

Louisiana Bridge Association July 2016

Editor John Liukkonen email: jrdbl@cox.net

President's Message July 2016

I want to thank everyone involved in making our longest day games a huge success. The organizers, the volunteer directors, the contributors and the players all did a great job. The evening's entertainment left me speechless. The longest day of the year is usually June 21st but it does vary a bit and 2016 is one of those years. The summer solstice occurred at 5:34 p.m. central daylight time on June 20th so our longest day games were really on the longest day.

The mentoring game on June 29th is (was?) a team game and helpful literature was distributed in advance to newer players. I hope that players in the mentoring team game will consider playing in the team game in our Wes Busby Tournament. The tournament will be played from July 7th to July 10th and the team game is on Sunday July 10th. It's not intimidating and nearly everyone wins some silver points. There will be a sign up sheet for the team game near our entrance doors. Signing up is requested but not mandatory. It helps us order the appropriate amount of food. Food (or cash) donations for the tournament are always welcome. There will be sign up sheets for donations too. Idell Adams and I are chairing this tournament.

There will be an upgraded club championship game on Independence Day. Come wearing your red, white and blue. As usual the club will be providing hot dogs and accoutrements. (Thank God for spell check). The club will provide a cake but we rely on members for other dishes and desserts.

Early in July we will be distributing director evaluation forms to our members. These should be completed anonymously and placed in the special locked box that will be provided. The purpose of these forms is to help our directors do a better job. Please submit only constructive comments.

Larry Federico

July Events

Jul 4 - Upgraded Club Championship** Mon AM

Jul 4 – NAOP Qualifier* Mon Night \$7

Jul 7-10 Metairie Sectional Thurs-Sun

Jul 17 NAOP Qualifier* Sun \$7

July 20-31 Washington DC NABC

Wed to following Sun

Jul 26 NAOP Qualifier* TuesAM \$7

Jul 28 Unit Championship** Thurs noon

* = extra points

** = extra points, no extra fee

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Richard Lambert

In Memoriam

Maurice Geisel

PLAY NICE

Gulfport Sectional firsts

Sat AM Open Pairs Susan Gibbens & Suzanne Baer

Sat PM Open Pairs Chuck Pitard & Iype Koshy

Sun Swiss Paul Deal-Jan Galey-Iype Koshy-Chuck Pitard

Baton Rouge Sectional firsts

Thurs AM Open Pairs Iype Koshy & Fred Woodruff

Fri AM Open Pairs John Onstott & Bob Bowers

Sat AM Open Pairs Iype Koshy & Jamie Bush

Sat PM Open Pairs Idell Adams & Larry Federico

Sun Swiss JF Lowenstein-Jean Talbot-Jay Segarra-

Allan Siebert; Cindy Lewis-Gail Fayard-Peggy McCranie

-Audrey Cerise Flt B

70 pct games

Open Pairs Gail Fayard & Ray Gandolfi 71.73% Jun 16

Thurs eve fast pairs

Longest Day various: see p.2.

Grand Slams

Jun 1 Bummy Rosenfield & John Liukkonen

Jun 8 Bummy Rosenfield & Lillian Range

Stac Firsts

Monday AM 299er Elizabeth Cordes & Barbara Fitz-Hugh Flt B

Tues AM 299er Margaret Shirer & Maryann Joyner--Myra Groome & Diana Powell (tie)

Tues Eve Open Nancy Gates & Helen St. Romain Flt B

Thurs AM 0-30 Quin Bates & Dabney Jacob; Clay Hunley & Guy Cook Flt C

Thurs Aft 0-300 Bernie Vanderlinden & Margaret Shirer; Barbara Claiborne & Evelyn DeLaureal Flt C

Fri AM 99er Raynell Bourgeois & Ronald Omond; Dabney Jacob & Quin Bates Flt C

Fri Aft 499er Susan Martin & Janice Zazulak; Bernie Vanderlinden & Ronald Omond Flt C

Sun Aft Open Jean Talbot & JF Lowenstein

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Quin Bates, Meryl Rosenbloom

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Lloyd Armstrong, James Pellerin

NEW SECTIONAL MASTER

Anna Rolling

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Elizabeth Cordes, Lynn Flynn, Robert Whann

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Sherrie Goodman

NEW SILVER LIFE MASTER

Jeffrey Perigoni

NEW RUBY LIFE MASTER

Sid LeBlanc

Longest Day

— see page 4.

