



Louisiana Bridge Association August 2017

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President's Message August 2017

Thanks to **Stephen Kishner** and **David Woods** and all the other volunteers who made our **July Sectional** a success. While the table count was only up 1 (228 to 229), the finances were much improved and it appears we made over \$2,000. Good Job!!!

Thanks also to **Ellen Lappa** and **Mary LeBlanc** for making the **4th of July game** and party a success. We enjoyed nineteen tables of bridge and great hot dogs and fixings.

A/C problems have been fixed but I am 100% sure there will still be some players that are too cold or too hot!! Our next President will have that at the top of his/her list of problems. I am happy just to have working A/C.

We have expanded our offering of "**Charity Games**" over the last year (extra points). Now we must pick a beneficiary for our donations. Janet Patterson, Sherrie Goodman and Jackie Madden have agreed to help out in this project. Please let them know of any charity you think would be a good fit. I like local and non-controversial.

We did get the sanction for our **Non-Life Master Regional** for May 29-June 1, 2019. Check out our web site at La-bridge.com for more information.

This month's Kibitzer has a timely article by **Jennie Sauviac** on **Zero Tolerance**. Please read it and then **PLAY NICE!!!** No one wants to penalize anyone but we must always be respectful of everyone else in our community and perhaps an adverse consequence is the best way to go. We are always open to suggestions on how to obtain improvement in this area.

See you at the table!!

Jim Thornton

August Events

*= Extra points

Aug 1 Unit Championship Tues night*

Aug 3 NAOP Qualifier Thurs night*

Aug 4-6 Lake Charles Sectional Fri-Sun

Aug 7-13 Club Champ. Week Mon- Sun*

Aug 11-13 Jackson 299er Sectional Fri-Sun

Aug 15 NAOP Qualifier Tues night*

Aug 18 NAOP Qualifier Fri*

Aug 27 NAOP Qualifier Sun*

Aug 28-Sep 3 STAC week Mon-Sun

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Rank Advancements

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Mary DiGerolamo, Carolyn Herre, Philip Luchsinger, Linda Neill, John Treen

NEW CLUB MASTER

Theodore Brandon

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Barbara Fitz-Hugh, Elizabeth Sewell, William Sewell, Charles Waldrop

NEW MEMBERS

Romona Baudy, Mary Belcher, Mary Bertucci, Michael G Bertucci, Lydia Boutte', Joanne Espersen, Leonardo Galleguillos, Lynn Hoffman, V Lynn Hoffman, Judith Johnson, Carol Lavin, Gaynell Lawrence, Marcia Legendre, Gregory B McKnight, Minor Pipes, Penny Pirri, Charles Redfearn, Debbie Reily, James Reily, Mary Schreiber, Stacey Williams, Mariann Wilson, Judy Bridges (transferred back in!)

Wed Grand Slam Jackpots

Jul 5 Daisy Vandenburg & Lynne Hand

Jul 26 Bummy Rosenfield & Hugh Lawson

In Memoriam
Lanny Goldfinch
Corin Zollinger

Metairie Sectional Firsts

Thurs AM 0-20 Jennifer Holmes & Becky Zaheri **71%**

299er Mary Hanni & Morris Place Jr; Julie Barkas & Janice Medlin Flt E; Phillip & Sarah Luchsinger Flt F

Open JF Lowenstein & Judy Katz; Dee Moses & David Williams Flt B; Gail Fayard & Cindy Lewis Flt C

Thurs PM 299er Linda Conner & Elizabeth Cordes **70.83%**; Mercedes Wells & Wayne Wells Flt B; Steven Plotkin & Mike Russell Flt C

Open Doug De Montluzin & Joann Ippolito; Janet Patterson & Judy Serou Flt B

Fri AM 299er Betty Norton & Warren Gambino; Steven Plotkin & Mike Russell Flt B; Joanne Hilton & Iris Stewart Flt C

Open Charlie Robert & Sally Gerhold; Nelson Daigle & Arnaldo Partesotti Flt B; Paul Rosenblum & Jacob Karno Flt C

Fri PM 299er Virginia Dabbs & Judy Pyeatte; Joanne Hilton & Iris Stewart Flt C

Open Bob Bowers & John Onstott; Janet Patterson & Bonnie Nelson Flt B

Sat AM 299er Mary Hanni & Mercedes Wells; Carolyn Dubois & Lucinda Stentz Flt B; Kathy Gilmore & Barbara Fitz-Hugh Flt C

Open JF Lowenstein & Judy Katz; David Williams & Dee Moses Flt B; Linda Gallagher & Pris Daly Flt C

Sat PM 299er Virginia Dabbs & Judy Pyeatte; Evelyn De Laoreal & Beth Webb Flt C

Open David Williams & JF Lowenstein; Gail Fayard & Cindy Lewis Flt C

Sun Swiss Bkt 1 Chuck Pitard-Iype Koshy-Larry Federico-Wayne Weisler

Bkt 2 Dee Moses-JF Lowenstein-Toby Young-David Williams

ADDITIONAL STAC firsts, inadvertently omitted last month. Sorry about that!

