



Louisiana Bridge Association June 2019

Editor John Liukkonen email: jrdbl@cox.net

President's Message June 2019

Thank you to **Carolyn Dubois** and **Sharon Ordoyne** for chairing the **Derby Day Tournament**. Everyone enjoyed the bridge, food and socializing. Thanks to **Hunter McFadden** for wonderful Mint Juleps!

Thank you also to **Lil Range** for volunteering to host the **Sunday Swiss** during the painting of the bridge center. We were grateful that she had room for all six tables!

A giant thank-you to **Diana Powell** and **Jim Thornton**, **their committee and all the volunteers** working to make the **Non-Life Master Tournament** a success. More about this in my July message.

The inside **painting of the Bridge Center** is complete thanks to **Barbara Fitz-Hugh** and her committee. The carpeting may also be installed by the time this is published! Now, on to decorating..... and replacing the bookcase so that we can grab more books for summer reading.

Be sure to register for **Lowen's 4-session class on Two Over One**. It is geared to everyone who wants to make certain they understand all the ins and outs of this important bidding system. Preregistration is required; see the club website www.la-bridge.com

A big thank you to **Keenan Romig** for taking over being **chairman of the directors**. Thank you to **Sherrie Goodman** who did a wonderful job with the directors during her tenure. She will remain **club manager**.

We also thank **Keenan** for organizing and publishing the **new directory** which should be out within the week.

Linda Freese

June Events

*= extra points, no extra fees

**=extra points, extra fees

Jun 7 Worldwide Bridge Contest Fri**

Jun 8 Worldwide Bridge Contest Sat**

Jun 10-16 STAC Mon-Sun**

Jun 20 NAOP Qualifier Thurs**

Jun 20 NAOP Qualifier Thurs nite**

Jun 21 The Longest Day Fri**

Jun 24-30 Club Championships
Mon-Sun*

Note: Jun 13 Thurs eve Fast Pairs canceled.

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Karen Boquet, Lynn Jambon,
Mary Marks, Ray Nolan

NEW CLUB MASTER

Mary Beth Fine

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS

Hubert Herre, Jane Reynolds

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Linda Jacobs

NEW RUBY LIFE MASTER

Joseph Sica

NEW SILVER LIFE MASTER

JoAnn Ippolito

NEW SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTER

J.F.Lowenstein

BREAKING NEWS

After this issue of the Kibitzer was prepared, we learned from Linda Freese that she has resigned from the LBA Board. Our club manager Sherrie Goodman was given this statement from the executive committee of the Board for use in this issue of the Kibitzer:

"In light of recent events, Linda Freese has resigned as President, and according to our bylaws Carolyn Dubois as Vice President will move up as President." That is all we know at this time.

DERBY DAY RESULTS ARE ON PAGE 3.

70 percent games

Open Pairs Apr 26 Kathy Logue & Bob Bowers 74.75%

May 1 Jacob Karno & Jacob Morgan 71.46%

May 24 John Onstott & Chuck Pitard 70.67%

99er Pairs May 17 Janet Bean & Mary Madison
Griswold 71%

Wednesday Grand Slam Jackpots

May 1 Sherrie Goodman & Carol Bagalman-
Joan Van Geffen & Judy Katz-Fay Batt & Elaine
Duplantier-Juanita Heidingsfelder & Jean
Talbot-John Onstott & Howard Parker

