IN THIS ISSUE
1 Six ways to go for the gold
2 Shark’s pointers
3 Message from the president
4 Tournament calendar, Club news
5 Special club games calendar
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NEWS TO NOTE
EMBA STaC Week July 1 - 7
1 Wed Dartmouth*, Leavitt*, MidCape, Merrimac*, Emanuel*, Puritan (AM & PM), Westwood*, Bridge Spot (Non-LM), Hamilton, & Winchester
2 Thu Andover*, Puritan*, Dartmouth*, Westwood*, Bridge Spot (AM & PM) & Reyim (AM & PM)
3 Fri Leavitt*, Seaside*, Newton Wellesley*, Westwood*, Bridge Spot
4 Sat Puritan*, Bridge Spot* & Westwood*
5 Sun Bridge Spot (AM & PM) Westwood* (ST)
6 Mon Andover*, Leavitt*, Oak Street*, Puritan*, Alyah, N-Wellesley*, Westwood (AM & PM), Dartmouth & Lynnfield
7 Tues Puritan*, Rock Harbor*, MIT, Westwood (AM & PM), Leavitt, Newton Wellesley & Jackie’s

SUMMER 2009

EMBA NATIONAL CHAMPIONS
SPRING NABC 2009


SIX WAYS TO GO FOR THE GOLD...AND SILVER...AND RED SUMMER TOURNAMENTS OFFER MANY WAYS TO WIN
Looking for ways to build your masterpoint count—and have some summer bridge fun? Mark these special events on your bridge calendar:

STaC WEEK July 1-7
Start by taking advantage of STaC week (July 1-7), which offers dozens of opportunities to earn silver points in your local club. (See News to Note—left—for a complete listing or go to www.acblemba.org.)

NAP QUALIFIERS in July and August
Be sure to play in one of the NAP qualifying games, which continue into August. If you score in the top half of your field or flight (or at least 50%) in a qualifying game in your district, you are eligible to play in the district finals in Sturbridge, MA in October.

DISTRICT 25 REGIONALS.
Start the summer in Sturbridge with the Summer Regional, June 24-28, and end the summer with the Fiesta Regional, Sept. 2-7 in Nashua, NH.

SUMMER NABC July 23- August 2
The nationals are just a train or car ride away in Washington, D.C. Take advantage of a full program of newcomer and national events.

ROBERT STARR MEMORIAL SECTIONAL, Cape Cod, Oct 3-4
Enjoy Indian summer weather in early fall on Cape Cod. A special zero to 50 game has been added for newer players. ♠
SHARK’S POINTERS
by Mark (“the Shark”) Aquino

LEAD THEM ON

The Grand National Teams will be the first major event of the Summer North American Bridge Championships in Washington, D.C. (July 23-August 2). EMBA’s own Richard Weiss and Robert Virgile will be playing in the Championship Flight finals along with teammates Walter Fontaine of North Providence, Rhode Island and James Greer of New Canaan, CT. The foursome earned the right to represent New England in this prestigious event by upsetting a heavily favored six-person squad that finished second in the nation in 2008. Today’s hand features a huge swing that Weiss and Virgile gained along the way to their upset victory. Their opponents were Frank Merblum and Doug Doub.

Richard Weiss bid what he hoped he could make opposite his partner’s limit raise. Now, the attention turned to Doug Doub (East), with 22 IMPs hanging in the balance on his opening lead. Oftentimes an aggressive lead from a king or a queen is required to defeat a slam contract when the opponents are known to hold a good side suit, on the theory that they may be off an ace and a K-Q combination, and unless that side trick is developed before the ace is knocked out, the side suit will provide discards for any losers. Doub might have hit upon the winning lead had he developed a model of the hand along those lines and decided it made more sense that a suit in which he held four cards rather than the one in which he held five might be more likely to provide a second trick for the defense. In other words, declarer would be more likely to hold a singleton club than a singleton diamond, so if he found his partner with a side ace or a slow trump winner and the king of diamonds he would defeat the hand. But credit must be given to Weiss and Virgile. By not making any extra bids, they did not give away any information and made the opening lead a sheer guess. Their bidding was aggressive, but it was far from wild. In fact, the pair bid this way throughout the District finals and were rewarded time and again, either by reaching excellent contracts that their opponents failed to reach—as in the hand above—or by getting to the same contract, which was defeated by teammates who were the beneficiaries of more descriptive auctions, which made it easier to find winning opening leads.

