



TABLE TALK

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

VOL. 60 No. 2

FALL 2019

'Halloween Regional' is nothing to be scared about

By Marty Hirschman
Table Talk Editor

Our Motor City Regional has been held in the second week of October for many years, but a scheduling glitch at the site has pushed our dates back this year to Oct. 28 to Nov. 3.

That means Halloween falls smack in the middle of the tournament. So I'm encouraging everyone to get dressed up for the occasion on Thursday, Oct. 31. I may come as a ghost. Or maybe a lawyer. Boooooooooooooooooo!

Concerned about missing Halloween in the "real" world? No worries. The afternoon session should end about 5:45 p.m., so you will have time to run home and give out candy or see that cute granddaughter of yours in her Little Mermaid getup.

Another great thing about the new dates: You know how you get a little tired after playing two sessions all week, and just don't want to get up on Sunday early enough to make the 10 a.m. starting time? Well, this year, the change

(Continued on page 23)

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE

The annual election for MBA Board of Directors will be held at the Motor City Regional on the last four days of the tournament, Oct. 31-Nov. 3. Voting will end at the start of the Sunday game. If you cannot be there on one of those days, you can still vote by completing and sending in an absentee ballot. See page 5. Candidates' pictures and statements appear on pages 6-7.

**Michigan Bridge Association's
VINCE AND JOAN REMEY
MOTOR CITY REGIONAL**

October 28-November 3, 2019

**SITE: William Costick Center, 28600 Eleven Mile
Road, Farmington Hills 48366**

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28

Stratified Grass Roots Fund Open Pairs..... 1 & 7 p.m.*

Gold Rush Pairs 1 & 7 p.m.*

*You may play one session by request

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29

Bracketed Swiss Teams..... 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30

Soloway-style KO Teams-Qualifying Rounds

..... 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

Sylvia Stein Stratified Open Pairs..... 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

Gold Rush Pairs 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31

Soloway-style KO Teams-Semifinals & Finals

..... 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

Bracketed Swiss Teams..... 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Stratified Open Pairs 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

Gold Rush Pairs 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

Stratified Open Swiss Teams 2:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Stratified Open Swiss Teams 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

Stratified Open Pairs 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

Gold Rush Pairs 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Marilyn & Myles Maddox Bracketed Swiss Teams

..... 10 a.m. playthru

(Includes Intermediate/Newcomer Teams)

Light lunch served Saturday & Sunday

Expert lectures Tuesday thru Saturday at 9:15 a.m.

INTERMEDIATE/NEWCOMER PAIRS:

Tuesday thru Saturday..... 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
(I/N events are limited to players
with fewer than 300 masterpoints)

SIDE PAIR SERIES:

Daytime Series #1 Tuesday thru Thursday
..... 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
Evening Series Tuesday thru Friday 7 p.m.
Daytime Series #2 Friday & Saturday 10 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.
To win gold points, you must play
at least two sessions of the same event

STRATS:

Two-session Open events: A=unlimited, B=0-3000, C=0-1500
Side Series games & single-session Swiss Teams:
A=unlimited, B=0-3000, C=0-750
I/N Pairs: 0-50, 50-100 and 100-300

SOLOWAY-STYLE KO TEAMS is a bracketed two-day event with a two-session round-robin qualifier on the first day. The surviving four teams play two matches on the second day, with all four receiving overall awards.

BRACKETED SWISS TEAMS: Teams are divided by average masterpoints into separate events with 7, 8 or 9 teams in the top brackets.

TOURNAMENT HOTEL:

Comfort Inn, 30715 West 12 Mile Road, Farmington Hills,
248-471-9220, 855-539-0036

TOURNAMENT CHAIR:

Bob Ondo, 313-320-5173, bobondo@gmail.com

PARTNERSHIPS:

Marilyn Crane, 734-591-3431, cell: 734-536-1731;
mqcrane@yahoo.com
Jane Gardner, 248-719-2941; janegard@umich.edu

District website: www.district12bridge.org

TABLE TALK

Official publication
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4504 Knollcrest Road
Ann Arbor MI 48108
734-585-5759
e-mail: MBATalk@aol.com

MARTIN HIRSCHMAN, Editor

Associate editor: Marcia Abramson
MBA Corresponding & Membership Secretary: Paul Pomeroy,
34069 Hathaway St., Livonia MI
48150, ppommd@aol.com, 734-
421-0193

MBA Officers

Owen Lien..... president
Richard Temkin..... president-elect
Bob Ondo..... chairman
Stacey Tessler.... recording secretary
Bob Webber..... treasurer

Board of Directors

Julie Arbit, Shelley Boschan, Brenda
Bryant, Marilyn Crane, Jonathan
Fleischmann, Jane Gardner, Martin
Hirschman (non-voting), Owen Lien,
Marilyn Nathanson, Bob Ondo, Grant
Petersen, Richard Temkin, Stacey
Tessler, Allan Tushman

MBA CLUB DIRECTORY

■ **Ann Arbor BC**, Walden Hills Club-
house, 2114 Pauline, Ann Arbor.
Ray Gentz, 734-769-3994. Wednes-
day 7 p.m.

■ **Ann Arbor Genesis**, 2309
Packard, Ann Arbor. Stuart Col-
lis, 734-678-5549. Tuesday 7
p.m.

■ **Bridge On the Park**, 1320
Baldwin, Ann Arbor. Debra
Eaves, 248-935-0909. Wednes-
day 12 p.m.

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

■ **Downriver BC**, Southgate Veter-
ans Memorial Library, 14680 Dix-
Toledo Rd., Southgate. Cono
Emanuele, 734-675-3687. Tues-
day 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. Tony Faint, 586-649-3575.
Thursday 12 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.

■ **Trenton DBC**, 2700 Westfield,
Trenton. Bob Ondo, 313-320-
5173. 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 McKin-
ley, Dearborn Heights. Joyce Koz-
ma, 313-274-5587. Wednesday
11 a.m.

MBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

FALL 2019

The annual election for the MBA Board of Directors will take place on the last four days of the Remey Motor City Regional, Oct. 28-Nov. 3, 2019, in Farmington Hills. Voting ends at the start of the Sunday event. If you cannot attend the tournament, please fill out and mail an absentee ballot according to the directions below. One ballot per MBA member, please. A second ballot is provided for use by households with two MBA members. For additional ballots, contact Jane Gardner, 248-719-2941, or Shelley Boschan, 248-225-1700.

Statements of candidates appear on the following two pages.