Know the Director's Ruling

by Jennie Flynn Sauviac

Card Played Law 45

This is perhaps the most frequent ruling the Director is called upon to make. It is one of the most difficult rulings for players to accept. It makes a difference whether the card being judged is declarer's or a defender's. Declarer's card is played from his hand when it is held face up, touching or nearly touching the table. It is irrelevant whether either or both defenders see the card. If the card is held in a manner to indicate declarer has determined to play it, the card is played. Declarer plays a card from dummy by naming the card, after which dummy picks up the card and faces it on the table. Important--a player may correct the call of a card IF it is inadvertent (i.e. a slip of the tongue) and if there is no pause for thought indicating a desire to change the card called. If frequently occurs that declarer did not call the card that would win the trick, because he was not paying attention and noticed his error and then tried to change his call This is not inadvertent, it is a change of mind, and cannot be allowed.

A defender's card held so that it is possible for partner to see its face must be played to the current trick. Until his partner has played a card, a player may change an unintended designation, that opponent may withdraw the card so played, return it to his hand, and substitute another. As above, not a change of mind, but playing an unintended card.

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH. As one of the players in the Sunday Swiss Team event in a sectional tournament in Gulfport, MS, I was amused by the director opening the proceedings by commanding "There will be no computer produced deals in this event, so shuffle well, deal and play." Imagine my surprise when I followed orders and then immediately picked up ♠void ♥void ♦AKJ9xx ♣KQ1098xx in first seat, not vulnerable versus vulnerable. This was the first time in my long bridge life that I ever held a 7/6 hand at all, much less one with both minor suits. This is the type of hand in which the primary object is to convince the opponents to let you be the declarer, even more so than reaching the theoretical best contract. You need to "buy" the hand, if possible. Serious bidding competition is 100% expected, so a raw bidding display of holding a strong hand with great playing strength is NOT the way to go. One sensible step is to start by bidding as quietly as possible and let your tactics and goal develop as the auction moves along. With those thoughts in mind I opened 1♦, bidding the shorter but higher ranking suit first in order to leave room to introduce the one card longer but lower ranking suit later without having to "reverse." As predicted, the opponents immediately went into action. LHO overcalled 1♥, partner passed and RHO leaped to 4♥, which is in theory a pre-emptive bid but who really knows whether RHO is strong or actually weak, as advertised. I decided that the best way to "buy" the hand was to "walk the dog," an expression which means to raise the bid slowly, a step at a time, in order to create the illusion that you do not hold a powerhouse. So I bid a "quiet" 5♣, expecting LHO to step on my bid by competing to 5♥, over which I would bid again, giving the illusion that I was saving against opponents' vulnerable game. But "no," LHO passed quickly, leading me to believe that my tactics had been poor and that I was about to be left stuck in 5♣. But "no" again. My partner, bless her heart, took a preference to 5♦, thereby giving me another shot at bidding a slam, my goal from the beginning if the bidding developed favorably for our side. I was filled with joy when RHO passed, indicating that she indeed did have a "weak" hand, the opponents two unexpected passes confirming that they were reluctant to keep on bidding at such a high level, vulnerable against not vulnerable, apparently in fear of incurring a significant penalty double. Now, rightly or wrongly, I had to "let the cat out of the bag" and bid the slam which I had hoped to be able to bid all along, so ahead I went with a bid of 6♣. Success! Both opponents passed the hand at 6♣. And there I was, standing tall, having happily reached slam, undoubled and filled with hope of success. LHO led the ♥A. Imagine the self satisfaction (continued on p.3)

