



Louisiana Bridge Association October 2017

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President's Message October 2017

The **LBA finances** appear to have turned the corner with two months of positive results. Lower maintenance costs coupled with higher table fees and attendance are the main drivers. While two months is only a start, the trend is good!!!

Food at the tables continues to be an issue and while an absolute ban is not yet warranted (we presently just ban "snacking", not all eating) but much more care is needed. Grease on the cards is causing dealing machine issues which can be expensive. Theresa is presently cleaning each card and that process cannot go on. Please try harder!!

The **299 Sectional** is later this month (October 12-14) and the **Toledano Sectional** is early the next month (November 2-5). Besides selecting your partners and teammates, please ask Chairpersons (Lynden Swayze and Dianne Scott for the 299 and Nelson Daigle and Ronald Omond for the Toledano) what you can do to help. As an incentive to build up the team game at the Toledano, an anonymous donor has contributed a CASH PRIZE OF \$100 which will be awarded to the highest scoring team with less than 2,000 aggregate master points.

An **ACBL wide Instant Matchpoint Game** will be held on Wednesday October 25. For this game only, we will start our Open Game at Noon!!! Please mark your calendars for this change.

See you at the tables!!

Jim Thornton

October Events

*= extra points, no extra fees

- Oct 2 Unit Championship* Mon Night
- Oct 3 Charity Fund Game* Tues Night
- Oct 5 Club Appreciation Game* Thurs noon
- Oct 12-14 Metairie 299er Sectional Thurs-Sat
- Oct 13-15 Jackson Sectional Fri-Sun
- Oct 16-22 Club Appreciation Week*
Mon-Sun (except Oct 25 Thurs aft)
- Oct 19 Charity Fund Game* Thurs noon
- Oct 20-22 Gulfport Sectional Fri-Sun
- Oct 21 Youth Day at club
- Oct 25 ACBL Instant Matchpoint*
Note time change! WED NOON
- Oct 27-29 Mobile Sectional Fri-Sun
- Oct 31 Mentoring Swiss Game* 10:30AM
Mentors play free
- Oct 31 Halloween Party Unit Championship*
Tues Eve

Seventy Percent Games

- 99er Pairs** Sep 1 Barbara Hammett &
Tom Wasson 70.08%
- Sunday Pairs** Sep 10 Quin Bates & Ellen
Manshel 71.06%
- Open Pairs** Sep 25 Jacob Karno & Bob
Bowers 71.29%

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NEW MEMBERS

Kim Abramson, Karla Comardelle, Debby Habig, Terry Habig, Diane Kallenborn, Edward Krzymowski, Dede Redfearn

Robinsonville Regional Firsts

Jean Talbot & JF Lowenstein

Mon-Tues Side Series Pairs Overalls; Thurs-Fri Side Series Pairs Overalls; and 71.81% in Thurs AM Side Game

Beryl Trawick-Marie Hughes et al Mon-Tues KO Bkt 6

Mary Hanni-Warrene Gambino-Pat Emerson et al
Tues-Wed KO Bkt 7; Fri Eve Strat Swiss Flt C (tie)

Tom Dunn et al Wed Eve Strat Swiss Flt C

Vicki Willis et al Fri AM Strat Swiss (tie)

Rank Advancements

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Patricia Arnold, Curtis Castle, Mary Healey, Jennifer Holmes, Jane Reynolds, Charlotte Spooner, Becky Zaheri

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Philip Luchsinger, Janet Rice, Kathryn Talbot

NEW SECTIONAL MASTER

Doris Agin

NEW REGIONAL MASTER

Ronald Ocmund

NEW NABC MASTERS

Reese Koppel, James Willette

NEW LIFE MASTER

Mike Lappa

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Leanne Lotridge

NEW SILVER LIFE MASTER

Sharon Henry

NEW RUBY LIFE MASTER

Helen St Romain

GRAND LIFE MASTER 20,000 POINTS

Drew Casen

STAC Firsts

Monday AM Open Sid LeBlanc & Red Hailey Flt B

299er Diana Powell & Virginia McMurray; Gloria Tisdale & Nancy Sandidge Flt C

Tues AM Open Bill Cousins & Bob Reich Flt C

299er Sarah Dabney Jacob & Quin Bates

Wed Eve Steven Plotkin & Michael Russell

Thurs Aft 299er Diana Powell & Janice Zazulak; Dave Rice & Janet Rice Flt B

Fri AM 99er Barbara Hammett & Tom Wasson;

Clay Hunley & Anita Hunley Flt B

Fri Aft 499er Patricia Burke & Sandra Brown;

Shirley Rhode & Frieda Johnson Flt C

Sun Swiss Stephen Kishner-David Woods-Jacob Karno-

Bob Bowers

Wednesday Grand Slam Jackpot

Sep 27 Dee Moses & Joan Van Geffen

A STAC claimer? N ♠Qxxxxx ♥Ax ♦xx ♣987

S ♠AKxxx ♥xx ♦Ax ♣AQxx

The above hand occurred in the recent STAC Sunday Swiss. West leads the ♦K against South's 4♠ contract. Does South have a claim? Explain. Answer p 3.

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH. OK, I admit it. I tend to be an old fuddy-duddy and stick to using sound bridge conventions and well accepted bidding methods. I don't like super-aggressive opening or overcalled preempts, especially when vulnerable, grossly misshapen opening notrump calls just because the hand has 15-17 hcp and the ACBL lately approved opening 1NT with a singleton "A, K or Q," five card weak two bids in first and second seats and psychic bids more often than once every few years. And yet I cannot help but admire and enjoy my more adventuresome and highly skilled partners when they step out of line, in my view, and yet achieve some unexpectedly good result. Here (below left) is a classic example of such a hand from a local weekly duplicate game.