MBA ABSENTEE BALLOT

Please vote for NOT MORE THAN SIX (6) nominees for the MBA Board of Directors. For your absentee ballot to be valid, it must be MAILED, with the name of the voter on the outer envelope. There must be no more than two ballots per envelope. If two ballots are sent in one envelope, the names of both voters must be written on the outer envelope.

This ballot may not be reproduced, and a facsimile will not be accepted.

Please vote for NOT MORE THAN SIX (6) candidates. An asterisk(*) indicates incumbent. Please put an X after your choices.

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| 1. Stacey Tessler* | _____ | 5. Julie Arbit* | _____ |
| 2. Jonathan Fleischmann* | _____ | 6. Marilyn Crane* | _____ |
| 3. Steven Jacob | _____ | 7. Brenda Bryant* | _____ |
| 4. Paul Chirgwin | _____ | | |

**Mail ballots to Jane Gardner, 21557 Summerside Lane,
Northville MI 48167 no later than Oct. 28.**

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| 3. Steven Jacob | _____ | 7. Brenda Bryant* | _____ |
| 4. Paul Chirgwin | _____ | | |

**Mail ballots to Jane Gardner, 21557 Summerside Lane,
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STACEY TESSLER

As an MBA board member for many years, I enjoy promoting novice games and learning opportunities for inexperienced players. As a director at several games in Ann Arbor, I am able to encourage players new to the game. At the Burns Park Senior Center, I direct a monthly game for players with less than 200 masterpoints. This includes instruction, masterpoints at a sanctioned game and opportunities to make new acquaintances in a less stressful environment. I am also co-chair with Julie Arbit for the Mike Graham Ann Arbor Sectional at the end of January. I would appreciate your vote.



JONATHAN FLEISCHMANN

Over my previous eight years serving MBA on its board, I have been involved in running its Sectional and Regional tournaments, working on MBA-SOMBA negotiations, and a variety of other activities to benefit the unit. I want to see bridge thrive in southeast Michigan, as I have loved playing the game here for twenty years now and hope to continue for twenty more. I look forward to the opportunity to further contribute over the next two years and hope you will trust me to do so.



STEVEN JACOB

I have been an active duplicate player for over 35 years. I would like to “give back” to MBA since our bridge community has given so much to me. I have a Master of Business Administration from U of M and been in business since 1980. I believe that my many years of playing bridge and my business experience will benefit the MBA Board. Developing programs and ideas to grow our membership is an area that interests me.



PAUL CHIRGWIN

Bridge has become a growing part of my life since I retired 3 years ago and then again when my wife died last year. I now play four times per week. One goal will be to revisit the joining of MBA with SOMBA. Keeping two groups in the same area, given the less than laudable reason why two groups were formed years ago, is overdue for change. If it takes a longer term plan to level budgets, then the effort needs to get started.

JULIE ARBIT

Julie learned to play bridge in 2011 as an undergraduate student at the University of Michigan. She won District 12 NAP C in 2013 and qualified on teams to represent the US in World Junior championships in 2014 and 2016. Julie recently moved back to Michigan, where she splits her time working at a research lab in Ann Arbor and teaching bridge. She will begin a two-year master's program in Environmental Policy in the Fall. Aside from work, school, and bridge, Julie finds time for rock climbing, martial arts, vegan cooking/baking, and slowly building a 2-acre homestead.



MARILYN CRANE

Many of you know me from working at the partnership desk at our local Sectionals and Regionals. It gives me the opportunity to meet new players and many times match up winners! I would appreciate your vote and look forward to serving on the board for another term.



BRENDA BRYANT

I am running for the MBA board again this year. Like you I love the game of bridge! In fact, I will be traveling to Wuhan, China to compete in the Venice Cup this year. As a bridge player, I am concerned about its ethics, making the game fun (yet competitive) and developing ways like our summer youth camp, to entice young people to learn and play. Bridge is a wonderful way to keep our minds sharp, make friends, and to have fun. I have gained so much from the game, and I am eager to give back to it.



WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

James Adams
Alfred Fisher
Jonathan Gorman
Kirk Meier
Roy Nesler
Renee Siegan
Marie Tront

WELCOME, TRANSFERS

Marsha Auslander
David Boley
Marilyn Clark
John Kraus
Carol Nederlander
Terry Selman
Shelagh Vanderveen

Bendure and Bitterman score big at Vegas NABC

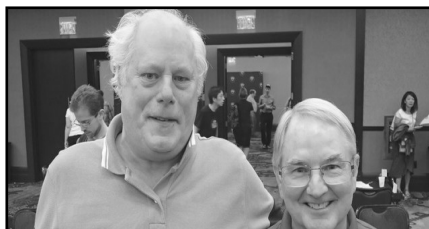
MBA member Mark Bendure of Grosse Pointe and former member Bob Bitterman, now of Harbor Springs MI, won the two-day NABC+ Wernher Open Pairs this summer at the North American Bridge Championships in Las Vegas.

Bendure and Bitterman were regular partners until Bitterman moved away about 30 years ago. Recently they started playing together again.

Bendure, who is my attorney if I ever need one again, agreed to participate in this interview, by email.

TABLE TALK: Congratulations on your big win in the Wernher. Please tell us a little about your personal life and career.

MARK BENDURE: Thanks, Marty. I still maintain a very active lifestyle that keeps me from spending too much time at the bridge table. My wife, Carol, and I are celebrating our 50th anniversary this month. Our four grandchildren, ages 4-9, live within two miles and are a constant source of education and amusement. I began my law practice about 45 years ago



Mark Bendure, left, and partner Bob Bitterman

and still put in my share of 7-day weeks, primarily handling state and federal appeals. Besides the recent bridge victory, the high point in my life is arguing, and winning, in the U.S. Supreme Court.

TT: How and when did you get involved in playing bridge, particularly duplicate bridge?

BENDURE: I learned to play bridge in the dorm at the University of Michigan and quickly became captivated. Before long I was playing at the student union and then the local club game and nearby sectional tournaments. I was taken under his wing by Art Price, a classic gentleman and WBF master who ran the student union game, and encouraged young players. Then I developed a good partnership with Ross Grabel who went on to become a force at

the national level. It was an extraordinarily strong field in the club game so one either learned fast or gave up. By the time I graduated from law school, partners moved away and my plate was full with starting a career and a toddler (and other diversions) so I didn't play a lot of bridge but stayed interested.

TT: Tell us about your partnership with Bob Bitterman.

