



Louisiana Bridge Association December 2014

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♣PLAY NICE♦PLAY NICE♥PLAY NICE♠PLAY NICE♣PLAY NICE♦PLAY NICE♥PLAY NICE♠PLAY NICE♣PLAY NICE♦PLAY NICE

President's Message -December 2014

During this season of giving, the Board would like to thank those volunteers who have generously offered their time and talents to the club during the past year. In particular, we would like to thank the following for their recent contributions:

Cathy Alford and **Denise Fuselier** who chaired the Fall 299er Tournament;

Suzanne Cliffe and **Jennie Sauviac** who co-chaired the 25,000 masterpoint milestone celebration for John Onstott and bartenders **Jim Thornton** and **Roy Richardson**;

Sue Guarisco and **Hope Read** who did a fantastic job co-chairing the Dottie Toledano sectional in mid November. We had record breaking attendance and a total of 297 tables over the four days- a 20% increase over last year's attendance.

Larry Federico, **Lynn Giordano**, **Ben McKown** and **Marlene Ruckert** who have agreed to run for the upcoming openings on the board of directors;

Sherrie Goodman who will assume the responsibilities of Club Manager, replacing **Sally Toups** and **Jean Talbot** who have both served in that capacity for many years.

Sharon Henry and her committee who will be decorating the club and presenting the nighttime holiday party on December 13th.

Pat Burke who negotiated additional parking for us at Asian Market (see info at club).

Remember that it takes a village....We still need a chair for the daytime holiday potluck (which practically runs itself). If you can help, please let me know.

Wishing you and your families a wonderful holiday season.

Keenan Romig

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December Events

Dec 4 – 7 – Baton Rouge Sectional

Sat – Dec 13 evening holiday party

Fri – Dec 19 - Holiday Pot Luck Lunch and club championship

EVENING HOLIDAY PARTY

December 13 6PM. A catered dinner followed by club championship Open and 299er games. **Preregistration** at the bulletin board in the front of the club is **mandatory**, so that we can give the caterer an accurate count. Non-Bridge playing guests are welcome at \$10 per person and we will have a Poker Room for anyone who prefers that sort of challenge. For more information or answers on this, text or call **Sharon Henry** at 504-458-4336 or **Robin Palmisano** at 504-343-1609

Also, to help meet expenses of Nationals in 2015, we will hold a small **auction** at this party. Sealed bids may be made ahead of time and opened that night. Please have all items to **Jackie Madden**, 888-4245, by December 6th so appropriate items can be made into attractive baskets. Items to be considered are any gift certificates, jewelry, wine and artwork. Many thanks for your help in this endeavor.

Watch your belongings! One of our members reported that money and her driver's license were taken from her purse left on one of the center tables during a game.

Important Reminders

The Board would like to remind players of the following:

- Players who arrive late are subject to a 3 pt penalty and may be unable to play if boards have already been distributed and the movement would require change. Any boards that cannot be played due to tardiness will be scored as Average PLUS for the opponents and Average MINUS for the late pair. If you are unforeseeably delayed, please call the club and inform the director that you are en route so your partner will know and the director can take that into consideration. This should happen RARELY if at all.
- ACBL regulations require that every partnership must have at least one convention card completed and available for review upon request. Otherwise, players must play the Yellow Card.
- Please do not discuss hands. New opponents arriving to the table may not have played those boards yet; in addition, the discussion is often overheard at the adjacent table and gives those players an unfair advantage if they are the next ones to play those boards.

Your cooperation is appreciated.

Asian Market Parking--along the fence adjacent to our property and a few spaces on the right (looking from bridge club). Please do not park on left as you enter--if you are blocking truck deliveries, you may be asked to move.

Welcome New Member—Margaret Carriere

Rank Advancements

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Gail Lewis, David Rice, Janet Rice, Mary Smith, Frankie Wittenberg, John Wittenberg
NEW CLUB MASTER