May 8 Suzanne Wooderson & Mary LeBlanc

May 15 David Woods & Mark Greensfelder

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DIREKTOR'S KORNER

THIS MONTH'S DIREKTOR IN CHARGE: **BIG FOOT**

TOPIC: **LATE ARRIVALS**

Many things in life happen at the very last minute. A horse wins the Kentucky Derby only to be later disqualified. You wait in line for hours to get into WrestleMania with all of the other fully costumed fans only to be allowed entry right before the show starts. Your religious services leader doesn't end their soliloquy until just before your lunch reservation time. Bridge is most definitely NOT one of these things. In fact, there are many national and world-wide events where you are not allowed to enter the contest if you arrive later than 15 minutes before game time – no matter the reason. At your favorite club, we are a little more tolerant and simply ASK that you arrive 15 minutes before game time. Late arrivals, whether a pair or one member of the partnership cause issues for both the director and the other players. If we wait for you only to find out at game time that you are not coming, the entire movement selected by the director may change and possibly require picking up and reissuing boards – definitely not a good day for anyone involved. There are club penalties for late arrival, though the directors may not always exact the true toll. If one member of a partnership arrives after game start, the penalty that can be assessed is a ¼ board. If both partners of a pair arrive after game start, the director may determine not to sell them an entry. If you have an emergency issue and call ahead of time, the director may offer some reasonable discretion when they know that you are on your way.

So please be EARLY for your bridge date. Our games are not a contest to see how close to start time you can cut it. Remember, it may be your day someone ruins next time by being late.

Hot Springs Regional firsts

John Onstott-Drew Casen-Jacob Morgan-Howard Parker-Allan Graves

Mon-Tues KO1 SwissQ-1 AND Sun A/X Swiss

John Onstott & Howard Parker **Eve Side Series Overall first**

Eleanor Onstott & Charles Anderson **Fri ABC Open Pairs Flt B**

Fran Early & Linda Kamler **Thurs AM 299ers Flt C AND Fri pm 499er pairs Flt C**

Denver Regional firsts

Jacob Morgan (w James Melville) **Tues Forest Clark Memorial Charity Pairs,**

Fri Crestone Peak Stratified Open Pairs, Sat Kit Carson Stratified Pairs

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH Some time ago, in a sectional matchpoint event in Baton Rouge I experienced a "once in a lifetime" hand in which our partnership held all thirteen hearts. (see below left.) I held the South hand in fourth

N	♠Kxx
	♥9xxxx
	♦Kxx
	♣Ax
S	♠A
	♥AKQJ10xxx
	♦Ax
	♣KJ

position vulnerable. In my over 65 years of playing both rubber and tournament bridge I had never before seen a hand in which both opponents were void of the same suit, in this instance hearts. After three passes to me I opened 2C, which must have startled my partner, North, who held an Ace and two Kings, a powerful holding for a passed hand opposite an artificial 2C strong opener. Our partnership uses a 2H response as "waiting with a double negative" and a 2D response as "waiting with values," so partner partner bid 2D with a relatively strong honor card holding but no immediately biddable suit. With the opponents understandably silent throughout the auction I rebid 3H, showing a completely solid heart suit, which further startled my partner, who then produced the "impossible" call of 4NT, played as Roman Keycard Blackwood. I then made what some observers would call a "spite" bid (meaning a bid made in response to an apparently erroneous bid by partner) of 7NT, which ended the auction and was obviously "cold." The result notwithstanding, partner took offence to my bid of 7NT and insisted that I should have made a RKB response showing my four keycards. I replied that responder's 4NT call was a clear error because responder had no idea whatsoever of the distribution of my 2C opening hand. I insisted that responder should have followed the well established rule that when the 2C opener rebids a suit and not NT, the responder should never bid Blackwood immediately because in 99.9% of the times the weaker responder should be the "teller," while the stronger opener, who solely knows the "gaps" in the opening hand which need to be filled by responder, should be the "asker." (Note that conventionally, when the 2C opener rebids to show a solid trump suit, responder's first obligation thereafter is to cuebid an Ace if holding one; with or without an Ace, other conventional bids not relevant here would follow.) The truth in this case is no matter how poor a bidding system is employed by the bidding partnership, the pair should in the end reach 7NT. But of course, it turned out that some pairs reached 7H while a handful, in which all Norths incorrectly bid 4NT and then didn't know how high to place the contract, stopped at 6H and received the minimal matchpoint score which they so richly deserved. There are two points to be made here justifying the reporting of this easy to bid grand slam hand. They are first, the hand is noteworthy for the rarity of the phenomenon of one side holding all 13 of one suit which ended up not being trumps, and second, more importantly, while the breaking of the sensible "bridge rule" that whether playing ordinary Blackwood or Roman Keycard Blackwood, the strong hand should be the "asker" and the weaker hand the "teller", was immaterial to the outcome in this instance, it is a good, sound bridge idea and the "rule" should be followed whenever possible.