(Paul's Deal, continued from p 2) when my wonderful partner tabled ♠xxxx ♥xxx ♦985 ♣AJx as she commented "That's the craziest bidding I've heard in years, so maybe I should have bid 7♣." Scary, isn't it, to think that she might have bid 7♣ when I thought that I was being so very clever by "sneaking" into a makeable small slam. Taking a moment to select the best line of play, I ruffed the ♥A, cashed one high club in my hand and then the ♦A in case all four missing diamonds were in one hand but "onside" with no ruff available. When both opponents followed to the ace of diamonds I removed the one outstanding trump and claimed the slam, acknowledging that one trick would be lost if the the queen third of diamonds was outstanding. With all of their aces and kings the opponents were able to take only one trick, and that was because LHO held ♦Q10x behind me. My freak hand was cold for either 6♦ or 6♣ but that was the highest makeable level. I'll never know whether I would have dumped or even shot my favorite partner if she had bid her threatened 7♣ but thank goodness that I was not put to the test. And yet that's not the end of the story. When we compared scores at the end of the round and reached this critical board I proudly announced "plus 920." Our other pair quickly jointly replied "lose 10 IMPs!" After I was resuscitated and regained my breath I learned the reason for such a fiasco. It seems that our opponents bid and made 6♣ doubled and redoubled! How brave they were to double and not run when the redouble hit the table. "We stick to our guns and don't run from our doubles," they said, self-excusing their foolish attempt to penalize the opponents, especially considering the fact that 6♥ would have been down only one trick if they had bid to save but possibly even make. But wait! Who knows but that my partner might have bid her threatened 7♣, so that we would have gone down one, a true disaster whether doubled or not. As it was and ended, our opponents won our match and the event, while we came in a distant third. Oh well, despite our disappointing result, again it can be said, "Bridge, what a wonderful game," this time adding proof once more to the historic cliché that "pride goeth before a fall." THE END

Decisions, decisions, decisions... by Arnaldo Partesotti

Many times the bidding is dictated by the hand itself: you have 13 HCP and a semi-balanced hand with 5 spades, you open 1♠. There are no doubts or alternatives (unless you play a weak 1NT, but this is a story for another day.) Other times you have seven hearts and 9 HCP, depending on your partnership agreements, position and vulnerability, you could pass, or open 1♥, or 2♥ or 3♥, or even 4♥. Decisions, decisions, decisions...

This time you get to play both sides of the table, the opponents being always silent. At a recent game you pick up as opener:

♠K3 ♥AJ8542 ♦AK7 ♣AK.

First decision: Do you open 1♥, or do you open 2♣, mainly because you do not want to risk a pass by partner? In my system 2♣ requires 9 winners (4 losers) and this hand does not qualify, having 4 ½ losers, plus what I call a "Swiss cheese" suit (good hand, full-of-holes suit.) If one of the Kings were in hearts you would open 2♣ without even thinking. You decide to open 2♣ anyway.

As responder you hold ♠AJT86 ♥73 ♦J63 ♣T63.

Second decision: Do you respond 2♦ (waiting) or do you respond 2♠? I like 2♠ because it describes the hand immediately. The problem is that you virtually guarantee that you will have no reasonable second bid - as you will see. 2♦ has the advantage of keeping the auction low, and you will always be able to bid spades next. You decide to bid 2♠. Opener now bids 3♥, no problems here, and it is up to you.

Third decision: over 3♥ you have a serious problem. You could bid 4♥ but it promises three small or an honor in support. You could bid 3♠ but now it promises a 6-card suit. Or you could bid 3NT and show pretty much the hand that you have, but where are nine tricks coming from? You decide to bid 3NT.

Fourth decision: You now know that partner has no support for hearts, no 6-card spade suit, and no extra values. Do you pass 3NT, or do you bid 4♥? You decide to pass: your side stoppers are excellent and the spade King should be of great value, complementing partner's hand.

