



Louisiana Bridge Association September 2014

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President's Message - September 2014

A lot is happening at your club this Fall. We get started with hot dogs, etc for our **Labor Day game** on September 1st. We are offering a 499er game on Wednesdays at noon; this is being offered on a trial basis and will continue if attendance warrants.

New **EZ Bridge classes** start on Thursday September 11th at 9:00 AM. Classes meet weekly and end at 11:30 AM. The first four lessons are free; no partner is needed. Wayne Weisler is running the program. We are proud of our many EZ bridge graduates and ask you to spread the word if you have any friends who may be interested.

Membership Week is September 15-21. See September Events for more details.

299ers should mark their calendars for the **Fall 299er Tournament** (October 10th-12th) here at the club. Cathy Alford and Denise Fuselier have graciously agreed to co-chair that event. The **Dottie Toledano Sectional** will be held November 13-16th; many thanks to co-chairs Sue Guarisco and Hope Read; please give them lots of help. We will have more information next month about other social events coming in the next few months....and other projects in the works.

Keenan Romig

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September Events

Mon Sep 1 – Morning games – **Unit C.C.** – Extra points – No extra fees

Sep 8 – 14 – **Tunica Regionals**

Sep 11 New **EZ Bridge** begins 9AM

Sep 15-21 **Membership Game Week**. No extra fees, extra points. All may play but only pairs of ACBL members can win points.

Wed Sep 24 – Morning games – **Unit C.C.** – Extra points – No extra fees

70 percent games

299ers *Patricia Burke and Muffin Balart* 71.73 on Jul 31 and 77.2 on Aug 22

Honk if you scored a grand slam! On **Aug 6**, grand slams were bid and made by *Nonie Leavitt & Theresa Federico, Daisy Vandenburg & Lynne Hand, Bill Weiss & Sid LeBlanc, Lillian Breen & Julius Rosenfield, Sanford & Martie Sisco, Helen St. Romain & Fay Batt, Juanita Heidingsfelder & Jean Talbot, and John Sitton & Lillian Range*. The \$35 pot was split many ways. On **Aug 13** things returned to normal—Eileen & Richard Bagnetto were the only successful grand slammers.

Welcome to New Members

Jennifer Dennies, Charlotte Estopinal, Edgar Taylor (transfer)

Road Warriors (Tournament Successes)

John Onstott 72.94, *James Bush* 62.87, *Jeffrey Juster* 37.85 and *Norman Leslie* 17.41 were the top Unit 134 MP winners at the **Las Vegas NABC**. Other Unit 134 MP winners were *Jack and Cindy Lewis, Wayne Merkel, Eleanor Onstott, Lillian Range, Mary Regottaz, Bummy Rosenfield, and Marilyn Seward*. Congratulations to all!

Paul Deal won the Friday and Sunday Swiss Teams in the **Lake Charles sectional** with *Jan Galey*. Fri with *Curtis Carpenter and Toby Bassett*, Sun with *Craig and Carole Cordes*.

Guss Ginsburg won a Friday KO event and the Sunday Swiss in the **Houston sectional**.

John Onstott won the Vulcan Eve Bracket I KO, the Thurs-Fri Bracket I KO AND the Thurs Fri Eve Bracket I compact KO in the **Birmingham Regional**. John was the MP leader for the tournament with 105.81. In the same tournament, *Jeannie Beaushaw, Bill Beaushaw, Madeline Tonti, Gayle Coyle* won the Tues Wed Bracket III KO.

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Correction. The August Kibitzer reported two results incorrectly from the Wes Busby Sectional *Sherrie Goodman* and *Sharon Henry* won the Thurs AM Pairs flight C, and *Fred Lay* and *Sherrie Goodman* won the Fri AM Open Pairs Flight C. Sorry about that!

Longest Day Report. The Aces Against Alzheimer's team, led by *Sherrie Goodman*, raised \$19,860, the ninth highest amount raised by all fund raising teams in the event. Congratulations to the team and to all who contributed. See the official letter of congratulations on p.3 (email/online edition.)

