

# KIBITZER

## Louisiana Bridge Association -- January, 2010

Peggy Allen, Editor

### President's Message

A New Year brings some changes here at the Club. First of all, we will be awarding extra masterpoints at our Monday and Thursday evening games; please come out and play. Jane deMontluzin will direct a new game for 0-299ers on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 AM and will be starting a new daytime EZ Bridge class on Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. Linda Stockton will also begin a new nighttime EZ Bridge class on Tuesday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

The Rosenblum Tournament will be held Thursday January 7<sup>th</sup> through Sunday January 10<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Lynn Giordano and Madonna Abroms for chairing that event and to Lynne Hand who is in charge of partnerships. Voting for new board members will take place before and after all games starting Monday of that week and results will be announced Sunday during the Swiss Team Event. We have a strong slate of candidates running for our board; please review their bios on the front bulletin board and be sure to vote (three of the six candidates will be elected).

We had wonderful holiday celebrations last month. Thanks to Dianne Chesson and Ellie Brammell for organizing our nighttime event. A special thanks goes to Jackie Madden who ran our Silent Auction and to Jim Thornton who solicited many of the auction items. We also had original artwork by member Lil Range, a beautiful pearl necklace donated by Effie and Debbie Rothschild, as well as bridge lessons donated by Jennie Sauviac. Because of the generosity of our members, the Auction realized almost \$1,600, proceeds of which will help to offset the expenses the club will incur during the Nationals this summer. Many thanks also to Suzanne Cliffe for her organization of our daytime party and to all the members who contributed to that event.

In addition to your board members and tournament chairs, it takes the effort of many persons working "behind the scenes" to create an enjoyable and smooth-running club. We would like to thank the following members for their special efforts on our behalf: Club Managers Sally Touns and Jean Talbot; Dick Brammell who handles tournament sanctions and is election chairman; Jeanne Soignet for coordinating the club's decorations and Jan Jones who will be managing that job for the coming year; Jeanie Weiss and Lil Kirshbom who are taking over from Ed Baldinger the job of ordering bridge supplies and replacing worn cards; Ann Barone, outside gardener; Intermediate/Novice Coordinator Jennie Sauviac; Nancy Gates who handles sympathy and get well cards; Linda Stockton for handling the monthly reports to ACBL; Hall of Fame coordinator Lil Range; Theresa Federico who sends our tournament flyers to neighboring clubs; and Peggy Allen who is responsible for the *Kibitzer* and web site maintenance.

And, of course, many thanks to all of you for your contributions throughout the year—food for tournaments and special events, cash, clean up, etc. We are truly blessed.

*Keenan Romig, President*



### Know the Director's Rulings

*Jennie Flynn Sauviac*

#### Psyches (Part 3 of 3)

So what is a psyche? Most typically it is an opening bid made severely distorting the strength of the hand. A player who holds ♠97542 ♥Q84 ♦J9 ♣T52 and opens 1 ♠ is psyching. On the other hand, if a player occasionally opens 1NT holding only 14 HCP, that player has not grossly misstated her hand's strength. (However, if a player frequently decides to open 14 HCP 1NT's, that player's partner will come to expect it and sound ethics requires that every 1NT bid be announced as 14-17.)

What recourse do you have if you believe that a player has psyched against you? First of all, our local regulations ask the person who makes the psychic bid to self-report the bid to the game director. If the psycher does not do this, the opponents may report it.

What good does reporting do, you ask? The Laws specifically ban excessive or frivolous psyching. The reporting of a psyche provides a means by which players' bidding can be tracked. ACBL suggests that more than two psyches per session of play meet the definition of excessive. Such bidding behavior contributes the implicit formation of a partnership understanding, and that is banned by ACBL regulations. Further, a frivolous psyche – one made without good bridge reason – may be penalized on the spot. If players will report true psyches when they occur, the problem can be addressed by the Director.



"Tact is the ability to describe others as they see themselves." *Abraham Lincoln*



### Tournament Results

#### San Diego Fall NABC November 26-December 6, 2009

##### Firsts:

*J. F. Lowenstein & Patti Harp:* 2-Session Poinsettia Pairs, 66 tables (71.78% in 2<sup>nd</sup> session).

For complete tournament results, see:  
<http://www.acbl.org/nabc/results/2009/03/NABC093.HTM>

#### Baton Rouge Sectional December 10-13, 2009

##### Firsts:

*Lew Moore & Geoff Chichester:* Thu PM Pairs, Flts B & C.  
*Jean Talbot & Joan Van Geffen:* Fri PM Pairs, Flight A.  
*Fred Kolb & Paul Tucker:* Sat AM 299er Pairs, Flight D.  
*Iype Koshy & James Bush:* Sun A/X Swiss, Flight A.  
*Edmund Cappel:* Sun A/X Swiss, Flight X.  
*Fred Kolb, Paul Tucker, Orval Eberhart, & Patricia Turner:* Sun B/C/D Swiss, Flight D.

For complete tournament results, see:  
<http://web2.acbl.org/tournaments/results/2009/12/0912021.htm>



"The contract was one club."  
"How did the bidding go?"



