



AMERICAN CONTRACT BRIDGE LEAGUE  
UNIT 106

**NEWSLETTER**

Interim Editor – Carole Gelfer

Available on the web at <http://www.bridge-njba.org>

December 2024

**PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

This has been a very good year for Unit 106. All of our events were profitable, and overall membership increased year over year.

Thank you to everyone who voted in this year's election for the Unit 106 Board of Directors. This was our second attempt at (mostly) electronic voting, and it was very successful. Those members without an email address on file with the ACBL received paper ballots instead. Going forward, in order to reduce our costs and to help the environment, paper ballots will not be mailed unless members specifically request them from the Administrative Secretary. If you do have an email address but did not receive an electronic ballot this year, please make sure that the ACBL has your correct information on file. We will remind members of this change in policy next year as it gets closer to the election.

The names of the Board members for 2025 will be announced at the Annual Brunch on January 12<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't registered as yet, the form is included in the flyer on page 5 of this newsletter. As many of you know, a number of awards are given out at the brunch. Three of those awards - the Dedicated Service Award, the Good Sportsmanship Award, and the Bridge Promotion Award - have been renamed for Unit 106 members who passed away in the last few years and who made major contributions to our unit. Descriptions of these and the other awards can be found on page 6.

I want to thank all of the members of the Board for their help this past year. I could not have made the transition to this position without them. I especially want to thank Amy Nellissen who is leaving the Board. Her teaching and bridge promotion efforts have brought a large number of new players into the Unit. She will be missed.

I wish you a happy and healthy new year.

Best regards,  
*Carole*

**Upcoming 2025 Events**

Event flyers are also available at local clubs and on the web at [www.bridge-njba.org](http://www.bridge-njba.org)

January 12      Annual Brunch  
January 19-23   Winter Regional

**Need a partner or a team for a Unit event?** Contact Marty Becker [mbid43@yahoo.com](mailto:mbid43@yahoo.com) and specify the event(s) for which you need a partner/team and how many master points you have.

# 2024 NJBA UNIT 106 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President**

Carole Gelfer 201-247-7406

**Vice President**

Pat Linnemeyer 201-651-0208

**Treasurer**

Mark Whitman 201-835-9873

**Administrative Secretary**

Bob Sorce 201-560-1477

**Recording Secretary**

Joel Lipset 917-855-8918

**Tournament Committee**

Abby Brawer 201-447-5771

Marlene Case 845-942-1182

Pat Linnemeyer\* 201-651-0208

**Sanctions**

Michelle Lanigan 201-447-3709

**Player of the Year**

Richard Podkowik 239-410-4992

**Electronic Contact**

Carole Gelfer 201-247-7406

**Auditor**

Doug Cestone 201-444-2348

**Pairings**

Martin Becker 914-329-1013

(sectionals)

Tod Thorgersen 201-440-3090

(Johnke and

Reitman)

\*Committee chair

**Bob Johnke**

Tod Thorgersen\* 201-440-3090

Pam Mills 201-891-3339

**Reitman Teams**

Tod Thorgersen\* 201-440-3090

Pam Mills 201-891-3339

**Pro Am**

Ron Nelken 973-365-0740

**Budget Committee**

Mark Whitman\* 201-835-9873

Carole Gelfer 201-247-7406

**Flyers**

Amy Nellissen 201-282-4170

**Annual Brunch**

Pat Linnemeyer 201-651-0208

Michelle Lanigan 201-447-3709

**Membership**

Steve Highfill 646-670-7465

**Prizes**

Tod Thorgersen 201-440-3090

**Newcomer/Intermediate**

**Promotion**

Amy Nellissen\* 201-282-4170

Marlene Case 845-942-1182

Chris Thorn 201-403-4629

**Website**

Richard Podkowik 239-410-4992

**Counsel**

Joseph Pospis 201-887-1524

## UNIT 106 Annual Brunch Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Crowne Plaza Hotel  
3 Executive Boulevard  
Suffern, NY 10901 (845) 357-4800**

