



Louisiana Bridge Association August 2019

Editor John Liukkonen email: jrdbl@cox.net

President's Message August 2019

Disappointed with the **delay of carpet** but at least we weathered Barry without the rain expected. **August 10/11** is the new date for carpet installation. **Sherrie** will be sending details of where our Saturday and Sunday games will be held.

What's on the menu: On the July menu was our **Fourth of July celebration**--good food great attendance and so many people brought extras. Thanks **Mary LeBlanc** and **Ellen Lappa** for organizing a fun event.

Next on the menu was our **July 18 tournament**. **Susan Gibbens** and **Judy Katz** were the chairpersons and **Doris Liukkonen** and **Jackie Madden** co chaired the partnership desk. Behind the scenes you could see **Suzanne** cooking and organizing. So many brought their favorite dishes, desserts and salads. This was a very successful tournament as we had the largest crowds ever. We had a record number of 45 tables on Friday morning and sixteen tables for the Swiss on Sunday. Thank you everyone for supporting this event.

I would like to thank **Lilian Kirshbom** for doing a great job sending the sympathy and get well cards; I know it was appreciated. Lilian has decided to give up this important task. **Mary Belcher** will take over as our card sender. Please contact her if you know someone in need.

Remember **horizontal parking is our last choice**. Fill other places first as it is difficult for some players to back out.

ONE CAN NEVER PLAY TOO MUCH BRIDGE.

Carolyn Dubois

August Events

**=extra points, extra fees

Aug 6 ACBLwide Junior Fund Tues Nite**

Aug 9 NAOP Qualifier Fri**

Aug 17 NAOP Qualifier Sat**

**Aug 22-25 Baton Rouge Sectional
Thurs -Sun**

**Aug 10-11 club games are OFF
SITE. See p 2 for more details.**

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

John Cumberland, Margaret
Cumberland, Lawrence Holbrook

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Marva Arceneaux, Stephanie Rhodes
Navarre

NEW SECTIONAL MASTER

Jack Kienzle

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Barbara Boegel, Newton Jackson,
Shirley Rhode, Cecile Ruiz, Diane Scott,
Bernard Vanderlinden

NEW NABC MASTERS

Susan Martin, Diana Powell

NEW ADVANCED NABC MASTER

Irene Labiche

NEW LIFE MASTER

Erin O'Sullivan Fleming

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Paul Rosenblum

NEW SILVER LIFE MASTER

Mike Arthur

Wes Busby Sectional firsts

Thurs AM 499er Diana Powell & Janice Zazulak; Richard
Velleman & Cleo Velleman Flt E; Carol York & Barbara
Claiborne Flt F

Open Jan Galey & Dana Hastings; Marilyn Ducasse & Fay
Batt Flt B; Erin O'Sullivan & Arnaldo Partesotti Flt C

Thurs PM 499er Elizabeth Bolles & Alison Vitter; Bette
Marks & Debbie Reily Flt F

Open Jan Galey & Dana Hastings; David Williams & Dee
Moses Flt B; Anna Rolling Lee & Gail Davis Flt C

Fri AM 499er Margaret Shirer & Maryann Joyner; Newton
Jackson & Jennifer Holmes Flt F

Open John Federico & Larry Federico; Jim Thornton &
Suzanne Cliffe Flt B; David Roberts & Janis Roberts Flt C

Fri PM 499er Susan Martin & Frieda Johnson; Debby Habig
& Terry Habig Flt F

Open Jan Galey & Dana Hastings; Paul Freese & Toby
Young Flt B; Molly Silvia & Di Lapeyre Flt C

Sat AM 499er William McDonald & Linda Cotter; Philip
Russo & Curtis Castle Flt F

Open Joan Van Geffen & Jean Talbot; Erin O'Sullivan &
Philip Lawes Flt B

Sat PM 499er Om Garg & Adesh Jain-Jane Reynolds &
Dottie Stephenson (tie); Debby Habig & Terry Habig Flt F

Open David Williams & Dee Moses; Robert Reich & Buddy
Massey Flt C

Sun Swiss Wayne Weisler-Erin O'Sullivan-Doris Liukkonen-
Regina Keverer; Bernard Vanderlinden-Newton Jackson-Kathy
Plauche-Jennifer Holmes Flt C

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DIREKTORS COLUMN

DIREKTOR IN CHARGE: DIAMOND LIL

TOPIC: TOP TEN REASONS TO BE A DIRECTOR

- ◆ **Money.** True, it is not a lot of money (\$70 base), but consider all the money you save because you are not spending money while you are directing. The realized gain could easily be in the \$1,000s.
- ◆ **Learning the rules.** You learn more about the rules by actually implementing them. This knowledge will help you call the director for an irregularity at your table.
- ◆ **Learning the play.** Seeing others' mistakes can up your game as well.
- ◆ **Helping the club.** The club has been good to you. Give back a little.
- ◆ **Relief.** You do not have to find a partner the day you direct.
- ◆ **Camaraderie.** Sharing tales of the trail with other directors is a bonding experience.
- ◆ **Respect.** Players respect and admire directors (at least some of the time).
- ◆ **Tax advantages** when you go to tournaments.
- ◆ **Keys** to the club.
- ◆ **Bragging rights.** You can tell your kids you have a part time job.

