



Louisiana Bridge Association January 2020

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President's Message January 2020

What is going on at the Bridge Center? Lots of parties and food. So many have joined in to make our holiday season special. Our **tacky wear day** was fun and should become a yearly occasion. Christmas party and Bridge! **Mary LeBlanc** your hosting the Christmas party made it a huge success. Our member sponsored **Friday Pot Luck Party** had the **best food** and **Hunter** made a great choice with the Ham and Turkey. Thanks to our **Board** as they all helped prepare and clean up after the event. Most of us are ready to get back to just playing bridge. I know I am.

The **Rosenblum Tournament is January 9-12. Don't forget to vote for the Board of Directors** that week (see more election details below.)

Susan Beoubay has offered to chair all our tournaments. I don't know why we are so fortunate to have so many wonderful people willing to volunteer their time and creative abilities. **Lowen** is ready to help us play better BRIDGE. Class starts Saturday, January 18 at 9:30. See p 4 for more detail on that. I would like to thank everyone for their continued support to make our club the best place to play BRIDGE and make friends.

Carolyn Dubois

January Events

*= extra points, no extra fee

**=extra points, extra fee

Week of Jan 6—vote for Board of Directors

Jan 6 – Junior Fund Games** Mon all games

Jan 9-12 Rosenblum Sectional Thurs-Sun

Jan 15 – Junior Fund Game**

Jan 17-19 Ridgeland (Jackson MS) Sectional
Thurs-Sun

Jan 24 ACBL-wide Junior Fund Game **
Fri am

Jan 27- Feb 2 – Orange Beach Regional
Mon-Sun

Baton Rouge Sectional firsts (all open)

Thurs AM Chuck Pitard & Allan Siebert

Fri AM Paul Deal and Dave McDonald

Fri PM Larry Federico & Idell Adams

Sat AM Larry Federico & Idell Adams

Sat PM Jack Lewis & Cindy Lewis

A San Francisco NABC result

Soloway KO event

John Onstott-Jacob Morgan-Drew Casen-Jim
Krekorian-Magdalena Ticha-Richard Ritmeijer
9/16 so **50 platinum points**

Board of Directors elections

Starting January 6 —the week of our sectional tournament—we will hold elections for our Board of Directors. Vote for up to five candidates. Below are the eleven candidates, in alphabetical order. **Thanks to all of them for their willingness to serve.**

More information on each candidate is posted on the large bulletin board in the playing area at our club. Also, to help you put names to faces, pictures of the candidates are given on our website.

The candidates alphabetically—Carolyn Dubois, Sue Himel, Ellen Lappa, Mary LeBlanc, Kathy Logue, Ben McKown, Diana Powell, Mike Schlosser, Melanie Thompson, Jim Thornton, Vicki Willis

70 percent games

Open Dec 3 Tues nite Carol Bagalman & Debbie
Rothschild 72.67%

Dec 14 Christmas party Larry Federico & Idell Adams
71.02%

99er Dec 11 Michael Cumberland & Jeanne Cumberland
77.08%

In Memoriam

*Sharon Henry
Robert Whann*

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DIREKTORS KORNER

THIS MONTH'S DIREKTOR IN CHARGE: Big Foot

TOPIC: Know Your Partner's...Anybody, Anybody...Buehler?

Happy New Year from your directors! We hope you had a great bridge 2019 and will have an even better bridge 2020! I have a suggestion for a New Year's resolution.

Many of us know a lot about our partners. We know what they like to nibble on at the club. We know the color of their hair – for those that have some left. We even know their many other proclivities. I would like to suggest that this year we get to know our partners more intimately by knowing their masterpoint total...and not even that but just something close to resembling what their masterpoint total could be. It is most helpful to the director for stratifying the field when a player signs up and their partner is not yet there if you can report a total masterpoint holding for the pair or even reasonably estimate one. Speaking of a partner not being there, we would further suggest confirming with your partner the day before or even better, the day of the arranged game just to protect against them forgetting the date or mixing it up (as you never would) or the always fun "double booking." Ask about their masterpoints at the same time. And finally, if you hit heavy traffic, get out of the Dr's office late or simply oversleep, call the bridge club as soon as you can to let us know you MAY be late. It is an absolute certainty if someone calls 30 seconds before game time, the directors will be doing something else and your call will not be answered.

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Clare Brown, Wayne Cooper, Gayle Jones, Laurie Milani

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Doris Cantor, Nancy Jane Carson, Carro Gardner, Mary Hevron, Lynn Jambon, Diane Share

NEW SECTIONAL MASTER

Stacey Williams

NEW REGIONAL MASTER

Jennifer Holmes

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Bob Pettit

NEW RUBY LIFE MASTER

Jacob Karno

NEW SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTER

Ronald Berenger

Wednesday Grand Slam jackpots

Dec 11 Joan Van Geffen & Judy Katz

Dec 18 Carole Stribling & Jean Talbot

NEW MEMBER

Adrienne Flory

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH Competitive bidding is the very essence of duplicate bridge. Even part score hands can produce as many matchpoints as can a grand slam. But first a word of caution. Avoid competitive bidding on distributional hands when the hand is so weak that there is no reasonable chance that your side will become declarer. Experienced opponents will take full advantage of the competitor's revealed distribution and the likely placement of high cards your too weak intervention will reveal. An excellent example illustrating the reason for this admonition arose in a local club game (see box below left).

