

“Trials” and Tribulations

Favorite Sons Shine...

Board 11 ♠ KJT752
None Vul. ♥ AK62
Dealer: S ♦ 2
 ♣ JT

♠ Q9	N ↑	♠ A3
♥ JT53		♥ 87
♦ K643		♦ AJ8
♣ K83		♣ AQ9654

♠ 864
♥ Q94
♦ QT975
♣ 72

West	North	East	South
Garner	Pepsi	Smith	Rosenberg, M
			Pass
Pass	1S	1NT	Pass
3NT	All Pass		

Sarniak	Demirev	Blas	Meltzer
			Pass
Pass	1S	2C	Pass
3C	3S	3NT	4S
All Pass			

Smith and Garner, local to Chicago, played in 3NT with nine easy tricks. Smith’s 1NT overcall and Garner’s quick jump to game made competition impossible. Rosenberg led a spade; Smith rose with dummy’s queen; Pepsi covered and Smith won his ace. He cashed six clubs and two diamonds for +400.

In the other room, Nik Demirev, also local, opened 1S. When Blas chose 2C and Sarniak raised to 3C, Nik has a free shot to bid 3S.. Blas bid the no-trump game, but Meltzer, holding no defense and knowing her partner had a minimum of six spades, took the spade sacrifice. It worked well. 8 IMPs to the home team!

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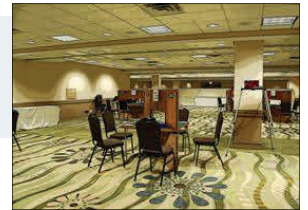
Photographer
Peg Kaplan

Local Hospitality Chairs
Lisa Berkowitz
Martha Katz

Teams Entered... listed in RR seeding order

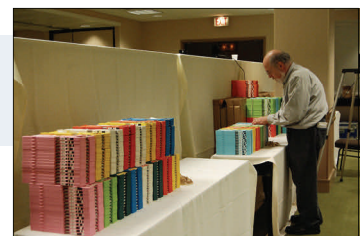
"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS

Nickell Bye to QF	Frank Nickell, Capt Jeff Meckstroth Bobby Levin	Ralph Katz Eric Rodwell Steve Weinstein
Diamond Bye to QF	John Diamond, Capt Justin Lall Eric Greco	Brian Platnick Kevin Bathurst Geoff Hampson
Fleisher Bye to R16	Martin Fleisher, Capt Brad Moss Michael Rosenberg	Chip Martel Joe Grue Jacek Pszczola
Fireman Bye to R16	Paul Fireman, Capt John Hurd John Kranyak	Gavin Wolpert Joel Wooldridge Vincent Demuy
Rosenthal	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Chris Willenken David Berkowitz	Aaron Silverstein Eldad Ginossar Alan Sontag
Meltzer	Rose Meltzer, Capt Steve Garner Bart Bramley	Nikolay Demirev Ron Smith Robert Hamman
Mahaffey	Jim Mahaffey, Capt Neil Chambers Matthew Granovetter	Sam Lev John Schermer Russell Ekeblad
Dwyer	Kevin Dwyer, Capt Billy Cohen Michael Kamil	Roger Lee Gary Cohler Michael Becker
Wold	Eddie Wold, Capt Marc Jacobus Chris Compton	Michael Levine Mike Passell David Grainger
Simson	Doug Simson, Capt JoAnna Stansby	Jeff Aker Lew Stansby
Miller	Jeffrey Miller, Capt Reese Milner Joshua Stark	William Engel Hemant Lall
Robinson	Steve Robinson, Capt Kit Woolsey Bill Pollack	Peter Boyd Fred Stewart Ron Rubin
Jacobs	George Jacobs, Capt Dick Bruno David Lehman	Claude Vogel Jeffrey Schuett Richard Melson
Harris	Martin Harris, Capt Ai-Tai Lo Jay Barron	Jacob Morgan Howard Liu
Ivatury	Uday Ivatury, Capt Lapt Chan	Christal Henner Jon Sorkin
Dinkin	Sam Dinkin, Capt W. Thomas Reynolds	Michael Shuster Lance Kerr
Kent	Robert Kent Brenda Pugsley	Ellen Kent Paul Pugsley



You've got to be confident when you're competing. You've got to be a beast.

