



QuickTrick



THE EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS BRIDGE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER • WINTER 2008

WINTER

2008

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NEWS TO NOTE

District 25 GNTs

Enter your team in this grass-roots competition and win a berth to compete in the summer NABC in Las Vegas, NV. The GNT finals are in Sturbridge, MA January 12-13, 2008 at the Sturbridge Host Hotel.

Special games, added points

January is the ACBL interclub championship month. February is Junior Fund month. March features unit and unit-wide games. April is Charity Fund month. Be sure to look for these special games on the calendar on page 5 or at acblemba.org.

QUICK TRICK IS PUBLISHED

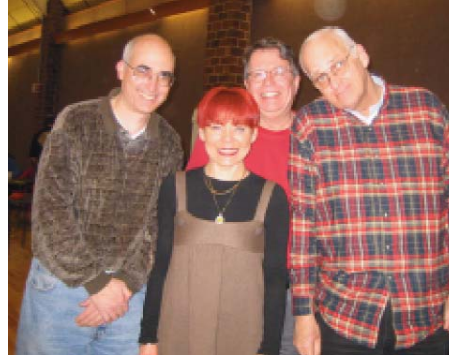
by the Eastern Massachusetts Bridge Association, Unit 108, of the American Contract Bridge League

WWW.ACBLEMBA.ORG

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EMBA officers

President	Mark Aquino
Vice president	Derrick Niederman
Secretary	Carolyn Weiser
Treasurer	Chris Apitz



SOME OF THE WINNERS OF EMBA'S HOLIDAY SWISS EVENT. Winners of the Flight A Swiss, from left to right: Alan Applebaum, Sheila Gabay, Luke Gillespie and Mel Marcus. Winners of the 299er Swiss: Beatrice Karger, Randi Bachmann, Diane Dadiskos and Selma Miller. Other winners listed on page 6.

HOLIDAY TOURNAMENT A RECORD BREAKER More than 300 tables and top-notch hospitality

EMBA's holiday tournament is special. The Pro-Am competition on Friday night gives newer players a chance to partner with more accomplished players in a relaxed and festive atmosphere. This year's Pro-Am was a great success, with 63 tables and dozens of players who had never experienced the event. Saturday's Open Pairs competition required the setup of so many additional tables that the entryway of the Armenian Cultural Center was required. Sunday's Swiss competition capped off the successful event with 57 flight A, B, C and 299er teams competing. A list of major event winners is on page 6; for a complete list, go to www.acblemba.org.

Hosts with the most

Hosts Bill and Jean Shaffer wowed the holiday crowd with top notch



snacks and service, adding special touches, such as flowers to the hospitality tables and orange juice to the standard Sunday morning fare of bagels and doughnuts. Dozens of players registered their compliments to EMBA vice president and tournament chairman, Derrick Niederman. "It was a

model tournament. I hope that our newest players were inspired by the event and that more EMBA players will be as generous with their time going forward as the Shaffers were on this busy weekend." ♣



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As you already know, 2008 is the year we've all been waiting for. In November, Boston will host the Fall North American Bridge Championships, also known as the NABC.

Our goal is to make this tournament the best ever. Co-chairs Kathy Benjamin and Frank Lombardo have already organized a small army of dedicated committee chairpeople and other volunteers to help provide information, arrange partnerships, welcome new players and do all of the other tasks associated with hosting a major ACBL tournament. It is an enormous task, and we will need hundreds more volunteers from EMBA and other District 25 units to make it a success.

More than 12,000 tables of bridge are expected for the tournament, which will run from November 20 to 30, 2008, at the Marriott and Westin hotels in Copley Place in the heart of Boston. If you have not already signed on to help work on the tournament, I encourage you to do so. For more information on how you can be part of the effort to "Make History in Boston," see the story on page 7 of this issue of *Quick Trick*.

And while we're on the subject of 2008, I'd like to share with you EMBA's major goals for the new year. We'll need the help of all of our members to achieve them:

- To continue to attract and retain new players.
- To continue to offer well-run, hospitable and inexpensive sectional tournaments throughout the year.
- To continue to provide members with outstanding communications, including *QuickTrick*, which is available in full color at www.acblemba.org.
- To reach out to all of our members, from the Cape to the North Shore.

Happy New Year!

Mark Aquino



Charles and Sandra Drum with new Westwood Duplicate Bridge Club owner, Robert Simpson.

