

Louisiana Bridge Association August 2015

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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 August 2015

Congratulations to all winners at our recent **Wes Busby sectional tournament**. Susan Gibbens and Suzanne Baer did a wonderful job as tournament chairs. Lil Range and Cindy Lewis also did a fine job as partnership chairs. The tournament was definitely a success. We had 223 tables in play compared to 215 last year. One concern is the Sunday Swiss Team game. Attendance continues to decline in this event. We had 19 tables this year compared to 24 last year.

Thanks also to all workers and contributors who helped to make our **Independence Day game** a big success. Nelson Daigle led the group in a rousing rendition of our national anthem. It was unexpected and inspiring.

The board is likely to approve the establishment of a **monthly mentoring game** in which experienced players would play with newer players. Jennie Sauviac, Gerri Abbott, Sherrie Goodman and Suzanne Cliffe have been appointed to a committee to work out the details. The sole objective is to improve the playing experience for newer players.

The **intermediate/novice bulletin board** has been enlarged, and more improvements are planned. Gerri Abbott is providing leadership.

Many players are unaware that we have a **suggestion box**. The board considers all signed suggestions. We may have to enlarge or relocate the box so that more players can avail themselves of this resource.

Larry Federico

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August Events

- Jul 30-Aug 2** Baton Rouge Sectional
- Aug 3-9** Club Championship Week Mon-Sun
Extra points, no extra fees
- Aug 13** Thurs NAOP Qualifying Game #5
(open side) \$7.00 entry fee
- Aug 15** Unit Championship- Noon Sat
Extra points, no extra fees
- Aug 24** Unit Championship 7:15 PM Mon
Extra points, no extra fees
- Aug 28** Fri NAOP Qualifying Game #6
(open side) \$7.00 entry fee
- Aug 31-Sep 6** Membership Week Mon-Sun
Extra points, no extra fees;
points only to ACBL members

Got friends interested in learning Bridge?

Next EZ Bridge starts Thurs Sep 10 9AM

There will also be an evening session if attendance warrants

Get more information from Wayne Weisler
wdweisler@yahoo.com or 504-417-6369

Grand Slam Jackpots

- Jul 1 Bummy Rosenfield & Jacob Karno \$23.50
- Jul 29 Jean Talbot & Judy Katz \$15

70 Percent Games

Longest Day events

- Doris & John Liukkonen 70%
- Bill Gentry & Audrey Cerise 70.83%
- Judy Katz & Jean Talbot 74.17%
- Elizabeth Cordes & Myra Menville 70.20%
- Janice Zazulak 75%
- Christopher Young 79.17%
- Joy Kates & Ada Havener 77.17%

Open Pairs

- Jul 14 David Bybee & Stephen Kishner 73.21%
- Jul 26 Lew Moore & Geoff Chichester 75%
- Jul 29 John Onstott & Bob Bowers 70.24%

Busby Sectional 299er Pairs Sat AM

- Om & Lalli Garg 72.92%

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

- NEW JUNIOR MASTERS**
William Knecht, Kathy Lesaicherre
- NEW CLUB MASTER**
Mary Hanni
- NEW SECTIONAL MASTER**
Charles McMurry
- NEW REGIONAL MASTERS**
Dale Strickland, Janice Zazulak
- NEW SILVER LIFE MASTER**
Celeste Bowden

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

- Alfred Arnold, Gail Marie Arnold, Jeannette Galleguillos, Angela Saucier, Wayne Brown

Play Nice

THANKS TO ALL OUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS!!!

The NABC Spring 2015 financial results have been finalized and details are posted on the bulletin board in the hallway. Any questions may be directed to Jim Thornton who served as Treasurer for this event. A recap of the main income/expenses is as follows:

Income:

Sale of Day Naming:	\$10,000
Sale of Event Naming:	6,475
Auction Proceeds:	2,511
Unit 134 Extra Fee Income;	14,566
Interest	91
Subtotal from Unit 134 Members:	33,633
Returned to Unit 134	29,726
Returned to District 10	3,907

In brief: The Unit got back all income raised except what was spent on the parking subsidy for our members. The generosity of our members made this event not only possible but cost-effective. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way!!!!