Gabby Douglas



Tournament Schedule (continued on page 4)

ROUND ROBIN			
DAY	DATE	TIME	BOARDS
FRIDAY	APRIL 28	9:45 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING Room 1321
FRIDAY	APRIL 28	10:00 - 11:10 11:20 - 12:30 12:40 - 1:50 3:15 - 4:25 4:35 - 5:45 5:55 - 7:05 7:15 - 8:25	MATCH 1 - BOARDS 1-8 MATCH 2 - BOARDS 9-16 MATCH 3 - BOARDS 17-24 85 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK MATCH 4 - BOARDS 1-8 MATCH 5 - BOARDS 9-16 MATCH 6 - BOARDS 17-24 MATCH 7 - BOARDS 25-32
SATURDAY	APRIL 29	10:00 - 11:10 11:20 - 12:30 12:40 - 1:50 3:15 - 4:25 4:40 - 5:50* 5:50 - 7:00*	MATCH 8 - BOARDS 1-8 MATCH 9 - BOARDS 9-16 MATCH 10 - BOARDS 17-24 85 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK MATCH 11 - BOARDS 1-8 *MATCH 12 - BOARDS 9-16 *MATCH 13 - BOARDS 17-24
* THE FINAL 2 MATCHES ARE SEQUESTERED - ONE PAIR ON EACH TEAM MUST PLAY BOTH MATCHES & REMAIN IN THE CLOSED ROOM FOR BOTH MATCHES. NO SCORE COMPARISON ALLOWED.			
ROUND OF 16 & USA2 ROUND OF 64 (R of 64 ... see page 4)			
SUNDAY	APRIL 30	9:45 AM	CAPTAINS' MEETING
SUNDAY	APRIL 30	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
MONDAY	MAY 1	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30
QUARTER-FINAL & USA2 ROUND OF 32 (8 USA2 TEAMS)			
TUESDAY	MAY 2	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
WEDNESDAY	MAY 3	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30
SEMI-FINAL & USA2 ROUND OF 16 (8 USA2 TEAMS)			
THURSDAY	MAY 4	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
FRIDAY	MAY 5	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30
FINAL & USA2 QUARTERFINAL (6 USA2 TEAMS)			
SATURDAY	MAY 6	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
SUNDAY	MAY 7	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30



USA2 Round of 64

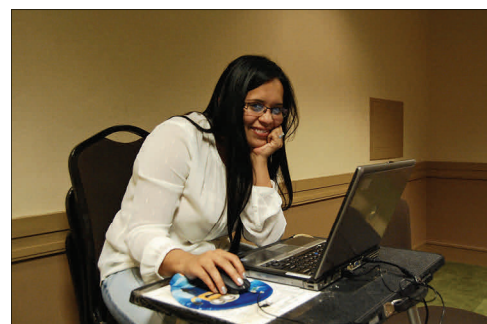
Time	SUNDAY, APRIL 30TH (NOTE: EACH MATCH WILL HAVE A UNIQUE SET OF BOARDS 1-28) IF ALL 3 TEAMS CONTINUE ON MONDAY, THIS SCHEDULE WILL REPEAT ***BUT - THERE WILL BE NO SCORE COMPARISON ALLOWED AFTER THE 7TH SEGMENT (AT 5:55)*** IF ONE TEAM IS QUALIFIED AT THE END OF SUNDAY, THE ROUND OF 16 SCHEDULE WILL BE USED ON MONDAY		
10:00-11:00	C1 C2 C3	1 vs 2 2 vs 3 3 vs 1	1-7
11:10-12:10	C1 C2 C3	1 vs 3 2 vs 1 3 vs 2	1-7
SHORT BREAK FOR COMPARISON			
12:25-1:25	C1 C2 C3	1 vs 3 2 vs 1 3 vs 2	8-14
1:35-2:35	C1 C2 C3	1 vs 2 2 vs 3 3 vs 1	8-14
70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK			
3:45-4:45	C1 C2 C3	1 vs 3 2 vs 1 3 vs 2	15-21
4:55-5:55	C1 C2 C3	1 vs 2 2 vs 3 3 vs 1	15-21
SHORT BREAK FOR COMPARISON			
6:10-7:10	C1 C2 C3	1 vs 2 2 vs 3 3 vs 1	22-28
7:20-8:20	C1 C2 C3	1 vs 3 2 vs 1 3 vs 2	22-28

The leading team will qualify for the Round of 32 if it is ahead in both of its matches by 42 or more IMPs, either at the end of day 1 or at the half on day 2



No Electronic Devices are Permitted in the Playing Area. This applies to players AND kibitzers. Severe penalties will be assessed for violation of this rule. Please turn off all cell phones and check them at the door.