EIGHT IS ENOUGH: Westwood Duplicate Bridge Club Changes Hands

It has been nearly eight years since Charlie and Sandy Drum took over the Westwood Duplicate Bridge Club: Eight years of outstanding hospitality—players knew they would be greeted by a feast of snacks at every game. Eight years of running some of the most competitive games in EMBA—Saturday afternoon competition is like playing in a sectional. Eight years of dealing with the quirky personalities of bridge players. And eight was enough, says Sandy, who looks forward to having a more flexible schedule now that they have sold the club to Robert (Bob) Simpson. For 2008, Simpson's goals include introducing some improvements to the facility and new game formats to bring novices and experienced players together.

Westwood DBC offers games every day (times vary), plus Monday and Tuesday evenings at 7:00. (No game the first Monday evening of every month.) For more information, call Bob at 508-376-8895.



EMBA's latest Grand Life Master, Dan Colatosti of Waltham, combined thoughtful bidding with careful play to earn a big swing against an assemblage of top bridge professionals in the final round of the North American Swiss Team Championships in Nashville, TN last July, finishing eighth in the prestigious event. Take a look at the deal in the box to the right (with the hands rotated for convenience.)

Dan chose to open one club, leaving room to bid and rebid spades to show his 6-5 distribution. Surprised when the auction got to the three level before he had a chance to make a second bid, Dan felt justified in bidding three spades on his 11 HCP because of his fine distribution. And with the opponents bidding hearts, he wanted to make sure that the lead came into his Kx of hearts. Dan's long-time regular partner, John Malley, jumped to five clubs, ending the auction.

West found the best lead—a trump—which Dan won with dummy's club ace. He pitched a heart on dummy's diamond ace, then paused to consider the location of high cards and probable distribution of his opponents' hands. He assumed that West had five hearts, probably headed by the ace, and he reasoned that West probably had at least two diamonds, because he might have led a stiff diamond. West also held at most three spades, headed by the ace, because East was unlikely to preempt in hearts holding four trump, a void and an outside ace. Dan's analysis was key: Because he could afford only one spade loser to make his game, he had to conserve his high spade cards. He played a spade to his hand at trick three, and when

NABC Open Swiss--Final Match

Vul: None
Dealer: East

NORTH

♠ 6
♥ 74
♦ A109864
♣ AK93

WEST

♠ A10
♥ A9863
♦ K52
♣ 1062

EAST

♠ J7543
♥ QJ105
♦ QJ73
♣ -----

SOUTH

♠ KQ982
♥ K2
♦ -----
♣ QJ8754

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
Colatosti	Pollack	Malley	Beatty
1C	1H	2D	Pass
3S	Pass	5C	3H All Pass

Opening lead: ♣ 2

East followed low, Dan played the 9 from his hand, losing to West's 10. A trump came back, which Dan won in his hand. Now, he played another low spade, and began to like his chances when West's ace came down. Dan ruffed the spade, ruffed a diamond low back to his hand, ruffed his spade 8 with dummy's trump king, then ruffed a diamond high in his hand and drew West's last club. Eventually Dan lost a heart trick and one spade, making five clubs.

At the other table, Sam Lev of New York and Gary Cohler of Florida reached the same contract—but from the wrong side. Lev opened one spade, and now he was stuck. After partner's two diamond bid, Lev bid 2NT. When Cohler bid three clubs, Lev bid five. But played by North, the contract was easily defeated with the queen of hearts lead.

Today's Shark's Pointers: Bid aggressively with distribution, and consider how to protect important tenaces and high card holdings. During the play, count your winners and losers. And never waste your high cards.



CALENDAR

EMBA TOURNAMENTS...AND MORE

Visit www.acblemba.org for more calendar information

Winter Sectional

February 22-24 2008

Armenian Cultural and Educational Center
47 Nichols Avenue
Watertown, MA

Friday, February 22

7:30 PM

Stratified pairs
Open 2000+ B=<2000 C=<750
299'er pairs

Saturday, February 23

12 noon

Build Better Bridge Skills Lecture

REVERSE THE CURSE:

A guide to reverse bids
by Joyce Pearson
Free and open to all

1:00 PM & 7:00 PM

Two-session stratified and 299er pairs
(Single session entries accepted)
A=Open, B=<2000, C=<750

