

KIBITZER ♣♦♥♠

Louisiana Bridge Association January 2016

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President's Message January 2016

We have five openings on the Board of Directors and five candidates qualified for the election. All candidates will serve beginning in January and there will be no election. Welcome aboard Nelson Daigle, Sharon Henry, and Steven Plotkin. Welcome back Jim Thornton and Vicki Willis. Keenan Romig, Paul Deal and Marlene Ruckett served with distinction and will be missed.

The Board has approved a new Fast Pairs game at 6:30 on Thursday nights. The game will begin on January 7th 2016. Play time for each board is five minutes instead of the usual seven minutes. The director will keep the game on time.

Some players find the club is too hot and others find it is too cold. The Board's recommendation to the directors is to keep the thermostats at 74 degrees when the air conditioners are in use and to keep the thermostats at 72 degrees when the heaters are in use. These are recommendations and the directors are allowed some discretion. We have an old building and keeping a uniform temperature throughout the building at all times is just not possible.

Make plans to play in our Rosenblum Sectional Tournament starting January 21st. Other clubs have increased their tournament fees to \$12.00 but we are holding ours at \$10.00.

Happy New year everyone.

Larry Federico

PLAY NICE PLAY NICE

January Events

Jan 11-17 Biloxi Regional Mon-Sun
Jan 12 Inter-Club Championship Tues AM
\$7.00 entry/Extra Points
Jan 21-24 Rosenblum Sectional Thurs-Sun
Metairie Clubhouse
Jan 26 Unit Championship Tues AM
Jan 28 Unit Championship Thurs nite
Jan 29-31 Jackson Sectional Fri-Sun
Jan 30-31 NAOP District Finals Jackson

70 Percent Games

Open Pairs

Dec 7 John Federico & Larry Federico 70.51%
Dec 8 Jackie Madden & Linda Freese 70.45%
Dec 12 Paul Rosenblum & Drew Casen 70.07%

299er Pairs

Dec 4 Patricia Burke & Muffin Balart 70.9%
Dec 12 Dan Cliffe & Ronald Haag 71.24%

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Benjamin Clifton, Herbert Hines, Sarah Jacob

Rank Advancements

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS
Virginia Dabbs, Esther Shefsky

Baton Rouge Sectional Firsts

Thurs PM Open Pairs Sherrie Goodman &
Sharon Henry Flt C

Fri AM Open Pairs Larry Federico & Idell
Adams

Fri PM Open Pairs Iype Koshy & Chuck Pitard
299er Pairs Judy Pyeatte & Virginia Dabbs
Flt F

Sat AM Open Pairs Vicki Willis & Robert Dale

299er Pairs Judy Pyeatte & Virginia Dabbs

Sun Swiss John Onstott-Jamie Bush-Bob Bowers-
C Reis

PLAY NICE

Correction to Dottie Toledano results

In the December Kibitzer we reported the **Saturday morning Open Pairs** results in the Dottie Toledano tournament incorrectly. The correct results are: JF Lowenstein & Judy Katz first, Daisy Vandenburg and Bill Geary first in Flt B, Betty Jones & Caroline Fisher first in Flt C.

Sorry for the mistake!

Masterpoints at Denver NABC

JF Lowenstein 61.74	Susan Martin 4.66
Beth Todd 61.74	Janice Zazulak 4.66
Nelson Daigle 21.89	Guss Ginsburg 2.74
Geoff Chichester 21.89	

Help Wanted

If you have an interesting hand, story or tip for the Kibitzer, please let the editor know. It need not be expert bridge material. We are looking for articles on all levels, and entertaining stuff too.

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH. Have you ever had the opportunity to defeat four multiple world champions playing together in a Regional Swiss Team Sunday event? My regular "Mixed Team," consisting of Craig and Carole Cordes, Jan Galey and me, had that very slim chance some ten years ago in the Biloxi Regional and succeeded. We were leading the field going into the final match. And wouldn't you know it just had to be. The opponents for the final match at our table were Meckstroth and Soloway. At the other table they were Rodwell and Cohen. Here's the hand that did the damage. (below left)

North	My partner, Jan, sitting North, opened the bidding with 1D. The opponents were silent throughout the auction (but complained bitterly of "bad luck" when the session was over). Key Card Blackwood was still in its infancy at the time but fortunately we had recently discussed whether Blackwood bid immediately over an opening bid of one of a suit was "Key Card" for opener's suit or not and had decided that "NOT" was the word of the day. So I immediately blasted into good, old fashioned Blackwood for Aces and learned that partner had two when she replied 5H. I raised to 6H, creating the novelty that the opening bidder, with a void in hearts, was the declarer in a slam in her void suit!
♠Axxx	East was on lead and held the ♠QJ109, so the ♠Q hit the table. Winning the trick with dummy's singleton ♠K, trumps were quickly drawn, following which declarer crossed to her hand to the ♦A, discarded dummy's losing diamond on the ♠A and conceded a trick to the ♣A—making six hearts.
♥Void	
♦A10xxx	
♣KJ10x	
South	
♠K	
♥AKQJxxxx	
♦xx	
♣Q	

When we compared scores after the last match we learned with amazement that 6H had been reached but had gone down at the other table! How could that be? The mystery was solved when our partners told us that their opponents' auction had gone 1D-P-2H-P-2S-P-4NT-P-5H-P-6H, placing West on lead. The opening lead was the ♦K, from a holding of ♦KQJ. The bizarre result of that lead was that declarer still had the same twelve tricks which had been cashed at our table but they could not be reached and cashed because dummy's ♦A, the only quick entry allowing the ♠A and ♠K to be cashed separately, had been removed. Declarer had to lose a diamond and a club in the end game, down one. So I ask you, was it by luck or by skill that we won that event? I don't really know but I'll tell you this much. It's now over ten years later, I still play frequently on that same mixed team and I still use ordinary good, old fashioned Blackwood for Aces directly over an opening bid of one of a suit. Bridge—what a great game!

Another Love Letter to LBA

Dear All,

Another wonderful Mentoring Game occurred on December 30. We had 21 full tables and it was truly moving to survey the room and see all the learning happening at our club. Thank you to our wonderful 42 mentors who gave of their time and knowledge! Some of you took a day off from work to participate and some of you brought new prospective players to our club. To the 42 "mentees", we hope you learned a lot and will keep learning. It's a great game and a warm and wonderful place to spend your time. We also want to thank Iype Koshy for his recap of the interesting hands after the game.

Suzanne, Jennie & Sherrie