

KIBITZER

Louisiana Bridge Association April 1, 2024

Editor – Diana Powell with help from Sherrie Goodman and
Jim Thornton email: dspowell10@gmail.com

President's Message:

We are pleased to report that **Deborah Skorlich** has agreed to continue to assist in finding partners, albeit in a more limited capacity, so that she can spend more time with family. Deborah has been helping our members find partners for many years now and has done a terrific job in matching our players for games at the club. She has done a yeoman's job. The board will discuss how we can best provide additional support and/or make changes to meet this need going forward.

Welcome Wednesdays were well-attended. We will continue to have an Open Wednesday game at 10:30 AM as long as attendance warrants. Regular price, no free food!

The Derby Day Tournament will be held May 2-4. Please note that the Schedule has been modified to have Swiss Teams on Thursday and Pairs Events on Saturday so more players can enjoy the hat contest, drinks, race, etc. on Derby Day Saturday. Welcome to Spring!

Keenan Romig

At the LBA Face-to-Face Club:

April is my favorite month. I love all the flowering plants and trees (and increasing allergies.....stay home if you have sniffles, please!) It feels like a fresh start. Thanks to Louise Saik and her efforts to bring back our Wednesday game. Let's make this a fresh start and all support this special game.

The mentoring Swiss was a tremendous success thanks to Lil Range & her incredible committee. This game is important for many reasons. Socially, we get the chance to mix with all players in the club. The education that happens during this game is invaluable to our newer players. But hopefully, we are all getting better at playingimps, a very important part of duplicate bridge. We will continue having this game quarterly, so I hope you will all play next time.

This is Charity month at the club. The games not only support ACBL's Charity Foundation, but we get to support a local charity with every other game. On Wednesday, April 24, there is an ACBL-wide Charity Game with a chance at some hefty overall points. We will have 5 days of Stardust week at our club. This is what you've been waiting for.....**Gold Points**!. All games on April 22-23 & April 25-27 will award $\frac{1}{4}$ Gold points and $\frac{3}{4}$ black. Play often!

At the Online Club:

At the virtual club, April 7-13 will be Charity games with double points @ \$6. Sunday, April 14 is another popup game with $\frac{1}{2}$ Red and $\frac{1}{2}$ black MPs. Last but not least, April 22-28 will be online Stardust week with $\frac{1}{4}$ Gold and $\frac{3}{4}$ black MPs. @ \$6. I hope you will all win some of these gold points.

Sherrie Goodman, Club Manager-(504-329-7411)

ENTRIES – CARTOON CAPTION CONTEST #2

My dog confuses
“kibitz” with
“kibble bits.”!
Terry Habig

"Lassie, dog-gone it--help me--
wag your tail if I should open 2
NT."

Hunter McFadden

"Should I woof this in
my hand or on the
board?"
Mimi Groome

"Ruff!" Janet Genusa

"Are you absolutely
sure 2 Clubs is the
right bid?"
Kathy Plauche



"HELP! If I bid the
wrong thing, she'll
have me moving in
with you!"
Margaret Shirer

"But you can't ruff
in no trump."
Jennifer Holmes

"Fido, did you just
say “ruff” ...that Ace
of club?"
Ray Nolan

"If I get this bid
response wrong I'm
gonna need your dog
house!"
Ray Nolan

"No. Those are not
paw prints. They are
called CLUBS."
Kathy Plauche

"Oral control cue bids
do not require canine
consent."
Ellis Murov

THE WINNER - CARTOON CAPTION CONTEST #2



WINNER



Kathy Plauche

(Many thanks to Mike Russell and Janice Jazulak for judging the contest.)

A REAL TEAM EFFORT

By Diana Powell

What made the Eight is Enough Swiss Mentoring Game run so smoothly? One key: weeks before the game **Lil Range** asked a number of players to be a “cornerstone” for a team. I understood this to be like a team captain/organizer. I agreed to be a cornerstone but needed two newer players to make a team. She sent me two names and we had a team. **Deborah Skorlich** and **Sherrie Goodman** worked very hard to help put teams together as well. (32 teams-WOW!)

Linda Freese helped Lil with the planning. Having lunch before the game helped get things moving. Although lunch was at 11:30, a lot of people arrived early and registered their teams. **Jennifer Holmes** looked for the cornerstones to let them know they were the ones to register for the team. Each cornerstone received an envelope with name tags for his/her team. There was never a long line or a feeling of being rushed. Lunch went smoothly thanks to several **volunteers**. There was a little extra time after lunch to allow teams who missed lunch to register.

Sherrie Goodman and **Kathy Plauche** assisted **Lil** throughout the game and **Theresa Federico** worked hard as the caddy. The game got off to a quick start because **Theresa** premade the boards for the 1st round (no need to shuffle.) **Jennifer Holmes** added interest to the day announcing the winners of the limerick contest. To eliminate the usual confusion of trying to find your next table, the North/South players stayed at their original tables; the East/West pairs moved after each round. It was calm – no chaos.

My partner and I agreed that we thoroughly enjoyed the day. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to make the event such a success.

THE WINNING TEAM



Gigi Matthews, Margaret Ponseti, Erin O' Sullivan, and Louse Saik

LIMERICK WINNERS



1ST PLACE

Our opponent's temper was boiling
She was mean and quite controlling
To keep her in her place
I said to her face
"Maybe you need to take up bowling."

By Beth Bayer



2ND PLACE

As I sit at the Bridge table,
I feel sharp and fit and able,
Til my pard bids a convention
That he forgot to mention,
Now, I'm feeling quite unstable!