Sunday, February 24

10:30 AM & TBA

Swiss Teams
A=Open, B/C Bracketed
Single-Session 199er Swiss Teams**
(five matches)

Order sandwich or salads before the game \$6 or BYO lunch

Free soda and chips with purchase

Hostesses:

Irene Musick ilmusick@verizon.net
978 263 5830
Joyce Miller joyce.a.miller@rcn.com
781 862 8858

For more information, contact:
Derrick Niederman
dniederman@aol.com

**Partnership assistance on site
Or, indicate your partnership needs
to www.partnershipdesk.com**

New England Knockout Regional

February 13-18, 2008

Crowne Plaza Hotel
Cromwell, CT
SURPRISE TREATS DAILY
SUBSIDIZED SUNDAY DINNER

Newcomer games every session

Free lessons, prizes, coffee & snacks
Stratified pairs and Swiss events

Bracketed knockouts

Start Wednesday, Friday & Saturday

Sidegames

Wednesday through Sunday

Senior events

Wednesday through Sunday

Special on Monday 10 a.m.

Bracketed Round Robin Teams and
Stratified pairs

Stratifications

A= open, B 750-2500, C <750

About the Crowne Plaza

Reserve before 1/24 to secure \$79
single/double rate. (Two night minimum for
Saturday night stays.)
Property sells out early!
Call 860-635-2000 or 800-308-4589
Directions: Exit 21 from I-91

Contact us--we love to help

I/N News
Sue Miguel 401-624=1723
inchair@nebridge.org

Hotel room questions
Helen Pawlowski 413-530-1278

**Partnership assistance on site or at
www.partnershipdesk.com**

New Directors Join EMBA Board in 2008



From left to right, new EMBA board members: Lorraine Cable, Bill Mernin and Barbara Murphy. They join the board for three years, beginning January 2008.

♣ Club News

Puritan Club mentor game

The Puritan Club is running a Life Master/Non-Life Master Mentor game the last Wednesday of the month. For more information, contact Ed Rasmussen at 781-843-9621 or go to www.acblemba.org/puritan.

New District 25 president seeks committee volunteers

On January 1, 2008 Roy Green takes over as president of ACBL District 25. If you are interested in serving on a District committee, please contact Roy at roygreen@comcast.net.

MIT/DL Club offers free lessons

In January, MIT/DL will offer the eight-session ACBL Club Series in MIT Building 4, Room 149. The free lessons will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday from January 8 - January 31. For more information, call Brian at 617-256-5652 or go to <http://web.mit.edu/mitdlbc>.

EXTRA POINTS SPECIAL CLUB GAMES EXTRA Fee MAY APPLY

JANUARY	LOCATION
T 1	Jackie's HP, Puritan* EdFG
F 4	Bridge Spot No game
S 5	Bridge Spot No game Westwood* No game
Su 6	Westwood* No game
F/Su4-6	Keohane Regional, Newton, MA
M 7	Andover* ACBL ICC Newton-Wellesley* ACBL ICC Puritan* ACBL ICC Westwood* ACBL ICC Temple Aliyah ChC Westwood No game
T 8	Westwood IF Temple Emanuel* No game
W 9	Dartmouth* Ch Temple Emanuel* IMP Hamilton UWG Puritan UWG Westwood UWG Winchester UWG
Th 10	Newton@Reyim ChC
F 11	Bridge Spot ChC
S/Su 12-13	CMBA SECTIONAL GNT DISTRICT FINALS Sturbridge, MA
M 14	Westwood IF
T 15	Rock Harbor* ST Jackie's UG Westwood UG MIT UWG Newton-Wellesley UWG
W 16	Merrimac* CC
Th 17	Andover*, Bridge Spot*, Dartmouth*, Puritan*, & Westwood* UG
F 18	Bridge Spot ChC
S 19	Puritan* EdFG, Westwood* ChC (ST)
Su 20	Bridge spot* 199er party; Westwood* ChC
M 21	Oak Street* No game, Puritan* EdFG, Westwood* CC, Temple Aliyah Ch Westwood IF
T 22	Westwood* CC Westwood IF
W 23	Westwood* ICC Midcape CC
Th 24	Westwood* CC Bridge Spot ChC
F 25	Bridge Spot ChC; Newton-Wellesley* CC Westwood* CC
S/S26-27	RI SECTIONAL Johnston, RI
M 28	Westwood IF
T 29	Puritan* IF, Westwood & MIT JF Newton-Wellesley IF-IMP
W 30	Temple Emanuel* Ch Merrimac* IF Puritan* LM/NLM Mentor game Westwood* CC
Th 31	Puritan IFG