Run for the Roses By Arnaldo Partesotti

This month my mind, what's left of it, is bouncing around.

I got a good laugh when I received an email from the bridge club: "Bring back the money, you fools who bet on the wrong horse, who was disqualified in the Kentucky Derby, so we can pay it out to the legitimate winners". I never thought I would see that!

And I want to give a hearty "Thank You" on behalf of everybody to **Marlene Ruckert**, who donated the prize money for the Run for the Roses tournament in memory of her sister **Shirley Ruckert**. This is not disinterested, we got our share of the money in the morning session when we were first in B and C. Another pair was first in A and B in the afternoon session, also combining the winnings. One suggestion to our Directors: rather than paying the prizes as above, why not pay the richest prize to the winners (in our case first in B), and pay the lowest price to the second pair in C (we were first in C) so the prizes are more spread around and everybody has a better chance to share. Just a thought.

Playing against a good pair, they reached 3NT and ended down one when a finesse for a King did not work. Had declarer played the Ace instead of the Queen, he would have made the contract. When questioned by partner, he simply stated: "This is matchpoints, I went for the overtrick". This was funny to me because the week before I did exactly the same thing. In 3NT I held ♥AQ, during play LHO pitched the ♥2, so I went for the finesse and lost the contract when she turned up with the ♥K. Had I played the ♥A, I would have made 3NT. This makes for an interesting question: at IMPs you go for making the contract for sure, at Matchpoints... who knows! My only answer is: watch the discards (check their card to see their carding system), count points and distribution, know your opponents, and see how you feel about the hand in general. If you reached an impossible contract, you certainly want to make it. If everybody reached an easy one, you might have more leeway. On a good day, the finesse will work.

North NV	
♠654	
♥97	
♦KQJ	
♣QJT86	
West NV	East NV
♠T87	♠AKJ32
♥K532	♥JT84
♦876	♦T94
♣K74	♣5
South NVD	
♠Q9	
♥AQ6	
♦A532	
♣A932	

Finally see the hand at the left. The opponents reach a quick 3NT contract (1NT - 3NT) and you are on lead from this "meh" hand: ♠T87 ♥K532 ♦876 ♣K74. Oppos did not look for a major, so you lead the ♥2, your natural lead anyway, and you see this dummy: ♠654 ♥97 ♦KQJ ♣QJT86. On your lead Partner plays the ♥T, declarer thinks for a moment and wins the trick with the ♥A. Who has the ♥Q and ♥J? Partner, right? Declarer enters dummy with a Diamond, plays the ♣Q for a finesse, you win this trick or the next with your ♣K, and play a Heart for partner's ♥Q. Except declarer now finds the ♥Q among his cards, and 3NT+1 is made. But it is no accident, declarer played this way to make you believe that your partner had the ♥Q, preventing you from finding the deadly Spade switch.

When you get swindled like this you just say: "Bravo, nice play!" and it is on to the next hand.

Metairie Derby Day Sectional firsts

Thurs AM 0-20 Leonardo Galleguillos & Jeanette Galleguillos; Lynn Jambon & Carol Jambon Flt B

499er Maline Levy & Marilyn Duett; Debbie Reily & Deborah Skorich Flt E

Open Iype Koshy & Bob Bowers; Eileen Bagnetto & Henry Bodenheimer Flt B; Wanda Picarella & Susan Beoubay Flt C

Thurs PM 499er Bernard Vanderlinden & Ronald Omond; Harlene Michaels & Lawrence Michaels Flt F

Open Daryl Fisher & John Federico; Nancy Gates & Helen St Romain Flt B; Di Lapeyre & Molly Sylvia Flt C

