

KIBITZER



Louisiana Bridge Association – September, 2011

Peggy Allen, Editor

President's Message

As you know, we are short of parking on Thursdays and Fridays. I want to thank those of you who car pool, it helps a lot. We do have other people who park in our lot, mostly from OTB across the street. We would like to put a notice on their car telling them they can't park here and will be towed next time. We need your help. If you see someone park in our lot and go elsewhere, please advise the director and she will put the notice on the offending car.

Board members noticed that half our players wear a sweater or extra cover in the summer. The board voted to raise the thermostat from 73 to 74. There is no way to keep everyone happy on this. I appreciate that very few of our players complain, and do want to apologize to the warm players.

The July 8-14, 2013, regional tournament is set for the Hilton Riverside. This is a great location. The room rates will be \$119 and parking will be \$5 for up to ten hours and \$10 for overnight. Thanks to **Jackie Madden** and **Patti Harp** for their good work in negotiating this.

Thanks also to **Sharon Henry** for providing the great flower arrangements we see around the club.

Sid LeBlanc



Tournament Results

Lake Charles LA Sectional August 4-7, 2011

Firsts:

Sally Toups: Fri Aft Pairs, Flights A & B.
Joan Van Geffen & Jean Talbot: Sat AM Pairs, Flight A.
Sally Toups: Sat AM Pairs, Flight B.
Joan Van Geffen & Jean Talbot: Sat Aft Pairs, Flight A.

Beaumont TX NLM/500 Sectional August 19-21, 2011

Firsts:

Joan Wood: Sat Aft 499 Pairs, Flights B & C.



Spingold on Vugraph at Toronto

At the summer NABC in Toronto back in July, playing board 27 in the Spingold Teams final, Eric Rodwell upgraded this 15-point hand

♠AK5 ♥QJT862 ♦J97 ♣A

to open 1♣, his system's strong forcing bid. According to one of the Vugraph commentators, in Rodwell's system the 1♣ bid promises 16+ HCP with any shape.

Another commentator allowed that, "Top players are like airline passengers – love to upgrade."

Commentator David Bird, from England and familiar to ACBL *Bulletin* readers from the "Bridge with the Abbot" column, noted that, "Upgrading is free at bridge; not so with British Airways."



New EZ Bridge Sessions Starting

A new series of EZ Bridge classes will start on Thursday, September 8, at 9:00 AM. EZ Bridge lessons are oriented to beginners and novice players who want to learn new conventions and improve their game.

The first 4 weeks of the EZ Bridge classes are free and it is not necessary to bring a partner. Lessons continue every Thursday at 9:00 AM and are over at 11:30 AM. After the first 4 weeks, lessons are \$6/week.

Contact Suzanne Cliffe, 895-5553, for more information. Please refer your friends and acquaintances to this opportunity to learn our great, mind-enlivening game.



Beyond EZ Bridge

One of the charms of bridge is that you can always learn more. Several people from our club offer bridge instruction, either privately or in small groups, to help you improve your game. They are:

- Suzanne Cliffe 504-835-5553
- Douglas de Montluzin 504-444-4650
- Janie de Montluzin 504-444-4644
- John Federico 504-443-5505
- J. F. "Lowen" Lowenstein 504-452-2533
- Nonie Leavitt 504-283-4684
- Jennie Flynn Sauviac 504-888-2883

For more details, call one of the instructors above, or see the club's web site (www.la-bridge.com) and click on the Instructors link.



70% Games

- 08/02 William Weiss & John Onstott 71.52%
- 08/09 Joan Van Geffen & Judy Katz 72.73%
- 08/11 Katherine Melius & Mollie Fraser 70.54%
- 08/12 Angie Krieger & Libby Padwa 72.50%
- 08/16 John Onstott & William Weiss 71.35%
- 08/18 Suzanne Cliffe & Marion Bruno 70.00%
- 08/27 Maurice Geisel & Nonie Leavitt 74.16%

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.