E dealer all vul

N ♠Q6
♥A632
♦J852
♣K103

W ♠K8752 **E** ♠A1093
♥95 ♥K87
♦A96 ♦K
♣Q52 ♣A9876

S ♠J4
♥QJ104
♦Q10743
♣J4

The auction was 1C-P-1S-X (too weak, only four card red suits and useless honors in black suits)-2S (slight underbid but showing four trumps)-3H (weak but a double fit)-4S (my overbid based upon five trumps, all working honors and a double fit). The ♥A was the opening lead, followed by a low heart to dummy's ♥K. The play of the hand was quite simple, i.e., draw trumps in two rounds, strip both my hand and dummy of all red suit cards, ending up in dummy and then the ♣9 ducked around to North, whose double marked her with the ♣K (this spot card play is called an "intrafinesse"). North was helpless at that point and had no play to avoid presenting me with an overtrick. North elected to give me a "ruff and sluff" by leading a heart, making five. Interestingly, this relatively simple hand well illustrates several easily recognized bridge phenomena, in particular an overly aggressive takeout double by North, a four trump single raise by East, an aggressive competitive bid by South and an arguable overbid by West (me), all resulting in a seldom seen intrafinesse (North couldn't lead a club without losing her ♣K, while any other lead would result in a "ruff and sluff"), plus a strip and endplay against North, a truly unusual combination of events in one simple hand. Ain't bridge fun!!!

The Magician's Coup by Arnaldo Partesotti

The recent Soloway Knockout Teams championship in San Francisco was won by the Blass team (four Polish and two Dutch players). The Reisinger was won by the Lavazza team (four Italians, one French, one Danish). This gives further support to my theory that European bridge right now is slightly more advanced than its American counterpart. Or maybe it has to do with the restrictions on systems being played at our club and tournament level, which might prevent experimentation and development (Polish club, anyone?)

N ♠ Jxxxx	
♥ Axxx	
♦ Ax	
♣ Kx	
W ♠ x	E ♠ xx
♥ 2	♥ KQJT
♦ JT9xx	♦ xx
♣ AJTxxx	♣ Qxxxx
S ♠ AKQxx	
♥ xxxx	
♦ KQxx	
♣ void	

Continuing the theme of seldom seen bridge coups, thanks to our friends of the Pescara Bridge Club in Italy, here following is another spectacular example, called "the Magician's Coup" (or "the Prestidigitator's Coup"), where a loser seems to vanish in thin air. It consists of a "Loser-on-Loser" play, combined with a "Throw-in", resulting in a "Ruff-and-Sluff" play

If you look at the North-South cards in isolation (see hand in box at left) you will see that, after the ♥2 lead against the Small Slam in Spades, there seem to be two inescapable Heart losers. But...

Declarer wins the lead with the ♥A and ruffs a Club in hand. He enters dummy with the ♠J and ruffs a second Club. He pulls the last trump, cashes the three top Diamonds, for the five cards ending shown in the box at right, and **here is the Magician's moment:**

Declarer plays the last Diamond, throwing in West and pitching one of the two remaining Hearts from dummy. No matter what the unfortunate West plays now, Declarer ruffs in his hand with the trump Ace, sluffing the last Heart from dummy. **Six Spades made! Presto chango!**

N ♠ Jxx	
♥ xx	
W ♦ JT	E ♥ KQJ
♣ AJx	♣ Qx
S ♠ A	
♥ xxx	
♦ x	

For the I/N Crowd by Sue Himel

Bending the Rules—#3

My partner and I did not get to game on this hand. How should we bid it? I opened 1H, partner responded 1NT (forcing), and I rebid 3H. Partner then passed!

My hand: ♠A2 ♥AQT542 ♦AJ ♣KJT

You have 19 high card points. Once you know partner has enough points to respond (at least 6) you must make a game forcing bid. Unfortunately, 3H is only invitational, not forcing, to game. I don't like rebidding 4H either. This could be the wrong contract if partner has a singleton heart. A jump shift is game forcing, but you don't hold another 4 card suit. No bid is perfect so, I would tell the least lie and jump shift with a 3C bid. I am a club short for this bid, but it does have the advantage of being game forcing.

I sometimes jump shift into a 3 card minor but I never do it in a 3 card major. Partner might take me seriously and that could land us in the wrong contract.

If partner complains too much you can always tell him you had that ♠2 sorted into the club suit.

The Louisiana Bridge Association presents “Better Bidding with Lowen”

Saturday mornings, 9:30AM-11:30AM, January 18, 25 and February 1, 8, 2020

\$80 for all four classes Advance reservation and payment required. See form below.

Lowen is a highly qualified, experienced teacher and excellent bridge player. These four workshops will be a comprehensive review of Standard American bridge bidding and techniques.

Many players struggle with every day auctions and rebids. Standard American is the system we use most in competitive bridge. You do not want to miss out on this class.

We will review: What is Forcing and Non Forcing, Cuebids, New Minor Forcing and Fourth Suit Forcing, Important Rebids: Reverses, Jump Shifts, Doubles, NT Responses with and without competition and more!

Please join us for four stimulating workshops.

See Lowen for any questions. **Lowen’s Contact info:** Lowen.bridge@gmail.com 504.452.2533

Please fill out the reservation form below and submit along with your payment (cash or check) to Lowen or to Carolyn Dubois.

Reservation form for Lowen class

I would like to attend Lowen’s workshops on Saturday, January 18 & 25 and February 1 & 8

Attached is my check/cash for \$80.00 made payable to Lowen.

If you are unable to attend all 4 lessons, please circle the dates you will attend.

Name_____

Number of MP's_____

Email Address_____