Fri AM 499er (tie) Margie Christian & Mary Dorsey-Dupree Parker & James Hargrove; Deborah Skorich & Philip Russo Flt F

Open John Onstott & Howard Parker; David Williams & Eleanor Onstott Flt B; Robert Pettit & Alma Slatten Flt C

Fri PM 499er Harlene Michaels & Lawrence Michaels; Renee Spratt & Lucinda Stentz Flt F

Open John Onstott & Howard Parker; Norma Phillips & Helen St.Romain Flt B; Janet Patterson & Judy Serou Flt C

**SATURDAY FIRSTS IN EACH STRATUM WON PRIZE MONEY DONATED BY MARLENE RUCKERT
IN MEMORY OF HER SISTER SHIRLEY RUCKERT**

Sat AM 499er Harlene Michaels & Lawrence Michaels Flts D,E(\$140); Mary Belcher & Stephen Romig Flt F (\$40)

Open Bob Bowers & Iype Koshy Flt A (\$180); Erin O'Sullivan Fleming & Arnaldo Partesotti Flts B,C (\$240)

Sat PM 499er Loretta Martin & Charlotte Frattini Flts D,E(\$90); Debbie Reily & Mary Belcher Flt F(\$30)

Open JF Lowenstein & David Williams Flts A,B (\$210); Marianna Carpenter&Richard Carpenter Flt C (\$70)

Sun Swiss Bkt 1 Rick Logan-Bob Bowers-Paul Deal-Iype Koshy

Bkt 2 Jackie Madden-JoAnn Ippolito-Colleen Walker-Sally Toups

Bridge People by Sid LeBlanc

When I was president of the LBA ten years ago I wrote a column in the Kibitzer about the interesting people at the club. I started it out by saying:

“Everyone knows that Bob Pettit was an NBA hall of famer, but did you know that... Ann Barone worked in the White House and was on Jeopardy, and Lanny Goldfinch was arrested for sit ins in the 60's and had a commune on Esplanade Avenue and....”

Ann and Lanny have passed away, but did you know that Joan Lennox worked on the Manhattan project. She majored in math and physics at Newcomb and was a student assistant to a physics prof her senior year, then worked with the professor on the Manhattan project after graduation.

Or that in Bob Pettit's first year in the NBA his annual salary was \$10,000. After he made all pro and rookie of the year, he got a raise... to \$11,000. And became a successful businessman after the NBA.

Or Mary Regottaz was born in China shortly before it became communist in 1949. The family moved to Hong Kong when she was a toddler. And changed her life.

Steve Plotkin, Jacob Karno and David Williams were judges. There are a bunch of lawyers and doctors (both MD and PhD) or married to lawyers or doctors. I partnered with Red Hailey a dozen times before asking him which law firm he worked for. He said he had his own firm. I asked how many lawyers and he said 53!!!!

Paul Freese sold concessions at Yankee stadium as a teenager. Myra Menville raises Monarch butterflies. Ralph Chesson volunteers in Africa and Central America annually to perform surgeries. Lucinda Stentz drives around the country in a Vespa Scooter.

We have players from Chile, Norway, France, Hong Kong, Australia, Italy, England, Holland and...do you know who they are?

Next time you finish a hand a bit early or before the game, instead of asking if you play the two way Drury convention, ask your opponents, or partner, what they did before they showed up here. If you get some good stories, let me know. Or if you want a good story ask Eileen Bagnetto to tell you about the time Dick was on Candid Camera.

DERBY TOURNAMENT THANK YOUs from Carolyn Dubois

WOW! what fun, and such great attendance.

So many to thank from directors, to our beautiful fresh flowers and the artificial rose ladies, cooks, salads, fruit salads and dessert volunteers, table cleaners, and the men who provided mint juleps, cold drinks and ice.

We ate our way through four days of bridge. Jack and Sharon were the winners of the BOW TIE AND HAT CONTEST. So many came wearing their beautiful chapeaux and bow ties. Pictures will be posted on the Web.

I hope I didn't forget anyone, but if I did forgive me.

Carolyn Dubois, Tournament Chair