

# Capital District Bridge Association

## NEWSLETTER

Vol. XXXVIII #3

May - June 2016

District 3 website: <http://www.bridge-district3.org>

CDBA website: <http://www.cdbanet.org>

The District 3

**NORMA SHELLY**



Race for the Points

**SARATOGA REGIONAL**  
**June 6–12, 2016**

**The Saratoga Hilton**

534 Broadway • Saratoga Springs NY 12866  
518-584-4000 \$156 single/double, plus tax.  
Reserve now!! Rooms at bridge rate go quickly.  
Once the Hilton room block is filled, rooms also available at bridge rate or less at cooperating hotels.

Room Problems? Call Deborah Wasik  
973-699-5902 or email: [deborah.wasik@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.wasik@gmail.com)

### DIRECTIONS

From the South and West: NY Thruway to Exit 24. North on Route 87 (Northway) to Exit 15. South (and West) on Route 50, 1½ miles to Broadway. Hotel on left.  
From the East: West on Route 90 to Exit 1. North on Route 87 as above.  
From the North: South on Route 87 to Exit 15 as above.

**4 GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY PAIRS!!**  
(two-session events) Wed. – Sat. 10 am & 3 pm  
750/300 MPs Stratified Open Pairs  
**GOLD POINTS** for overalls and section tops in top strat

Tournament Manager: Carol McMackin  
201-248-7981 • [cmcmackin@verizon.net](mailto:cmcmackin@verizon.net)

Pairing: Terry Bentley  
518-668-2248 • [terrybentley@verizon.net](mailto:terrybentley@verizon.net)

### Monday, June 6

Bracketed KO Teams I ..... 7 pm  
*Continues Tuesday 9 am, 1 & 7 pm*

Side Games Series I (1st) ..... 7 pm

### Tuesday, June 7

Norma Shelly Novice Game (0-20 MPs) ..... 9 am

Side Game Series I (2nd) ..... 9 am

Intermediate Pairs (0-300) ..... 9 am

Open Pairs ..... 10 am & 3 pm

Bracketed Round Robin Teams ..... 1 pm & TBA

*Top bracket played as Swiss — Open to all teams*

Intermediate Pairs (0-300) ..... 1 pm

Side Game Series I (3rd & 4th) ..... 1/7 pm

### Wednesday, June 8

Bracketed Compact KO Teams ..... 9 am & 1 pm

**Golden Opportunity Pairs**

750/300 MPs ..... 10 am & 3 pm

Stratified Open Pairs ..... 10 am & 3 pm

Side Game Series II (1st) ..... 1 pm

One Session Swiss Teams (Red) ..... 1 pm

Stratified Open Swiss Teams ..... 1 & 7 pm

Side Game Series II (2nd) ..... 7 pm

### Thursday, June 9

Side Game Series II (3rd) ..... 9 am

**Golden Opportunity Pairs**

750/300 MPs ..... 10 am & 3 pm

Stratified Open Pairs ..... 10 am & 3 pm

Stratified Open Swiss Teams ..... 1 & 7 pm

Side Game Series II (4th & 5th) ..... 1/7 pm

### Friday, June 10

Bracketed Compact KO Teams ..... 9 am & 1 pm

**Golden Opportunity Pairs**

750/300 MPs ..... 10 am & 3 pm

Stratified Open Pairs ..... 1 & 7 pm

Side Game Series III (1st) ..... 1 pm

One Session Swiss Teams (Red) ..... 1 pm

Side Game Series III (2nd) ..... 7 pm

### Saturday, June 11 — Unit 115 Day

Open Swiss Teams ..... 10 am & 3 pm

**Golden Opportunity Pairs**

750/300 MPs ..... 10 am & 3 pm

Stratified Open Pairs ..... 1 & 7 pm

Side Game Series III (3rd) ..... 1 pm

Side Game Series III (4th) ..... 7 pm

### Sunday, June 12

**NEW!** Fast Pairs ..... 10 am & TBA

Bracketed Round Robin Teams ..... 10 am

*Top bracket played as Swiss-Open to all teams*

*— short break for lunch*

All Pair events are stratified

A (3000+) B (1500-3000) C (0-1500)  
All team stratification based on average for the team. In any event or flight with an upper limit, no individual player's MP total may exceed that upper limit.