N		
♠Kxx		
♥J9		
♦AQJ9x		
♣A10x		
W		E
♠xxxx		♠xx
♥Kxx		♥xxx
♦xxx		♦xxx
♣KQx		♣Jxxxx
	S	
	♠AQJx	
	♥AQ10xx	
	♦K10	
	♣xx	

One of my favorite partners held the South hand and opened 1NT, clearly a distortion caused by the desire to show 15-17 hcp opening range 1NT point count. I dare say that most good "natural" bidders would open the hand 1H, with the intent to "reverse" into 2S if given the chance but with this partner at matchpoints "anything goes." I sat North and raised to 4NT, a call which I considered to be ever so slightly aggressive. Opener, disregarding the hand's somewhat misshapen NT distribution, with only 16 instead of a maximum count of 17, and ignoring the unquestionable lack of a club stopper, jumped to 6H, suggesting a five card suit, which I corrected to 6NT due to my holding only the doubleton ♥J9. West's opening lead was the ♣K, from which partner fairly inferred that West also held the ♣Q. (West, being unaware that his partner held the ♣J, did not at the time realize how much he would later wish that he had made the false and intentionally misleading lead of the ♣Q.) Declarer ran the first ten consecutive tricks, consisting of one club, four spades and followed by five diamonds, thereby remaining in the dummy at trick eleven, having reduced North to ♠void ♥J9 ♦void ♣x, East to ♣Jxx, declarer to ♥AQ10, and West chose to reduce to ♠void ♥Kx ♦void ♣Q. Declarer, exhibiting extrasensory perception abilities, quickly disregarded the obvious heart suit

finesse position and exited dummy with its remaining club, thereby impaling West into being forced to lead from his ♥Kx of hearts into declarer's remaining heart ♥AQ, making 6NT. West openly wept, while I could not resist chuckling and asking declarer how he reasoned that the end play rather than the more apparent finesse was the correct ending position and play. His answer? "When you bid as badly as I do you get a feel of the table for these positions." (He later confessed to me that he had carefully counted West's discards, which indicated to him that West had probably made the mistake of saving two hearts and one club instead of making the more difficult play of deceptively discarding early down to the singleton ♥K and the doubleton ♣Qx.) In the end all I could say was "well done!"

Deceptive Plays - Part I by Arnaldo Partesotti

At a recent tournament I made two nice plays in two consecutive hands against a pair with one of our top players and a good regular partner. I was sitting South and this is the first hand, below left. (second hand next month)

Dealer S All NV

North

♠KQ2

♥9862

♦T7

♣AKJ5

West

♠AT96

♥K

♦KQJ5

♣QT94

East

♠J83

♥J7

♦A982

♣8632

South

♠754

♥AQT543

♦643

♣7

I opened the South hand with 2♥, West doubled and North bid 4♥, ending the auction. Nobody will ever blame us for missing a game by not being aggressive enough! The play went: ♦K lead, overtaken by the ♦A, return of a Diamond for the ♦Q, ♠A and a Spade. I was “book” in 5 seconds flat, and I had to find the trump K. There were two faint clues: West had doubled therefore had the bulk of the points - and East had already shown the ♦A — and they had seemed very eager to cash their winners. I decided that West was more likely to have the ♥K, I called for a trump from dummy and when East played low I played the ♥A and dropped the ♥K for an excellent result.

When I play bridge I do not “take the hands home with me”, I just play for fun and when I leave the club it is on to other things. That night however while I was falling asleep a sudden thought came to me: if East had inserted the ♥J on the trump played from dummy, instead of playing small, most likely I would have given him also the ♥K, and finessed for it. If the ♥K was with West with a small Heart, I was down anyway. When I went to the club the next day, West sought me out and said: “If East had played the ♥J on the first Heart, you might have gone down.” I was really surprised that we reached the same conclusion, I guess great minds think alike!

The last word: I put zero blame on East for not finding the potential killing play of the ♥J. If he had, it would have been a **fantastic deceptive play!**

STAC claimer answer: Yes! South should duck the opening lead, and can then claim six trumps, three side aces, and a second club: win the second trick, pull trumps, play off the remaining red ace(s), and exit a heart. With hearts and diamonds eliminated, the opponents must repeatedly lead clubs if West has not already done so. Sooner or later West will lead a club into a club tenace in the South hand, or the opponents must yield a ruff-sluff.

Note that if South wins the opening lead, this endplay might not function. East might get in twice and lead clubs each time, and East-West might get two club tricks.

Thanks to **Bob Bowers** for pointing this deal out.

YOUTH GAME SATURDAY OCTOBER 21 at 11:00

All levels invited

Two games: one for beginners
one for intermediate

Come join us for a Challenging FUN FREE game!

For more info contact **Carolyn Dubois**

Email : cdubois53@bellsouth.net

Phone: 467-4766

Charity

Our club annually supports the Alzheimers Association through the ACBL. However, it has come to our attention that the monies derived from the additional charity games can be distributed locally to the charities of our choice. In view of the recent tragedies in Puerto Rico and the definitive needs of the people being broadcast by the media, such as feminine products, diapers and other necessities of life, our club would like to use the monies from the charity games to purchase these items. A club representative will bring them to a designated distribution point. If you wish to contribute additional funds, please give it to the directors with that stipulation.

Charity Committee – *Jackie Madden, Janet Patterson, Theresa Federico, and Sherrie Goodman*

The Charity Committee is appointed by the Board and meets periodically to decide where to direct our charitable donations. Input and assistance from all are welcome.