BENDURE: At about that time, Bob Bitterman was beginning to play in the Detroit area while attending med school. It was clear that he had a competitive spirit to match my own and had a lot of potential. We struck up a partnership that has lasted to this day. If I had to play a game of bridge with my life on the line, he is the one I would want sitting across the table, and we have developed a close lifelong friendship. We had a fair amount of success at local sectionals and regionals and aspired to play competitively at high levels, but other commitments in our lives left little time for that, so our play for 20-30 years was pretty sporadic. Bob moved from the Detroit area and gradually got back into the game, developing partner-

ships with players with a national reputation and doing very well at the highest level of the game. About five years ago I had a little more time to devote to the game and shake some of the rust off. I tried to play two or three regionals and one or two nationals a year, in part because I qualified for the national NAPs three straight years. For about three years he and I have played about one national event a year. In the meantime, BBO has been great for playing together when we get a chance. Also, he took the initiative of upgrading our system from vintage 1980's to vintage 2005, although I can't recall any "system" hands from the Open Pairs.

TT: Do you have any good hands or stories from the Wernher?

BENDURE: Bob told the Bulletin about a hand where I (pretty recklessly) bid a suit holding AQ doubleton after he had doubled a transfer bid in that suit, so he led that suit instead of the obvious lead without the bid, and we were able to take an extra trick on defense. There was a hand where I made an unusual play from dummy and false-carded from my hand to deter the op-

ponents from taking a ruff. On another deal Bob stripped the hand and executed a nice endplay to secure the contract. Mainly, though, we had more than our share of good fortune and were solid in our declarer play and defense.

TT: I heard that you had a bad board on the last round, which at the time seemed like it might cost you the event. What was the story there?

BENDURE: We went into the final session in about 13th place and the session went very smoothly so I knew we had done well, and were likely in the top 5, but I couldn't tell much more than that. In the last round our first board was below average — not a disaster but not what you wanted at that stage. On the last hand I was playing 4♠ doubled, which would make with a favorable lie, but there was a 4-0 trump split.

While I was pondering how to play the hand 3 or 4 people came up to congratulate us based on the final-round posting that had just been put up. Bob asked them to be quiet so I could concentrate, and someone said we were far enough ahead that it wouldn't matter. Anyhow, I went down 2 when I could have held it to

down 1 with more inspired play, but they would likely have made 4♥, so again I knew it wasn't a good result but wasn't horrible either. Shortly afterward the final results were announced.

TT: Anything else you would like to tell our readers?

BENDURE: Winning a national open pairs was a real bucket list item. I didn't think it likely just because I don't play that often, but I did not doubt that if the stars aligned and we played well Bob and I could pull it off. That is the great thing about the game, there are always accomplishments to reach for that are attainable with good luck and by minimizing mistakes.

MBA-SOMBA need assistant techie

Bill Landrum, who maintains the website for the MBA-SOMBA directory, is hoping to train someone so that he isn't the only one who knows how the software works. If you have technical ability with websites and programming and are interested, contact: Shelley Boschan, 248-225-1700, SEHB23@gmail.com or Satish Shah, 586-932-1817 or 586-944-6708, satishshah280@gmail.com

***Detecting Cheating in Bridge* by Nicolas Hammond**

Review by Marty Hirschman

When we last met Nicolas Hammond a few years ago, he was embroiled in a dispute with ACBL over whether his software company had performed properly under a contract with the league to update the ACBLScore program used to keep score at our club games and tournaments.

ACBL was a little vague about what the problem was. Hammond says his new program, ACBLScore+, worked just fine, but the league was worried that it would not own the copyright on the source code for the program and decided not to use it. Eventually ACBL paid Hammond's company \$1.5 million for the work it did, Hammond reports.

Now he has taken his software, renamed BridgeScore+, and enhanced it in an effort to use statistical methods to determine how much cheating is going on at bridge tournaments and, to a limited extent, who the cheating pairs are.

It is all explained in his fascinating new book, *Detecting Cheating at Bridge*.

Until now, cheaters generally could be caught only when their cheating methods were uncovered. Hammond's ap-

proach is different. Basically, he compares how well players and particularly pairs of top players perform compared to best double-dummy play. Over a large enough set of results, the theory goes, a pair can only do so well without cheating. Particularly on defense.

The last paragraph is a big oversimplification, but it captures the basic idea. Hammond's approach does not require knowing how the cheating is done. That may or may not be determined later by viewing videos of hands played by suspect pairs in major tournaments, particularly international tournaments, over the past five years.

I cannot begin to assess the validity of Hammond's approach, partly because I don't have the technical background and partly because he has withheld details of some of his methods. I can, however, report some of his more startling findings and statements:

- His software would have flagged all four of the major international pairs that were caught cheating in 2015, plus two pairs that were caught in 2005 and 2013.

- There were at least four oth-

er pairs, perhaps as many as eight, who were cheating in the 2014 European Bridge Team Championships. They have not been caught.

■There was probably a significant amount of cheating at the Bermuda Bowl in 2009, 2011 and 2013, even excluding the pairs that have since been caught. Also at the Bermuda Bowl in 1955 to 1983.

■Cheating in top-level bridge declined after 2015, probably because pairs were afraid of being caught, and some suspect pairs have stopped playing together.

■At least 30 pairs among the 300 pairs who play the most in ACBL tournaments are much better on defense than declarer play, an indication of unethical behavior if not out-and-out collusive cheating.

■There are over 130 active pairs in ACBL who are acting unethically by playing undisclosed partnership agreements designed to allow the better player to declare more of the hands.

■There is no evidence that there is cheating in computer bridge.

■There is a 90 percent chance that as of 2016 some pair or pairs “cracked” the hand-generation program of the ACBL and thereby had

access to hand records in advance of playing.

■Code-cracking experts working with Hammond easily developed software that could take the 52-card layout on the first three deals of a set of hands and generate the rest of the hand records. (ACBL changed its hand-generation program after this was reported.)

The book is on sale for \$39.95 at: <http://www.detectingcheatinginbridge.com>

Postscript

Shortly after the Summer NABC in Las Vegas, Hammond posted the following provocative remarks on Facebook:

“Back in Atlanta from Las Vegas. I hope everyone took lots of pictures of their favorite players. Some of these players will not be there at the next NABC...

“A bold statement.... some top pair(s) will not be there at next NABC or major event... but you read it here first. Give me 1-12 weeks...

“Just a question of which pair I decide to work on first. The book shows there are several. I'll probably start with the ones that avoided eye contact with me all last week... doesn't narrow it down much ...”