Compact KO Teams – 4 players only  
In all KOs top bracket may be handicapped  
Mid-Chart (except Multi) permitted in top bracket of all bracketed team events

For more info on transportation and amenities, see <http://discoversaratoga.org/acb114>

Need Help: Call Bob Valenti (518) 326-3829 or [Lasrav@yahoo.com](mailto:Lasrav@yahoo.com)  
For Partnerships: Call Terry Bentley (518) 668-2248 or [terrybentley@verizon.net](mailto:terrybentley@verizon.net)

Event to be held at:  
**The Saratoga Hilton**  
534 Broadway  
Saratoga Springs, NY

## CAPITAL DISTRICT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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### Tournament Director's Message

The month of June promises to be a busy one for players in Unit 115. In addition to the normally scheduled club games, most clubs will run some of their games as NAOP qualifiers. NAOP qualifier games will also be available in July and August. Check with your club directors to see which games will be NAOP qualifiers, and be sure ask them about their schedules during the Norma Shelly Saratoga Regional and Unit 115 Sectional tournaments, two special events happening in June.

There will be regularly scheduled club games on Monday, June 20, and all clubs holding games will be participating in the annual fund raiser sponsored by the ACBL on behalf the Alzheimer's Association. Known as the ACBL's "Longest Day", the ACBL will donate all its sanction fees for that day to the Alzheimer's Association. As they did so successfully last year, the Shelly Studio will be holding additional games to support the cause. In addition to their regularly scheduled 11:30 game, the Shelly Studio will run two fully sanctioned, 24-27 board games, starting times 3:30 and as soon as possible following the conclusion of the 3:30 game

(approximately 6:30.) The Shelly Studio will be donating all entry fees for these two games to the local chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. The local chapter provides 24/7 support and advice to the families and caregivers of the tens of thousands of people suffering from this dreaded disease in 17 upstate counties, including those in the capital district. Lynda Flanger is coordinating the event for the Shelly Studio, and those planning on playing in the 6:30 game can let her know and she will have some complimentary sandwiches and side dishes available. The Studio's number is (518)-SPADES-6.

Here's a special treat. Two separate Worldwide Bridge Contests are scheduled for 7:00 pm Friday June 3 and 12:30 pm Saturday June 4 at the Avila Duplicate Bridge Club. Come play in one or both stratified pairs games. You will receive ACBL masterpoints based on the results at Avila, and will be eligible for extra points based on district-wide overalls. As you will be playing the same hands at the same time as players at clubs in other countries, the events will also be matchpointed across the world with a program developed by ECatsBridge of Great Britain. The WBF (World Bridge Federation) will award WBF points based on World matchpointing. Rules of play are currently available and the list of worldwide results will be published soon after the event at [www.ecatsbridge.com](http://www.ecatsbridge.com).

After the event is fully scored by ECatsBridge, all participants will be eligible to receive via e-mail expert hand analyses through a free, fully downloadable pdf file. This is an especially nice feature for newcomers as the bidding, card play, and expected result are explained, unlike the hand records at club games which provide no explanation and only report makeable contracts for each side. So play in one or both, it promises to be fun.

The Normal Shelly Saratoga Regional is scheduled for June 6 through 12. We hope our members will support the Regional, not only because we are the host Unit but to have District 3 continue its scheduling in Saratoga. The ACBL is sensitized to diminishing attendance at Regionals, and good attendance should keep the Saratoga venue in good standing. This may be especially important for players seeking gold points, for if the Regional is moved elsewhere, your only options are to drive further or not play.

