

Grand Slammer

Unit 448 – ACBL

[http:// www.spokanebridge.com](http://www.spokanebridge.com)

Winter 2013



Bridge is more than a pastime. It's a passion. Players return to the table time and time again for the mental challenge, the competition and the company of others who share their love of the world's greatest card game.

Christmas Party on December 8, 2013



@ Eagles Lodge
6410 North Lidgerwood Street

11:00a.m. Two Sessions Bridge & Christmas Dinner

Prime Rib & Prawns!

\$22.⁰⁰ per Person

Dinner subsidized \$13.⁶³ by the Unit



2014 Unit 448 Championship Games at **Comfort INN**

Check updated schedule at spokanebridge.com/events/games/

January 5, 2014	1:00 pm One Session	
February 16, 2014	1:00 pm One Session, \$1 add'l	<i>Junior Fund</i>
March 9, 2014	1:00 and 5:00 pm Two Sessions	<i>Awards Game</i>
April 6, 2014	1:00 pm One Session	
May 4, 2014	1:00 and 5:00 pm Two Sessions	<i>Team Game</i>
June 22, 2014	1:00 pm One Session	
July, 2014	NO GAME	
August 3, 2014	1:00 pm One Session	
September 21, 2014	1:00 pm One Session	
October 5, 2014	1:00 and TBA \$1 extra per game	<i>Charity Game</i>
November 2, 2014	1:00 pm One Session	
December 14, 2014	11:00 am Two Sessions & Dinner	<i>Christmas Party</i> - Site TBA

2014 Unit 448 Sectional Games at **Comfort INN**

Winter	February 7- 9 (Friday through Sunday)
Lilac	June 6-8 (Friday through Sunday)
Labor Day	Aug 29 - Sep 1 (Friday through Monday)



All Things in Order

The order in which you play cards, either as declarer or defender, plays a significant role in how well you perform the task at hand. This column demonstrates declarer's need to take her tricks in the proper sequence.

D 9

N North
 ♠K
 ♥A1076
 ♦AJ5
 ♣KJ987

W West
 ♠J7
 ♥Q432
 ♦KQ9876
 ♣6

E East
 ♠106532
 ♥98
 ♦432
 ♣1043

S South
 ♠AQ984
 ♥KJ5
 ♦10
 ♣AQ52

7♣ North
 NS: 0
 EW: 0

North	East	South	West
1C	P	1S	2D
2H	p	3C	P
3D	P	3S	P
4H	P	5D	P
5S	P	7C	P
P	P		

In the auction, North holds a minimum for her 2H call, but the fact that her cards are “prime” indicates some aggression is warranted. South’s 3C call, by agreement, is forcing after the reverse. After that, a sequence of cuebids allowed South to bid the grand slam.

The opening lead is the deuce of diamonds. At first glance, declarer has three spade tricks, two hearts, one diamond, and five clubs in top cards — a total of 11 tricks. Two diamond ruffs in the dummy will bring her total to the requisite 13 and justify such aggressive, but accurate, bidding. If declarer pulls trump, she won’t be able to ruff both diamond losers, so she starts by winning the diamond Ace, ruffing a diamond, returning a spade to her King, and leading a third diamond, trumping it in the dummy. She now plays the club Ace and Queen, and trumps a small spade back to her hand. Now, and only now, does she pull the last trump, lead a heart to the King, and cash the spade A and Q, pitching hearts, and claiming the last two tricks with the heart Ace and club 9.

Notice that this line of play succeeds even if clubs are 4-0, so long as West holds at least one spade...extremely probable since a good West would double 7C with a spade void so as to trump the opening lead.

The auction provides enough information (West has at least five diamonds) to make ruffing diamonds the obvious route to tricks 12 and 13.



Winners in 2013 Labor Day Sectional

Friday Pairs	Saturday Teams	Sunday Pairs	Monday Teams
Lea Rogers - Gard Hays Brenda Simpson - Dee Berry <u>I/N</u> Joe Harwood - Karen Frogner	Charles Bennett Pete Pluhta Wayne Weaver Dave Westfall	Wayne Weaver Charles Bennett <u>I/N</u> Nancy Edwards Rita Guzzard	Charles Bennett Pete Pluhta Wayne Weaver Dave Westfall

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World War II Vet Attends Spokane Sectional



Earl Retford of Bonners Ferry, ID, attended Spokane's Labor Day Sectional. What's unique about Earl is that he is a World War II veteran who saw active duty in the Pacific. (Earl is pictured above with Ron Krueger at the sectional.)