IT'S YOUR BID

By Marty Hirschman

Space is at a premium this issue, so I don't have room to print as many panelist comments as usual. I will try my best to sum them up.

Congratulations to Gene Benedict, Bob Brent and Suzy Burger for their perfect 500s and to Val Enache for high score among readers.

You, too, can aim for perfection by sending in your answers to next issue's hands, found at the end of this article.

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

♠52 ♥543 ♦AJ10852 ♣75

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♥ Dbl Pass 2♦

Pass 2♥ Pass ?

Action	Score	Votes
4♦	100	9
3♥	80	6
3♦	60	3

All the old textbooks tell us that double followed by a cuebid shows about 19 HCPs or more, but they are silent on what happens next. Possibly the most popular agreement is that if responder to the double returns to the cheapest bid in his first-bid suit that shows a very bad hand, while other bids are forward-going.

Here we have 5 HCPs and two diamonds more than we showed with our first bid, which had a range of 0 to 8 HCPs. So a 3♦ bid now is un-

acceptable, and doesn't even show extra length in diamonds.

I like 3♥, because it leaves room for partner to bid 3NT with heart stopper(s), or maybe 3♠ with a strong 5-card suit (or longer).

Kurt Dasher (3♥): Will pass 3NT if partner can bid it. Will bid 5♦ if he cannot.

Half the panel chose to jump in diamonds.

Chuck Burger (4♦): Value bid. Not 3♥ since partner did not bid 2 or 3NT. Even in matchpoints I need to express this suit.

At the table, partner held a remarkable hand: ♥AKQJ10 ♥A108 ♦K96 ♣A10. Diamonds were 4-0 onside, so 7♦ and 7NT were making.

SCORES

EXPERTS:

Gene Benedict	500
Bob Brent	500
Suzy Burger	500
Kurt Dasher	480
Dennis Kasle	470
Don Rumelhart	470
Bob Webber	470
Joe Chiesa	450
John Koschik	450
Myles Maddox	450

READERS:

Val Enache	450
------------------	-----

Seymour Mandell	430
Gerald Wahl	430
Ray Gentz	410
Irving Hershman	400
Doris Jefferies	390
J. Morris Swiger	390
Margaret Carden	360
Neil Manley	350
Patty Becker	340
George Pope	330
Jerry Viedrah	330
Jerry Jefferies	310
Steven & Martina Garland	260

HOW THE PANEL VOTED

	1	2	3	4	5
Gene Benedict	4♦	Pass	Pass	Dbl	Dbl
Bob Brent	4♦	Pass	Pass	Dbl	Dbl
Chuck Burger	4♦	3♣	Pass	3♠	Dbl
Suzy Burger	4♦	Pass	Pass	Dbl	Dbl
Joe Chiesa	3♦	Pass	Pass	Dbl	Dbl
Kurt Dasher	3♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl	Dbl
Jonathan Fleischmann	3♥	Dbl	5♥	Dbl	Dbl
Dennis Kasle	4♦	Dbl	Pass	Dbl	Dbl
Sheldon Kirsch	3♥	Pass	Pass	Dbl	4♥
Morrie Kleinplatz	3♥	3♣	Pass	3♠	Dbl
John Koschik	3♥	Pass	Pass	3♠	Dbl
Myles Maddox	3♥	Pass	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Linda Perlman	4♦	Pass	Pass	Pass	4♥
Irv Rosenstein	3♦	3♣	Pass	Dbl	Dbl
Don Rumelhart	4♦	Dbl	Pass	Dbl	Dbl
Richard Temkin	3♦	Dbl	Pass	3♠	4♥
Bob Webber	4♦	Pass	Pass	Pass	Dbl
Willie Winokur	4♦	Dbl	Pass	Pass	Dbl

2. MTPTs. N-S vul. As

SOUTH, you hold:

♠J43 ♥KJ7 ♦108 ♣K8654

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
------	-------	------	-------

--	--	1♣	Pass
----	----	----	------

Pass	1NT*	DbI	Pass
------	------	-----	------

2♦	Pass	Pass	?
----	------	------	---

*Usually 11-14

Action	Score	Votes
Pass	100	10
DbI	70	5
3♣	60	3
2NT	50	0

Partner almost surely has three clubs, maybe four. It seems too low to sell out: Even beating 2♦ a trick will only get us 50 points at this vulnerability. So I would try 3♣, trusting my superior declarer play (gag!) and expecting my club and heart honors to be well-placed.

Morrie Kleinplatz (3♣): Points are fairly evenly divided. RHO has a balanced 18-19. I'm betting they make 2♦. Expect to make 3 or go down one. I hope RHO's clubs aren't strong enough to double.

Double, which seems like a wild gamble to me, is put forth by its advocates as a takeout bid. I'm not buying it.

Don Rumelhart (DbI): I intend to compete. Double seems

the most flexible.

Jonathan Fleischmann (DbI):

This should be takeout, especially since I didn't redouble initially. I'm happy playing a Moysian fit in either major, 3♣ if partner bids those or defending 2♦x if partner passes.

If partner bids 3♣ with four clubs after we double, he deserves a medal.

Pass, the majority choice, would be the normal action at IMPs, and it may work best here as well.

Bob Webber (Pass): Partner would need especially well-fitting honors for us to make 3♣. Better to play for -90 or +50.

Joe Chiesa (Pass): EW may well be in a 5-2 fit, and even assuming arguendo a 5-3 club fit for us, 3♣ rates to get a 4-1 club split. Moreover, at these colors -90 is preferable to -100.

Gene Benedict (Pass): Our only possible 8-card fit is in clubs, which are unlikely to break well. If you bid with this hand, partner will be reluctant to balance in the future.

At the table, partner held ♠AQ5 ♥852 ♦QJ3 ♣AJ93. West had stiff 10 of clubs so

you could make nine tricks in clubs or NT, while 2♦ would be down one. Three of our readers bid 2NT.

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

♠AQJ10 ♥AJ985 ♦10 ♣Q105
 WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
 3♦ Pass 4♦ Dbl
 Pass 4♥ Pass Pass
 5♦ Dbl Pass ?

Action	Score	Votes
Pass	100	17
5♥	50	1

Everyone would pass at IMPs, and almost everyone did here.

Bob Brent (Pass): Respect your partner. You have plenty of defense.

John Koschick (Pass): Except for the fifth heart, I have a pretty ordinary takeout double.