FEBRUARY	LOCATION
F 1	Bridge Spot JF
S 2	Westwood* JF
Su 3	Westwood* JF
M 4	Newton-Wellesley* CC Westwood* & Temple Aliyah JF Westwood No game Puritan* JF Westwood* ICC Jackie's CC Westwood JF
T 5	Dartmouth* CC Merrimac* & Westwood* JF Winchester & Puritan JF
W 6	Andover* CC Bridge Spot* CC Puritan* & Westwood JF Bridge Spot CC Newton@Reyim JF (ST)
Th 7	Leavitt* UG Newton-Wellesley* UG Westwood* UG Bridge Spot Cc (IMP)
F 8	Puritan* JF
S 9	Bridge Spot* 199er party
Su 10	Westwood* JF
M 11	Leavitt* UG Newton-Wellesley* UG Oak Street* & Puritan* UG Puritan* & Westwood* UG Dartmouth Ch Westwood JF
T 12	MIT IF (ST) & Westwood* JF Newton-Wellesley JF (ST)
W-M 13-18	NE KO REGIONAL Cromwell, CT
T 14	Newton@Reyim ICC
F 15	Seaside*ST & Newton@Reyim Ch Bridge Spot & Westwood* JF
M 18	Puritan* & Temple Aliyah JF Westwood JF
T 19	Westwood JF
W 20	Dartmouth* & Leavitt* UWG Merrimac* & Westwood UWG Temple Emanuel UWG
F 22	Bridge Spot No game
S 23	Bridge Spot* & Westwood* No game
F/Su22-24	EMBA WINTER SECTIONAL Watertown, MA
S 24	Westwood* No game
M 25	Andover* & Leavitt ACBL Sr Gm Puritan* & Oak Street* ACBL SrGm Newton-Wellesley ACBL SrGm Westwood JF
T 26	Jackie's & Leavitt UWG MIT & Newton-Wellesley UWG Westwood UWG & JF
W 27	Puritan* LM/NLM mentor game Winchester CC
T 28	Andover* & Bridge Spot* UG Dartmouth* & Puritan* UG Westwood* UG
F 29	Newton-Wellesley* ChC Bridge Spot JF
F/Su 29-02	CBA SECTIONAL Camden, ME

MARCH	LOCATION
M 3	Andover* UWG Leavitt* UWG Newton-Wellesley* UWG Oak Street* UWG Puritan* UWG Westwood*UWG Dartmouth CC Temple Aliyah Ch Westwood No game
T 4	Westwood JF
W 5	Puritan* & Temple Emanuel* CC
Th 6	Bridge Spot EdFG-IMP Newton@Reyim CC
6-16	SPRING NABC Detroit, MI
F 7	Bridge Spot ChC
Su 9	Bridge Spot * 199er party
S/Su8-9	SECTIONAL Johnston, RI
M 10	Westwood* ChC Westwood JF
T 11	Rock Harbor* CC (ST) Westwood* & Jackie's ChC Leavitt CC & MIT JF Westwood JF
W 12	Westwood* ACBL CG Winchester ACBL CG Merrimac* EdF
Th 13	Dartmouth* Ch Westwood* ChC
F 14	Leavitt* & Seaside CC Newton-Wellesley* JF (ST) Westwood* ChC Bridge Spot ChC
S 15	Westwood* ChC
Su 16	Westwood* ChC
F/Su 14-16	SECTIONAL Portland, ME
M 17	Westwood* ICC Andover* CC Temple Aliyah Ch Westwood JF
T 18	Newton-Wellesley CC Westwood JF
W 19	Dartmouth* UG Leavitt* & Merrimac* UG Puritan* UG Westwood* UG Puritan CC Puritan* CC
Th 20	Brewster CC Bridge Spot UG Newton@Reyim UG
F 21	Bridge Spot ChC
S 22	Puritan* CC
M 24	Newton-Wellesley* IF-IMP Puritan* CC Westwood JF
T 25	Puritan* CC MIT CC Westwood JF
W 26	Leavitt* CC Puritan* LM/NLM Mentor Game Puritan ACBL ICC Winchester ICC
Th 27	Andover* ChC Dartmouth* CC
F 28	Bridge Spot ChC
S/Su29-30	NHBA SECTIONAL Hudson, NH
M 31	Temple Aliyah CC Westwood JF