Well, at matchpoints you just guaranteed yourself a zero, the hand makes exactly 3NT but also 4♥ and, almost incredibly, the top is 5♠, which nobody bid. The full hand (rotated, below left):

<p>♠52 ♥KQT6 ♦T5 ♣QJ975</p>	<p>♠K3 ♥AJ8542 ♦AK7 ♣AK</p>	<p>♠Q974 ♥9 ♦Q9842 ♣842</p>
	<p>♠AJT86 ♥73 ♦J63 ♣T63</p>	

Post mortem: All our decisions were wrong! I think the bidding should have simply gone: 1♥ - 1♠ - 4♥ (all pass)

The Longest Day is Long on FUN and FUNDS!!

by **Sherrie Goodman**

A good time was had by all in attendance. The **year of free play** was a big part of our fundraising.....and the winner is.....**Cecile Ruiz!**

The directors and **Theresa** donated their services, the restaurants donated their delicious food, & ACBL is donating all table fees. Even the party bridge group came out to support. Thanks to all who helped to raise money for Alzheimer's research.....especially all the players who came out to spend the Longest Day with us. For those who endured the Longest Day, they received their just rewards. Our late night director **Jack Lewis** became our late night entertainer with his hilarious rendition of Tiny Tim.

Over \$16,000 was raised at our club for Alzheimer's research!

Special thanks.....

Cathy Alford, our Chairperson who took care of everything to make sure we had a beautiful event!

Diana Powell and **Mary Ann Joyner** who got the food donations.

Sharon Henry and **Carol Bagalman** who got the beautiful flower donations and made the club so festive. Our food donors: **Maurice French Pastries, Canseco's Market, Michael Joyner Catering, Jo Ann Silverblatt Catering, Hobnobber Cafe, Martin Wine Cellar, Langenstein's, Zea's Rotisserie & Grill, & Dorignac's Food Center.**

Our food pick-up krewes: **Virginia McMurray, Roxanne Estrada, Audrey Cerise, and Jim Thornton.**

Our lead donor: **Schonberg Memory Care Communities: Vista Shores, Beau Provence, Park Provence & Ashton Manor plus Access Sleep & Wellness Center.**

Our wonderful directors: **Ben McKown, Lil Range, Doug deMontluzin, Suzanne Cliffe, Jennie Sauviac, Linda Freese, Wayne Weisler, & last, but certainly not least, Jack Lewis.**

Our inspirational speaker who reminded us why we were all here, **Eleanor Onstott.**

Our guaranteed partners who made sure there was not a sitout: **Steve Plotkin, Larry Federico, Jim Thornton, Mary Ann Joyner, Janet Patterson, Cathy Alford, Cindy Lewis, John & Theresa Federico and Sherrie Goodman.**

And last, but certainly not least: **Theresa Federico** who kept the endless supply of boards coming, and helped with everything!

Thanks to all of you who came out to support Alzheimer's, purchased raffle tickets, and sent in checks. May we all be blessed with healthy minds so that we never have to experience the Longest Day every day of our lives!

Longest Day firsts & 70% games

8AM Open *Jennie Flynn Sauviac & John Federico;*
Sharon Henry & Carol Bagelman (tie)

9:40 AM Open *Susan Sommer & Jerrilyn Jones*

11:20 AM Open *Larry Federico & Jean Talbot 71.67%*

4PM Open *Jennie Flynn Sauviac & Jim Thornton 70.83%*

6:40PM Open *Vicki Willis & Cindy Lewis*

8:20PM Open *Stephen Kishner & David Bybee 77.78%;*

Ruth Rosenthal & Jean Frank 70.83%

AM 299er C *Sheryl Thompson & Mike Lappa 74.55%*

AM 299er G *Ronald Ocmund & Lloyd Armstrong*

AM 299er F *Hope Read & Susan Guarisco*

2PM 299er *Lynne Peterson & Carolyn Abadie*

4PM 299er *Janice Zazulak & Susan Martin 77.78%*

6:40PM 299er *Molly Sylvia & Elizabeth Cordes 72.92%*