The USBF reserves the right to wand anyone entering the playing field.



USA2 SEMI-FINAL			
MONDAY	MAY 8	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
TUESDAY	MAY 9	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30
USA2 FINAL			
WEDNESDAY	MAY 10	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 16-30
THURSDAY	MAY 11	10:00 - 12:10 12:25 - 2:35 3:45 - 5:55 6:10 - 8:20	SEGMENT 5 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 6 BOARDS 16-30 70 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK SEGMENT 7 BOARDS 1-15 SEGMENT 8 BOARDS 16-30



Round Robin

The 2017 USBC Round Robin will be a 2-day complete Round Robin, with 8 board matches, scored using the **USBF 8 board Victory Point scale**.

SCORE SUBMISSION

After each match, you must turn in a form showing your score (in IMPs) for the match; please enter the IMPs for each team, not the net IMPs. If you have time to confirm the score with your opponent before submitting it, please do so, but if you don't have time, turn the score in anyway. Write your lineup for the next match on the back of the score ticket, and turn in the score ticket to receive your assignment for the next match.

SEQUESTERED MATCHES

The final 2 matches on Saturday will have the Closed Room sequestered. One pair on your team must play both matches in the Closed Room. No score comparison is allowed during the 2-match clump. For the first sequestered match, the NS pair at each table will be asked to complete a score sheet & have the EW pair verify that it is correct. The score sheets will be collected and entered into the computer by the time you finish the second match. Those scores will be posted on a wall in the Players' Break Room. You will be asked to confirm that the first match score is correct when you turn in your score for the final match. We hope that this procedure will help speed up the determination of the qualifiers.

Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser	Margin	Winner	Loser
0	10	10	15	15.23	4.77	30	18.37	1.63
1	10.44	9.56	16	15.50	4.50	31	18.53	1.47
2	10.86	9.14	17	15.75	4.25	32	18.68	1.32
3	11.27	8.73	18	16.00	4.00	33	18.83	1.17
4	11.67	8.33	19	16.23	3.77	34	18.97	1.03
5	12.05	7.95	20	16.46	3.54	35	19.11	0.89
6	12.42	7.58	21	16.68	3.32	36	19.24	0.76
7	12.77	7.23	22	16.90	3.10	37	19.37	0.63
8	13.12	6.88	23	17.11	2.89	38	19.50	0.50
9	13.45	6.55	24	17.31	2.69	39	19.62	0.38
10	13.78	6.22	25	17.50	2.50	40	19.74	0.26
11	14.09	5.91	26	17.69	2.31	41	19.85	0.15
12	14.39	5.61	27	17.87	2.13	42	19.95	0.05
13	14.68	5.32	28	18.04	1.96	43	20	0
14	14.96	5.04	29	18.21	1.79			

**USBF
8 Board
VP Scale**

(continued from page 1)

Board 14 ♠ K2
 None Vul. ♥ Q965
 Dealer: E ♦ Q3
 ♣ K7432

♠ QJ9764 ♠ A853
 ♥ A3 ♥ 842
 ♦ JT54 ♦ 972
 ♣ 8 ♣ T95

♠ T
 ♥ KJT7
 ♦ AK86
 ♣ AQJ6



West	North	East	South
Sarniak	Demirev	Blas	Meltzer
		Pass	1C (2+, NF w/bal hands outside the NT range: 15-17, or primary clubs)
2S	Double	4S	Double
Pass	5C	Pass	6C
All Pass			

Garner	Pepsi	Smith	Rosenberg, M
		Pass	1D
1S	Double	3S	4H
4S	Double	Pass	4NT
Pass	5C	All Pass	

Meltzer opened 1C. Sarniak preempted 2S. Demirev made a negative double and Blas furthered the preempt to the four level. Meltzer showed extras with her double and asked Demirev “to do the right thing.” Holding five cards in his partner’s opening suit, Demirev bid 5C. Meltzer had no ace-ask available. She could take the high road or the low road. She chose the high road and hoped for a major suit ace in her partner’s hand. Unfortunately for him, Nik got a holding penalty for lacking both the spade and heart ace. Sarniak led the SQ. When it held, he switched to the HA. Contract defeated by a trick!