Busby Sectional Firsts

Thurs AM 0-20 Tom Wasson & Barbara Hammett; William Knecht & Gary Bergeron Flt I

299er Pairs Cindy Lewis & David Williams; Carol York & Barbara Claiborne Flt F

Open pairs Judy Katx & Jerrilyn Stumpf; Jason Holliday & Sigurd Nordvoll Flt B; Sherrie Goodman & Sharon Henry Flt C

Thurs PM Open Pairs Ron Berenger & Jack Lewis; Irene Crowder & Jean Denson Flt B; Beverly Dupre & Marilyn Seward Flt C

299er Pairs Gigi Matthews & Lynn Flynn

Fri AM Open Pairs Guss Ginsburg & Chuck Pitard; Doug DeMontluzin & David Williams Flt B; Sue White & Jennie Ford Flt C

299er Pairs Shirley Ruckert & Margaret Shirer; Dale Strickland & Susan Beoubay Flt E; Marcia Legendre & Janice Zazulak

Fri PM Open Pairs Carson Arnett & Dana Hastings; Nelson Daigle & William Gentry Flt B

299er Pairs Om Garg & Lallie Garg; David Roberts & Janis Roberts Flt E; Denise Fuselier & Myra Menville Flt F

Sat AM Open Pairs Jim Thornton & Marlene Ruckert; David Woods & Stephen Kishner Flt C

299er Pairs Om Garg & Lallie Garg; Kathy Gilmore & Margie Christian Flt E; Virginia Dabbs & Dorothy Romig Flt F

Sat PM Open Pairs Iype Koshy & Vicki Willis; Jim Thornton & David Wolf Flt B; David Woods & Stephen Kishner Flt C

299er Pairs Marva Arceneaux & Stephaine Navarre

Sun Swiss Paul Deal-Jan Galey-Frances Schenk-Dana Hastings Bkt 1; Jack Lewis-Stephen Kishner-Christopher Young-David Williams Bkt 2

Paul's Deal of the Month. In a local club game I held ♠Axx ♥x ♦AQJ108 ♣AQxx in first seat and opened 1D. The auction proceeded, with no adverse bidding, 1D-1H-2C-2S (fourth suit forcing)-3NT-4D-4S-5NT(pick a slam)-6D. I felt that 5NT should be a grand slam force, by some old-timers called a "Josephine" in honor of the late Mrs. Culbertson, who gets credit for inventing the convention, calling for opener to bid 7D if holding at least two of the top three trump honors but I guessed right about what partner intended. The bidding took considerable time, so there was only about one minute left to play the hand before the next round would be called. The opening lead was a small trump. Dummy came down with ♠Qx ♥AKxx ♦K9xx ♣Kxx. Absent a freak distribution of the defenders' hands it was obvious that 6D was "cold." I drew trumps, which broke 3/1, and claimed six, conceding one spade trick, as the move for the next round was called. The claim caught us up so that we finished the hand on time. Later that day I thought further about that hand and wondered if I could have made 7D if it had been bid. (Readers, please think about that question and decide for yourselves before you read on.) Ready? The answer is a resounding "yes," because with normal distribution a "dummy reversal-Vienna Coup-non-positional squeeze" operates against both defenders. Declarer must win the opening trump lead high in his hand, play to a high heart, trump the two losing hearts while drawing trumps ending in the dummy, cash the spade ace and lead a club to dummy's king. The position at that time will be

Declarer ♠x ♣AQx Dummy ♠Q ♥A ♣xx

When dummy's last red winner ♥A is played, either defender who was dealt the spade king and four or more clubs will be squeezed out of the spade or one of the critical clubs, allowing 7D to make. Of course 7D was making easily if the clubs were dealt 3/3*. The chances of clubs breaking 3/3 are only about 36%, not an encouraging figure for the grand slam. But the simple expedient of cashing the ♠A early (the Vienna Coup) sets up the squeeze above and thus provides a substantial extra chance for the grand. The chances of clubs breaking unevenly but the defender with long clubs holding the spade king are about 28%, so the total chances for the grand go up to about 64%. These upgraded odds make 7D quite biddable for those pairs willing to "take a chance" and bid seven. Bridge! Still an amazing game!

*Four trumps in dummy, two top hearts, two heart ruffs in hand, spade ace, and four clubs

Know the Director Rulings

By Jennie Flynn Sauviac

It is a Revoke vs It is not a Revoke

You have a card in the suit led, but you played a different suit. Once you or your partner follows or leads to the next trick, you have an **established revoke**. You may have to give up 1 or 2 tricks to the opponents.

