



December 28, 2020, will be the 120th birthday of Mark Filippovich Gordian and April 13, 2021, will be the 60th anniversary of his death.

One of the themes that he paid particular attention to was cross double checks. The theme cannot be implemented without using fairy pieces. In his problems presenting this theme, Mark Gordian used Grasshoppers, Nightriders and Nightriderhoppers. His article on cross double checks was published in *Fairy Chess Review* in 1939. An extended chessboard was used in nearly all problems by Mark Gordian showing this theme, including the composition that was awarded the Gold Medal in the 1st FIDE Tournament.

A theme tourney is announced to honor the memory of Mark Gordian.

Mark Gordian – 120 (60) MT

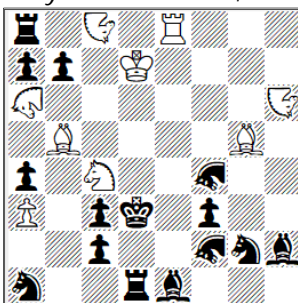
Theme: Threemovers with cross double checks. The following fairy pieces are allowed: Nightrider, Rose, Grasshopper, Nightriderhopper, Rosehopper, Leo, Pao, Vao, Mao, Moa. Only the standard (8x8) chessboard can be used.

Judge: Yuri Gordian. Entries are to be sent before **April 13, 2021**, to the judge: yury.gordian@gmail.com.

Example:

Mark Gordian

Fairy Chess Review, 1939



3#

9+15

 Nightrider  Nightriderhopper

1.Kd7-d6! - 2.Nh6-f7+ Kd3-d4 3.Bg5-f6#

1...NHf4-b2++ 2.Sc4-e5++ Kd3-e4++ 3.Kd6-c5++ and mate.

1...c2-c1~ 2.Sc4-e3+ Kd3-d2 3.Nh6-g8#

This is the only well-known problem presenting this theme on the standard board. However, it only has a single thematic line of play.