At the other table, Rosenberg, a traditionalist, opened 1D. Garner overcalled one only spade. Pepsi negative doubled and Rosenberg bid the heart game. Garner came to life and bid 4S. Pepsi doubled. Rosenberg asked for key cards. When Pepsi showed none, he settled in 5C.

With hearts 3-2, there were no ruffs and 5C made easily. 10 IMPs to the out-of-towners!

Hospitality Information...



The hospitality suite for the 2017 Open USBC will be room 2321, one level up from the playing rooms. Our wonderful hostess, Lisa Berkowitz, and her able assistant, Martha Katz, will serve breakfast each day from 8:00-10:30, as well as lunch starting on Sunday from 2:00-4:00.

The hospitality suite will be open for Vugraph, casual chit chat, drinks & snacks during the rest of the playing hours and for a short time after the end of the day.

The "Players' Break Room" (aka Jan's office) will be room 1321. It will be available for the entire tournament. We will have coffee, soft drinks and snacks in that room while you wait for slow teammates to finish playing.

On Friday and Saturday, we will be serving a buffet lunch catered by the hotel in the hotel restaurant.

1						5		
5				8	9			
	4				6			
	7	8				4		
				2	4			
	5					3		9
6	1							
			8	1		9	7	
			9				5	

Sudoku 1

Hard Sudoku

Sudoku 2

1	5				6			
		3			9			
	4						5	
8						1		
		9						3
5				4	1		6	
		2					4	
					5			2
				7			3	

Answers to Puzzle No Peeking!

Sudoku 2 Solution

6	9	5	2	7	4	8	3	1
4	8	1	3	6	5	7	9	2
3	7	2	1	9	8	5	4	6
5	3	7	8	4	1	2	6	9
2	1	9	6	5	7	4	8	3
8	6	4	9	2	3	1	7	5
9	4	6	7	1	2	3	5	8
7	2	3	5	8	9	6	1	4
1	5	8	4	3	6	9	2	7

Sudoku 1 Solution

7	8	2	9	6	3	1	5	4
4	3	5	8	1	2	9	7	6
6	1	9	7	4	5	8	2	3
2	5	4	6	7	8	3	1	9
9	6	1	3	2	4	7	8	5
3	7	8	5	9	1	4	6	2
8	4	3	1	5	6	2	9	7
5	2	7	4	8	9	6	3	1
1	9	6	2	3	7	5	4	8

Puzzle Page ...

Widgets and Gadgets

Joe worked in the customer service department for Gadget, Inc. In one day, he got five customer complaint calls. Each call was from a different customer and each complaint was on a different product. From the clues, identify the full name of each person Joe talked to, the name of each customer's company, the product each customer owned, and the problem each customer had

1. Bill, who didn't work for Simplicity, didn't call about a missing parts problem.
2. George didn't work for Pine or Simplicity. Jake Bally didn't work for Pine and didn't have a Gizmo.
3. Mr. Tate, who didn't have a Widget, worked at Hi-Tech. One customer called because their Dodge-It was damaged.
4. George Mann didn't work for Telcott but he did have a Fetch-It. Harry called because his product was assembled wrong but it wasn't a Gizmo.
5. The five customers are: the customer with a Gizmo, Tim's company, Telcott, Mr. Sikes' company, and the customer with the product that received with the wrong options.
6. Mr. Heart, who didn't work for Pine, called about the Gadget but it wasn't because it was dead on arrival.

Work Space:

Answers to Puzzle:

First Name	Last Name	Company	Product	Problem
Bill	Tate	Hi-Tech	Gizmo	dead on arrival
George	Mann	Hardwell	Fetch-It	wrong options
Harry	Sikes	Pine	Widget	assembled wrong
Jake	Bally	Telcott	Dodge-It	damaged
Tim	Heart	Simplicity	Gadget	missing parts

The roundest knight at king Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference.

What is the difference between a nicely dressed man on a tricycle and a poorly dressed man on a bicycle? A tire.

A small boy swallowed some coins and was taken to a hospital. When his grandmother telephoned to ask how he was a nurse said 'No change yet'.

I once heard a joke about amnesia, but I forgot how it goes.

Police were called to a daycare where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

Is old rope good enough for a hanging? Frayed knot. That stuff is bad noose.

A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two-tired.

My friend's bakery burned down last night. Now his business is toast.

