

Louisiana Bridge Association December 2018

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President's Message December 2018

Our **Dottie Toledano Sectional Tournament** at the beginning of November was a big success! **Cindy Lewis** and **Gail Fayard** did a superb job soliciting food and dollars from generous members. Thanks to Cindy and Gail for ordering and organizing food, and a special thanks to all the members that contributed to make the tournament a success.

Please come to our **holiday party on Saturday evening, December 8, 2018**. There will be a special holiday dinner served, and then we will play bridge! The price is the same as usual, \$7 to play. The meal is free for members. Anyone who is not a member of our unit including spouses and significant others who want to partake of the meal need to pay \$10. All are welcome.

In addition, another **holiday party** takes place the following Friday, **December 14**. This is a potluck luncheon that begins at 11:00 am before the noon games. This "Bring-a-dish" event has always been a huge success thanks to our generous members.

Our next tournament is the **Natalie and Julius Rosenblum Sectional, January 24-27**. **Voting** for new board members and our **yearly full-member meeting** will take place during this tournament.

We hope that you had a happy Thanksgiving, and we all wish you a blessed and safe holiday season.

Linda Freese

December Events

*= extra points, no extra fees

**=extra points, extra fees

- Dec 3** Unit Championship* Monday
- Dec 5** Unit Championship* Wednesday
- Dec 8** Holiday Party Unit Championship* Sat
Cocktails 5:30, dinner at 6, game at 7PM.
- Dec 9** Unit Extended Team Game* Sun 1 pm
- Dec 14** Holiday Potluck. Unit Championship.*
Fri daytime. Game at noon, meal preceding.
- Dec 17** ACBL-wide Int'l Fund Game**
Monday at NOON
- Dec 19** Unit Championship* Wednesday
- Dec 25** Christmas Day club closed

Grand Slam Jackpots

- Nov 14** Bill Gentry & Jean Faia (split \$50!)
- Nov 28** Pat Ellis & Hugh Lawson; Red Hailey & Roy Richardson; Martie & Sandy Sisco; Judy Katz & Jean Talbot

70 PERCENT GAMES

- Open Pairs**
- Nov 12** Bob Bowers & Paul Deal 73.09%
- Nov 12 eve** Larry Federico & John Federico 70.83%
- Nov 20** Joan Van Geffen & Judy Katz 71.01%

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

- NEW JUNIOR MASTERS
Leonardo Galleguillos, Elsa Schneider
- NEW SECTIONAL MASTER
Carol Castle
- NEW NABC MASTERS
Gary Bergeron, Betty Norton
- NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER
Pat Housey

NEW MEMBERS

- Diane Genre, Laurie Milani, Vicki Miller

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Metairie November Sectional Results

Thurs AM Open Ed Word & Barbara Norris; Keenan Romig & Suzanne Cliffe Flt B; Gaye Wilson & Pat Housey Flt C

499er Susan Martin & Margaret Shirer; Robert Reich & Beth Norton Flt E; Denise Fuselier & Myra Menville Flt F

Thurs PM Open Jamie Bush & John Onstott; Gail Fayard & Cindy Lewis Flt B

499er Susan Martin & Margaret Shirer; Maryann Joyner & Roxanne Estrada Flt E; Debbie Reily & Kathy Plauche Flt F

Fri AM Open Jacob Karno & Wayne Weisler; Ray Gandolfi & Derek Westwood Flt C

499er Charles Waldrop & Evelyn Randall; Barbara Hammell & Tom Wasson Flt B; Mary Beth Fine & Kathy Plauche Flt C

Fri PM Open Jacob Morgan & Paul Rosenblum; Eleanor Onstott & David Williams Flt B; Wanda Picarella & Anne Monteiro Flt C

499er Buddy Massey & Betty Norton; Renee Spratt & Lucinda Stentz Flt C

Sat AM Open JF Lowenstein & Judy Katz; Mary LeBlanc & Sid LeBlanc Flt B; Audrey Cerise & Cindy Lewis Flt C

499er Sheryl Thompson & Elizabeth Cordes; Cecile Ruiz & Judee Flotron Flt B; Gregory Ross & Helen Ross Flt C