Today’s Shark’s Pointer: Winning defense is difficult under any circumstances. Because it’s especially difficult to find a winning opening lead, make it tougher on your opponents whenever possible. Bid aggressively and optimistically, but avoid making unnecessary or extra bids that could help your opponents find the killing opening lead. ♠
Winners of the Flight A Swiss Teams at the May EMBA Memorial Sectional were Stephen Gladyszak, Ron Newburg, Pat McDevitt and Yiji Starr (pictured above). At the EMBA April Sectional, Lloyd Arvedon and John McLaughlin joined Gladyszak and Starr for the Flight A Swiss Team win.

Adam Grossack and Alan Applebaum won the April EMBA Spring Sectional Friday Stratified Pairs. Applebaum won the Saturday Stratified Open Pairs with partner James Streisand. Applebaum and Streisand were also on the team that placed second in the Flight A Swiss Teams at the April tournament.

Have you seen these EMBA repeat winners?

Winners of the Flight A Swiss Teams at the May EMBA Memorial Sectional were Stephen Gladyszak, Ron Newburg, Pat McDevitt and Yiji Starr (pictured above). At the EMBA April Sectional, Lloyd Arvedon and John McLaughlin joined Gladyszak and Starr for the Flight A Swiss Team win.

Jackie Moves South
Altschuler named club manager of The Naples Bridge Center

After 35 years as a prominent New England duplicate bridge director, club manager and teacher, Jackie Altschuler (pictured left), who runs the popular “Jackie’s Game” in Woburn, has moved to Naples, Florida. On June 15, Jackie assumed management responsibilities for the Center, which is one of the largest, most active duplicate bridge clubs in the area. The Center’s 12 regularly-scheduled games draw more than 800 tables each month.

Jackie picked up duplicate bridge in grad school, but became hooked on the game at her first sectional. An opponent made a spectacular misleading discard to make a slam and Jackie mused, “when will I be good enough to do that?” She joined the ACBL right after that session. In 1973, Jackie and then husband Dennis Dawson opened the Bridge Studio in Burlington, MA. Two years later, they moved to Cummings Park in Woburn. The Studio expanded twice more at its new location, becoming the second largest duplicate club in the country in the 1980s. “It will be very difficult to leave my players,” says Jackie. “Some of them have been with me for 35 years.” Many were there to celebrate Jackie and her accomplishments with speeches and a standing ovation at a recent party. What a way to go!

Do you recognize yourself in this story? You’ve just gone down in a cold doubled part score, vulnerable versus not. Along the way you miscounted trumps and got stuck in dummy at trick 11, converting a sure +670 into a humiliating minus 500.

But your misery isn’t quite complete. As your left-hand opponent enters the score into the Bridgemate and you reluctantly hit the OK button, your right-hand opponent comes out with the question you had feared: “What was our percentage?” Sigh.

Okay, we all have a bit to learn, but now is the time. From electronic scoring to pre-dealt hands, modern advances are showing up all over EMBA. And just as the introduction of computer-dealt hands once created apprehension and misunderstandings (no, computer hands aren’t any weirder than the ones you deal in person or your brother Bert), the same is true of this latest push to the future.

In this issue of Quick Trick, we share the insights provided by several club owners who have gone the electronic route. From procedures to etiquette, you’ll find everything a 21st century bridge player needs to know. Check out the full story on page six.
EMBA TOURNAMENTS...AND MORE
Visit www.acblemba.org for more calendar information

EMBA Summer Sectional
August 7 - 9 2009
Armenian Cultural and Educational Center
47 Nichols Avenue
Watertown, MA

Friday, August 7
7:30 PM
Single-session stratified pairs
A open B <2000 C <750
Single-session 299er pairs

Saturday, August 8
12:15
Build Better Bridge Skills Lecture
Lew Gamerman

1:00 PM
One session pairs game for players with < 50 points

1:00 and 6:30 PM*
Thomas Wilder Flighted Championship
Two-session pairs
(one session entries accepted)
A, B and C play separately.
A open B <2000 C <750

Two single-session 299er pairs
* NOTE EARLIER EVENING START

Sunday, August 9
10:30 AM
Swiss Teams
Eight-match play-through
A open B/C bracketed

Single-session 299er Swiss Teams
Four matches

Order sandwich or salads before Sunday Swiss $6 or BYO lunch
Free soda and chips with purchase

Hosts: Joyce Miller 781-862-8858 and Irene Musick

Partnership assistance on site or at www.partnershipdesk.com

The Robert Starr Memorial Tournament
October 3-4 2009
Forestdale School, Sandwich, MA
Driving West on Rt. 6, take Exit 3, left on Quaker Meeting House Rd, straight about 5 miles. Entrance drive is straight ahead at second light. Driving East on Rt. 6, take Exit 2, right on Rt. 130. At second light, turn right onto entrance drive and straight ahead to the school.