Dennis Kastle (Pass): Partner said she wants to defend. I have nothing more to say.

Sheldon Kirsch (Pass): Sounds like we have wasted values in diamonds.

Gene Benedict (Pass): I think the opponents have screwed up.

But,

Jonathan Fleischmann (5♥): partner's double can't be strictly penalty given the auction, so I'm interpreting it as showing extra values and uncertainty. My fifth heart augurs in favor of bidding again.

Right! This time, anyway. At the table, partner held: ♠943 ♥KQ74 ♦82 ♣AJ84. With one of two black-suit finesses working, hearts made 11 tricks. Meanwhile, 5♦ was down only two, which was a really bad matchpoint score for us. Five of our readers found the winning 5♥ bid.

4. MTPTS. None vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠AKQ972 ♥Q85 ♦1053 ♣J
 WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH
 -- -- -- 1♠
 3♣ Pass Pass ?

Action	Score	Votes
Dbl	100	10
Pass	70	4
3♠	70	4

When we all decided to play negative doubles (way back in the 1970s) we swore we would reopen with shortness in case partner has the trap pass hand. I would double to cover that possibility. Otherwise I'm heading for 3♠ as a make or save. Passing is just too conservative, particularly

at matchpoints.

Irv Rosenstein (Dbl): Partner may have a penalty pass. Will bid 3♠ over 3♦ or 3♥.

Bob Brent (Dbl): Your partner is ready to beat 3♣. Meckwell had this exact hand against me in Fort Wayne and reopened and won many IMPs. If it is good enough for them it should be good enough for me.

Other ideas:

Bob Webber (Pass): Partner doesn't have spades, and I don't have anything else. The club honor lessens the possibility of partner wanting a re-opening double.

Chuck Burger (3♠): Pass could be right, but I don't think partner has a penalty since I have the jack of clubs. I'm playing partner to be 2-3-5-3 or better and 8 to 10 working values.

I'm not buying this theory about the jack of clubs. Seems to me that card will just help us beat 3♣x even more.

At the table, partner held: ♠J5 ♥K107632 ♦2 ♣Q1064. With both majors breaking, you could make either 4♥ or 4♠. Opponents could make 8 tricks in clubs or 9 in dia-

monds.

5. MTPTS. Both vul. As SOUTH, you hold:

♠Q104 ♥KQ42 ♦K6 ♣10643

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

-- -- 1♦ Pass

3♦* Dbl 3NT ?

*Weak

Action	Score	Votes
Dbl	100	15
4♥	60	3
Pass	30	0

Double seemed obvious at the table...

Irv Rosenstein (Dbl): I will lead a heart if they sit, else will bid 4♥ over 4♦.

Don Rumelhart (Dbl): Shows values, asks partner to do something intelligent.

Chuck Burger (Dbl): With diamond card and opening lead. I will also double 4♦ if they run.

...but 3NTx turned out to be cold. LHO held ♠6 ♥83 ♦AJ109754 ♣J75, while RHO had ♠A985 ♥A1065 ♦Q32 ♣Q2. Go figure!

Linda Perlman (4♥): We have enough points for game, but who knows. Double could be right, too. Partner asked me to bid at the 3-level, and I have a pretty good hand.

NEXT ISSUE'S HANDS

1. MTPTs. E-W vul. As

SOUTH, you hold:

♠10 ♥972 ♦AJ1075 ♣AK42
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

1♠ Pass 1NT* ?

*Semi-forcing (5-11 HCPs)

2. MTPTs. None vul. As

SOUTH, you hold:

♠Q4 ♥987 ♦1052 ♣AKQ72
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

Pass 1♠ Pass 1NT*

Pass 2♦ Pass ?

*Semi-forcing (5-11 HCPs)

(2♣ initially would have been game forcing)

3. MTPTs. None vul. As

SOUTH, you hold:

♠7 ♥J87643 ♦AJ985 ♣A

WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

Pass Pass Pass ?

4. MTPTs. None vul. As

SOUTH, you hold:

♠74 ♥A94 ♦KJ93 ♣A842
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

Pass 1♦ 3♠ ?

5. MTPTs. None vul. As

SOUTH, you hold:

♠KJ92 ♥AKQ832 ♦10 ♣104
WEST NORTH EAST SOUTH

Pass 1♦ Pass 1♥

Pass 2♣ Pass 2♠*

Pass 3NT** Pass ?

*Artificial game force

**15-17, natural

Mail your answers to:

Table Talk Magazine

4504 Knollcrest Road

Ann Arbor MI 48108

Or email to:

MBATalk@aol.com

Sectionals to stay at Bridge Connection

MBA and SOMBA have signed new agreements with the Bridge Connection to hold their sectionals at the Southfield club for the next five years.

Rental of the facility will be charged at \$850 per day, up from \$800 a day under the previous five-year agreements.

The MBA board approved the deal at its September meeting.

The term of the agreements is in tandem with the five-year lease renewal that the Bridge Connection signed recently with the building's owner, according to Connection proprietor and MBA board member Grant Petersen. The club is in an office building on 12 Mile Road, west of Northwestern Highway.

Winokur and son tops at Joint sectional

Willie Winokur chalked up over 32 masterpoints at the Joint MBA-SOMBA sectional in June. Second, with 30 points, was his son Steven.

Here are the results the tournament, held June 20-23 at the Bridge Connection in Southfield.

MASTERPOINT LEADERS:

- 1, Willie Winokur, 32.83
- 2, Steven Winokur, 30.12
- 3, Robert Mendelson, 29.01
- 4, Michael Crane, 27.86
- 5/6, Morrie Kleinplatz, 24.07
- 5/6, Brenda Bryant, 24.07
- 7, Frank Treiber III, 22.73
- 8, John Koschik, 21.60
- 9, Michael Alioto, 18.41
- 10, Grant Petersen, 17.29

THURSDAY AM STRATIFIED PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Samir Zeine, Willie Winokur. 2, Ronald Horwitz, Brenda Jaffe. 3, Martin Hirschman, Linda Perlman. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Lynn Root, Judi Amatangelo. 2, Robert Raf, Steven Shumer. 3, Dennis Waniolek, Eva Rival. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Waniolek, Rival. 2, Lun Kuen Wong, D. Abraham. 3, Paul Chirgwin, Suzanne McIlhiny.

