner in June and an enjoyable evening it was.

Newly elected officers are: David Babson, President; Dean Montgomery, Vice President; Terry Lubman, Secretary; Natalie Cohen, Treasurer; Rita Doucette, Ass't. Treasurer. Board of Directors: Doris Greenwald, Aimee Housholder, Carlos Muñoz and Phil Silverstein.

Trophies were awarded to:  
Nat Cohen and Betty MacInnis; Mayor's Cup  
Allan Stauber and Carlos Muñoz; Men's Pairs  
Aimee Housholder and Doris Greenwald; Women's Pairs  
Frances and Bernard Schneider; Open Pairs and Highest Average  
Nat Cohen and Paul Burleson; Mixed Pairs  
Dede Pochos and Rob Stayman; Charity Pairs  
Mary Lou Woods; Non-Life Master  
Frances and Bernard Schneider and Paul Burleson and Phil Silverstein; Swiss Teams.

Our new president has volunteered to be a permanent stand-by (most of the time) so come on down: Friday evening, 7:30 pm. Off exit 8, I-95. Call Betty 964-9016 for details.

## Darien Community Association

Congratulations to the winners of The Darien Community Association Monday Duplicate Bridge Game Spring Series (from January 3 to May 23, 2005).

1. Martha Hathaway - Marilyn Tjader

2. Mary Richardson - Janet Soskin  
3. Connie Bergin - Laura Wilks  
4. Evelyn Andrews - Belinda Metzger  
5. Carol Davidson - Betty Hodgman

## Hamden Bridge Forum Spring Results - Tuesday

Louise Wood and Muriel Romero are virtually tied for the Player of the Year lead, with Bob Hawes and Tony Tusa within striking distance. Muriel and Billie Hecker have a substantial lead among partnerships. The recently dominant duo of Fredda Kelly-Helen Molloy is a distant second ahead of Hill Auerbach-Tracy Selmon and our top married couple, Carrie and Charlie Schnee.

### Leonora Stein Cup Finals

The three-week final was full of Usual Suspects. Muriel Romero in her fifth consecutive final looking for her third Stein Cup win; Helen Shields in her fourth in five years looking for her first; Louise Wood in her best Stein outing looking for her twelfth cup overall; and 2003 Claiborn Cup winner, Ginny Anderson.

Helen took a slight lead into the last week, and began the evening with a top for bidding and making a slam against Louise.

Although Muriel and Ginny also had strong rounds against the favorite, Louise made up ground against her other opponents. Last year, Helen was denied in the final week when she stayed out of a 4♠ contract that could have been set by a heart ruff, except that the defender who was out of hearts had held a spade void all along. This year, 4♠ did Helen in again, and she didn't even play the decisive board on which every declarer but one bid 4♠ and took ten tricks. A defensive misguess (or miscount) gave Louise an overtrick and the cup; a flat board would have given victory to Helen. Next year perhaps she should be permitted to remove 4♠ from all the bidding boxes. Ginny finished third for the first time since the 2001 Memory

Bowl, which she inherited from Morse Ginsberg by the middle of 2002. Louise's victory completed her career Grand Slam; she has now won all six of our cups at least once.

### **Friday**

The Player of the Year contest already seems narrowed to a field of six potential winners. Muriel Lipman, Jean Shepler-Miller and Louise Wood form a lead pack, with Fredda Kelly, Carl Yohans and Billie Hecker chasing, well ahead of the field. Carl and Janice Bruce are in position to be runner-up pair again, this time behind Hill Auerbach-Larry Stern, with Shirley Fruchter-Jinny Goggin in third. Aldyth Claiborn Cup Finals: Billie Hecker was looking for her first cup win since 2000, Emma Q. Antonio for her first since 1996, and for either Jean Shepler-Miller or Helen Molloy it would be her first ever, on the seventh or fifth respective finalist appearance. Billie and Jean played together in the first week of the finals and finished on the bottom, giving Helen the lead over Emma. In the second week, their order of finish was Jean-Billie-Helen-Emma, moving Jean into second place and keeping Helen ahead. Helen stayed in front for a while during the final game, then fell off near the end to finish third. When Billie emerged as top finalist and Jean second, they had both defeated Helen and Emma two weeks out of three and were 1-1 against each other, forcing a tiebreak. Billie's placements of 1, 1-2, 6 and 10 totaled 18.5, against Jean's 1, 2, 5 and 9 adding to 17, and Jean finally had her first cup win. Oddly enough, Billie lost the cup by making 2♥ doubled against Emma. In the last week of the final, Billie defeated Jean by six matchpoints and Emma by eight. Had she gone one down in 2♥ doubled, she would still have defeated Emma by two matchpoints and Jean by three. Overall, Billie would still have defeated Emma and Helen 2-1 and tied Jean, but Emma would have defeated Jean 2-1 overall, giving Billie a clear victory.