It is not a Revoke - You realize you have a card in the suit led, before your partner plays to the trick. You may switch to the correct card, and the played card will remain on the table face up subject to the rules. Your partner asks you if you are out of the card led before he plays to the trick. If you find one you may follow suit, and the played card remains on the table face up subject to the rules. This is an example of a played card allowed to be changed.

Do NOT allow the opponents to bully you into accepting their interpretation the rules. **CALL the Director.**

Play Nice

Who was that lady? By Arnaldo Partesotti

Ages ago I played this 6NT slam against two Flight A players in our club duplicate. See the layout below left.

My hand	Dummy
♠Axx	♠KQ
♥xxx	♥AKx
♦Axx	♦KQx
♣7654	♣AQT98

I won the ♠2 lead in dummy. This looks like an excellent slam, apparently needing just one of two club finesses to succeed. I expected three spades, two hearts, three diamonds, and at least four clubs. The problem was that I would have to enter my hand twice to take both finesses. One entry is the ♦A and the second is the ♠A, which however “eats” one of the spade honors in dummy, leaving me one trick short if either club finesse failed. After a great deal of thought, I decided—right or wrong—to bang down the ♣A. Sure enough my chagrined right hand opponent dropped the ♣K and I was home: I cashed the other spade honor in dummy, crossed to my hand with the ♦A, cashed the ♠A, took the marked finesse against the ♣J on my left and voila, 13 tricks for an excellent result.

I was so pleased that I replayed the hand that night in my dreams. I was in a strange bridge club and my right hand opponent was Minnie Bottoms, an older lady with bifocals and a tendency to mix up kings and jacks. When I saw the hand I knew what to do. I took the spade lead in dummy and banged down the ♣A. Sure enough the ♣K appeared on my right. So I played the other spade honor in dummy, crossed to my hand with the ♦A, cashed the ♠A, and took the marked club finesse. But this time it lost! Minnie produced the ♣J and cashed another spade—spades were now unguarded—to put me one down!

Had Minnie confused the ♣K and the ♣J and played the ♣K on the ♣A by mistake? Or made a terrific play? The English suspect she is a great expert, disguised as an old lady.

Editor's Notes: At first glance the slam in Arnaldo's story looks like a 75% slam—take two club finesses and score up the slam if just one of the two finesses succeeds. But as noted in the story this is an optical illusion. Using the ♠A to enter hand for one of the finesses kills a spade trick, and so we then need both club finesses to succeed. So the success chance of the slam by the club finesse line is not 75% but 25% or less. Actually less because we need not only both finesses to work but also a 3-1 or better break in clubs. The exact success number is 19%.

Meanwhile the line Arnaldo chose—banging down the ace of clubs—looks at first like a desperate effort to bring down the ♣K. But this move can work even when the ♣K does not drop. In fact, 62% of the time (whenever clubs are 2-2 or a club honor is singleton) declarer can continue clubs and clear the suit with at most one loser. Declarer will still have entries to cash three spade tricks and score up the slam.

So the apparent Hail Mary line of banging down the ♣A right away is far superior to the apparently prudent line of taking two club finesses. Assuming declarer is not taken in by a “marked” club finesse!

A Suit Combination.

This combination and solution supplied by Bob Bowers. Numbers by editor. The combination came up in a recent club game.

You hold J6432 and dummy holds A105. Assuming all the entries you need, and no information beyond a random deal, how do you best play this suit? You will lose 1, 2, or 3 tricks.

If your main concern is to hold your losers to 2 or fewer, then the best line is to bang down the ace and lead toward the 10. Then you will lose 3 tricks only when the missing cards divide 5-0 (3.9% of the time). But if you want to hold your losers to 1, or minimize the average number of losers in the long run, the best play is to lead toward the A105 and put in the 10 unless K or Q show up on your left. Then bang down the ace. This will hold your losers to 1 in case LHO holds KQx, xxx, KQ, Kx, or Qx (37% of the time). It will also minimize your expected number of losers in the long run. (1.72 losers on average versus 1.97 losers for the bang ace first line.) But it will cost you a trick if RHO has K or Q stiff (5.6% of the time).