Mon AM Joan Van Geffen & Judy Katz, tie for 1st 13.85 MPs

Tues AM 299er Sharon Ordoyne & Pamela Marinaro Flt B

Thurs aft 299er Maureen Richoux & Dorothy Romig

Thur eve aux Di Lapeyre & Pat Ellis Flt C tie

70 percent games

99er Jun 30 Meryl Rosenbloom & Glenn Barnett 74.83%

299er Jul 27 Linda Conners & Elizabeth Cordes 70%

499er Jul 21 Kathy Gilmore & Myra Menville 70.83%

Open Jul 6 eve Jackie Madden & Cindy Lewis 74%

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH. Regional tournaments produce an abundance of hands, a few of which are memorable. Here's one from a two session open pairs event which my partner and I won despite the fact that we received an absolute zero on this board. What would you bid when you are playing two over one game forcing, your partner opens 1S and you hold ♠xxxx ♥AKQxxx ♦xxx ♣void? In my opinion that hand is worth a game force in playing strength, so I think partner was correct in bidding a game forcing 2H, which was followed by my rebid of 3NT, showing a five card spade suit, a balanced hand and about 18-19 hcp or the equivalent in playing strength. My choice for responder's rebid would have been a simple 4S but partner correctly visualized a slam possibility. Partner made the overly aggressive rebid of 5C, which was Exclusion Blackwood. (The conventional method of asking for keycards but omitting those held in asker's void suit is called "Exclusion Blackwood." When a major suit is trumps, either by agreement or by being the last bid suit, the EB asker jumps in the void suit to the five level, in this case 5C. Here there was no trump suit agreement but the last bid major suit was hearts. Responder's answer stated the number of keycards held outside of clubs if hearts are trumps. In this instance the keycards were ♠A and ♦A. The ♣A was not included in the keycard count.) The primary issue was "which suit is the trump suit, spades or hearts?" The answer is---when there has been no direct trump suit agreement the trump suit is "the last suit bid by the asker," so in this case it was hearts. Holding ♠AQ109x ♥xx ♦AKJ ♣A10x my response was 5S, showing two keycards (for hearts) without the trump queen. Confusion reigned, because partner mistakenly thought I was showing solid spades plus the ♦A, so the next bid was 7S. My LHO courteously and cautiously refrained from doubling, even though he held ♠KJxx. Going down in 7S rewarded us with a well earned "zero" matchpoints on that hand. Interestingly, because responder's heart suit was solid and broke 3/2, 6H was makeable with careful play. So what's the lesson learned from this kind of bidding disaster? First, know which suit is trumps when employing a sophisticated convention such as Exclusion Blackwood. Second, do not play that convention unless you are certain of the responses to be used. In this case our partnership was clearly guilty of the fatal error of "convention overkill." Oh well, once again we learned that bridge is indeed a fascinating game.

Doubles are not for sissies by Arnaldo Partesotti

If you are as old as I am (unfortunately most members of the club are) you lived through the evolution of the “double” bid. It used to be that “double” had simple meanings: mostly take-out or penalty. Today there are many more variations. On the Bridgeguys web site I counted 34 different types of doubles, and I am still baffled by the DSI double (Do Something Intelligent, partner) which applies when you think your partnership should be bidding something, but you do not know what. The advantage of this bid is that you can always blame partner (partners are notorious for not being “Intelligent”) if you have a bad result.

Penalty doubles are used less and less, which makes sense in IMP’s play, you do not want to double 2 Spades and, if the opponents make the contract, you just gave them a game and might as well lose the match! And if they do not make it your reward is usually minimal, say 100 instead of 50 non-vulnerable, big deal! At matchpoints it is a different story, if they make it you get a bad hand, but you did not give away the match, and 100 might be a top, and 50 just average. And there is a great saying which always applies: “if you double and they never make it, you do not double nearly enough.”

Case in point: at the recent sectional I was West and I held: ♠AQ74 ♥Q7 ♦KQT3 ♣982

And the bidding went:	North	East	South	West
				1♦
	3♥	4♣	4♥	5♣
	pass	pass	5♥	double all pass

5♥ doubled made easily, the full deal is below.

Dealer W Vul E/W

North

♠K952

♥A865432

♦9

♣4

West

♠AQ74

♥Q7

♦KQT3

♣982

East

♠T83

♥void

♦J87

♣AKQ7653

South

♠J6

♥KJT9

♦A6542

♣JT

At the end I was asked if I regretted the Double and I said “win some, lose some”, but I was wrong. I doubled intentionally to prevent partner from bidding 6♣ because I thought we could beat 5♥ and did not think we could make 6♣ (6♣ down one, even doubled, would have been a top for us). If I had passed partner would have had a choice. Also there was no real payoff for the double: if we pushed them into 5♥ when only 4♥ was making, we would have had a near top anyway. In the end we got 0.5 points out of 22, somebody else doubled, and if I had not doubled we would have made 7.5 points out of 22. The double was bad and passing was not much better, go figure!

Know the Director Rulings

Jennie Flynn Sauviac

Our Bridge Club

Let's keep our club inviting and pleasant for all. All bridge players are not created with equal bridge talents, but all deserve respect. Everyone of us has made a bridge misjudgment, and felt bad enough without a partner or opponent telling us about it. If we work together we will be a club that is inviting and pleasant to all. Happy players return.

To make this happen, we must help our Directors enforce our **Zero Tolerance Policy** by reporting anyone who disrupts the game to the Director immediately. The Board has determined that, for this policy to be effective, there will be no warnings given. For the first offense there will be a penalty of one quarter board. For subsequent offenses the penalties will increase.