

Louisiana Bridge Association January 2017

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President's Message January 2017

This is my last message as president of the LBA. I want to thank the Board and the membership for allowing me the honor of serving in that capacity.

Our first tournament of the year is scheduled January 5th through January 8th and our annual general membership meeting will be held during the lunch break on January 8th.

The election of new members to the board of directors will be announced at the meeting. Ballot boxes for voting for new members will be available for 30 minutes before and after the open bridge games during the tournament. The last opportunity for voting will be from 9:30AM to 10AM Sunday.

In addition to the candidates running for election the ballot will include an option to vote for either a \$1.00 per person increase in regular table fees or a discontinuance of the snacks we provide every day. The club is experiencing a significant negative cash flow which must be addressed. Our playing fees have not been increased in more than ten years. The board has identified these two options as our best choices for avoiding or minimizing losses in 2017. If we discontinue the snacks we will add at least one high quality snack machine.

In conclusion, I would like to thank outgoing board members Sherrie Goodman, Sid LeBlanc and Fred Lay for their unselfish contribution of time, talent and energy to the club. The term of Wayne Weisler is also over but he is a candidate for reelection.

Larry Federico

January Events

(* = Extra points)

Jan 5-8 Metairie (Rosenblum) Sectional and ELECTIONS. Thurs-Sun

Jan 9 Inter-Club Championship* \$7 Mon AM

Jan 13-15 Jackson Sectional & NAOP District Finals Fri-Sun

Jan 19 Junior Fund Game* \$7 Thurs PM

Jan 23 Unit Championship Mon AM

Jan 30-Feb 5 – STAC Week* \$7 Silver points Mon-Sun

Orlando NABC achievements

Regional level firsts *Nelson Daigle & Geoff Chichester* first in Vero Beach Strat Open; **total of 15.88 points for the tournament**

NABC level event results

Drew Casen 2nd Baze Seniors KO Teams, 5th Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs, 14th North American Swiss Teams; **total of 123 platinum points for the tournament**

Other Unit 134 point winners *Mary Hanni, Ilye Koshy, Shirlann Finch, Bruce Hanni, William McDonald, Jeffrey Juster*

Congratulations to all our Unit 134 participants for representing us so well!

January Elections

As usual our annual elections for Board of Directors take place during our January tournament. This year we finally have a sizeable number of candidates, so your vote means something. There are ten candidates (four to be elected): Lloyd Armstrong, Greg Blum, Drew Casen, Carolyn Dubois, Stephen Kishner, Ellen Lappa, Mary LeBlanc, Diana Powell, Mike Russell, and Wayne Weisler. To help you remember who they are, we have posted their pictures on our website and also on the bulletin board in the clubhouse.

Also on the ballot will be the choice Larry mentioned between increasing playing fees or discontinuing snacks.

Voting will take place before and after each session of our January tournament.

A note to the Editor from Tippi Ellis--

On behalf of the directors, please thank the players for their **patience** when things go wrong. It is much appreciated.

Also in this Kibitzer

P.2—Baton Rouge Firsts, 70 percent games, Grand Slams, Platinum Points, Paul's Deal of Month, New Members, Rank Advancements

P.3—Arnaldo's Egregious Errors

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Susan Glennon, Shirley Mirambell

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS

Nancy Murphy, Nancy Sandidge,
Dottie Stephenson

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Judith Bostwick, Virginia Dabbs, Judy
Pyeatte

NEW NABC MASTERS

Gail Perry, Paul Rosenblum

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Debbie Rothschild

Seventy Percent Games

299er

Nov 29 Steven Plotkin & Janice Zazulak 70.24%

99er

Dec 9 Melanie Thompson & John Treen 72.50%

Dec 16 Meryl Rosenbloom & Glenn Barnett 74.17%

499er

Dec 23 Sandra Freeman & Myra Menville 72.22%

NEW MEMBERS

Patricia Arnold, William Blake III, Carol Castle,
Delia Grandbouche, Karay Klein, Jane Reynolds

Baton Rouge Sectional Firsts

Thurs AM Open Pairs Jacob Karno & Drew
Casen

Thurs PM Open Pairs Idell Adams & Larry
Federico

Fri AM Open Pairs Craig Cordes & John Onstott

Fri PM Open Pairs Irene Labiche & Richard
Golmon Flt C

Sat PM Open Pairs Bob Pettit & Grady Gravel
Flt B

Sun Swiss Flt A Larry Federico-Idell Adams-Bob
Bowers-John Onstott; Vicki Willis-Jack Lewis-
Janice Henderson-Carol Hawley Flt X

Flt B Cindy Lewis-Gail Fayard-Audrey Cerise-
Peggy McCranie

Wednesday Grand Slam Jackpots

Dec 14 Sherrie Goodman & Carol Bagalman

Dec 28 Wayne Weisler & Juanita Heidingsfelder

**The Leader for 2016 Wednesday Grand Slam
Jackpots is Bummy Rosenfield, with SEVEN.**
Juanita Heidingsfelder was second with five.