Sat PM Open JF Lowenstein & David Williams; Gail Fayard & Katy Kwong Flt C

499er Ronald Omond & Gary Bergeron

Sun Swiss JF Lowenstein-David Williams-Joan Van Geffen-Jean Talbot; Suzanne Cliffe-Jim Thornton-Carol Bagalman-Sherrie Goodman Flt B

Foley Alabama Regional Firsts

Nelson Daigle-Angeline Christie-Frank Corredine-Bill Beaushaw **Mon-Tues KO 2**
Elaine Wiczynski-David Scherer-Mae O'Neil-Christine Beasley **Mon-Tues KO 5**

Shirlann Finch & Janet Gindro **Tues Aft Strat 199er Pairs**

John Onstott-Jim Krekorian-Drew Casen-Howard Parker-Bruce Ferguson

Tues-Wed KO 1, Fri Aft Side Swiss AND Sun Brktd Swiss 1

Robert Reich-Morris Place-Betty Norton-Buddy Massey **Tues-Wed KO 5 AND Fri-Sat KO 2**

Clara Perry-Anita Thigpen

Thurs AM Strat 199er Pairs

CORRECTED OCT 299ER SECTIONAL FIRSTS

Thurs AM

Loretta Martin & Charlotte Frattini

Thurs PM

William McDonald & Linda Cotter; Robert Reich & Buddy Massey Flt B

Fri AM Robert Reich & Buddy Massey; John Treen & Newt Jackson Flt C

Fri PM

Wayne Wells & Mercedes Wells; Carolyn Abadie & Lynne Peterson Flt C

Sat AM Claudine Cannon & Delphine Butler

Thurs AM Newcomer firsts

Karen Boquet & Ray Nolan

The Road Warrior—Chuck Pitard

Firsts at the October Monroe Sectional

Fri Compact KO 1 w Allan Siebert et al

Sat Compact KO 1 w Allan Siebert et al

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH In the early days of development of bidding methods in the United States opening one bids were sound, two bids were strong and forcing and even preemptive bids were constructive, based upon the rule of two and three. Single jump raises in response to openers were game forcing. Jump shift responses were ultra-strong, not only game forcing but strongly slam suggestive. Strangely, two over one responses were only game invitational and remained so for a while, even after the advent of the "forcing 1NT" response, until the currently popular "two over one game forcing" response style became standard practice. Over the years preempts have become weaker, limit raises are preferred over forcing and major suit raises of 1M-4M became weaker, with "Namyats" showing close to 4M playing trick strength game values in a preemptive format in which opening 4C and 4D are "borrowed" strong 4M bids. Jump responses directly to game are currently based upon trump suit length, not strength. In today's practice a two over one response followed by a trump raise to the three level is stronger than a raise to the game level. For example, a noncompetitive auction beginning 1S-2C-2S-3S is unlimited and stronger than 1S-2C-2S-4S. This "delayed" trump suit jump shows a minimum game bid and usually terminates the auction, while

N ♠10xxx
♥KQJxx
♦Ax
♣AK

S ♠AKQx
♥Ax
♦Kxx
♣Qxxx

the raise to the three level leaves room for further slam exploration.

The participants in a New Orleans club game held the hands at left and made use of a jump bid to show weak trumps in a strong hand in an otherwise strong auction. South was dealer on this all vul hand. The auction went 1C-1H-1S, at which point North realized that her hand was too strong to just bid 4S, so she first made a "fourth suit game forcing" bid of 2D. The extended auction became 1C-1H-1S-2D-2NT-4S, North using the delayed jump to show a strong hand with weak trumps. South, who held a not yet fully disclosed strong hand and excellent spades as trumps, continued the auction with 4NT (1430)-5H (two keycards, no Q)-5NT-6C (specific king)-7S, gambling that North's hand and hearts in particular would support a grand slam bid. Note that if South had bid 6H (second king ask) over 6C, north's response should have been 7H (solid heart sequence), and South could have bid 7NT, for a top score. But 7S

netted a shared top, as no pair bid 7NT. So what do we learn from this example hand? Three things. (1) Value your hands carefully and appropriately, noting that Aces and Kings are relatively undervalued in Work's 4-3-2-1 point count method. (2) Learn that delayed jump bids can be used to describe certain hand weaknesses, even in the trump suit. Be sure to first discuss this with your partner to make certain that both of you are on the same wavelength. And (3), an experienced partnership can make good use of Keycard Blackwood methods, which are complex but well explained in Eddie Kantar's 5th Edition handbook entitled simply "Roman Keycard Blackwood," Final Edition.