Earl was in the U.S. Navy from 1942 until 1946. Most of that time was spent on the USS Leedstown, a Navy attack transport ship that was involved in six invasions--of Kwajalein, Guam, Peleliu, Leyte, Luzon, and Iwo Jima. Earl was the operator of a landing craft that was used to carry troops to those six sites. He is, justifiably, proud of his service. And Spokane is proud of him.



Unit Directory for 2014

The Unit telephone directory for 2014 is in the process of being completed. If your phone number (landline or cell) or email address has changed, please let David Corn know at davidrcorn@aol.com or by calling him at 443-9073. If you have added a cell phone or an email address you'd like listed, let him know about that.

The Unit is considering placing the directory on our website. If you'd prefer not to have your name and/or cell phone or email address on our website, also let David know about that.

The new directories will be out by the end of January. Even if the directory is on our website, we will print hard copies for the members without access to the Internet or for those who simply wish to have a copy.

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Unit Board Member Election



The annual Unit 448 membership meeting will be held at the Christmas party on December 8th. At this meeting the membership will vote on Unit Board members.

Those nominated are **Anne Henrichs** and **Mick Soss**. At the meeting, nominations also will be accepted from the floor, with permission of the nominee.

Spokane Solvers Club *by David Corn*

Winter Solution



DOES ANYONE OUT THERE REMEMBER THE TWO-STEP?

MP's - both vulnerable, you South hold: ♠J62 ♥QJ73 ♦Q6 ♣KQ82

South	West	North	East
P	P	1♠	2♣
?			

What call do you make?

Action	Score	Votes
Double	100	10
2NT	90	8
2♠	80	4
Pass	70	3
3♣	60	4

So, just how much leeway are we going to give a vulnerable 3rd seat opener at matchpoints? And, if we choose to bid at this juncture in the auction, what is our best course of action? The answers that follow will show a wide range of beliefs as to how to proceed. Let's begin with those who think they can do better on defense than offense.

ERIC RUBEN: “Pass. I know I am likely dissenting here, but I want to swallow RHO whole here. My soft values don't really cry offense here in any case. Have I mentioned that lovely club 8-spot?”

MARTY O'MALLEY: “Pass, my tricks are slow and I would rather defend; hoping partner can re-open with a double. If partner bids anything else, I will raise.” (*Moderator: boy, they must overcall some real trash vulnerable vs. you guys at MP's. I would make book that RHO has by far the best hand at the table...*)”

Next - those who want to check on a heart fit.

DAVID ROTTMAYER: “Double. At least partner will know how many hearts I have. I am not willing to defend, so I don't need to give partner a chance to make a takeout double. I feel I have too many major suit cards to risk defending. If partner bids 2♦, I'll bid 2♠. If he bids 2♠, I will raise to 3. I play that if partner bids 2♥ over this negative double, he promises 4+ hearts, so I will raise that, too, if he should bid 2♥. With 3/3 in hearts and diamonds, partner should bid 2♦, not 2♥ - a useful treatment.”

RON KRUEGER: “Double. I know that partner opened in third seat and may be light, but I've gotta get hearts into the picture. If partner doesn't have hearts, how bad can Jxx of spades be to go back to?”

JONATHAN STEINBERG: “How hungry are you? How light would partner open in 3rd seat, red, at matchpoints? A trap pass, X, 2♠, 2NT & 3♣ are all possibilities. With such soft NTish values, I'll forego a penalty and start with a negative double, hoping to get more information. I'll bid 2NT over a 2♦ response, give partner a gentle raise to 3 in a major if partner responds 2 of either major.”

MARK HANFT: “Double. Gives me the most room to maneuver. Partner may have opened light, and 2S may be our last making contract.”

MAX GALLOTTI: “Double. Since my partner is a third seat opener, this seems my most prudent bid at this time.”

JOEL SINGER: “Double. Has no one out there ever opened light in 3rd seat, even vulnerable? This hand is not as good as the point count suggests, and is defensive. Double, to show values and a heart suit. If partner bids diamonds, I can always prefer to spades.”

GERRY McCULLY: “Double, followed by 2NT on partner’s likely 2♦ response.”

MARILYN HEMENWAY: I seem to have several choices, and the rule is that when that happens, I will always pick the worst one. However, I never give up, so I make a negative double and see what partner has to say. Then, I will probably make another bad decision the next time around. I’m really not that pessimistic, but sometimes bad luck follows me around. (*Moderator: I feel like doing some surfing on the ‘net and finding poor Marilyn a good psychologist*).

How about the LOW road?

WARREN WATSON: “I would bid a conservative 2♠. Partner was in 3rd seat, and the clubs may not be too useful (either partner or LHO is short in clubs). The doubleton diamond queen may also not be too useful.”