70 percent games

Jun 28 99er Jim Kock & Cheryl Hauver 70.83%

499er Ivan Sherman & Myra Menville 70%

Jul 9 499er Cleo Velleman & Richard Velleman 71.94%

Jul 11 Open James Bush & John Onstott 75.69%

Some Las Vegas NABC doings

Platinum events: John Onstott-Howard Parker-Drew Casen et al **4th in Truscott Senior Swiss 44.44 Platinum points**

John Onstott-Jacob Morgan-Drew Casen et al **18th in Roth Open Swiss Teams 35.56 Platinum points**

Regionally rated events John Onstott-Jacob Morgan-Drew Casen et al **first in Sat Daylight Swiss teams AND Thurs Daylight A/X/Y Swiss**

National Youth events: Reese Koppel **2nd in Baron Barclay**

National Youth pairs

Other: Eleanor Onstott-Jacob Karno-Kathy Logue-Mina Akhnoukh **9/16 in 0-6000 mini Spingold**

Sunday Swiss Notes

Winners of the Sunday Swiss free play on 6/30 were the Haag team (Ronnie Haag, Cindy Stentz, Quin Bates, Ellen Manshel). We encourage everyone to try Swiss, particularly C teams who will get a free play if they win the C division (and there are at least 3 C teams, which is an average of fewer than 500 points). If you want a partner or a cross pair, contact Lil Range (504-330-1158) or Bummy Rosenfield (504-427-2948).

Other Sunday Swiss news: the Batt team (Fay Batt, Elaine Duplantier, Elaine Muro, Pat Burke, sometimes Albert Solomon) has adopted a team slogan ("Batt to the Bone"), team colors (black and bone), a team t-shirt (black with a dog bone prominently displayed), and a team ring tone ("Bad to the bone" song by George Thorogood and the Destroyers). Perhaps the team spirit is the reason they have done so well lately.

THE CLUB IS CLOSED ON AUGUST 10 & 11 FOR THE CARPET. The location of the games is 400 Metairie Hammond Hwy. Because of the off site game, we would like our players to preregister so that we are prepared for you. We will have a signup on the bulletin board, or you can contact Kathy Logue for the Saturday game and Lil Range/Bummy Rosenfield for the Sunday game.

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH It is not often that bidding a minor suit game is the correct action in a matchpoint event. This is because hands which produce five of a minor so often deliver a hard to be certain of better matchpoint

N	♠Ax
	♥10x
	♦KQx
	♣KQJ10xx
W	♠xxx
	♥AJxxx
	♦Jx
	♣xxx
E	♠QJxx
	♥KQxx
	♦xxx
	♣xx
S	♠Kxxx
	♥xx
	♦Axxxx
	♣Ax

score of four NT. Here is such a hand (see diagram at left), with which our opponents poorly bid but luckily guessed right and delivered a bottom board to us at matchpoints. South was the dealer and opened his marginal hand 1D, as would most aggressive matchpoint players. The auction, as explained by our opponents, with no adverse bidding from us, was as follows, to wit, 1D-2C (two over one game forcing)-2S (played as not showing extra strength)-3C (still forcing)-3D (should show six diamonds or at least a strong five)-4D (Minorwood keycard asking)-4NT (two keycards)-5D (missing one keycard, so uncertain whether to bid six or not and choosing to "go low")-P.

This hand and auction demonstrate why keycard asking is improper by a hand containing a worthless doubleton in an unbid suit. When a keycard is missing the holder of the worthless doubleton does not know whether to continue to slam or not.

There are many hands which opener could hold on this auction with which opener could have had a second round heart control, making a small slam "cold" but on this occasion responder luckily guessed correctly that no slam was makeable.

With this hand a more accurate auction would have been 1D-2C-2S-3C-4C (the trump suit agreement, not a keycard ask)-4S (cuebid bypassing hearts, so no heart control)-5C (no heart control either)-P. In order to have some fun with a hand which promised to result in a bad matchpoint score for our side, I jokingly led the ♥J instead of the ♥A, on which partner of course played an encouraging card, followed by a stunned look when my ♥J held the trick and I continued with the Ace, my hand selfishly taking both of our only two tricks, giving the other three players a tiny laugh.

So what's the point of reporting this hand? It's to remind the readers that it is usually improvident to use any form of keycard asking when holding a worthless doubleton in an unbid side suit.