### **Tuesday-Friday Combined**

#### **Helen Frank Cup**

Right away this year's running revealed unusual tendencies, as Louise

Wood, who had never finished worse than second for this cup, found herself in the lower half of the table throughout May and into June. The lead passed from Tracy Selmon to Jean Shepler-Miller to Helen Molloy to Fredda Kelly. Fredda became the dominant player in the series, building a big lead and losing it, putting Tracy back ahead at the half. Fredda went ahead again, aided by the STaC game with all the E-W slams. Cup defender Muriel Romero crept into the top ten in much the way she made her winning move last year, but had bad N-S luck in the STaC and couldn't regroup. In mid-June, Fredda hit a run of bad trump splits, and suddenly Helen Molloy regained the lead by winning with Ginny Anderson on the Tuesday when the air conditioning wasn't working. In a wildly swinging finish, Louise won four of the last five games to pull up to fifth, Carl Yohans held steady and ended fourth, occasional Tuesday-only player Pat Gibbs had a chance to duplicate Jon Ingersoll's 2002 Tuesday-only win and ended third, and Helen survived a weak final game to edge seasonal player Charlie Schnee by the equivalent of about a quarter of a matchpoint.

### **Bridgeport**

A few words about Paula Frenkel... Paula was devoted to playing and promoting duplicate bridge.

Years ago at the Bridgeport Jewish Community Center Wednesday 10:30 a.m. duplicate bridge game, Paula insisted that each player have a list of telephone numbers. She spent hours on the phone assisting people in locating partners. Throughout her bridge-playing life, Paula played with some of the area's finest players. Most players of Paula's ability are extremely fussy about their partners. Not Paula. Paula would play with anyone and most often, Paula and "anyone" would finish first!

The last few times Paula played, she finished at the top. We miss you, Paula.

## **Hartford Bridge Club**

7

The HBC is riding the crest of the reality TV shows by presenting a half-hour program on WHC-TV West Hartford (Channel 5) for average and intermediate players called REALITY BRIDGE.

Starting in September and running throughout the year, the program will air three times during the month on the local access channel, which reaches approximately 22,000 homes in West Hartford.

The theme of the series is to encourage players to develop a plan for each hand as declarer or as defender by analyzing the bids made during the auction, by the opening lead, and by the cards in the dummy... and to modify that plan to meet new and unexpected developments, such as unfavorable distribution, as the hand is played.

A tall order? Not for the members of the foursome for the first program, who include Valerie Orefice, Lea Selig, Lou Brown and Partab Makhijani. Bob Gruskay will serve as program moderator and Ed Lewis the director.

Check the CT Bridge web site soon for the exact times of the airing of REALITY BRIDGE.

### **ALWAYS A WINNER**

Jim Cleary has won the Hartford Club Championship for the past five years. To win the championship, a member must accumulate the most points at the club level for the year.

This year's race is very close, but no matter whether Jim wins the championship or not, he will always be a winner to the members of the Hartford Bridge Club. Jim is always willing to share his expert advice with both beginner and advanced players. When there is an argument as to how to play a hand, the standard reply is "Let's ask Jim."

Yeong-Long Shiue and David Margolin won the Red Ribbon pairs at the Nationals this year and both thanked Jim for helping them win the event by sharing his winning strategy. The Hartford Bridge Club is indebted to Jim for all his dedication to the members and to the game of bridge.

## Hello from the President

I am excited about my new role as President of Unit 126 and I look forward to serving our members. I would like to represent everyone's point of view, and to do so, need to hear from you. Your Board is focusing on a number of topics of interest and concern, two major ones being new members and increased attendance at our tournaments. I can be reached at [ctbridge.org](http://ctbridge.org) through the email link. Please let me hear from you.

*Kay Howe*

## Mark Your Calendar

### Sectional Tournament

Governor's Cup awarded for best overall performance

**September 16 – 18**

### Newington Knights of Columbus

Chair – Helma Strauss – 860-953-4565 • Pairing - Ruth Kuzma – 860-666-5051

Site Number – 860-712-0508

**Friday** 1:30 p.m. – Stratified Open, Senior Pairs  
7:30 p.m. – Stratified Open Pairs

**Saturday** 10:00 a.m. – Stratified Pairs (A/X, B/C/D, 299er)  
2:00 p.m. – as above  
7:00 p.m. – Stratified Open Pairs

**Sunday** 10:30 a.m. – Continental Breakfast  
11:00 a.m. – Stratiflighted Swiss Teams

**Entry fee:** \$8 per player/session. Third session on Saturday at half price when you play two Saturday sessions.

**Student discount:** \$3 per session

## THE KIBITZER

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

All comments, news, items (including cartoons) related to the bridge world and of interest to our readers are welcome. Please send all items for the next *Kibitzer* by **November 15**. All ads must be received by November 1.

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## Your Link to the Board

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

Central	Kay Frangione	860-621-7233
Fairfield	Esther Watstein	203-375-5489
Hartford	Betty Nagle	860-529-7667
Northwestern	Mary Witt	860-658-9395
Panhandle	Sandy De Martino	203-637-2781
Southern	Phyllis Bausher	203-248-3653
Southeastern	Burt Gischner	860-691-1484
Southwestern	Paul Burnham	203-899-3327
Members-at-large	Joyce Stiefel	860-563-0722
	John Stiefel	860-563-0722
	Geoff Brod	860-677-1018

**You can see The Kibitzer in blazing color at the CT bridge site: [ctbridge.org](http://ctbridge.org). If you would like to receive The Kibitzer via e-mail, let us know.**