The Unit has scheduled its early summer sectional for June 24-26. Normally scheduled in July, we had to move the date forward as all tournament directors were committed for regionals scheduled for July in the northeast. As reported in the last Newsletter, we have dropped the Friday evening dual scored BAM/Pairs and substituted a Pro/Am team game. This is an opportunity for newer players to interact with their teammates before and after each match, something the BAM/Pairs format did not allow.

Note the Friday start times for the sectional are 12:00 and 5:30. Also note we are seeking a pair, in return for a free play sometime during this or a future sectional, to volunteer to not play Friday evening should an odd number of pairs buy entries. If we don't get a volunteer pair, should an odd number of pairs show up, the last pair to buy an entry will not be allowed to play. Also note, at the conclusion of the Friday afternoon session, players can sign-up for the evening session before departing for their meal break. Signing up will guarantee they will be able to play in the evening session as long as they buy an entree before the Friday evening game time.

Since you will not receive another Newsletter until just before the September Sectional, be aware the President's Cup is scheduled for the Shelly Studio on Saturday, August 20 at 1:00. The event will once again be a Pro/Am

Swiss Team game where we will halve or quartile the field, depending on the number of entrees, based on total masterpoints of each pair. We will have sufficient standby players, so no person or team will be sent home if an odd number of players or pairs come to play. So come alone or in pairs, as everyone showing up will get to play in this traditionally fun event.

Bob Valenti

### Unit Awards

Congratulations to **Terry Bentley** for winning the **MR/MRS Bridge Award** and to **Don Bathrick** for winning the **Marvin Friedman Award**.

Additionally, congratulations to all the other Unit award winners.



### Welcome New Members

Henry Donaldson  
Maegit Donaldson  
Luella Donzols  
William Purdy

## This 'N That

There is news to report, but I need to open this column on a personal note. As some of you may have heard, I am dealing with cancer. The medicines I am taking are controlling its spread for now, but managing pain has become a significant preoccupation, and my endurance and mobility are now much more limited. Thus, I have very reluctantly decided that I must step down from the position of District 3 Director, effective immediately after the board meetings in Washington, DC in July.

As First Alternate, Carlos Munoz will succeed me. I am pleased to have such a capable successor. In addition to being a fine bridge player, Carlos has done an outstanding job as District 3 Treasurer and faithful member of the Executive Committee. He attended one board meeting on my behalf four years ago when I was having surgery and made a very good impression on the rest of the ACBL board. He will attend a board orientation session in July, and then sit in on the board meetings; so he will be ready to hit the ground running.

I hope everyone will give Carlos your full support.

It would be impossible to overstate how much I have valued the trust you showed me by twice electing me to serve as your District Director. These last five years, while full of challenges, have been incredibly gratifying, and I am deeply grateful to have had this opportunity to serve you. While much of the news about ACBL in recent years has been negative, e.g. the problems with our new technologies, or the cheating scandals at the highest levels of the game, my memories are of working with an outstanding group of people to promote the game we all love.

The board has asked my husband Barkley to continue to guide their Strategic Review

process, something he began at the March meetings in Reno. So I like to think this is my goodbye gift to the Board. His efforts were much appreciated in Reno and served to establish a process by which we can track progress against our plan.

On other fronts, congratulations to the winners in Flights A, B, and C in the Grand National Teams event held recently in Allendale. Those winners were:

**Flight A:** Peter Stein - Donna Dulet - Stephen Arshan - Richard Ross - Ron Nelken

**Flight B:** Eric Sit - Cho-Wei Sit - Gregory Gorshkov - Neil Jaffe

**Flight C:** Bharat Shah - Pramod Khanna - Prem Gupta - Arvind Sharma

The winners of the Championship Flight will be determined in a follow up, runoff event.

It is very exciting to know that more than 20 young people from District 3 will be attending the Youth NABC in Washington. However, I am disappointed that the resources of our NJ/NY Youth Bridge Association are so limited that we had to reduce the size of the stipends we provide to help support their participation. Our youth are our future. I hope many of you will consider making a tax deductible personal donation, and possibly making the Association the beneficiary of a future charity event.