Missteps Make Us Real by Arnaldo Partesotti

Jake Byrne, a former football player, said: "An occasional misstep doesn't brand us as stupid—it makes us real" (Quoted by Phillip Alder). See how "real" everybody was in the hand which follows, excluding East who had no

North NV		
♠Q9532		
♥J63		
♦T86		
♣K8		
West		East NVD
♠J74		♠KT86
♥QT972		♥5
♦94		♦Q732
♣J42		♣T653
South NV		
♠A		
♥AK84		
♦AKJ5		
♣AQ97		

say in the matter. I was the lucky holder of the South "dream" hand, and I have a couple considerations before getting into it. I do not mind opening strong hands with 2C, but this usually ends up eating valuable bidding space with 2-suited hands. With 3-suited hands, like this one, I "hate" the 2C opening, because you are almost never able to show all your suits at a decent level. This problem with 2 and 3 suited hands has been somewhat alleviated by playing Kokish. OK, if you do not know what Kokish is, I strongly encourage you to google it, and start playing it with your trusted partner. It comes up in very few cases but it is a very simple and useful convention, which is now played by all top players.

I do not play Kokish with this partner, I opened 2C and partner responded 2D, showing an A or a K or 6+ HCP. The "right" bid at this point is 2NT, but I was concerned that with that bid I would never be able to find out if we had a minor suit fit, so I bid 2H, leaving a lot of bidding space available. I expected that partner would bid Spades or a minor suit if he had one, but he bid 3H. After seeing the hand, I do not agree with this bid, I believe he should show his Spades at the cheap two level, planning to give a "delayed" Heart raise next. Still looking for a minor suit slam, over 3H I bid 4C, partner bid 4H and I bid 6H, no point in asking for key cards when I had all of them. To my surprise, West thought for a moment and then doubled, and the bid came back to me. Other than a smattering of Hearts, what could West have for her Double? I bid 6NT, the contract I wanted to be in anyway, though not at this level.

A Spade lead would sink the contract right away, but West led the ♦9, I covered with Dummy's ♦T, and captured East ♦Q. Had East not covered with the ♦Q, I would have won with the ♦T and finessed with the ♦J next. It was now time to count my winners: one Spade, two Hearts, four Diamonds after the lead, and three Clubs, total ten. After the double I could easily develop an eleventh trick by leading low toward the ♥J, which I

North NV		
♠Q953		
♣K8		
West NV		East NVD
♠J74		♠KT
♥T		-
♣J4		♣T653
South NV		
♠A		
♥5		
♣AQ97		

did right away. West won the ♥Q and returned the ♦4, which I won in hand. By the bidding, the Double and the play so far, I assumed that West had 5 Hearts and probably the ♠K. The only hope for another trick was to force some Club discards, therefore I ran the Hearts and Diamonds. On the run of the Hearts West had no problem and East pitched Diamonds. On the run of the Diamonds West pitched 2 Clubs (Hallelujah!), she would have not pitched a club if she had four, when she knew that I bid them. I played a Club to the ♣K dropping the ♣J from West, played a Club to my hand finessing the ♣9 and claimed. Had I known that the ♠K was with East, an elegant Spade/Club squeeze was available, see the diagram at left for the final position. On the last Diamond, if East pitches a Spade I can cash the ♠A and the ♠Q is good, entering dummy with the ♣K. If he pitches a Club, the Clubs are good.

The only lesson from this hand is: if you have a stack of trumps and think you have the hand beaten, do not double, unless you are sure that declarer has no escape. And learn Kokish.

HAND FROM THE PAST by Chuck Pitard

It's funny how you remember hands from years ago. At left is a hand I played with Iype Koshy in a regional tournament in Gulfport years ago. Iype was South and opened 1 Spade. The bidding went 1s-2d-3c-3h-4nt-5h-5nt-7nt. I jumped to 7nt knowing we had all the Aces and relying on my 7 solid Diamonds.

N		♠4
		♥A1042
		♦AKQJ876
		♣3
W	♠32	E
	♥J765	♠J10987
	♦109542	♥Q83
	♣K8	♦---
		♣J10954
	S	♠AKQ65
		♥K9
		♦3
		♣AQ762
All vul, dealer South		

A heart was led and Iype won the ♥Q with his ♥K. Now he had 13 top tricks with the Diamonds coming in. However, when he led a diamond to the ♦A, East showed out.

Iype now had 10 tricks; 11 tricks if the club finesse worked, which was off. He ran his top Diamonds, pitching 2 clubs and a Spade. Then he took his top Spades. On the 3rd Spade West pitched a Heart, holding his top Diamond and the ♣Kx. Iype now led the ♥9 of Hearts to the ♥10. Since West had pitched a Heart, the Hearts were all good. On the fourth Heart, West was down to the good Diamond and the ♣Kx and threw a Club. Iype, realizing that West had been in a 3 suit squeeze, led a club to his ♣A and claimed.

Bridge for the homebound

Quin Bates has volunteered to help find a game for anyone who is housebound, and would like to play. Please let Quin know if you are interested. You can contact him directly, or leave a message at the Bridge Center-- 504-889-0869.

Sherrie Goodman