THURSDAY SWISS TEAMS FLIGHT A: 1, Suzy Burger, Robert Mendelson, Michael

Crane, Richard Temkin. 2/3, Debra Eaves, Henry Shevitz, Sheldon Kirsch, Mary Smith. 2/3, Martin Hirschman, Linda Perlman, Willie Winokur, Samir Zeine. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Thomas Bonfils, Joyce Bell, James Hill, Song Lin. 2, Deepak Dighe, Larry Cohen, Tai Chan, Satish Shah. 3, Duaine Benard, Gary Luoma, Rosemary Bailey, Louise Less. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Bonfils team. 2, Lun Kuen Wong, D. Abraham, Naresh Kapila, Lakshmi Vora.

THURSDAY PM FAST OPEN PAIRS FLIGHT A & B: 1, Jonathan Fleischmann, Brad Dracka. 2, Susan Woodrow, Peter Bolgar.

FRIDAY AM STRATIFIED PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Steve Winokur, Michael McDonald. 2, Larry Cohen, Steven Kaplan. 3, Cono Emanuele, Michael Alioto. **FLIGHT B:** 1 & 2, same as A. 3, Helen Cook, Lois Booth. **FLIGHT C:** 1, David Jasperse, Maria Conti. 2, Alan Cohn, Ken Holtzman. 3, Frederic Fayle, James Banaszek.

FRIDAY PM STRATIFIED PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Brenda Fortunate, Edward White. 2, Cono Emanuele, Michael Alioto. 3, William Winokur, Robert Mendelson. **FLIGHT B:** 1,

Grant Petersen, Sandy Birnholtz. 2, Marilyn Crane, Jane Gardner. 3, Peter Bolgar, Cassandra Rodger.

SATURDAY SWISS TEAMS

FLIGHT A: 1, Robert Mendelson, Morrie Kleinplatz, Bert Newman, Brenda Bryant. 2, Michael Giordano, Richard Becher, Debra Eaves, Walter Goldsmith. 3, Michael Crane, Bob Webber, Sheldon Kirsch, Henry Shevitz. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Susan & Matthew Evett, James Egan, Graham Putnam. 2, Jerrie Sasson, Judith Kamins, Mike Roeder, Gary Boyers. 3, Michael Kaleel, Arthur & Linda Golumbia, John Dreifus. **FLIGHT C:** 1 & 2, same as B.

SATURDAY AM STRATIFIED PAIRS FLIGHT A:

1, Klaus Bronkum, David Armstrong. 2, Mari Kaftan, Jacob Lutz. 3, Charlotte Miller, Brenda Jaffe. **FLIGHT B:** 1 & 2, same as A. 3, Philip Chen, Jerry Zhang. **FLIGHT C:** 1, 2 & 3, same as B.

SATURDAY PM STRATIFIED PAIRS FLIGHT A & B:

1, James Huston, Grant Petersen. 2, Anita Green, Rita Levin. 3, Marty Goodman, Bill Goodman. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Green, Levin. 2, Goodman, Goodman.

SUNDAY TEAMS BRACKET

A: 1/2, Steven Winokur, Frank Treiber III, Brenda Bryant, Morrie Kleinplatz. 1/2, Michael Crane, Lori Strager, Bob Rasmussen, John Koschik. 3, Robert Mendelson, William Winokur, Owen Lien, Julie Arbit. **BRACKET B:** 1, Robert Raf, Michael Kaleel, Sandy Birnholtz, Grant Petersen. 2, James Walter, Patricia & Allan Becker, Peter Bolgar. 3, Satish Shah, Thomas Hunt, Carol Young, Deepak Dighe. **BRACKET C:** 1, Tengyun Tony Cao, Xiaoping Wu, Thomas Bonfils, Tan Yang. 2, Teri Ford, D. Abraham, John Abbott, Joan Roberts. 3/4, Barbara & Laurence Schiff, Ronald Whitney, Daniel Rose. 3/4, Graham Putnam, James McNamara, Lynn Cundy, Martha Toon.

**499er winners
at June sectional**

THURSDAY AM PAIRS: Pamela Radike, Mary Jo Campbell

THURSDAY PM SWISS TEAMS: Pamela Radike, Barbara & Laurence Schiff, Mary Jo Campbell

FRIDAY AM PAIRS: Barbara & Laurence Schiff

FRIDAY PM PAIRS: Michael Fant, Paul Tilly

SATURDAY AM PAIRS: Michael & Nancy Mullin
SATURDAY PM PAIRS: Joel Grossman, Xiaoxin Susa Xu

Mendelson scores big at August sectional

Robert Mendelson won two events and was second in two others, picking up over 43 masterpoints, at the Russell Roosen sectional.

Here are the results of the tournament, held Aug. 15-18 at the Bridge Connection in Southfield.

MASTER POINT LEADERS

- 1, Robert Mendelson, 43.78
- 2, Bert Newman, 37.38
- 3, Samir Zeine, 37.05
- 4, Bob Webber, 34.80
- 5, Michael Giordano, 30.90
- 6, Linda Perlman, 29.25
- 7, Debra Eaves, 29.19
- 8, Julie Arbit, 27.52
- 9, William Winokur, 27.46
- 10, Sheldon Kirsch, 27.22

THURSDAY AM PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Julie Arbit, Morrie Kleinplatz. 2, Richard Temkin, Irving Rosenstein. 3, Bob Webber, Sheldon Kirsch.

FLIGHT B: 1, Patricia & Allan Becker. 2, Jerome Hasenjager, Song Lin. 3, Susan & Charles Smith. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Hasenjager, Lin. 2, Smiths. 3, Gerald Wahl, Michael Betzold.

CONGRATULATIONS NEW LIFE MASTERS

Maria Conti
Henry Zhang
Yanping Zhang

THURSDAY SWISS TEAMS

FLIGHT A: 1, Morrie Kleinplatz, Julie Arbit, Gordon Parnes, Robert Katz. 2, Lynn Root, Judi Amatangelo, James Walter, Clarke Cunningham. 3, Samir Zeine, William Winokur, Suzy Burger, Robert Mendelson. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Root team. 2, Carolyn Simmer, Ruth Brownstein, Richard Menczer, Sharron Kreindler. 3, Lisa Karam, Carrie Osborne, Daphne Schreiber, Marica Janisse. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Karam team. 2, Stephen Leist, James Peresta, Randy Walker, Richard Voss. 3/4, Shelley Boschan, Rhoda Raderman, Beth Gursky, Dolores Silverstein. 3/4, Jerrie Sasson, Lati-ka Mangrulkar, Elie Chidiac, Gary Boyers.