CAG=Club appreciation game, CC= Club champ, Ch=Charity, ChC=Charity club champ, *=day game, EdFG=Educational Fund game, HP=Holiday party, ICC= Interclub champ, IF= International Fund, IMP=IMP pairs, JF=Junior fund, Sr game=seniors 55+, ST= Swiss team, UG=Unit game, UWG=Unitwide game. Consult www.acblemba.org for locations.

CAPE COD WINNER'S CIRCLE



Cape Cod October Flight B Swiss Team Event Won by All-Cape Cod Team

Pictured from left to right are Elizabeth Rosman, Vanessa Treash, Barbara Wilcox and Marge Laux.



Cape Cod Flight A Swiss Team Winners

The Flight A Swiss competition was won by Robert Starr, playing with his son Sandy Starr, Frank Mastrola and Barton Buffington. Pictured to the left are Robert and Sandy Starr.

Other main event winners are listed in the column to the right. (For a complete listing, go to acblemba.org.) Tournament turnout outpaced expectations. More than 60 pairs competed in the Saturday Open Pairs and approximately 43 teams entered the Swiss competition on Sunday.

IN MEMORIAM



Henry Grew

Boston, MA

Louis Guidry

Lynnfield, MA

Dr. Russell Watts

Melrose, MA

Philip O'Deane

Springfield, MA

Lynda Lee Ray

Wrentham, MA

Evelyn Schwartz

Newton, MA



RECENT TOURNAMENT WINNERS

EMBA Cape Cod Sectional Oct 6-7

Saturday Open Pairs

- 1 Stephen Gladyszak, Chelsea, MA; Yiji Starr, Wayland, MA
- 2 Shome Mukherjee, Randolph, MA; Bill Hunter, Reading, MA

Saturday 299er Pairs

- 1 Jennifer Bradford, N. Dartmouth, MA; Constance Sweeney, New Bedford, MA
- 2 J Robillard, Marlborough, MA; David Woden, Acton, MA

Sunday Swiss Team Winners

- A Robert Starr, Sandy Starr, Frank Mastrola & Bart Buffington
- B Barbara Wilcox, Vanessa Treash, Marjorie Laux & E Rosman
- C Bernard Rothschild, Willard Salter, Linda Green & Jean Schiaroli
- 299er Miriam Owens, Phyllis Morin, Mercedes Riley, Noreen Pitts

EMBA Holiday Sectional December 7-9

Friday Pro-Am Pairs

- 1 Bill Hunter, Reading, MA; Murthy Ayyagari, N.Andover, MA
- 2 K Kane, Boston, MA; Barbara Pofcher, Auburndale, MA

Saturday Stratified Pairs

- A 1 J McLaughlin, Melrose, MA; Lloyd Arvedon, Bedford, MA
Rena Lieberman, N Easton, MA; Mel Marcus, Waltham, MA
- B 1 L Russo, Auburndale, MA; Peter Zucker, Watertown, MA
Paul Wolf II, Shrewsbury, MA; Bruce Emond, Holden, MA
- C 1 C Rossi, Northborough, MA; S Nyman, Shrewsbury, MA
Robert Klein - Marian Klein, Waban, MA

Saturday 199er Pairs

- J Hawke, Lexington, MA; Brian Fisk, Boxborough, MA
Frederic Corwin & M Elizabeth Corwin, St. Petersburg, FL

Sat Eve Side game

- Donald Levy, Randolph, MA; Tony Pastore, Sudbury, MA
David Snyder, Roslindale, MA; Lilo Grubner, Brighton, MA

Sunday Swiss Teams

- A Luke Gillespie, Wayland, MA; Mel Marcus, Waltham, MA;
Sheila Gabay, Newton, MA; A Applebaum, Brookline, MA
- B David Rock, Westfield, MA; Sonja Smith, North Granby, CT;
Mark Conner, Grantham, NH; Bruce Downing, New London, NH
- C Yixin Tang, Boston, MA; Jay Tang, Sharon, MA; Lunhui Lin, Westborough, MA; Dawei Qi, Framingham, MA