Rank Advancements

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Verline Olinde, Diana Powell, Lois Saulsbury

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS

Evelyn Contois, Gigi Matthews, James Mayfield

NEW REGIONAL MASTER

Jacob Karno

NEW NABC MASTERS

Cathy Alford, Wanda Hoffmeister

NEW LIFE MASTER

Barbara Satterlee

Sherlock Holmes: The Secret of Winning Bridge

A little known fact is that Sherlock Holmes and Watson were extraordinary bridge players. In retrospect, this may be easily assumed. Why you ask?

1. **Holmes had natural power of observation.** At the table, he not only listened to the bidding, considered the meanings, but he also, observed the opponent's bidding/playing tempo. Before he sat down, he was keenly aware of his opponent's habits and triggers.

2. **“just the facts, madam, just the facts”** was a signature quote of another insightful detective(Dragnet, Joe Friday). Both evaluated the facts and properly applied them.

3. **Facts + Observations = Assumptions.** From Assumptions come **Plans...**

“Plan your play and play your plan...”-**The Execution**

You execute your plan and you find contradictions. Fall back..... “Whenever you think that you are facing a contradiction, check your premises. ... “ (Dagny Taggart). Hopefully, you have enough time left to re-analyze, change assumptions, re-plan and continue to play.

Help from Sherlock

Think of each hand as a Sherlock murder mystery. You are called to the scene of the ‘crime.’ (you are in 4 spades). You evaluate the facts (say your left hand opponent opened 1 Heart, your partner doubled, you ended in 4 Spades). You put your facts together (you and partner have 26 points, West opened the bidding, you assume West has 13...). You assume East has very few face cards...thus you play West for them..You make 4 Spades...Case Closed.

In closing, **TO BE SUCCESSFUL** you must **THINK and FOCUS.**

—Ben McKown

On page 3 (email and online) we provide a little refresher on trump coups and endplays. Also the full letter of congratulations for Aces Against Alzheimer's.

Basics from the Director

by Jennie Flynn Sauviac Psyches, part I

Psyches are an integral part of the game. Psyches have been defined (ACBL, 2001) as an INTENTIONAL and gross deviation from the expected length and/or strength. The ACBL defined “gross” as more than 2 HCP or more than one card in suit length. However the ACBL also recognizes that psyches may distort the game and its regulations specifically prohibit players from using controlled psyches (ones that can be accommodated in the auction) or from having a partnership understanding about when to psyche. In short, a legitimate psyche should be a surprise to everyone at the table.

It is important to recognize that there is a difference between a psyche and a misleading bid. There are many misleading bids which a director should not treat as a psyche. For example 1♥ - x - 1♠ (or variations) is always suspect and claims for protection are laughable unless made by a very inexperienced player. The inexperienced player should be told that this type of misleading bid is an integral part of the game. Of course, any player who would psyche against a novice should be sent to enroll in a course in Class. *(continued next month)*

Responses to Natural Invite of 4NT

In an auction that starts 1 or 2nt-4nt, use the following scheme:

- 1) Pass or bid 6nt to play
 - 2) Bid lowest 4card suit at five level. Pard will raise to 6, bid higher 4-carder or 5nt. The bidding can stop at 5nt if no fit. If opener, however, bids new suit at 6 level, it shows 4-5 in the suits as bid by opener. Responder will bail to 6nt in rare instance he has 3-2 in those suits.
 - 3) Immediate 5nt bid by opener checks for 5-carder responder may have. He bids it or 6nt.
 - 4) Immediate jump to 6 of suit shows reasonable 5-carder or 6-card suit. With 3 card support, responder passes, less bids 6nt.
 - 5) If opener wants to make sure partner stops in six of opener's suit, he bids 5 of suit then six of same to end auction.
- This scheme allows search for the 12th trick of a 4-4 fit without getting past 5nt. It allows opener to show a 4-5 hand, not an easy task. Opener can also check for a 5-bagger in responders hand. This seems to efficiently cover most of the probable distributions.

