

KIBITZER ♣♦♥♠

Louisiana Bridge Association July 2019

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President's Message July 2019

SUCCESS! Kudos to all our members. You make our club successful and a great place to be. Thank You!

Our first Non Life Masters Regional Tournament was a huge success and thanks to **Jim Thornton, Diana Powell** and their team for a job well done. I hear that Jim and Diana are ready to host the next tournament in two years. The Times Picayune had an article with pictures about our tournament. Thanks **Philip**. The Article is posted on our Bulletin Board.

To **Steve Romig** and **Sherrie Goodman** and their **Alzheimer's** team; Friday's game was well attended, and I know we will hear more about their success soon. (in fact see report below) .So happy that our club sponsored your efforts for this debilitating disease.

Taking the joy of BRIDGE to members who are HOMEBOUND. Contact **Quin Bates** or **Mary Madison**.

COMING SOON Carpet and accessories. WOW! Wonderful things are happening. Thank you !

Carolyn Dubois

July Events

*= extra points, no extra fees

**=extra points, extra fees

Jul 2 NAOP Qualifier** Tues

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Jul 4 Unit Championship* Thurs

Jul 8 ACBL-wide Instant MP** **Mon NOON**

Jul 18-21 Wes Busby Sectional Thurs-Sun

Jul 31 NAOP Qualifier** Wed

Jul 31-Aug 3 Lake Charles I/N Regional
Wed thru Sat

Jul 31-Aug 3 Lake Charles Sect Wed-Sat

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Wayne Delarge, Carol Jambon, Toni Nadler, Kay Williams

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Joy Arceneaux, Lorraine Rabito, William Varney

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS

Gregory Browne, Jennifer Holmes, Shirley Mirambell, Debbie Reily, Renee Spratt

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Mary Dorsey, Myra Menville

NEW NABC MASTER

Carolyn Trapp

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Fred Lay

NEW SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTER

Doug DeMontluzin

Longest Day Report

Thanks to the efforts of our committee, the LBA board, volunteer directors and our members who played and contributed financially, our club was able to hold a successful fund-raising event supporting Alzheimer's' research. As our last game ended on the 21st, a total of \$11,425 had been raised. With expenses totaling \$605, a net of \$10,820 will be submitted to the Alzheimer's' Association.

Our **committee members** included ticket salespersons **Sarah Pasternak, Janice Zazulak, Steve Romig, Sherrie Goodman, Susan Beoubay** and **Mary Belcher**. **Congratulations to raffle winner Suzanne Baer!** **Suzanne has generously offered to donate her Free Play back to the club.**

Committee members: **Cathy Alford** handled club decorations (great flowers) and food donations were secured by **Maryann Joyner** and **Diana Powell**. **Mary Belcher** and **Roxanne Estrada** provided salad and spinach Madeline. Food donors included **Michael Joyner Catering, Papa John's Pizza, Maurice's French Pastries, Cansecos, and Martin's Wine Cellar**. **Please patronize our food donors!**

Directors for the event— **Wayne Weisler, Jennie Sauviac, "Lowen" Lowenstein, Sue Himel, Sherrie Goodman, Kathy Logue, Don Daigle, Suzanne Cliffe** and **Jack Lewis** donated their time to run our many games.

Major gifts totaling **\$2,000** were received from **Jane Goldring** and **Ann and Price Crane**.

I enjoyed participating in this wonderful event. Our club members, directors, committee members and vendors all deserve a great deal of thanks for this significant contribution in the fight against Alzheimers.

Steve Romig, Longest Day Chair

In Memoriam
Norma Phillips

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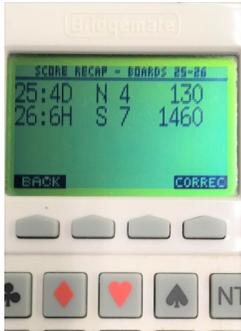
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DIREKTORS COLUMN

DIREKTOR IN CHARGE: RULE RULESKI

TOPIC: YOU HAVE THE POWER!

Ordinarily I reserve this space to regale you with mundane observations on bridge laws when my opportunity arises. I am departing from that theme to make everyone aware of a little used (by players) option on the bridgemates. The bridgemate software has an option for score correction by the players. When looking at a bridgemate, there are four narrow buttons just under the screen display and above the larger numerical buttons.



The narrow button to the far right will have "scores" displayed above it on the screen during a current round. When you press this button, the scores for the current round appear and the option above the button displayed on the screen changes to "CORREC." (see picture at left.) When you press the button again, the display will ask you which board you want to correct. You enter the board number, press "OK" and voila! The board is deleted. You may now reenter the correct contract and result for that board. You may only delete and correct board information for the current round. The idea being that the affected E/W will be there to observe what you are doing for the boards they played with you and ensure nothing nefarious occurs. Of course, this presumes an observant E/W in all cases. So, you are no longer obliged to call an irritable director like Mr. Kranky or Big Foot and have them publicly flog you for getting a score wrong on a board as long as you recognize the error during the current round. The director must still be called for board corrections for previously completed rounds. This should be a much better solution for both players and directors.