Stratification/flight for all events
A open B <2000 C <750

Saturday, October 4
9:45 AM
Build Better Bridge Skills Lecture
Sam Starr and Mark Aquino
Free and open to all

10:30 AM
One session pairs game for players with < 50 points

10:30 & 3:00 PM
Two-session stratified pairs
(Single-session entries accepted)
Two single-session 299er pairs
Order sandwich or BYO lunch

Sunday, October 6
10:30 AM & TBA
Entry includes pizza
Swiss Teams
Mid-Chart allowed in Flight A only
Flight A plays separately
B/C bracketed

10:30 AM
Single-session Stratified pairs
Single-session 299er Swiss Teams
Four matches
Bracketed at director’s discretion

Hosts: Sam Starr (508)477-4392
Steve Rzewski (508)385-3505

Partnership assistance on site or at www.partnershipdesk.com
Emergency phone: 617-309-6957

♣ Club News ♣

Westwood Club adds 299er game
Beginning July 10, the Westwood Duplicate Bridge Club will offer a separate sanctioned 299er game in addition to its Saturday open game. Also, please note that Wednesdays are triple points days at Westwood.

Puritan’s annual barbeque Aug 22
For a nominal fee, enjoy the club’s annual barbeque between the 12 noon Club Championship and the Charity Club Championship.

New zero to 50 game in Newton
The Newton Bridge Club, with locations in Newton and Needham, has introduced a new game for players with zero to 50 points. The game runs alongside the open game at 10 a.m. on Thursdays at Temple Reyim in Newton.

Midcape requests reservations
Please sign up in advance for the July 1 STaC and the September 9 Instant Matchpoint game.

Audrey Grant workshops
Free teacher workshop on Aug 22. For more information, contact Dean at dean@bridgespot.com.

♠ IN MEMORIAM ♠

Helen Brundage     Williamstown
Gino Cortesi       Westfield
William Smith      Taunton
K. Scott Kimball   Brighton
Willie Fitts       Hopkinton
Sally Proper       Sheffield
Raymond Walton     Amesbury
Tiny Dana          Houston, TX
### July Location ♠ Special Club Games ♦ Extra Fee May Apply

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JULY</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W 1</td>
<td>STA¢C week begins For complete STA¢C calendar see page 1 or go to <a href="http://www.acblemba.org">www.acblemba.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T 7</td>
<td>STA¢C week ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th 9</td>
<td>Reyim NAP (AM &amp; PM) Bridge Spot NAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 10</td>
<td>Bridge Spot NAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S 11</td>
<td>Puritan* NAP Su 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F/Su 10-12</td>
<td>SECTIONAL Castleton, VT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 13</td>
<td>Andover* Ch Netz Wellesley* &amp; Aliyah NAP Lynnfield &amp; Westwood NAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T 14</td>
<td>Jackie’s &amp; MIT NAP Rock Harbor* ST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 15</td>
<td>Dartmouth* ICC Merrimac* &amp; Hamilton NAP Reyim* NAP Westwood* ICC Winchester NAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th 16</td>
<td>Reyim NAP (AM &amp; PM) Puritan* &amp; Westwood* NAP Bridge Spot NAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 17</td>
<td>Bridge Spot NAP Newton-Wellesley* NAP Seaside* &amp; Westwood* NAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S 18</td>
<td>Westwood* NAP Su 19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/Su 18-19</td>
<td>SECTIONAL Hudson, NH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 20</td>
<td>Andover* &amp; Lynnfield NAP Dartmouth &amp; Aliyah NAP Westwood NAP (AM &amp; PM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T 21</td>
<td>Westwood NAP (AM &amp; PM) Newton Wellesley* IF IMP Rock Harbor* NAP Newton Wellesley NAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 22</td>
<td>Dartmouth* &amp; Westwood* NAP Reyim* &amp; Puritan NAP Th 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 24</td>
<td>Bridge Spot ACBL IF Westwood ACBL IF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 27</td>
<td>Newton-Wellesley* ICC Westwood* ICC Lynnfield ChC Westwood NAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T 28</td>
<td>MIT &amp; Westwood NAP W 29</td>
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</table>