Bob Bowers

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH

Would you pre-empt in first seat, all non-vul, with J8765432=x=xxx=x? At the table the bidding went P-4C-X-P-4S-P-P-P, so you in fact wind up in 4S. The opening lead is the king of hearts, and partner puts down a dummy of 10=Axxxx=AKQx=Axx. You win the ace of hearts and then play what? BE HONEST AND MAKE YOUR NEXT PLAY BEFORE READING ON. If you did not ruff a heart before touching trumps, you have gone down one on a hand you should make. If trumps break 4-0 with AKQ9 on your right (and they do!) you need to reduce your trump holding to the same length as that of RHO. You want a three card ending of dummy--xxx, RHO--AK9 of trumps and declarer--Jxx of trumps, with the lead in dummy at trick eleven. So start by winning the ace of hearts, ruff a heart in hand, and then lead a spade toward dummy. If the spades do not break 4-0 you have made the hand. If they do break 4-0 with AKQ9 on your right, you can still make the hand as long as RHO has three diamonds. Then RHO's defense will be held to the three top trumps if he holds

AKQ9=xxxx=xxx=x, as is likely on the auction. But work it out for yourself--unless you trumped a heart at trick two you will end up with the lead in the wrong hand at trick eleven and you will lose four trump tricks. If you played correctly you will have achieved the very rare "triple trump coup" and a cold top!

PLAY NICE

[The Longest Day](#)

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it in your browser.](#)



Dear Participant,

On June 21, people in five nations and all 50 states across America took part in The Longest Day[®]. After greeting the sun, we hiked, rode motorcycles, cooked, played bridge, sang karaoke, bowled, painted, danced, and, at sunset, we told the world that we're in it until Alzheimer's is finished.

Today, we are thrilled to announce that, because of your passion, The Longest Day has raised **more than \$2 million dollars** to advance the care, support and research efforts of the Alzheimer's Association[®].

We have exceeded our goal for this year's event and we are so grateful to all who raised funds to bring us closer to our vision of a world without Alzheimer's. Please give yourself a huge pat on the back! We want to take this opportunity to recognize this year's Top 10 Fundraising Teams and Top 10 Fundraising Individuals.*

Top 10 Fundraising Teams

1. Team National Board - \$154,453
2. Sagamore Bridge Club - \$83,523
3. Cape Cod Alzstars - \$53,435
4. Bridge Academy of North Dallas - \$30,000
5. Edgewood - \$27,839
6. Bridge Club of Atlanta - \$26,273
7. Bridge Heroes United - \$22,077
8. Step and Swing for Elaine - \$21,142
9. Aces Against Alzheimers - \$19,860
10. This Is Our Life - \$18,051

Top 10 Fundraising Individuals

1. Moly Waugh - \$50,150
2. David Goltermann - \$33,772
3. Lucy Shostak - \$25,340
4. Jackie Kouri - \$14,643
5. Bridging the Gap - \$13,515
6. Thomas Winkel - \$11,630
7. Electa Anderson - \$11,100
8. Linda Powers - \$10,040
9. Larissa Seda - \$8,575
10. Barbara Fern/Emily Maduro - \$7,970

Congratulations to all of these teams and individuals! These remarkable achievements have inspired us to move forward with even more drive and determination for next year. Please save the date for The Longest Day 2015 on Sunday, June 21. Registration will open this winter at alz.org/thelongestday.

As a reminder, you can help us to enhance next year's event by taking part in our [2014 Longest Day Participant Survey](#). The last call for survey responses is Monday, August 4, 2014.