Welcome to These New Unit 134 Members

- Jill B. Chenevert
- Eve E. Kryssing
- Danielle M. Trostorff
- Bernard Vanderlinden
- Alison V. Vitter

The *Kibitzer* typist (and proofreader, and editor) apologizes to Richard N. Velleman, whose name was misspelled in the New Members list in last month's issue, and thanks him for the many lunchtime bridge games at Mobil Oil back in the 70's.



Unit Masterpoint Milestones

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

- Gregory E. Blun, Sr.
- Albert M. Jones, Jr.
- Angie Krieger
- Robert H. Parke
- Shirley Posecai
- Barbara B. Renaudin
- Elizabeth C. Sewell
- Esther M. Shefsky

NEW CLUB MASTERS

- Virginia S. Corrigan
- Christina C. Crutcher
- Sharon F. Henry
- Jean B. Philippi
- William C. Weed

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS

- Barbara Artopoeus
- Dorothy G. Robbins

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

- Hope S. Read
- Susan O. Sommer
- Cily M. Winkeler

NEW NABC MASTERS

- William M. Beaushaw
- Pat C. Ellis
- Madeline W. Tonti

NEW LIFE MASTER

- David Woods

NEW SILVER LIFE MASTERS

- Philip W. Backes
- Sheena Dooley
- Leslie Kolb

Congratulations to these Unit 134 members upon their advancement in rank.



Upcoming Special Events

- Monday, September 5:** Unit Championship, 10:30, extra points, no extra fees.
- **Saturday, September 10:** NAP Unit Finals, Noon, \$7 entry fee.
- *September 12-18:** Tunica, MS, Regional.
- Wednesday, September 14:** Instant Matchpoint Game, an ACBL-wide **Gold Point Event**, 7:15 PM, \$7 entry fee.
- Saturday, September 24:** Unit Club Championship, Noon, extra points, no extra fees.
- *September 30-October 2:** Metairie 299er Sectional.
- *See www.acbl.org/play/tournaments.html for complete information about upcoming tournaments.
- **See www.acbl.org/play/special-events-info.php for information about the North American Pairs (NAP) games.



Know the Director's Rulings

Jennie Flynn Sawviac

You Can Avoid a Revoke

Do you realize the real consequence of a revoke? Not only do you punish your partner and yourself with a penalty, you give an undeserving good score to your opponents.

Count your cards when you take them out of the board. Count your cards again after you spread your hand. You must see all 13 cards. Watch the card played to each trick so you follow when you have a card in that suit.

IF your partner does NOT follow to the suit led, request him to look again.

Should a revoke become established, absolutely call the director for the ruling. All situations are not the same. If you can correct the revoke before you or your partner leads or plays to the next trick, the penalty is not as severe. If YOU win the trick on which you revoke, there could be a 2-trick penalty. If your PARTNER wins the trick on which you revoked, there could be a 1-trick penalty. Never let the opponents make the ruling in any situation. Just say, "Director, please."



Wednesday Jackpot Report

Dee Moses and Joan Van Geffen made an "impossible" 7 contract to win the Grand Slam Jackpot on August 24. They won \$21.50.

To win the jackpot you must: play in the Wednesday open game, pay 50 cents to be in the jackpot pool, and bid and make a grand slam. If no one wins, the jackpot money carries over to the next Wednesday.



Bridge Acronyms of the Month

(Or, You Can't HUM in the ACBL)

Would you pass a hand with 16 HCP (High Card Points) instead of opening the bidding? Would you believe that there are some conventions and bidding systems that are not allowed in ACBL play, even if fully disclosed to the opponents? (The answers are, "some people do" and "it's true".)

In systems known as "forcing pass systems" a pass when one could have opened forces one's partner to bid. (Presumably, this only applies to first or second chair bids!) This type of bidding arrangement falls under the acronym HUM, or Highly Unusual Methods. Most HUM are not allowed in ACBL tournaments.

For more details, visit www.acbl.org and search on "General Convention Chart". The convention chart document there comprises four parts: the General Convention Chart lists conventions, systems, and treatments allowed (and some specifically disallowed) in most ACBL tournament events; the Mid-Chart does the same for higher-level events at NABC's; and the Superchart lists the same for the very highest competitive events at NABC's. The fourth part is a page of recommendations for conventions, etc., to be allowed in games with an upper masterpoint limit of 20.