Our next regional will be in Saratoga Springs, your unit, June 6-12; Robert Hartman, ACBL's CEO, plans to be there over the weekend, and I hope many of you will be able to share the famous Unit 115 hospitality with him. After that, our next Regional will be in Fairfield, NJ July 11-17, to be followed immediately by the NABC in Washington, DC. I will hope to see many of you at these upcoming events.

Glenda Calkins  
Director, ACBL District 3

**Mini-McKenney & Ace of Club Standings**  
Unit 115

	<b>Mini McKenney</b>	<b>Ace of Clubs</b>
<b>0-5</b>	Richard Norton Sonja Goodwin	Sonja Goodwin Richard Norton
<b>5-20</b>	Roberta Nahil Lisa Thaler	Lisa Thaler Agie Seife
<b>20-50</b>	Patricia Detoffol Tage Anderson	Patricia Detoffol Susan Wold
<b>50-100</b>	Susan Penny Robert Carter	Susan Penny Robert Carter
<b>100-200</b>	Charles Harding Richard Zak	Charles Harding Richard Zak
<b>200-300</b>	John Dillon Margaret Dillon	Ernest Venerus Joan Weaver
<b>300-500</b>	Alex Hallenstein Susan Klein	Alex Hallenstein Susan Klein
<b>500-1000</b>	Christine Converse Bill Kelsey	Christine Converse Bill Kelsey
<b>1000-1500</b>	Malik Magdon-Ismail Ronald Sahr	Malik Magdon-Ismail Gerald Kaufman
<b>1500-2500</b>	Kerry Cotterell Glen Perry	Diane Alexander Charles Schmidt
<b>2500-3500</b>	Gregg Deitch Diane Burger	Lois August Gregg Deitch
<b>3500-5000</b>	Robert Neuhart Bob Donald	Rob Neuhart Lucy & Gary Sponberg
<b>5000-7500</b>	Bob Feller Satya Pabuwal	Satya Pabuwal Arthur Berhardt
<b>7500-10000</b>	Bill Dubay Judy Dubay	Bill Dubay Judy Dubay
<b>Over 10000</b>	Sandy Nelson Lynn Deas	Sandy Nelson Bill Nelson

## Club Corner

### AVILA

Games: (see acbl.org for events schedule)

**Fri. June 3<sup>rd</sup>** and **Sat. June 4<sup>th</sup>** – Worldwide Pairs

**Thurs June 9** and **Sat June 11** – NO Game  
(Regional)

**Thurs June 16** and **Sat June 18** – STaC

**Sat. June 30** – NAOP

### Shelly Studio

Games: Mondays @ 11:30 AM, Tuesdays @ 7 PM & Wednesdays @ Noon. Rick's free lessons will precede Monday's game @ 10:45 AM.

Other games held at Shelly Studio of Bridge: Fridays @ Noon (Rick's)

## RANK CHANGES

### New Junior Masters

Barbara Calhoun  
Sonja Goodwin  
Jin Reed  
Peter Ross

### New Club Masters

Monika Bulman  
Patricia Finkle  
Jane Friend  
Lisa Thaler  
Marjorie Zak

]

### New Sectional Master

Phillip Pearson

]

### New Regional Masters

Norah Fredrickson  
June McQuide

### New Life Master

Susan Klein

## Personal Notices

Condolences to the families of **Charlene Sunderland**

Get well wishes to **Mary Fredrick, Amelia Urbano, Patricia Favreau, and June Barach**

## Puzzle Corner Answer

♠ KQ3 ♥ ♦ AKT8652 ♣ 542	<i>North</i>	♠ 5 ♥ T8652 ♦ Q93 ♣ 9873
♠ J86 ♥ AKJ97 ♦ J5 ♣ KJ6	<i>West</i> <i>East</i>   <i>Declarer</i>	
♠ AT9742 ♥ Q43 ♦ 4 ♣ AQ10		