70 percent games

Open

Jun 20 Jamie Bush & John Onstott 71.15%

Longest Day

Jun 21 Terry Habig & Debby Habig 70.83%;
Kathy Gilmore & Barbara Fitz-Hugh 71.67%;
Sherrie Goodman & Carol Bagalman 74.67%;
Martha Robson & Cecile Ruiz 70%

299er

Jun 23 Kathy Gilmore & Myra Menville 70%

Wednesday Grand Slam Jackpots

Jun 12 Joan Van Geffen & Judy Katz; Iype Koshy & Doris Agin; Greg Browne & Philip Luchsinger; Mary LeBlanc & Suzanne Wooderson; Bill Gentry & Jean Faia; Doug DeMontluzin & Bill Geary

Jun 19 Ronald Ocmund & Mike Russell; Philip Luchsinger & Judith Luchsinger; Jim Thornton & Beth Todd; Linda Freese & Jean Talbot; Price Crane & Ann Crane; David Woods & Mark Greensfelder; Juanita Heidingsfelder & Jacob Karno

Jun 26 Dianne Butler & Susan Beoubay; Sherrie Goodman & Carol Bagalman

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH Low and middle level spot cards can add to the offensive strength of a hand by providing length in a suit headed by appropriate high honor cards. Only rarely do they take tricks themselves but they can occasionally create a favorable finesse position. Hand #7 in the club game of January 3rd, 2019 was such an instance (see diagram at left.)

N	♠J1092	
	♥J102	
	♦Q543	
	♣86	
W	♠AK754	E ♠6
	♥98	♥AQ763
	♦AK92	♦7
	♣94	♣AKQJ73
	S ♠Q83	
	♥K64	
	♦JT86	
	♣T52	
All vul, dealer South		

I sat West and opened a routine 1S after South's pass, with no opposing bidding throughout. Our auction continued smoothly and simply, revealing suit lengths and increasing values, 1S-2C (game force)-2D-2H-2S (no heart stopper, nothing further to add)-3H(heart length and strength)-3NT (nothing to add)-6NT (final bid and contract). North's safest and obvious opening lead was the ♠J from his spade sequence. Dummy revealed that I had only two entries to my hand. I quickly counted that we held only eleven top tricks. The sole apparent source of a twelfth trick was the heart suit, in which we jointly held the ♥98 of hearts opposite ♥AQ753. The obvious heart finesse position of ♥AQ provided a tempting 50/50% chance of a finesse producing the necessary twelfth trick. But not so fast, I told myself, with another look. That ♥98 opposite the ♥AQ763 generates a limited percentage safety play position. Lead the ♥9 and let it ride if not covered, thereby protecting not only against North holding ♥KJ10, ♥KJ, or ♥K10 but also against North holding ♥J10 with the ♥K offside. The risk of taking this safety play was that even if I cashed both AK's in my hand after the first unsuccessful finesse (because I could not thereafter get back to my hand), I would likely go down more than one if the second finesse also failed, a clear matchpoint disaster, as I did have eleven tricks for down only one if an immediate finesse of the Queen against the King lost. After a moment of thought I decided to play as if I were playing rubber bridge or IMPs, at which the main bridge idea would be to take the best play to make the contract even if doing so exposed us to an extra down trick(s). So I led the ♥9, closed my eyes and let it ride. When I heard North grumble a soft "lucky you" comment, I opened my eyes to see South somewhat reluctantly taking the trick with the ♥K. Taking the against the odds safety play had revealed the most favorable holding of ♥J10 inside in the North hand. We took twelve tricks after losing the one "King" trick to the opponents. **Numerical Addendum:** Immediately finessing the queen provides a 50% chance of success for the slam. But running the ♥9 first—although flirting with matchpoint disaster— adds an extra success chance of 13%, and on today's actual layout that extra chance was critical.

Good Ole Common Sense by Arnaldo Partesotti

Playing competitive bridge, you better have a good bidding system and agreed conventions and carding, with your trusted partner. All of this is very important, particularly if you are exploring bidding games and slams. In the end, nothing beats good ole common sense in making winning decisions at the table. Here are two examples:

North V	
♠43	
♥A42	
♦KQ65	
♣JT54	
West V	East V
♠Q86	♠72
♥KQT6	♥98753
♦J983	♦72
♣83	♣Q972
South VD	
♠AKJT95	
♥J	
♦AT4	
♣AK6	