### 70% Games

- 11/25 Dot Babin & Douglas deMontluzin 71.46%
- 11/27 Bill Yetter & Mike Falcon 71.97%
- 12/02 Jon Burroughs 81.25%
- 12/07 Judy Katz & Joan Van Geffen 74.54%
- 12/09 Stephen Kishner & Ben Mckown 73.89%
- 12/10 Laurie St. Paul & Katsumi Sohma 70.06%
- 12/14 Judy Katz & Jean Talbot 70.83%
- 12/15 David Woods & Stephen Kishner 70.83%
- 12/17 Victor Law & Marvin Bernstein 70.00%

Did you have a 70% or better game? We want to report it in the *Kibitzer*. As soon as you complete a 70%+ game, have the director put a note in the *Kibitzer* envelope on the bulletin board in the hall.



### Unit Masterpoint Milestones

**NEW JUNIOR MASTER**

Judith G. Rowley

**NEW CLUB MASTERS**

E. Hugh Lawson

Barbara R. Satterlee

**NEW SECTIONAL MASTER**

Theresa M. Federico

**NEW REGIONAL MASTERS**

Orval L. Eberhart

Debbie Rothschild

♦ **NEW DIAMOND LIFE MASTER** ♦

Iype Koshy

Congratulations to these members upon their advancement in rank.



### Welcome to These New Unit 134 Members

- Corinne F. Barnwell
- Marion T. Bruno
- Carol O. Caplan
- Edith H. Fedoroff
- Roberta T. Hirsu
- Lurline K. Kirchem
- Elizabeth Lody
- Martha J. Pearson
- Jeannine R. Richardson
- Paul S. Rosenblum
- Gwen S. Sharp
- Antoinette B. Talbott
- Mary H. Walker



### Upcoming Special Events

- Unit Championship:** Mon., 01/04, 10:30 AM, no extra fee.
- Metairie Rosenblum Sectional Tournament:** 01/07-01/10.\*
- Jackson Sectional Tournament:** 01/15-01/17.\*
- Unit Championship:** Sat., 01/23, Noon, no extra fee.
- Biloxi Regional Tournament:** 01/25-01/31.\*
- STAC Week:** 02/01-02/07, \$8.00 entry fee.
- Houston Regional Tournament:** 02/01-02/07.\*

\*See [www.acbl.org/play/tournaments.html](http://www.acbl.org/play/tournaments.html) for complete information about tournaments.



Back in the days when smoking was allowed at the bridge table, an expert sat down as West and pulled a large cigar out of his pocket. He turned to North and asked, “Would it bother you if I smoke this?” “No,” said North. The expert then turned to South and asked the same question. “Not at all,” was South’s reply. “Ah, then, there’s no point to it,” said the expert as he put the stogie back into his pocket.



### Online Bridge

Lillian M. Range & Tipping Ellis

Have you considered playing bridge online? Want to get in on the fun? More and more people at our Metairie club are trying it - novices as well as seasoned veterans. Several sites exist for such play, including Bridgebaseonline.com, OKBridge.com, BridgeDoctor.com, pogo.com, swangames.com, bridgeclublive.com, and others. Often 14,000 or more players are playing on the web site Bridge Base Online (BBO) at any one time.

There are several ways to play bridge online. You can play in open games, play in regular tournaments, play in special speedball tournaments (4.5 minutes per board), play against robots, and watch experts. Playing online lets you form new partnerships, continue existing partnerships, practice new conventions, play at 3 AM if you feel like it, and play even if you cannot get to the local club. Online play does not replace club play and/or lessons, but will enhance your bridge experience.

#### Tips for online play:

-- Remember that your online partner may get distracted by grandkids, pets, the doorbell, or who knows what else, so be understanding and keep a sense of humor!

-- Many online sites are free and available 24/7. Many offer free play, but require a small fee for tournaments.

-- Consider whether the scoring is matchpoints or international matchpoints (IMPS, which is scored like Swiss Teams), and adjust your play accordingly.

Want an adventure? Invite somebody new to play or call a friend to join you online.

[Ed.: Demonstrations of online bridge on the club’s computers can be arranged. Please speak to one of the authors, Peggy Allen, or Keenan Romig if you would like a demonstration.]

This month, BBO will be presenting several European championships on Vugraph. You can watch the action as it occurs. Watching Vugraph presentations is free on BBO.]



### New Games/Lessons Starting

Jane de Montluzin reports several new series of games and lessons starting this month:

A 0-299 game will be added on Tuesday mornings, starting January 5. There will be a mini-lesson before the game at 9:30, and the game will be finished by about 1:00 PM.

A new Easybridge course will start on Friday, Jan. 18. Each session will run from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM, and will include a lesson followed by an opportunity to play for masterpoints.

A series of Wednesday afternoon single-topic workshops will begin early this year – see Jane for more information.



### Wednesday Jackpot Report

A \$36 Grand Slam Jackpot was won on Wed., Dec 9. John Onstott/Bernie Weiss bid and made 7H on Board 6. Eileen and Dick Bagnetto bid and made 7N on the same board.

As of 12/23/09 the Grand Slam Jackpot had \$8.50.