FRIDAY AM PAIRS FLIGHT A: 1, Samir Zeine, Debra Eaves. 2, Michael Crane, Sheldon Kirsch. 3, Jerrold Grossman, Jack Shartsis. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Sandy Birnholtz, James Rowe. 2, Lynda Thal, Ken Holtzman. 3, John Dreifus, Michael Kaleel. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Carrie Osborne, Beth Kordt.

2, Lun Kuen Wong, D. Abraham.
3, Lilo Dare, Rita Levin.

FRIDAY PM PAIRS FLIGHT

A: 1, Bert Newman, Edward White. 2, Robert Mendelson, William Winokur. 3, Owen Lien, Linda Perlman. **FLIGHT B:** 1/2, Frederic Fayle, James Banaszek. 1/2, Larry Cohen, Steven Kaplan. 3, Julie Arbit, Sandy Goller. **FLIGHT C:** 1, 1, Fayle, Banaszek. 2, Lun Kuen Wong, D. Abraham. 3, Chun Zhou, Dennis Potocsky.

FRIDAY NIGHT FAST PAIRS

FLIGHT A & B: 1, Susan Woodrow, Peter Bolgar. 2, Arun Desouza, George Serniuk.

SATURDAY SWISS TEAMS

FLIGHT A: 1, Bob Webber, Jerrold Grossman, Debra Eaves, Sheldon Kirsch. 2, Barry Lippitt, Daniel Marcus, Michael Giordano, Richard Becher. 3, Mary Smith, Michael Crane, Richard Temkin, Henry Shevitz. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Depak Dighe, Nathan Banker, Thomas Hunt, Steven Shumer. 2, Duaine Benard, Gary Luoma, Barb Ferrera, Bob Ondo. 3, Alan Hassoun, Thomas Johnson, Jean Hellekjaer, Maria Conti. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Hassoun team. 2, Jerrie Sasson, Paul Schneider, Gary Boyers, Norman Wechsler.

SATURDAY AM PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Robert Mendelson, Suzy Burger. 2, Bert & Kathy Newman. 3, Robert Raf, Ronna Galin. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Raf, Galin. 2, James Walter, Peter Bolgar. 3, Klaus Brondum, David Armstrong. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Brondum, Armstrong. 2, Steven Kaplan, Randy Rodnick. 3, Yanping Zhang, Henry Zhang.

SATURDAY PM PAIRS

FLIGHT A: 1, Robert Mendelson, Suzy Burger. 2, Grant Petersen, James Huston. 3, Dennis Van Koevering, Sat Narain Mathur. **FLIGHT B:** 1, Petersen, Huston. 2, Van Koevering, Mathur. 3, Robert Bloom, Gerald Bloom. **FLIGHT C:** 1, Bloom, Bloom. 2, Steven Kaplan, Randy Rodnick. 3, Henry Zhang, Yanping Zhang.

SUNDAY TEAMS BRACKET

1: 1, Michael Giordano, Bert Newman, Samir Zeine, Walter Goldsmith. 2, Linda Perlman, Brenda Bryant, William Winokur, Robert Mendelson. 3, Edward White, Martin Hirschman, Robert Katz, Bob Webber. **BRACKET 2:** 1, Matthew & Susan Evett, Graham Putnam, James McNamara. 2, Lisa Karam, James Korte, Beth Kordt, Carrie Osborne. 3, Corey Powell, Renata Wasserman, Charles Dunn, Lynn Cundy.

499er winners at August sectional

THURSDAY AM PAIRS: Michael Fant, Paul Tilly

THURSDAY PM SWISS

TEAMS: Joel Grossman, Xiaoxin Susa Xu, Douglas Sweeder, James McNamara

FRIDAY AM PAIRS: Michael Fant, Paul Tilly

FRIDAY PM PAIRS: Gary Boyers, Elie Chidiac

SATURDAY AM PAIRS: Arvin Sab, Naveen Sab

SATURDAY PM PAIRS: William Ahlstrom, David Mitchell

HALLOWEEN REGIONAL

(from page 1)

back to standard time falls on the Saturday night/Sunday morning of the tournament, so you'll get an extra hour of sleep that night. Yes, it's "Spring forward, fall back." Thank goodness the tournament is not in March.

There also will be a couple of new things about the actual bridge games:

■The Soloway-style KO on Wednesday and Thursday will solve the problem of players getting knocked out after playing just the morning session. In the new format, teams will compete in a round-robin the whole first day to determine

four finalist teams in each bracket. The finalists will then play two matches on the second day to decide who places first, second, third and fourth overall.

■The team events on Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday will all be bracketed. In this format, the field is divided up, based on average masterpoints, usually into groups of 7, 8 or 9 teams. Each such group or "bracket" is a separate event, so players will generally be playing against others with comparable skills

NOTE: There are no Gold Rush events on these days because the players with fewer than 750 masterpoints will be able to play in the lower brackets of the Swiss. Based on past attendance, there will be about five brackets in each of these one-day team events.

See you at the end of October. And don't forget those costumes!

IN MEMORIAM

Wilbur Argersinger
Gargi French
Shahan Kavafian
Gerald Mandell

Greatest

To Martin Hirschman, World's Greatest Bridge Bidder

Sir,

The following hand came up recently, board-a-match scoring:

E/W vul.

WEST	EAST
♠AJ104	♠K63
♥Q6	♥void
♦AJ73	♦K852
♣962	♣AKQJ75
1♦	2♣
3♣	3♦
3♠	4♠
All Pass	

West decided East was showing his pattern, probably 3-1-4-5 shape. For example, couldn't East have ♠KQ5 ♥4 ♦K964 ♣AKJ73?

East said he always intended to bid 6♣. He thought it was too late to play spades, that his bid of 4♠ must be a cue-bid. Couldn't West have: ♠AQ95 ♥63 ♦AQJ5 ♠862?

If West would have bid 5♣, East was intending to cue-bid 5♥, inviting 7♣.

Each partner has a valid point. What is your take on this?

- Gene Benedict, Toledo

Marty replies:

West's immediate raise to 3♣ was an eccentric choice because West might not have very long clubs and because the raise denies a 4-card major. Nonetheless, on this hand the raise gave East an easy route to 6♣. One possibility would be to jump to 4♥ as exclusion Roman Keycard Blackwood:

1♦	2♣
3♣	4♥
5♣*	5♥**
6♣***	Pass

*2 key cards not counting the ace of hearts, no queen of clubs

**Asks specific kings, promises all the key cards and queen of trump

***No specific kings that can be shown below 6♣

On the actual auction, West's 3♠ just showed a control or stopper in spades, possibly with weakness in hearts.