Registration - 11:30 AM  
Brunch - Noon - 1:30 PM  
Bridge Game - 1:30 - 4:30 PM

\$30 per person for Unit 106 members  
\$40 for non-members

**Reserve by January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Entries will not be accepted at the  
door**

Flyer and reservation form on p. 5

## DISTRICT 3 Winter Regional January 19-23, 2025

**Crowne Plaza Hotel  
3 Executive Boulevard  
Suffern, NY 10901 (845) 357-4800**

**Sunday, Jan 19**

11:30 Single-session Stratified 0-99  
pairs (New!)\*  
11:30 & 3:00 **Fast Pairs** (open/3000/1500)  
11:30 & TBA **A/X Swiss Teams** (open/5000)  
**B/C Swiss Teams** (No Player  
over 3000)

**Monday - Thursday, Jan 20-23**

10:30 & 3:00 **A/B/C Pairs** (open/3000/1500)  
**Golden Opportunity Pairs**  
(750/ 300/150)  
NO player over 750  
10:30 & TBA **Bracketed Round Robin  
Teams**

Pairs \$22 per session/per person, \$176 per team  
\*Reduced entry fee of \$12 for 0-99 pairs

Flyer on p. 12

## Club Directory

### JCC on the Palisades

Kaplen JCC on the Palisades  
411 E. Clinton Ave., Tenafly, NJ 07670  
Deborah Williams (914-329-3637)  
Pre-Registration required  
Friday 10:30 am

### New Bridgers

The Reformed Temple of Rockland  
330 N Highland Ave., Upper Nyack, NY 10960  
Marlene Case (845-942-1182)  
<https://newbridgers.org/>  
Tuesday 10:00am Supervised game 0-150 MP  
Thursday 10:00am Duplicate game 0-400 MP

### North Jersey Bridge Center

Christ Episcopal Church  
105 Cottage Place, Ridgewood, NJ 07450  
Pat Linnemeyer (551-427-6753)  
[www.njbridgecenter.com](http://www.njbridgecenter.com)  
Monday-Friday 12:30pm Open and 499er Games  
Wednesday 12:30pm Supervised play  
Friday 12:30pm Supervised play/Beginner Game

### Sparta Duplicate Bridge Club

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church  
246 Woodport Rd., Sparta, NJ 07871  
Fred Shubert (973-903-9713)  
<https://site.pianola.net/sparta-dbc/home>  
Monday Noon Open Game  
Thursday 10:15am Intermediate Clinic  
Thursday Noon NLM Game  
Friday 11:00am Open Game  
Saturday Monthly Swiss (see website)

### Tenafly Duplicate Bridge Club

The Tenafly Senior Center  
20 South Summit St., Tenafly, NJ 07670  
Betty Ann Smith (201-394-5754)  
Chris Thorn (201-403-4629)  
Tuesday 6:30pm Open Game

## New Members and Transfers through 12/1/2024

Leigh Brown  
Jane Goldberg  
Joann Lewis  
Nancy Shapiro  
Noga Tal  
Tiiu Vainu

## In Memorium

Wayne Carr



## Life Master

Beth Batastini

## Bronze Life Master

Beth Batastini

## Silver Life Master

Toby Baskind  
William Lambert

## Sapphire Life Master

Edward Landau

## Diamond Life Master

Geoffrey Manis

# FOR NEWER PLAYERS

## **Newcomer Games at New York City Winter Regional [Tournament Flyer](#) (December 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024)**

A major change this year will be an increase in newcomer games. There will be four sessions of games for players with under 100 Masterpoints. Each session is independent and allows players to win red pigmented Masterpoints, useful for achieving ACBL rankings such as Life Master (you need 100 points that are either gold or red, with at least 50 being gold). Black and Silver points can always be achieved at clubs, STaCs, and Sectionals, but gold and red points must be obtained at regionally-rated events (such as this regional, GNTs, NAPs, or NABCs).