STOLTZ: “2♠. Show support as soon as possible is my mantra. This collection of quacks is not worth more than a single raise, especially after a 3rd seat opening. If partner invites, then I will accept in some way.”

ROD CALDWELL: “2♠, this is a crappy hand. People open such garbage these days, maybe 2♠ can't even make! At IMP's, however, I would try 2NT, as that seems to be the closest to any game invitation that's reasonable.”

BARB CORN: “I know everyone likes to cue-bid these days, but partner is in 3rd seat, after all, so I shall scale back and bid just 2♠. 45% of my values are in a suit that I know partner is (relatively) short in. In addition, the doubleton Q of diamonds may not be pulling its full weight. I can always catch up later, if the bidding continues. If my bid ends the auction, then 2♠ was likely correct.”

How about inviting in NT?

RICHIE PAVLICEK, Jr.: “2NT. I need to describe my hand, and feel this is the best choice. Most importantly, I want to discourage partner, if he does not have a hand that will bid over 2NT.”

BILL ROTTMAYER: “2NT. Invitational and protects my minor suit honors. It's an easy choice at IMP's. A cowardly 2♠ is more tempting at MP's, especially if partner opens quite light in 3rd seat.” (*Moderator: I suggest you discuss this hand-type with your son, sir*)

GEORGE HARRIS: “2NT. I believe partner should be permitted to open very light in 3rd seat. Penalty pass is out of the question unless you are a very hungry player. Amongst other things, +200 or +500 may not be enough. The eight of clubs and slow red cards are not enough to suggest a penalty pass to me. I am a bit worried about the sneak attack in diamonds against 2NT or 3NT, but when all is said and done, 3NT is game. I am not going to hang partner, even though I have one of the few 11's that I, too, would not have opened. There is always that extra ten points in 2NT versus a spade partial. So, there you have it; I have persuaded myself not to raise partner even though I believe supporting partner is one of the most important parts of the game.”

DARREL KEEL: "First choice is 2NT, bidding where I "live." Second choice would be 2♠ and accept any game try."

MORRIE KLEINPLATZ: "Great problem. There are, of course, 4 reasonable answers: P, X, 2♠ & 2NT. I suppose even 3♣ is in the running, though I hate to hang partner for opening in 3rd seat. Likewise, passing and playing for +200 is risky, for partner may not choose to re-open w/double facing a twice-passing partner and b) they may make 2♣ anyways with all the "junk" you hold, meanwhile we have a spade fit our way. I prefer the "value" bid of 2NT. This might well play better than 2♠ anyways, and the auction is not necessarily done."

Three of our panelists bid 3♣, but not a one of them offered up any cogent arguments as to why.

ME?? *I am a negative doubler, secure in the belief that regardless if partner bids 2H, I can go back to 2♠ & partner should play me for almost this exact amount of HCP's, if not this exact shape.*

That is, around 10-11 HCP's with 3♠ & 4♥, for if I had less in HCP's, I would just raise to 2♠ instead. It's called the old two-step in dancing parlance. And, if I had more in HCP's, well, to quote my loving wife "Why, that's just not possible". With all of these slow values, the hand just isn't worth more, in my mind. Too many queens and jacks for my liking. And, so, it's a useful tool to have in one's toolbox.

When partner opens 1♠, I don't care in what seat, a negative double by me, followed by taking his 2♥ bid back to 2♠ should show 3♠, 4♥ and around limit raise values. The bonus, of course, is that I get to show all of this at the 2-level, not driving us to the 3-level. It will come up often enough where the limit of the hands are 8 tricks, that we get to turn some of our marginal hands into plus scores, while others with our cards cannot.

How the panel voted:

NAME	CITY	RESP.	NAME	CITY	RESP.
Dave Argent	Seattle, WA	2NT	Keith Molan	Shelton, Wa	double
Rod Caldwell	North Bend, WA	2♠	Gerry McCully	Victoria, BC	double
Michael Cohen	Denver, CO	2NT	Floyd McWilliams	Sunnyvale, CA	2NT
Barbara Corn	Spokane	2♠	Marty O'Malley	Pullman, WA	pass
Patrick Dunn	Bellevue, WA	pass	Richie Pavlicek	Santa Clara, CA	2NT
Neil Fitzgerald	Spokane Valley	3♣	Bill Rottmayer	Spokane	2NT
Max Gallotti	Spokane	double	David Rottmayer	Spokane Valley	double
Leo Glaser	Winfield, BC	double	Eric Ruben	Pittsburgh,PA	pass
Mark Hanft	Mt Lk Terrace, WA	double	Joel Singer	Beaverton, OR	double
George Harris	Escazu, Costa Rica	2NT	Jonathan Steinberg	Toronto, ON	double
Marilyn Hemenway	Omaha, NB	double	Eric Stoltz	Portland, OR	2♠
Darrell Keel	Peoria, AZ	2NT	Warren Watson	Trail, BC	2♠
Morrie Kleinplatz	Windsor, ON	2NT	Bill Whitesel	Sandpoint, ID	3♣
Ron Krueger	Spokane	double	Bob Wilson	Spokane	3♣

Visit with you again in about three months!