Thank you,

The Longest Day Team

**Totals & rankings reflect all dollars received as of August 1, 2014.*

Trump Coups and Endplays

Sometimes when declaring a good looking suit contract you run into a terrible trump break that seems to doom the contract. For example you may have 6 trumps in hand, 2 in the dummy and a good dummy, but after you play the first or second round of trumps you discover that LHO is out of trumps. Perhaps you need to bring in all the trumps to make the contract. You may have a tenace over RHO's remaining trumps, but no more trumps in dummy to take the needed finesse. All is not necessarily lost. You may be able to execute a trump coup: run off winners in dummy and plan to overruff RHO when he does ruff a winner. But in order for this tactic to work, to force a good defender to ruff, you must first shorten your trumps to the same length as RHO's trump length, generally by ruffing one or more cards from dummy in your hand. You will need sufficient dummy entries to do all the ruffing and then be in dummy when RHO has only trumps remaining. Hence at the very beginning of the hand you must plan carefully.

(continued on p.4)

Trump Coups and Endplays (cont'd)

Interestingly, when it turns out that it is LHO who has unexpectedly long trumps, you may also be able to fix the situation by means of an endplay, where LHO is forced to lead away from his trumps into your trump tenace. But in this case also, you must shorten your own trumps to the same length as his, and throw him in when he has no safe exit cards.

Here are two concrete examples to illustrate these procedures. Suppose you have ♠AKQT98 ♥Kx ♦Kxxx ♣x and dummy has ♠76 ♥Axxx ♦Ax ♣AKQxx. Suppose you are in seven spades with a heart lead. Looks very good--win the heart in hand, pull trumps and claim 13 tricks. But suppose at trick two you play ♠A and LHO shows out. Disaster? Not necessarily. Cross to dummy in diamonds and take a spade finesse. Now your spades are KQ98 and RHO has J43 in spades. You would like to take another spade finesse but you have no more spades in dummy. Try a trump coup. You have one spade too many in hand so play ♥A and ruff a heart. Assume RHO has followed. Now you have ♠KQ9 and RHO has ♠J43. Cash ♦K and play ♣A, ♣K, ♣Q. If RHO follows to all this, pitch your diamond losers from hand on ♣K, ♣Q and the situation is: dummy ♥x ♣xx RHO ♠J43 you ♠KQ9. Now play any card from dummy. RHO must ruff, and you overruff cheaply and claim. This will definitely work if RHO started with ♠J5432 ♥xxx ♦xx ♣xxx. Possibly also with some other holdings but it will definitely fail if RHO has only two clubs. In that case he ruffs ♣Q. You can overruff but you are stuck in hand with a diamond loser.

Now alter the hand as follows. You have ♠AKQ987 ♥Kx ♦Kxxx ♣x and dummy has ♠65 ♥Axxx ♦Ax ♣AKQxx. Suppose you are six spades on a heart lead. You are unhappy to have missed the grand, as you seem to have 13 tricks on top. You win the heart lead in hand. But suppose RHO shows out when you play ♠A. Now you are not thrilled even to be in six, but do not give up. Go through the same trump shortening process as before. Play ♥A, ruff a heart. Then ♦K, ♦A, ♣A, ♣K, ♣Q, pitching your diamond losers on ♣K, ♣Q. If LHO started with JT432 xxx xx xxx the layout will now be: LHO ♠JT43 dummy ♠6 ♥x ♣xx you ♠KQ98. Now play any card from dummy and ♠8 from hand. Then LHO is endplayed—or must let you score 8♠, and you make your contract. This play is very delicate but at least you have a chance.

There are many delicate details to consider in the play of hands like these, but the main points are the ones Paul Deal makes in his column. In planning the the play, consider whether a trump coup or trump endplay might be needed, check on your entry situation, and allow for the necessary trump shortening in your plan. In extreme circumstances you might take out insurance after winning the first trick in dummy by ruffing in hand even before you get the bad news about trumps. Again, see Paul's column.

You can find many more details and examples of trump coups and endplays online (Google!), or in classic books on play of the hand: Watson, *Play of the Hand*, or Mollo and Gardener, *Card Play Technique*.