Sunday 299er Swiss Teams

- B Karger, Peabody, MA; R Bachmann, Belmont, MA; Diane Dadiskos, Glastonbury, CT; Selma Miller, Lexington, MA



BOSTON NABC 2008 RUNS ON VOLUNTEERS

Here's how to help

The Fall National American Bridge Championships (NABC) are slated for Boston in 2008. The tournament spans 11 days, from November 20 to 30 and will be played in one of Boston's most popular locations—Back Bay, at the Marriott and Westin hotels in Copley Place. The NABC features some of the bridge world's most prestigious events—The Blue Ribbon Pairs and the Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams. More than 12,000 tables of bridge are expected to be played. However, that goal can only be reached with the help of hundreds of volunteers from EMBA and other District 25 units. Here are some of the ways you can help:

I/N committee

A national tournament can seem intimidating to a newer player, so we need to get out the word that there are dozens of opportunities for newcomers at the Boston 2008 NABC. Special speakers are scheduled. Special prizes will be awarded. And hand analysis will accompany many of the games restricted to players with fewer than 300

points. If you are interested in helping with the I/N committee effort, please contact Mark or Marlene Yesley at moyesley@aol.com or call them at 617-527-5735. Mark and Marlene have already devoted a considerable amount of time to this effort, including becoming volunteers themselves at the recent San Francisco NABC. Join their team and you will be working with competent, experienced chairpeople.

Caddy, please!

As you can imagine, a tournament of 13,000 tables needs a heavy duty staff of caddies. We are charged with identifying individuals who wish to caddy (they must be 16 years or older) or organizations that are looking to raise funds and are willing to provide members who will earn a an attractive per-session rate for their efforts. Caddy training is provided by ACBL's professional staff. A multi-day commitment is desirable, but even one day on the job will be appreciated. If you are interested in being a caddy, you have a teenager, a spouse or a friend who would be interested or if you have suggestions about organizations that we can recruit to supply caddies, please contact one of our Caddy Committee Chairs, David Rock at dave@microgrit.com or Sonja Smith at sonja721@excite.com.

Other opportunities

Hundreds of volunteers will be needed to man the many desks

that provide general information, match partnerships, distribute registration materials and direct players to available tours. With thousands of bridge players arriving daily, it's essential to present a full staff of informed volunteers who can guide them to restaurants and transportation, get them to the right registration desk and assist in any partnership needs. A friendly personality and a willingness to help are the only qualifications. Carolyn Weiser, who is in charge of scheduling all volunteers, will be happy to record your volunteer information and to match you with the right job. You can reach Carolyn at embasec@acblemba.org.

Volunteering is easy

Volunteers are asked to make a two-hour or a one day commitment. (Volunteers are generally needed just before sessions, so you'll still have time to play—and there are some perks provided.) So plan now on making one of your NABC days a volunteer day. Bridge is a game you love—now it's your chance to give something back as an ambassador for New England. For more information on volunteering, contact Carolyn Weiser at embasec@acblemba.org. For answers to other questions about the tournament, please contact either co-chair Kathy Benjamin (781-648-4395) at krbenjamin@msn.com or co-chair Frank Lombardo (781-729-5324) lomb101@aol.com.

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Needham, MA 02492

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THE EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS BRIDGE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER • WINTER 2008

TOURNAMENT TRAIL

DIST 25 GNT FINALS

January 12-13 2008
Sturbridge, MA

NE Knockout Regional

February 13-18 2008
Cromwell, CT

EMBA Winter Sectional

February 22-24, 2008
Armenian Cultural Center
Watertown, MA

ACBL Spring NABC

March 6-16 2008
Detroit, MI
www.acbl.org/nabc

Meet EMBA's Board of Directors



Returning officers and members of the 2008 EMBA Board, from left to right, back row: Don Levy, Derrick Niederman (VP), Saul Agranoff, Carol Weinstein, Stewart MacKeigan, Bill Hunter. Front row: Marlene Yesley, Mark Aquino (President), Carolyn Weiser (Secretary) and Millie Ring. Not pictured: Chris Apitz (Treasurer), Brenda Montague, Peter Lombardo, Ann Baum, David Aronson, Judy Rosenberg, Irene Musick and Joyce Miller. New members Lorraine Cable, Barbara Murphy and Bill Mernin pictured on page 4.