### **Save the date!!**

**Intermediate/Newcomer Game, Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>**

### **ACBL platforms that provide games on BBO for newer players**

- **ACBL Clubhouse Games**
  - The ACBL Clubhouse has games available every day for players with fewer than 20 masterpoints, fewer than 50 masterpoints, fewer than 100 masterpoints, fewer than 200 masterpoints, and fewer than 300 masterpoints. This schedule allows new players to continue to play against other players at their level as they progress through the game. Follow this link to the ACBL website for a complete schedule and more information about the ACBL Clubhouse Games, <https://www.acbl.org/portfolio/daily-online-games/>. Just click on the Link “Visit the ACBL Clubhouse” to sign up to play.
- **ACBL Community Games**
  - These games are for players with fewer than 50 masterpoints. They provide both a bridge game and a short lesson on BBO and are held every Tuesday and Thursday evening at 6:00PM. <https://www.acbl.org/portfolio/community-games/>

### **North American Bridge Championships (NABC)**

- **Memphis – March 13-23, 2025**
  - Try the friendly bridge experience of the Intermediate/Newcomer Area at the NABC! This welcoming area features many chances to learn more (often for free) and practice with players at your skill level.
  - <https://www.acbl.org/memphis/#newcomers>

**Unit 106 Annual Brunch**  
**Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**Crowne Plaza Hotel, 3 Executive Blvd, Suffern, NY 10901**



Please join us and all your bridge friends on for the Unit 106 Annual Brunch followed by a stratified bridge game for the **Nat Seiden Trophy**.

Various awards will be presented during the brunch (open seating), during which time the annual meeting will also be held. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and greet your friends and thank the hardworking board members.

Registration - 11:30 AM  
Brunch - Noon - 1:30 PM  
Bridge Game - 1:30 - 4:30 PM

\$30 per person for Unit 106 members  
\$40 for non-members



**Reserve by January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**Entries will not be accepted at the door**

Check payable to: **North Jersey Bridge Association**      **Reserve by Jan 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

Mail to: Michelle Lanigan, 34 Wild Duck Rd, Wyckoff, NJ 07481

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please accept my reservation for:

Player 1: \_\_\_\_\_ Masterpoints: \_\_\_\_\_

Player 2: \_\_\_\_\_ Masterpoints: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Trophies and awards presented at the Annual Brunch**

### **Bill Joseph - Player of the Year Trophy**

This trophy is presented to the player who has earned the most masterpoints throughout the year playing in 'eligible' events – annual brunch, unit sectionals, Johnke and Reitman teams. The award is in honor of Bill Joseph, a past president of Unit 106 and an outstanding member of Unit 106 during his lifetime. This trophy is presented with the name of the current recipient engraved on it. Normally, that person keeps the trophy for one year and returns it for engraving for the next year's recipient.

### **Nat Seiden Trophy**

This trophy is awarded to the partnership that wins the bridge game at the Annual Brunch. The award is in honor of Nat Seiden a beloved member of Unit 106.

### **Gerald Goodman Service Award**

This award is presented to the person who has performed exemplary service to the Unit. The award is in honor of Gerald Goodman who dedicated more than 18 years of service to both Unit 106 and District 3.

### **Steve Nellissen Bridge Promotion Award**

This award is presented to a person who has done much to promote the game of bridge. The award is in honor of Steve Nellissen, who passed away in 2021, and who dedicated so much of his time to promote the game of bridge. He founded The Bridge Table where he fostered a love of bridge and a sense of community among hundreds of northern New Jersey residents.

### **Burrell Humphries Good Sportsmanship Award**

This award is presented to a person who exemplifies good sportsmanship and fellowship. The award is in honor of Burrell Humphries who was the embodiment of good sportsmanship and good fellowship.

### **Jan Page - Pro Am Trophy**

This award is in honor of Jan Page who spent many hours working for the unit welcoming new players and putting forth an outstanding effort to ensure that new players enjoyed the game.

### **Bob Johnke - Team Trophies**

The award is in honor of Bob Johnke, a past president of Unit 106 (1972-1973), and a unit member whose dedication to the enjoyment of the game was outstanding.

### **Nelson Reitman - Team Trophies**

This award is in honor of Nelson Reitman, a past president of our unit (1966-1967), a tournament director, and an avid bridge player.