**You South are in 6♠. (no opposition bidding)**

**West Leads the ♥A. Should you duck the lead, West continues the ♥K.**

**Answer:**

**Ruff the opening lead, play the ♦A, ♦K (pitching a heart), and another diamond, ruffing the diamond with the ACE of spades. Lead a trump to dummy and lead the fourth diamond pitching your last heart. Assuming West ruffs, ruff the expected heart return in your hand and lead a trump to dummy, making good the rest of dummy's diamonds.**



## A PRACTICAL CERTAINTY

By: Brian Gunnell

	♠ 8 ♥ 862 ♦ 7543 ♣ QJT62	
♠ QJT9 ♥ 43 ♦ KJT ♣ A943	North West      East Declarer	♠ 765432 ♥ ♦ 986 ♣ K875
	♠ AK ♥ AKQJT975 ♦ AQ2 ♣	

Both Vulnerable

South West North East

2♣ Pass 2♦ Pass

2♥ Pass 4♥ Pass

4NT Pass 5♣ Pass

5NT Pass 6♥ All Pass

2♣ showed a strong hand, 2♦ was weak, 4NT asked for Key Cards (which are the Aces and the King of trumps), 5NT asked for *specific* Kings (not the number of Kings), and 6♥ said “no side-suit King”.

When this deal came up in a team game, both the South players had visions of a grand slam if only North would be obliging enough to hold the ♦K. When that turned out not to be the case, they settled for the small slam. The first Declarer won the opening ♠Q lead, drew the missing trumps, cashed the ♦A (just in case West had the singleton King), crossed to Dummy with a trump, and led up to his ♦Q. That was down one when West produced the King. “Not a bad slam”, announced Declarer, “it just needed a finesse”

The second Declarer also did some finessing, but she brought home her contract with ruffing finesses in Clubs. She won the ♠A, led the Heart *Seven* to Dummy's Eight, and ran the ♣Q around, pitching a Diamond from hand. West took his Ace and fired back a Spade, but Dummy ruffed Declarer's winner, and the ♣J was played next. East covered this and Declarer ruffed *high*. Now Dummy's Heart Six provided an entry to the Club Ten, on which was pitched the ♦Q. Declarer needed three entries to the board for this line of play to work, and had to be careful with those trump spots. In fact, switch the Five and Six of trumps and the contract does not make (for lack of a third Dummy entry).

Why is it better to take the ruffing finesses in Clubs than to rely on the Diamond finesse? The Diamond finesse is a 50% proposition. However, the ruffing finesses require only that East has one or both of the missing high Clubs, which is approximately a 75% chance. In reality, though, it's a practical certainty as surely West's opening lead would be a high Club if he held both of them.

Visit [www.acbl.org](http://www.acbl.org) for more about the fascinating game of bridge or email [marketing@acbl.org](mailto:marketing@acbl.org)



**Unit 115 Summer Sectional – Latham  
(at the Shelly Studio of Bridge)  
June 24-26, 2016**

**Friday June 24**

Stratified Open Pairs (0-750, 750-2000, 2000+)	12:00 pm
Stratified Newcomer Pairs (0-100, 100-200, 200-299)	12:00 pm
Pro/Am Dual Scored - Pair game movement with Pro-Am Team	5:30 pm

**Saturday June 25**

Stratified Open Pairs (0-750, 750-2000, 2000+)	10 am and 3 pm
( 2 One Session Games)	
Stratified Newcomer Pairs (0-100, 100-199, 200-299)	10 am and 3 pm
( 2 One Session Games)	

**Sunday June 26**

Swiss Teams (2- Session stratiflighted play through; 42 boards)	11 am
(1/2 hour break between sessions)	

**Need Help: Call Bob Valenti (518) 326-3829 or [Lasrav@yahoo.com](mailto:Lasrav@yahoo.com)  
For Partnerships: Call Bernie Neuhart 518.372.3936 or [bhnewhart@nycap.rr.com](mailto:bhnewhart@nycap.rr.com)**

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