This competition was set up by Eileen Bagnetto
to honor her late husband Dick, who never
missed a grand slam if he could help it!

Platinum Points and Player of the Year

Player of the Year awards are based on platinum points,
the points earned in national level events at national
NABC tournaments. **Drew Casen** will be **2016 Player of
the Year in District 10**, and is leading the Player of the
Decade race in District 10. With few exceptions these
platinum points have been earned with his favorite
partners John Onstott, Jim Krekorian, and Josh Donn.

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH. The major premise of so called "two over one" bidding is that when partner opens one of a suit and responder bids two of a lower ranking suit, the partnership is forced to game. A minority of pairs play that if responder merely repeats the responded suit at the cheapest level, as for example in an uncontested auction of 1S-2C-2H-3C, the "game force" is released and the partnership may play in a part score. Another major decision to be made is whether the "game force" premise applies in competition. A majority of "two over one" partnerships play that the "game forcing" feature applies if the "two over one" response is made prior to any interference bidding, as in 1S-P-2C-2H-2S-etc but if the interference bidding occurs immediately over the opening bidder, as in 1S-2D-2H-P-2S-P-3H-etc, the responder's bid is not game forcing. In effect, when there is interference immediately over opener, the bidding reverts to standard bidding, in which a "two over one" by responder in competition is not game forcing but is a one round force. An interesting application of that rule applied in a local weekly game when the following hand was dealt: North ♠AKJx ♥109xx ♦void ♣Axxxx South ♠xx ♥AKQxx ♦10xx ♣KQx. North dealt and opened 1C. The auction proceeded 1C-1S-2H-P(?), the question being what was North's proper rebid when 2H was no longer game forcing because of the spade overcall interference. North, whose modest distributional hand had become a powerhouse, wisely elected to make a game forcing cuebid of his own. The complete auction which followed was 1C (natural)-1S (simple overcall)-2H (one round force)-P-2S (game forcing cuebid)-P-3C (club feature)-P-4D (jump cuebid to show void)-P-6H-P-P-P. As it happened, hearts broke 2/2 and clubs 4/1, so seven hearts made (two spades, five hearts, two diamond ruffs and four clubs). But if hearts had broken the more likely 3/1, there would have been a clear risk, actually a certainty, of losing either one trick in trumps or one offsuit trick because three of dummy's cards needed to be trumped to make all of the tricks.

Egregious bids and plays - Part 2 by Arnaldo Partesotti

Last month I showed you how to bid a slam missing the A and K of trumps. This month I will show you how to bid a contract at the 3-level in competition, *and the opponents will make it!*

I was South in the following hand, East dealer, non-vulnerable all.

	North			Auction	
	♠QT	W	N	E	S
	♥QT973			2D	2S
	♦965	3D	3S	all pass	
	♣AJT				
West		East			
♠K92		♠J43			
♥AK		♥854			
♦J3		♦KQ8742			
♣976532		♣K			
	South				
	♠A8765				
	♥J62				
	♦AT				
	♣Q84				

West led the ♦J and I won the Ace. I led a small ♠ from hand, won by West with the King. He continued Diamonds for East's King and a Diamond return, ruffed by me, overruffed by West with the 9. West exited with a Club, I played small from dummy, East won the King, and returned a Heart for West's Ace. He returned a Club for East to ruff, a Heart came back for East's King, another Club was ruffed by East, who returned a Heart for West to ruff. In the end we were down 5. East-West made 9 tricks or, in other words, we bid 3 Spades *and they made it!*

Post mortem:

- We are aggressive bidders, which works well for us, but my 2S bid was uncalled for on such a flimsy suit. I was afraid that we would never find the Spade fit if I passed, but it resulted in partner supporting at the 3-level with the QT, thinking I had a more solid 6-card suit. It also prevented partner from bidding Hearts, if I had passed and West had passed also, which was a better contract.

- I should have held up the ♦A on the first round, to cut communications for E-W. West had supported Diamonds and there was no danger in the ♦A being ruffed on the second round.

- When West played a Club back, I should have played the A. Not because the K was going to drop (nice!) but because this would have allowed me to cash the ♠Q, come to hand with a Diamond ruff and cash the ♠A, eliminating the cross ruffs.

The last word: At the end of the day we were second with a 64% game. Our opponents in the above hand were first with a 70% game. Had we done average or better in the hand **it would have made no difference in the final standings!** As I always say, at matchpoints this is only one hand... and on to the next one!