### August Location (Cont.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUGUST</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>W 5</td>
<td>Westwood* &amp; MidCape CC Winchester CC (#3 of 4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th 6</td>
<td>Andover* &amp; Bridge Spot* NAP Dartmouth* &amp; Reyim NAP Reyim* ChC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F 7</td>
<td>Bridge Spot No games S/Su 8-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 10</td>
<td>Andover* &amp; Westwood* CC Newton Wellesley* NAP Aliyah &amp; Lynnfield NAP Westwood CC T 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F/Su 14-16</td>
<td>SECTIONAL Greenwich, CT S/Su 15-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 17</td>
<td>Andover* &amp; Dartmouth NAP Puritan* CC &amp; Lynnfield ChC Westwood ChC T 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 24</td>
<td>Aliyah CC &amp; Lynnfield ChC Westwood ChC T 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 31</td>
<td>Andover NAP &amp; Newton Wellesley ChC Newton-Wellesley NAP W 5</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### September Location ♠ Special Club Games ♦ Extra Fee May Apply

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T 1</td>
<td>MIT Open &amp; 49er NAP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 2</td>
<td>Emanuel* CC &amp; Wwood* IF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W/Su 2-6</td>
<td>REGIONAL Nashua, NH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Th 3</td>
<td>Reyim* ChC &amp; Oak Street* CC F/S 4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 7</td>
<td>Aliyah &amp; Lynnfield No game Puritan* &amp; Westwood IF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W 9</td>
<td>Dartmouth* CC &amp; Merrimac<em>IF Westwood</em> IF &amp; Hamilton IM Leavitt, MidCape &amp; Puritan IM Winchester IM Th 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 14</td>
<td>Aliyah &amp; Westwood No game Andover* &amp; Leavitt UW Newton Wellesley* UW Puritan* &amp; Westwood* UW Dartmouth &amp; Lynnfield CC T 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 21</td>
<td>Aliyah No game Newton-Wellesley* IF IMP Westwood* IF (AM &amp; PM) Lynnfield IF T 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M 28</td>
<td>Andover* &amp; Lynnfield IF Newton Wellesley &amp; Aliyah NG Westwood IF (AM &amp; PM) T 29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

says Alan Frantz, who runs the Newton-Wellesley club. “Manually dealt hands are not random because they are typically shuffled insufficiently,” says Frantz. Tim Wright, who directs the Winchester Club, likes predealt hands because they make it possible to run different types of games and movements. For example, Wright uses predealt hands for Swiss team games, making the play and scoring much fairer to all teams.

Electronic scoring
Last year, electronic handheld scoring devices called Bridgemates were introduced by four EMBA clubs: The BridgeSpot, Newton-Wellesley, Newton Bridge Club (with games in Newton and Needham) and Westwood. “New players have taken to Bridgemate scoring more readily than seasoned players,” says David Metcalf, who runs novice games in Newton and Needham. “The downside is that they don’t learn how to score manually! And, that can impede their development as players.”

The biggest advantage of electronic scoring is that it reduces errors and allows the game to be scored instantly when the last hand is played. The downside? The units are expensive. Older players may have trouble using the devices and some players tend to generate excessive post-mortems at the table. Some pairs hover over the Bridgemate waiting for the percent to appear. Others proudly announce their good scores. “We got 100% partner!” David Metcalf aims to limit table talk by showing the percentage scores but not the contracts. Several managers have offered players some pointers on Bridgemate etiquette: 1) After entering the score, North asks: who verifies? 2) East or West verifies the score and passes the Bridgemate back to North, who can pass it around the table or hand it off to any player who asks to see it. It’s okay to ask to see the scoring. It’s not okay to announce scores to the table unless you are asked.

Kevin Griffin, who uses predealt hands in his Andover game has opted not to invest in Bridgemates because he has no trouble scoring his games quickly and his players say they don’t want them.

Enhanced websites
In recent months, the Newton-Wellesley and Westwood clubs have taken advantage of their ability to generate a significant amount of data from their Bridgemates and have enhanced their websites to make this information available to players. Both sites allow you to view a complete record of each hand played in a session—the contract reached by each pair, the result and the matchpoint score.