Earl Wattigny

NEW SECTIONAL MASTER

Mary Ellen Roy

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Nancy Graham, Ada Havener

NEW NABC MASTERS

Susan Guarisco, Peggy McCranie

NEW LIFE MASTER

Susan Sommer

NEW SILVER LIFE MASTERS

Bill Beaushaw, Sanford Sisco, Wayne Weisler

Grand Slam Jackpot Winners

Nov 12 Eileen & Richard Bagnetto \$20

70 percent games

299ers Janis Roberts & David Roberts 10/30

73.5% ; Margaret Shirer & John Clement 11/20

74.6%; Hunter McFadden & Robert Whann

11/24 70.8%

499ers Debbie Rothschild & Carol Bagalman

11/ 19 71.2%

Open Larry Federico & Idell Adams 11/17

70.6% ; Jean Talbot & Judy Katz Nov 24 70.4%

Paul's Deal of the Month. Playing in a recent sectional matchpoint event I quickly reached a contract of 4H after opening 1H when holding xx=AQ9xxx=K10x=Ax. My LHO led the King of clubs, which I won with the Ace after dummy came down with AKx=xxx=AJ9xx=Jx. At matchpoints it is generally correct to avoid reckless and anti-percentage plays but to nevertheless plan a line of play which affords the best opportunity to collect the maximum number of tricks, even if some minor risk is involved. So I crossed to dummy with a spade and took the heart finesse, which worked. I then played the Ace of trumps, dropping the King and clearing the suit. Then I laid down the King of diamonds, intending to finesse for the missing Queen. Eureka! Down came the singleton Queen. Making seven! With everything working there were actually fourteen available tricks but only two pairs in the entire field bid 6H and no one was bold enough to bid seven. Everyone who played the hand "wide open" took all thirteen tricks but a handful of pairs took a more conservative line and suffered the consequences. Later that day at dinner I commented that if I had played the hand the way I would have at "real bridge" I would have gotten close to a zero at matchpoints. Naturally I was then quizzed about how I would have played the hand at IMPS, for instance. My "safest" line of play would have been to win the first club trick, cash the Ace of hearts and the two top spades, then ruff the third spade and exit with the remaining little club. If either opponent then led a trump I couldn't lose more than two trumps and a club. A diamond lead would locate the Queen for me and a club lead would provide a "ruff and sluff." So what's the moral of this report? It is that "matchpoint" bridge is not "real bridge," and that playing a hand safely to make the contract is not the path to winning duplicate bridge events. It is the frequency of gain, not the amount of gain, which governs winning matchpoint bridge.

In Memoriam

Angie LaScola

Margaret "Tinky" Watson

Tournament Successes

Puerta Vallarta Regional First Eleanor Onstott et al Los Cabos KO Brkt A

Dottie Toledano Sectional Firsts

Thurs AM William Knecht & Mary Hevron 0-20 pairs

Robert Pettit & Alma Slatten 299er pairs Flts D,E

Helen Ross & Gregory Ross 299er Pairs Flt F

Wayne Weisler & Iype Koshy open pairs Flt A

Elaine Muro & Elaine Duplantier open pairs Flts B,C

Thurs PM Patricia Burke & Muffin Balart 299er pairs Flts D,E

Linda Conner & Elizabeth Cordes 299er pairs Flt F

Joan Van Geffen & Judy Katz open pairs Flt A

Michael Falcon & Debra Falcon open pairs Flt B

Paul Rosenblum & Jacob Karno open pairs Flt C

Fri AM Om Garg & Lallie Garg, 299er pairs Flts D,E

Bonnie Zakotnik & Marcia Legendre 299er pairs Flt F

Curtis Carpenter & Paul Deal open pairs Flt A

Ann Barone & Marlene Ruckert open pairs Flt B

Linda Rodrigue & Mary Morton open pairs Flt C

Fri PM Janice Zazulak & Susan Martin 299er pairs Flts D,E

Linda Conner & Lynn Flynn 299er pairs Flt F

Curtis Carpenter & Paul Deal open pairs Flt A

Jacob Karno & Don Daigle open pairs Flt B

Fred Lay & Claudette Lay open pairs Flt C

Sat AM Ruth Rosenthal & Jean Frank 299er pairs Flts D,E

Linda Conner & Elizabeth Cordes 299er pairs Flt F

J.F. Lowenstein & Judy Katz open pairs Flt A

Jim Thornton & Marlene Ruckert open pairs Flt B

Roy Richardson & Patricia Kessler open pairs Flt C

Sat PM Elaine Wilczynski & Mae O'Neil 299er pairs Flts D,E

Linda Conner & Elizabeth Cordes 299er pairs Flt F

Richard Logan & Chuck Pitard open pairs Flt A

Susan Sommer & Jerrilyn Jones open pairs Flts B,C

Sun Swiss Paul Deal, Iype Koshy, Jan Galey, Curtis Carpenter
Brk 1 Flt A

Vicki Willis, Janice Henderson, Carol Hawley, Nelson Daigle
Brkt 1 Flt X

J.F.Lowenstein, Cappy McIver, Henry Bodenheimer, Hugh
Lawson Brkt 2

Susan Sommer, Jerrilyn Jones, Gussie Dunn, James Dunn
Brkt 3

Rebbetzin's Rule. Probably you have heard of the **Rabbi's Rule** of declarer play: when the king is singleton offside, play for the drop! But have you heard of the **Rebbetzin's Rule**¹? When the queen is doubleton offside play for the drop. A recent application occurred on Bd 16 Nov 11 Tuesday evening at our club. At one table North landed in 7NT after an uninformative auction—no suit was mentioned—and got a minor suit lead. North held ♠KQJxx ♥AKJx ♦AK ♣AK with ♠Axxx ♥xxxx ♦Qxx ♣xxx in dummy. The seeming percentage play is to cash a high heart, cross to dummy with ♠A, and take the heart finesse. Perhaps play diamonds to discard a low heart along the way. But down one as the cards lie. Better is to cash several rounds of spades in hand immediately starting at trick 2. RHO must find discards with little idea of what is going on. If/when RHO discards a heart, decide ♥Q is offside and play for the drop. Making seven! This contract was bid and made by two pairs: Doris Liukkonen & Arnaldo Partesotti and Ray Gandolfi & Cathy Rantz.
1. Rebbetzin is Yiddish for rabbi's wife. For more about this rule see Aug 2003 Bridge World, **The Rebbetzin's Rule**, by Danny Kleinman.