## **Tributes to Burrell Humphreys and Gerald Goodman**

**Burrell Ives Humphreys**, of Pompton Plains, NJ passed away peacefully at the age of 97 on September 19, 2024. Burrell graduated from Dickenson College and Temple Law School. As a New Jersey Deputy Attorney General he honed his trial and appellate skills arguing cases before courts throughout the state, including many before the N.J. Supreme Court. Later he enjoyed a private practice in Wayne, NJ, with a particular passion for advocating for the civil rights of all people.

Burrell and his wife, Joy, helped found many organizations, including the ARC of Bergen and Passaic County, Explorer Post 136 for people with special needs, the Wayne Racquet Club, and the Lakeland Unitarian Church. He once said that he dedicated his professional life to “administering what men and women all over this planet search for, strive for, hunger for, and sometimes die for: justice under law....”

Burrell had a lifelong passion and expertise for tournament bridge and tennis. He was an Emerald Life Master and a long-time member of Unit 106, playing in countless tournaments and club events, often with his favorite partner, his son Bruce. Those who knew him, either very well or only casually, will miss the force of his intellect, his desire to improve the world, his care for the lives of people around him, his zeal for life, and his gentle humor. The Board of Directors of Unit 106 is pleased to rename the Good Sportsmanship Award in his honor.

**Gerald Goodman**, age 81, of Cresskill, NJ passed away peacefully on September 12, 2024. A brilliant mind and a kind heart, Gerald earned his Bachelor of Science in Physics from Rutgers University, later achieving his Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University, where he was honored as a Phi Beta Kappa. His career took him to the American Institute of Physics in New York where he served as a dedicated supervisor.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Jerry, as he was known to friends, was a passionate and avid bridge player, dedicating over 18 years of service to District 3 of the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL). His love for the game was matched only by his love for travel, with frequent visits to Las Vegas being one of his greatest joys. Jerry will be deeply missed. He was truly a good man loved by many. His bridge family and friends wish him eternal peace. The Board of Directors of Unit 106 is pleased to rename the Dedicated Service Award in his honor.

## **Winners of Unit 106 2024 Events**

### **Annual Brunch – January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 (Seiden Trophy)**

Alessandra Lofaro and Marina Fradina

### **Bob Johnke Teams – May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

A - Frederick Linnemeyer - Patricia Linnemeyer - Myron Rimer - Martin Singer

B - John Hodge - Sue Hodge - Robert Sorce - Mary Thurber

C - Michael Contente - Patricia Joseph - Roberta Boltin - Jeffrey Whittaker

### **Unit 106 Pro-Am – September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

North/South: Peter Szabados (Pro) - Dina Spence (Am)

East/West: Lynne Gitkin (Pro) - Rola Baddoura (Am)

### **Nelson Reitman Teams – October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

A - Tod Thorgersen, Edward Landau, Nicholas France, Leonard Helfgott, Mark Whitman

B/C - Dominick D'Ascoli, Julie Bernhardt, Yiran Liu, Kaiwen Wang

The winners of the **April, September and November 2024 sectionals** can be found at <https://www.acbl.org/upcoming-events/>



## 2024 Ace of Clubs Updated 12/06/2024

The annual Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs contest is won by the player from each masterpoint category who earns the most masterpoints solely in club games during the year. The top 3 players in each category are listed below. The complete list of winners in each category can be found at [http://www.bridge-njba.org/u106\\_acbl\\_races.php?r=ac&y=2024](http://www.bridge-njba.org/u106_acbl_races.php?r=ac&y=2024).