Another nifty feature: There’s a list of the top players, top partnerships and top masterpoint winners, based on the current year’s performance. Recognizing that some games tend to be more competitive than others, Simpson has isolated the “winners” list for his Saturday game, which tends to draw the strongest players. Simpson is also diligent about keeping his list up to date.
RECENT TOURNAMENT WINNERS

EMBA Spring Sectional April 3-5 2009

Friday Stratified Pairs
Flight A
1 A Applebaum and A Grossack; 2 Don and Sondra Caplin
Flight B
1 John and Elizabeth Nikula; 2 M Weiman and Jill Hunter
Flight C
1 John and E Nikula; 2 Jane Arsham and Nicolae Bondoc

Stratified 299er Pairs
1 R Stubbs and J Bast; 2 Cecilla Borras and Glenn Perrin

Saturday Stratified Open Pairs
Flight A
1 Alan Applebaum and James Streisand
2/3 J Cappannelli and Murthy Ayyagari; Marina Polestra and James Rasmussen
Flight B
1 S Herman and J Fidelman; 2 H Marsh and M Stevens
Flight C
1 H Marsh and M Stevens; 2 Cecilla Borras and D Majcher

Saturday afternoon 299er Pairs
1 Helen Metrowitz and Jim Footer
2 Chris Geoghegan and Ann Johnston

Saturday evening 299er Pairs
1 James Keegan and Nancy Fleming
2 Herb and Rachelle Sunshine

Saturday 0 - 50 pairs
1 William Annos and Joy Dawson
2 Janine Corwin and Ronnie Fuchs

Saturday afternoon sidegame
1 Jason Sharp and Donald Caplin
2 Ronald and Elaine Newburg

Sunday Swiss Team winners
Flight A
1 John McLaughlin, S Gladyszak, L Arvedon, Yiji Starr
2 Alan Applebaum, J Streisand, Mel Marcus, Sheila Gabay
Bracket I
1 Robert Bertoni, S Cunningham, P Manzon, M Ayyagari
2 Leonard Selsky, W Collins, B Glazerman, Anthony Keats
Bracket II
1 Cecilla Borras, Paul Harris, Dan Neiman, Adi Chehna
2 Mark Heumann, Joseph Charnock, M Gerstein, Bill Gay

299er Swiss
1 David and Aline Sullivan, Rosanne Catarius, Fred Franklin
2 Kim Prager, Sally Edmonds, Evelyn Lord, Nancy Fleming

EMBA Memorial Sectional May 29-31 2009

Friday Stratified Pairs
Flight A
1 James Rasmussen and H Sard; 2 L Russo and Peter Zucker
Flight B
1 L Russo and Peter Zucker; 2 Zach Grossack and J Pearson
Flight C
1 Riva Poor and Brian Lee
2/3 Sylvia Aboel and Steve Frymer
   David Wooden and Ann Jacobs

Stratified 299er Pairs
1 Susan and Ruth Banghart; 2 J Schapiro and R Schapiro

Saturday Stratified Open Pairs
Flight A
1 William Hunter and Shome Mukherjee
2 Edward Scolnick and Alan Watson
Flight B
1 J Hrones and Stan Ryckman
2 Eileen Garabedian and Dolores Garabedian
Flight C
1 Eileen Garabedian and Dolores Garabedian
2 Murat Azizoglu and Jan Popiel

Saturday afternoon 299er Pairs
1 Darryl Tremelling and Steven Sahl
2 Marguerite Verani and Lisa Tender

Saturday evening 299er Pairs
1 James Keegan and Nancy Fleming
2 Herb and Rachelle Sunshine

Saturday 0 - 50 pairs
1 William Annos and Joy Dawson
2 Janine Corwin and Ronnie Fuchs

Saturday afternoon sidegame
1 Jason Sharp and Donald Caplin
2 Ronald and Elaine Newburg

Sunday Swiss Team winners
Flight A
1 Ron Newburg, Pat McDevitt, S Gladyszak, Yiji Starr
2 Richard Weiss, Robert Virgile, Elayne and Ken Kadis
Bracket I
1 Anthony Keats, A Post, B Glazerman, William Collins
2 Doreen Cassidy, A McIntosh, S Beebee, C Chabot
Bracket II
1 Reid Barton, David Roe, Alya Asarina, M Lieberman
2 Michael Monroe, S Macht, G Lewitzky, S Simonson

299er
1 Aline and David Sullivan, C Borras, Rosanne Catarius
2 Alice and Stephen Cutler, Dennis Walsh, E Freihofer
♣  EMBA Nominating Committee Report  ♣

The EMBA Nominating Committee, chaired by Carole Weinstein, has selected the following slate of candidates for officers and directors of the 2010 EMBA Board. An asterisk denotes an incumbent.

Candidates for board offices—all incumbents
President Derrick Niederman*
Vice President James Rasmussen*
Treasurer Don Levy*
Secretary Carolyn Weiser*

Candidates for the Board of Directors:
Bill Hunter* Carole Carlson* Charlie Drum*
Dean Panagopoulos* Joyce Miller* Nancy Donaldson*
Alan Applebaum Bob Bertoni Brad Mampe.

Look for the official ballot in the fall 2009 issue of Quick Trick. ♣