I knew a woman who owned a taser, man was she stunning!

Need an ark to save two of every animal? I noah guy.

The other day I held the door open for a clown. I thought it was a nice jester.

When Peter Pan punches, they Neverland.

The girl quit her job at the doughnut factory because she was fed up with the hole business.

I went to the dentist without lunch, and he gave me a plate.

There was once a cross-eyed teacher who couldn't control his pupils.

I was going to look for my missing watch, but I could never find the time.

The man who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now a seasoned veteran.

To write with a broken pencil is pointless.

Atheists don't solve exponential equations because they don't believe in higher powers.

It was an emotional wedding. Even the cake was in tiers.

Never discuss infinity with a mathematician, they can go on about it forever.

I used to have a fear of hurdles, but I got over it.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. Really it was just a play on words.

There was a sign on the lawn at a drug re-hab center that said 'Keep off the Grass'.

The butcher backed up into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work.

Atheism is a non-prophet organization.

Pun-ishment!



George Jacobs writes:

At the age of 26, I was sleeping in cars or wherever I could. No permanent residence, no friends, no money, no place to go. I am a compulsive gambler. I spent 2 years staying with a friend and sleeping on his couch. I was estranged from my family, stole credit cards, checks and money. At the end, I would cash winning tickets at the track for strangers and accept the tax liability. 32 years ago I joined Gamblers Anonymous and have not gambled since. I have a pretty nice life today but never forget where I came from. There are meetings every week and I go regularly. Because I choose to speak about this, many bridge players and directors have gotten help for their own problems. That makes me so proud.

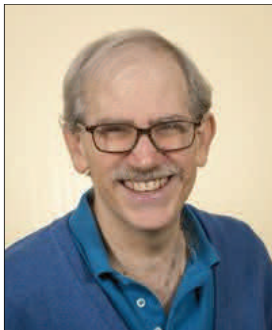
In 1992, I was named Entrepreneur of the Year for Illinois. This was an Academy Award type of production and I was shocked that I won. They ask you to give a speech in front of thousands of people. I started out by saying that I had lots of experience with speaking but it usually went like this: "My name is George J. and I am a compulsive gambler." The tribune carried a feature titled; "Ex gambler wins award."

If you are looking for bridge history, I have won five majors, three Reisinger seconds, won the Trials once with two seconds, four other national titles. I was captain of the Olympic team in Salt Lake City, played in the China Cup twice, played in the IOC Olympic showcase in Lausanne.

I have a bronze medal in the Olympiad and I own three records in bridge:1) the 21 1/2 in the final of the national BAM for 82.69%; 2) the largest national pair game score in history at 78.31%; 3) the largest lead ever lost in the Spingold semifinal of 71imps. I have been the auctioneer for the Cavendish and a Vugraph commentator at both live and on-line Vugraphs and once MC'd the Hall of Fame dinner.

And George's greatest success was marrying Stacy with whom he shares two beautiful daughters, Joanna and Kate.

Meet the Players



Chip Martel is a retired Professor of Computer Science at the University of California, Davis. A World Grand Master, Chip has won six world championships and placed second three times.

He has won 30 North American championships and has won the U.S. Bridge Championships 5 times, most of these in partnership with Lew Stansby. Chip also has an outstanding record with other partners, including wife Jan. Chip was elected to the ACBL Hall of Fame in 2014.

Chip is chair of the ACBL Laws Commission...

And his greatest achievement was marrying the amazing Jan!

Eric V. Rodwell was born in 1957 in West Lafayette, Indiana and now lives in Florida with his wife Donna and Eric's two children from his first marriage.

A professional player and writer, Eric is the main creator of the vaunted "R-M Precision" system, and has invented many popular bidding treatments, including Support Doubles. Eric is constantly tinkering with their system, looking for the elusive perfection in constructive bidding to mesh with their trademark ultra-aggressive style.

In addition to his many successes with Jeff, Eric also won the 1988 Staten Bank tournament (with Zia Mahmood), the Icelandic Pairs and Teams and the Pan-American Open Pairs, all in 1992, the Notrump Challenge Match in 1993, and the 2000 Cavendish Invitational Pairs (with Marty Fleisher).



A graduate of Purdue University, Eric is an accomplished pianist and enjoys composing music for relaxation. Ragtime is a special favorite. He has also co-authored a number of books and is a major contributor to the ACBL Teaching Series authored by Audrey Grant.