### 0 to 5

1	M Diana Haddad	17.48
2	Margaret Sfraga	12.43
3	Clive Green	12.03

### 1000 to 1500

1	Carole Gelfer	70.24
2	Daniele Panayotatos	64.00
3	Kayoko Nishitani	62.72

### 5 to 20

1	William Migdal	20.64
2	Bonnie Christian	20.02
3	Peter Kaufmann	18.45

### 1500 to 2500

1	William Whitman	120.66
2	Joann Krey	115.95
3	John Dell'osso	114.42

### 20 to 50

1	Gilbert Sandler	31.47
2	Jonathan Siegel	22.05
3	Ann Singer	21.86

### 2500 to 3500

1	Peter Szabados	244.46
2	Steven Sundheimer	148.57
3	Nicky Prell	96.90

### 50 to 100

1	Michael Contente	53.09
2	Barbara Hallahan	39.04
3	Richard Bottelli	36.49

### 3500 to 5000

1	John Wass	211.74
2	Subrata Ghosh	160.33
3	Lynn Mackall	147.99

### 100 to 200

1	Valerie Kazhdan	57.48
2	Bertie Smith	49.02
3	David Stein	35.87

### 5000 to 7500

1	Wayne Carr	155.75
2	Martin Singer	144.81
3	Doree Sobel	129.56

### 200 to 300

1	Donald Lermer	37.02
2	Kokila Patel	28.23
3	Annette Pomante	24.76

### 7500 to 10,000

1	Rena Harris	165.61
2	Miyoko Boswell	121.28
3	Burrell Humphreys	37.02

### 300 to 500

1	Kenneth Koneval	60.29
2	James Hundley	48.32
3	Beverly Higgins	42.05

### Over 10,000

1	Stasha Cohen	108.49
2	Mark Cohen	108.49
3	Marlise Cusick	10.91

### 500 to 1000

1	Wally Gebara	145.42
2	Melva Cummings	74.69
3	Beth Batastini	63.47

# Mini-McKenney Awards

## Updated 12/06/2024

The annual Mini-McKenney races are won by the player from each masterpoint category who earns the most pigmented masterpoints during the year. The top 3 players in each category are listed below. The complete list of winners in each category can be found at [http://www.bridge-njba.org/u106\\_acbl\\_races.php?r=mm&y=2024](http://www.bridge-njba.org/u106_acbl_races.php?r=mm&y=2024).

### 0-5

1	M Diana Haddad	19.29
2	Arun Verma	15.00
3	Rhonda Pekow	14.01

### 5-20

1	William Migdal	24.53
2	Bonnie Christian	20.74
3	Peter Kaufmann	20.01

### 20-50

1	Joan Verdon	43.53
2	Alan Yeung	33.09
3	Gilbert Sandler	32.41

### 50-100

1	Yiran Liu	97.50
2	Kaiwen Wang	97.50
3	Michael Contente	77.56

### 100-200

1	Valerie Kazhdan	113.48
2	Bertie Smith	51.37
3	Gerald Rossi	50.07

### 200-300

1	Karen Feltman	56.65
2	Susan Lippman	56.16
3	Deborah Williams	47.12

### 300-500

1	Gregory Menken	101.26
2	Marina Fradina	94.64
3	Eleanor Gilman	79.32

### 500-1000

1	Wally Gebara	186.77
2	Beth Batastini	129.85
3	Susan Fain	102.83

### 1000-1500

1	Daniele Panayotatos	160.95
2	Carole Gelfer	100.17
3	Kayoko Nishitani	96.25

### 1500-2500

1	Fred Shubert	334.84
2	Richard Podkowik	234.37
3	William Whitman	160.73

### 2500-3500

1	Peter Szabados	310.40
2	Steven Sundheimer	202.38
3	Frederick Linnemeyer	164.06

### 3500-5000

1	John Wass	267.10
2	Subrata Ghosh	249.64
3	Patricia Linnemeyer	244.18

### 5000-7500

1	Martin Singer	186.94
2	Wayne Carr	180.02
3	Doree Sobel	145.98

### 7500-10,000

1	Rena Harris	184.58
2	Miyoko Boswell	174.35
3	Burrell Humphreys	69.09

### Over 10,000

1	Mark Cohen	143.33
2	Stasha Cohen	141.83
3	Ofer Zinger	24.55

## 2024 Player of the Year

The Unit 106 Player of the Year Competition includes all points awarded at the Annual Brunch, Unit 106 Open Sectionals, Bob Johnke Teams, and the Nelson Reitman Teams. The cycle begins with the Annual Brunch and ends with the November sectional. No other event qualifies. The top ten players in each category for this year are listed below.