At left is the first hand (rotated for convenience). You are North and get your average hand out of the traveler, and with average I mean "really average":10 HCP, one Ace, one King, one Queen, one Jack and one Ten, 2-3-4-4 distribution, what could be more average than this! You are pleasantly surprised when partner opens 2C, you respond 2D "waiting", Partner bids 2S and you jump to 3NT, showing good values, stoppers in the other 3 suits, and no support for Spades. Partner hesitates a moment and bids 4S. You now know that Partner can handle Spades on his own and you would like to bid slam, and check for Aces first, just in case two are missing, but you are afraid that if you bid 4NT Partner will take it as "quantitative" or "to play", since you bid 3NT, so you bid 6S, the **good ole common sense bid**. This is an excellent

slam: 75% to start if one of two finesses works (♠Q and ♣Q) and, additionally, if the remaining Diamonds split 3-3 (36%), South could pitch the six of Clubs on the fourth Diamond and will not even need the Club finesse, a total chance of success of about 84%. There is nothing to the play: win the Heart lead, enter dummy with a Diamond and try the Spade finesse. When it loses win any return, pull trumps, play on Diamonds to check if the rest is 3-3 and, when they are not, take the winning Club finesse and claim. Incredibly, only 4 pairs out of 17 bid this slam, and we had a near top.

North V	
♠KQJ6543	
♥void	
♦AKT94	
♣9	
West V	East VD
♠AT7	♠void
♥KT952	♥QJ63
♦65	♦Q82
♣A3	♣KQT742
South V	
♠982	
♥874	
♦J73	
♣J865	

At left is the second hand, against the same pair. I held the "dream" North hand, which should make 4S on its own, with no help from partner. After East and South pass, West opens 1H, I bid 1S, East bids 2C (Drury? I do not think so), South passes and West bids 2H. It is clear that all the remaining HCP's are with East-West, and there is no point in showing "them" my Diamonds, so I bid 4S. East jumps to 6H, and the bidding comes back to me. Obviously East is not concerned about a Spade lead, and I have a reasonable expectation, based on the bidding, that the two top Diamonds will cash, so I pass, the **good ole common sense bid**. Yes, I could double, but if West has a singleton Diamond I would give them a top. After I cash the two top Diamonds, the end result is 12.5 points in our favor, out of a total 16 available.

As a side observation, I love the 6H "three-way" bid by East. First, it could make, particularly on a Spade lead. Second, it could push us into a 6S phantom save and, third, it could be a good save if we can make 5S (we can only make four, losing two aces and a Diamond).

Gulfport Sectional firsts

Fri AM Open John Onstott & Jamie Bush

Fri PM Open Chuck Pitard & Allan Siebert; Robert Reich & Buddy Massey Flt B

Sat AM Open Robert Reich & Buddy Massey Flt B

Sun Swiss 1 Chuck Pitard-Allan Siebert-Jay Segarra-Walter Lewis

STAC MULTI-SITE FIRSTS

Tues AM Open Leslie Kolb & Connie Caffery Flt B

Thurs AM Open Frank Corredine & Barry Norman

Thurs Aft 499er Meryl Rosenbloom & Glenn Barnett Flt B

Fri AM Open Connie Caffery & Lawayne Eberhart Flt B

Fri Aft Open JF Lowenstein & Eleanor Onstott

Fri Aft 499er Greg Browne & Myra Menville

NEW MEMBERS

Linda Jackson, Lynn Lightfoot, Stephanie Mack, Pamela Ortiz, Marjory Palkama, Leslie Stentz, Virginia Thibaut

Metairie Non Life Master Regional firsts

Thurs AM side Steven Plotkin & Mike Russell; Curtis Castle & Carol Castle Flt B; Gail Duffy & Carolyn Herre Flt C

Thurs PM side Marlene Swain & Mary Reyner; Quin Bates & Michael Schlosser Flt C

Thurs Pairs (2 sessions) Gregory Andrews & James Sells; Janet Daniel & Elaine Frisbie Flt C

Fri AM Side Barbara Pyburn & Dianne Butler; Barbara Claiborne & Rayne Lykes Flt B; Phillip Russo & Peck Hayne Flt C

Fri PM Side Marlene Swain & Mary Reyner

Fri Pairs (2 sessions) Cily Winkeler & Lilian Kirshbom; Loretta Martin & Charlotte Frattini Flt B; Janet Daniel & Peck Hayne Flt C

Sat AM side Erin O'Sullivan Fleming & Gigi Matthews; Jennifer Holmes & Newt Jackson Flt C

Sat PM Side Marlene Swain & Mary Reyner; Elizabeth Sewell & William Sewell Flt B

Sat Pairs (2 sessions) Loretta Martin & Charlotte Frattini **tie with** Jayne Anderson & Cindy Barksdale for Flts A and B. Anderson-Barksdale win Flt C outright

Morning sides overall winner Barbara Claiborne

Afternoon sides overall winners (tied) Mary Reyner & Marlene Swain

Sunday Swiss Gregory Andrews-James Sells-Cynthia Marks-David Newell; Lucinda Stentz-Renee Spratt-Loretta Martin-Charlotte Frattini tied with Brookie Walker-Charlotte Ewing-Leslie Mikell-Lou Ann Monceaux for Flt C