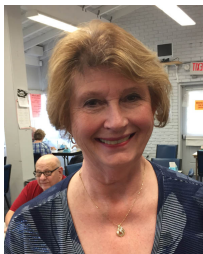
By Margaret Shirer



3RD PLACE

There was a director named Wayne
Who acquired a taste for champagne.
He loved to dance
Took quite a chance
And now lives in a castle in Spain.

By Mary Belcher



3RD PLACE

His points were high and real
Kings and Aces from the deal
But to make the bid
Two losers to rid
So a pair of tricks he must steal

By Mike Russell



(Many thanks to Jennifer Holmes for organizing the contest.)

NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

At The Club

April 1-6 Charity Fund Games (Sat. game included)

April 15-20 Charity Fund Games (Sat. game included)

April 24: ACBL-wide Charity Game

April 22-23, 25-27: Stardust Week ($\frac{1}{4}$ **Gold** and $\frac{3}{4}$ Black pts.) (Sat. game included)

At The Virtual Club

April 7-13: Charity games (2x pts.@\$6)

April 14: Popup game ($\frac{1}{2}$ **Red** and $\frac{1}{2}$ Black pts.)

April 22-28: Stardust Week ($\frac{1}{4}$ **Gold** and $\frac{3}{4}$ Black pts.)

Playing Online?

If you are an online player through Bridgebase.com (BBO), we encourage you to play in games run by our virtual club (vacb221739 LBA/LBC/ET AL) rather than in an ACBL game. Why? Our virtual club includes many District 10 clubs. Most important, we net nearly half of the \$5 entry fee as profit for our club. In addition, the masterpoints earned are **Black** points unless it is a special game which awards **red, silver or gold** master points.

Although the ACBL games are slightly cheaper, LBA does not get a single penny of that entry fee. Also, only **colorless** masterpoints are awarded which do not fulfill any required color points for Life Master levels.

So, if you would like to see LBA keep their doors open, please play either face to face at the club, in our virtual club games on BBO, or both. Bookmark this link for online games which appear 2 hours prior to the games:

<https://www.bridgebase.com/v3/app?cmd=tourneyList&style=h:vacb221739>

Sherrie Goodman

IN MEMORIAM



John Sitton

(Lil Range's son)

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IN MEMORIAM



Gerri Abbott

NEWS

The Chat Game is Back!

Monday April 8th 1:30 – 3:30

The Chat game this quarter is April 8th at 1:30 PM. This no-fee game is structured for players who have recently begun playing duplicate (0-50 points) as well as those with some bridge experience who are looking to get back into the game or are interested in becoming more familiar with duplicate play.

The game will be played in a relaxed, casual style with knowledgeable players circulating and available to assist throughout the game. Invite a partner or let us know if we can assist you in finding one. Email Sue Guarisco at sueguarisco@gmail.com or call Sue at 504-832-3074 with questions and to register

Sue Guarisco

THE WEDNESDAY OPEN GAME

Thanks to all the participants in our Welcome Wednesdays open game in March. It was wonderful to have bridge players of different levels playing together, learning from each other, which is important for the long-term success of the club. We had an average of 8 tables/ Wednesday. Going forward the Wednesday open game will continue- same time (10:30) (but without the discounted price)—I encourage bridge players of all levels to play.

Thanks to all who helped—Sherrie (fabulous lunch as well as support and ideas), Keenan Romig (board president), Kathy Plauche (poster production), Debbie Skorlich (partnership help), Susan Gibbons (cookies), Diana Powell (Kibitzer), Mary Belcher(website help) and others including Sue Guarisco, Erin Fleming, Jennifer Holmes (beautiful flowers), Wayne Weisler and Iype Koshy (both wonderful directors), Judy Katz, Jean Talbot, and John Federico for their hand reviews, and anyone else I forgot, for their help and support. “It takes a village to raise a child.” And this effort was no different - our wonderful bridge club united together to rejuvenate the Wednesday open game.

Louise Saik

ACHIEVEMENTS

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

Junior Masters: Robert Herbert

Club Masters: Joseph Bourgeois, Wanda Brazile, Mary Healey

Sectional Masters: Beth Bayer

Regional Masters: Lynne Peterson

Bronze Life Masters: Steve Plotkin

Ruby Life Masters: Henry Bodenheimer, Mary LeBlanc, Molly Silvia

BRONZE LIFE MASTER



Steve Plotkin

RUBY LIFE MASTER



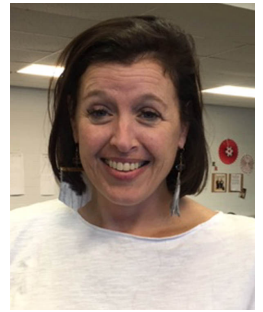
Henry Bodenheimer

RUBY LIFE MASTER



Mary LeBlanc

RUBY LIFE MASTER



Molly Silvia

BARRY CRANE TOP 500 CONGRATULATIONS!

#284 (505 Points)



Jean Talbot

#304 (492 Points)



Judy Katz

#420 (433 Points)



Larry Federico

70 % GAMES
February 27 – March 27

2/26	Open Club	Larry Federico, Kathy Logue	74.96%
3/9	Open	Jean Talbot, Dee Moses	70.83%
3/11	199 Club	Doug Matthews, Wayne Cooper	71.67%
3/14	199 Club	Diana Lewis, Amy Babich	72.50%
3/14	Open	Doug De Montluzin, Carl Merlin	76.19%
3/14	Open Swiss	Nelson Daigle, Daisy Vandenburg, David Woods, Colleen Walker	74.00%
3/18	Open Club	Jerry Stumpf, Jean Talbot	70.00%
3/21	Circle Club	Mike Russel, Robert Hebert	70.83%
3/26	Open	Doug De Montluzin, Carl Merlin	70.12%

Jim Thornton