### OVER 2500

Patricia Linnemeyer	36.01
Tod Thorgersen	34.6
Edward Landau	34.6
Peter Szabados	31.89
Lynn Mackall	31.68
Marianne Aronovich	31.34
Serge Aronovich	31.34
Joseph Pospis	31.33
Leonard Helfgott	28.55
Burrell Humphreys	24.71

### UNDER 2500

William Whitman	30.31
Fred Shubert	23.41
Richard Podkowik	22.12
Carole Gelfer	19.58
Martin Gilbert	15.14
Steve Highfill	14.13
Elizabeth Gilbert	12.68
Charles Fuchs	11.44
Dan Benjamin	11.24
Susan Katz	9.50

### UNDER 1000

Wally Gebara	13.40
Kathleen Manzi	10.19
Dominick D'Ascoli	8.13
Pam Mills	6.53
Martin Becker	6.19
Arlene Tais	5.40
Teresa Aschoff	5.25
Mary Thurber	5.18
Beth Batastini	4.77
Jamie Silverstein	3.40

### UNDER 500

Ida Parks	8.35
Julie Bernhardt	8.13
Herbert Marche	7.55
Gregory Menken	5.51
Marina Fradina	5.11
Eiko Shimoyama	3.66
Alessandra Lofaro	2.92
Anne Bendell	2.83
Susan Baxt	1.88
Douglas Cestone	1.27

### UNDER 300

Michael Contente	10.94
Deborah Williams	7.55
Valerie Kazhdan	5.75
Richard Bland	5.35
Robert Denner	5.35
Chris Thorn	3.98
Patricia Joseph	3.94
Barbara Krekstein	3.79
Chris Smith	3.40
Martin Cohen	3.35

### UNDER 50

Diaa Elhaggar	6.65
Joan Verdon	3.98
Bonnie Bernstein	2.07
Cynthia Burns	1.67
Jacqueline Fitzmaurice	1.67
Haritha Indugula	1.47
Eileen Reda	1.47
Arun Verma	1.35
Joyce Fabian	1.16
Catherine Castellano	1.16

# Joan Gerard District 3 Winter Regional Jan 19-23, 2025



**Crowne Plaza Suffern-Mahwah**  
3 Executive Boulevard \* Suffern NY 10901  
(845) 357-4800

**Tournament Manager/Hotel Issues : Julie Cohan**

(973) 568-4864 \* [jcohan11@aol.com](mailto:jcohan11@aol.com)

**Partnerships : Lorraine Bellagamba**

(570) 618-3066 \* [itsbella@hotmail.com](mailto:itsbella@hotmail.com)

## Schedule

### Sunday, Jan 19

**11:30** **New this year: Single-Session Stratified 0-99 Pairs \* Reduced Entry Fee \$12**

11:30 & 3:00 **Fast Pairs** (open/3000/1500)

11:30 & TBA **A/X Swiss Teams** (open/5000)

**B/C/D Swiss Teams** (3000/1500/750 – no player over 3000)

### Monday (MLK Day) -Thursday, Jan 20-Jan 23

10:30 & 3:00 **A/B/C Pairs** (open/3000/1500)

**Golden Opportunity Pairs** (750/300/150 – no player over 750)

10:30 & TBA **Bracketed Round Robin Teams**

*(When possible, top bracket will be played as an Open Swiss – open to all)*

*All team & pair strats based on average for the team or pair. In any event or flight with an upper limit, no individual player's Masterpoint total may exceed that upper limit.*

**Single-session entries to Golden Opportunity & Open Pair Games permitted.**

**Join Us** – Bridge Lessons presented by Experienced Teachers at 9:30 AM Tues-Thurs

**Entry Fees:** \$22/per session/per person (\$10 for 25 years and under)

*Teams \$176 for both sessions.*

**Payment by Debit or Credit Only – No Cash**

*All tournament players must be ACBL members. Can register online or onsite. The ACBL offers a free guest membership for 120 days!*

**\*\* COMPLIMENTARY MORNING COFFEE & BAGELS \*\* AFTERNOON COFFEE**

*Standard room rate: \$129 for Queen/King \* Free Parking*

*Deadline for reservations: Dec 27, 2024*

*Reserve online: Special Group Rate Code **BRF***

*Or call 845-357-4800 and specify BRF or New Jersey New York Bridge Association*