Diamonds are a pair's best friends by Arnaldo Partesotti

At a recent matchpoint game I picked up this beautiful hand as South: ♠AQJT85 ♥A ♦AK843 ♣4
In my system this hand qualifies for a 2♣ opening - 2½ losers. However, I do not like opening two-suited hands with 2♣. Sometimes it does not leave enough bidding space, particularly when the opponents interfere in the other two suits. After East passed (hand rotated for convenience) I decided to open 1♠, and risk a pass by partner. With the opponents always passing, partner bid 1NT (forcing) and I jumped to 3♦ to show the strong two-suited hand. After a lot of thinking, partner bid 4♠. I was not ready to give up, so I inquired with 4NT (1430 for Spades) looking for the ♣A and/or the ♠K. Partner responded 5♣ - one key-card - and I settled in 6♣. Imagine my surprise when Partner put down her hand with all those Diamonds, which she never supported!

North NV	
♠K4	
♥K986	
♦JT762	
♣K5	
West NV	East NVD
♠63	♠972
♥JT7542	♥Q3
♦void	♦Q95
♣AT976	♣QJ832
South NV	
♠AQJT85	
♥A	
♦AK843	
♣4	

An explanation is in order on Partner's bid: she ignored Diamonds and bid Spades because that seemed the "money" bid at matchpoints. I do not agree, I would support Partner's Diamonds or bid 3NT as a second choice, protecting those Kings from any lead.

West led the ♣A and continued Clubs. This is an excellent slam, 78% chance that the missing Diamonds will split 2-1. If however they are 3-0, you are down. You cannot capture the ♦Q in West, and have no reason to finesse for the ♦Q in East, and have only one entry to dummy to do so. I therefore decided to discover immediately if I was going to "die", I played the ♦A which, sure enough, was ruffed by West, and I was down. A better play would have been to play two rounds of trumps ending in dummy, and advance the ♦J. Any half-awake East however would not cover, I would go up with a Diamonds top honor, playing the 78% probability, and with no more entry in dummy I would be down anyway.

The Diamond slam has an 89% probability and is unbeatable in this layout: win any lead after the ♣A, cash one Diamond honor and, when West shows out, enter dummy with the ♠K, finesse in Diamonds and claim. Also, for the record, the "money" bid is

6NT by North, unbeatable but very difficult to bid with two singletons in my hand. For the record, again, nobody bid this slam but us, and we bid the wrong one!

DIREKTOR'S KORNER

THIS MONTH'S DIREKTOR IN CHARGE: THE FLOWER CHILD

TOPIC: SLOW PLAY

SLOW PLAY drives me crazy, both as a director and a player. If I were still a young Flower Child, I'm sure I could find comfort in a few puffs of weed. However, as a mature, law-abiding citizen, I need to chill. In my dreams, the chronically slow players will read this and start using these suggestions. (Unfortunately, they generally deny that they are slow!!!!)

HINTS to speed up play

- Come early to socialize, get coffee, use the facilities.
- Play N/S, get to Club early to secure a N/S position.
- Don't keep score. (Let partner keep it.)
- Get a Summary after Game. Use Pianola.
- Lead before entering the contract into your scoresheet or Bridgемate.
- Claim whenever you can.
- **Put boards on the chair between tables immediately after you've played them.**
- Move if the table ahead is available, but don't ask for boards before 2 minute mark. (That's why boards put on the chair speed things up.)
- Don't continue talking about the last hand after your opponents arrive.
- While you are counting your points and thinking about bids and responses, also think about what your opening lead might be.

HINT for the Director Enforce the ruling that allows you to take away a Board if the opening lead is not on the table at the 2 minute point. This can allow the pair to get back on track, timewise.