East's 4♠ bid was an error. He should cuebid 4♥. His 4♠ bid tended to deny a control in hearts.

My claim of being the World's Greatest Bridge Bidder has yet to be challenged.

Email your bidding problems to me at MBATalk@aol.com.

—MH

Longest Day

From Ron Horwitz

For the past several years, the ACBL has joined with the Alzheimer's Association in a fund-raising drive on the Longest Day of the year. This year, bridge clubs throughout the country raised well in excess of \$1,000,000 to support this worthy cause.

The Michigan Bridge Connection, through a combination of direct donations, bidding to play with expert players, silent auctions, bridge book sales, and the sale of raffle tickets, raised \$18,873. That was the eleventh highest among all ACBL clubs in the nation.

The Connection's efforts were assisted by a player who offered a matching \$3,600 challenge grant that was easily met. Merchants, particularly along Orchard Lake Road, donated nearly 20 door prizes that were given away in the raffle.

In addition, players had the opportunity to play in games at 9 a.m., noon and 7 p.m. with considerably higher masterpoint awards.

The ACBL contributes the sanction fees it receives from all Longest Day games to the Alzheimer's Association. In addition, the Connection contributed \$4/table. A total of 58½ tables were in play there vs. 49½ in 2018.

MOVING UP...

JUNIOR MASTERS

James Adams
Mary Campbell
Deborah Defever
Daniel Hakes
Bobbi Polk
Janice Skadsen
Barbara Snow
Jason Wang
Charlotte Worthen

CLUB MASTERS

Yvonne Abdoo
Gillian Andrews
E. J. Chidiac

Clara Marks
Robert Murray
Paul Temple

SECTIONAL MASTER

Jack Hyatt

REGIONAL MASTERS

Gary Boyers
Adel Dissett
Mary Robinson
Paul Tilly

BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Philip D'Agostino

SILVER LIFE MASTERS

Anna Renaud

RUBY LIFE MASTER

Lynda Thal

SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTER

Rose Burke
Margaret Moore

DIAMOND LIFE MASTER

Dennis Kasle

EMERALD LIFE MASTER

Sondra Schubiner

Richard Fortune murder update

Editor's note: This update on the murder of well-known Ann Arbor bridge player and director Dick Fortune originally appeared Aug. 2 on the Michigan Daily website.

This article has been updated with information about Fortune's autopsy report.

The Ann Arbor Police Department charged Christopher Cheatham, 25, in the murder of Richard Fortune, 71, after five months of investigation.

At his arraignment hearing, Cheatham was charged with a felony count of homicide, three counts of stealing a financial transaction device and illegal use/sale of a financial transaction device. He is also facing two misdemeanor counts of receiving and concealing stolen property worth less than \$200.

Fortune, a retired U.S. postal worker, was found dead inside his home on the 2600 block of Lillian Road during a welfare check at 5:15 p.m. on Feb. 20. An autopsy at the time showed Fortune's death was a homicide.

According to Fortune's autopsy report, which was obtained by MLive, Fortune was found fully clothed and wrapped in a tarp. He had in-

juries around his head and neck and petechiae in his eyes, indicating he had been strangled to death, Washtenaw County Deputy Medical Examiner Allecia Wilson wrote in the report.

According to the AAPD, Cheatham was one of several tenants living in Fortune's home at the time of his death. During his arraignment, assistant prosecuting attorney Nimish Ganatra said Cheatham was linked to the homicide through cell phone data and biological evidence found in Fortune's bedroom.

At the time of his arrest, Cheatham was found with several stolen credit cards, none of which were Fortune's. According to Ann Arbor Police Lt. Amiee Metzger, these additional charges are not associated with the homicide.

Other than a minor drug possession charge and a misdemeanor malicious destruction of property charge — both dismissed by deferred prosecution — Cheatham has no prior criminal record.

According to MLive, community members have expressed frustration with the lack of details police have revealed about Fortune's death.

Ken Van Cleve

Ken Van Cleve, head director at Michigan tournaments for much of the past two decades, died in early July after a six-month battle with an aggressive form of prostate cancer. He was 68.

A native of Muskegon, Ken lived and played bridge for many years in the Grand Rapids area before moving to Traverse City.



About 25 years ago, Ken began a career as a director for ACBL, where he rose to area manager

and director in charge of a large number of tournaments, especially in Michigan.

"He was one of the pillars of working at nationals," said Mike Roberts, a tournament director who worked with Ken and has taken over some of Ken's former assignments. "You could always guarantee whatever event he was running was running smoothly. It's quite a big blow for the directing community."

Another director, Alex Bealles, said: "He had a calming effect on players and directors. He was a great men-

tor to me. He taught me a lot, gave me opportunities to do new things when we were working together."

MBA board member and former president Jonathan Fleischmann would often play a club game with Ken on the night before our local tournaments. "As I got more involved with local directing, Ken became a mentor to me, and I learned how exceptional he was at his job," Fleischmann said. "It also gave me a chance to enjoy his sense of humor and wit."

Ken is survived by his wife, Sarah, three stepsons and three grandsons.

Over the years I had many interactions with Ken, when I was involved in a director call, when I served on tournament committees and when I was chairing bridge tournaments. He was incredibly conscientious and knowledgeable in making bridge rulings, and managed to keep his cool in sometimes trying situations. A few years ago, Ken told me he was thinking of retiring. Knowing he would be impossible to replace, I told him "Don't retire!" Now fate has intervened. He will be missed. -M.H.

TOURNAMENT CALENDAR

Oct. 14-20: District 12 STAC week
Oct. 25-26: Bloomfield Hills I/N sectional
Oct. 25-27: Toledo sectional
Oct. 28-Nov. 3: MOTOR CITY REGIONAL, Farmington Hills (MBA)
Nov. 14-17: Southfield sectional
2020
Jan. 18-19: Jackson sectional
Jan. 25-26: Ann Arbor sectional
Feb. 6-9: Southfield sectional
Feb. 28-Mar. 1: Toledo sectional
Mar. 14-15: Flint sectional
Apr. 2-5: Southfield sectional (MBA)
Apr. 17-18: Bloomfield Hills I/N sectional
May 11-17: FARMINGTON HILLS REGIONAL
June 1-7: TOLEDO REGIONAL
June 25-28: MBA/SOMBA joint sectional, Southfield
Aug. 27-30: Southfield sectional (MBA)

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