Unit's Charity Drive a Success



The Unit's charity drive, under the leadership of co-chairs **Rita Guzzard** and **Marty Burdick** was a success.

Altogether **\$2150** was raised for **Second Harvest of the Inland Northwest** in memory of our own **Gary Singer**. Second Harvest was near and dear to Gary's heart for much of his adult life. He served that organization in numerous ways, including as president of the Board.

Two of our members, **Anne Henrichs** and **Rita**, contributed markedly to our drive by hosting dinner/bridge parties in their homes, with all proceeds going to Second Harvest. **Anne** held the first party, on Saturday, October 26, and hosted seven tables. **Rita** held her party on Sunday, November 3, and had three tables. Kudos to both of you.



(See the photos taken at Rita and Anne's parties.)

Thank you to all who bid at the silent auction, bought raffle tickets, and/or attended one of the dinner parties.

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The board was upset and concerned over the last potluck dinner for two reasons: The IN's were probably 15 minutes after the open pairs to the buffet and found very little in the line of entrees or salads, but many desserts. The other issue was many, many desserts and few entrees or salads were provided by our wonderful cooks! To assure ample food and well balanced meals, we have voted to have everyone bring an entrée or salad, and the board will provide the dessert. We also ask that the open pairs and I/Ns wait and eat together. Please, when you have gone through the buffet line, don't go a second time until all have had a chance to go through for the first time. Our thanks to all those who attend the unit games for sharing their special recipes - we so enjoy them. I speak for the board when I say we think this will resolve the issues. Keep the good food coming 😊! Bridge players love to eat!

Anne Henrichs, Hospitality Chair



ACBL Certified Bridge Teachers

For information about classes or tutoring, contact one of these ACBL certified bridge teachers.

Theresa Barthels	Tel (509) 235-5929	ptbarth@centurytel.net
Mike Coopersmith	Tel (509) 599-1545	mikeconniecoopersmith@yahoo.com
Doyle Crook	Tel (509) 590-6122	doylecrook@msn.com
Kay Fergie	Tel (509) 838-3270	catherinefergie@comcast.net
Brenda Simpson	Tel (509) 939-4666	bsbridge@aol.com
James Sremba	Tel (509) 473-9741	jimbosremba@gmail.com

Intermediate & Newcomers

<p>QUESTIONS?</p> <p>JOIN THE EMAIL LIST</p> <p>CALL Nancy Edwards 509-448-7994</p> <p>NEED A PARTNER OR MENTOR?</p> <p>CONTACT David Corn Director 509-535-9000</p>	<p>We welcome</p> <p>Intermediate and Newcomers with 0 – 200 points</p> <p>ALL UNIT GAMES Will have an I/N session if there are at least 3 tables of players. Please sign up at the Bridge Club prior to each game.</p> <p>INTERMEDIATE / NEWCOMERS GAMES Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. At Comfort Inn, East Third, Spokane</p> <p>♦ First and Fourth Wednesday → come with your I/N Partner.</p> <p>♥ Second, Third (and Fifth) Wednesday → play with a Mentor!</p>
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Spokane Bridge Unit 448 Board of Directors and appointed Chairs

Thru	<u>Elected Representatives</u>		<u>Annual Appointments</u>	
2015	Ron Krueger	President	Louise Saylor	Disciplinary Chair
2013	Bob Kautz	VP & Property Chair	Doyle Crook	Recorder
2015	Norma Hols	Secretary	Brenda Simpson	Education Liaison
2014	Jodi Kimbrell	Treasurer	Jodi Kimbrell	Tournament Chair
2014	Carol VanParys	Membership Chair	David Rottmayer	Unit Game Director
2014	Cristina Gallotti	Grand Slammer Editor	Rita Guzzard	Charity Chair
2013	Anne Henrichs	Hospitality Chair	Gerry Krueger	Webmaster
2015	Chris Kent	Publicity		
2014	Nancy Edwards	I/N Chair		

Issues of the SLAMMER (2005-current) can be viewed at spokanebridge.com/slammer.php
Cristina Gallotti, editor <cris.galf@gmail.com>