



## Louisiana Bridge Association November 2015

Editor John Liukkonen email: jrdbl@cox.net

### President's Message November 2015

I want to thank Sheryl Thompson and Kathy Gilmore for agreeing to chair our Dottie Toledano sectional tournament on November 5th through November 8th 2015. Carolyn York and Betty Townsend will staff the partnership desk. Contributions of food and money are always appreciated.

The club will be closed on Thanksgiving Day. This will provide ample opportunity to enjoy food and football and to reflect on the many blessings we enjoy. I wish everyone a safe and sane holiday.

**Larry Federico**

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

### November Events

**Nov 5-8** Dottie Toledano Sectional Thurs-Sun

**Nov 16-22** Club Championship Week Mon-Sun

Extra points, no extra fees

**Nov 24** Unit Championship Tues AM games

Extra points, no extra fees

**Nov 28** Unit Championship Sat noon

Extra points, no extra fees

**Nov 30 ACBL Charity Game– Mon 7:15 PM**

\$7 entry fee, **EXTRA POINTS**, chance to place nationally and globally!

### WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Russell Thames

### Rank Advancements

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Barbara Guillot, Ann Mahnke, Marcel McCormack, Steven Plotkin,

NEW CLUB MASTER

David Williams

NEW SECTIONAL MASTER

Janet Schwaner

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Sandra Freeman, Georgiana Stevens

NEW NABC MASTER

William Weed

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Linda Falgoust

### 70 Percent Games

#### Open Pairs

Larry Federico & Idell Adams Sep 18 71.58%

Nelson Daigle & Louise Ritter Sep 28 70.83%

Larry Federico & John Federico Oct 5 71.96%

#### 99er pairs

Jack Ryan & Ann Mahorner Oct 16 75.3%

### In Memoriam

**Terry Marr**

### New Club Phone Directories \$5

### Metairie 299er Sectional Firsts

**Pairs: Fri AM** Barbara Fitz Hugh & Kathy Gilmore

**Fri PM** Gigi Matthews & Lynn Flynn Flt A; Adesh Jain & David Williams Flt C

**Sat AM** Kathy Gilmore & Margie Christian Flt A; Marian Bourgeois & Nancy Murphy Flt C

**Sat PM** Mike Lappa & Peggy Mccranie Flt A; Pam Marinaro & Maryann Joyner Flt B

**Sun Swiss** Linda Conner-Elizabeth Cordes-Molly Silvia-Lynn Flynn

### Grand Slam Jackpots

Sandy & Martie Sisco Oct 7 \$25

William Weiss & Sid LeBlanc Oct 14 \$7

Stephen Plotkin & Lloyd Armstrong; Jean Talbot & Judy Katz Oct 28

### Editor's Challenge

Dummy ♠AKQ3 ♥432 ♦432 ♣432

Declarer ♠42 ♥AKJ ♦AKJ ♣AKQJ10

Contract 7NT. Lead ♣8.

No information from auction. Fabulous defenders. What is the best play for the contract? Answer on p.2.

## Gulfport Sectional Firsts

**Fri AM** Lallie Garg & Om Garg 299er Pairs  
Iype Koshy & Chuck Pitard Open Pairs Flt A  
Dee Moses & Eleanor Onstott Open Pairs Flt B

**Fri PM** Lallie Garg & Om Garg 299er Pairs  
Bob Bowers & Howard Parker Open Pairs

**Sat PM** Guss Ginsburg & Chuck Pitard Open Pairs Flt B

**Sun Swiss** Patricia Roberts-Jonny Roberts-Caroline  
Fisher-Betty Jones, Flt B; Cindy Lewis-Gail Fayard-  
Ruth Rosenthal-Jean Frank Flt C

## Unit 134 Masterpoint Leaders through Sep 30

(No stars denotes Mini-McKenney leader; one star denotes Ace of Clubs leader; two stars denotes leads both races)

0-5 David Williams\*\*  
5-20 Reese Koppell\*\*  
20-50 Linda Conner, William McDonald\*  
50-100 Arnaldo Partesotti, Judith Bostwick\*  
100-200 Jacob Karno\*\*  
200-300 Henry Bodenheimer,\*\*  
300-500 Sherrie Goodman, Pat & Jonny Roberts\*  
500-1000 Nelson Daigle\*\*  
1000-2500 JF Lowenstein, Paul Freese\*  
2500-5000 John Federico, Doug DeMontluzin\*  
5000-7500 Larry Federico\*\*  
7500-10000 Judy Katz\*\*  
10000+ John Onstott, Jean Talbot\*

## Know the Director Rulings

**By Jennie Flynn Sauviac  
Guilty!**

It can happen to all of us. You make a bid, your partner alerts, you look at your hand and know you do not have the hand partner described. Either you counted wrong, or forgot your agreed on convention. You must not say or look like the bid is an error. Do not wince or exclaim "What?" Try to salvage as best you can. If the alert was in error and your agreement is different, and you become the declaring side you have to tell the opponents your agreement before the lead. If you are the defending side you must wait until the play is finished and then tell the opponents it was not your agreement. If it was your agreement but your hand is not as stated, you do not have to say anything. The opponents are entitled to know your conventions, not what is in your hand.

**Paul's Deal of the Month.** Once upon a time, a long time ago, July 3-4th, 1960 to be exact, I played with an Army buddy, Bobby Wolff, soon thereafter a member of the Dallas Aces, in a four session Regional Open Pairs in Denver when we had a couple of days off from active duty at Fort Carson, Colorado. In the final session we scored 234 in the 12 top, 156 average event, and were startled to learn that we finished only second. It seems that another pair scored 228 and beat us by a couple of matchpoints with their carryover. The ACBL Bulletin wrote a feature article about that final session, referring to it as a "towering event in Denver." From that high point my bridge career went down as I chose to dig deeply into the active practice of law in New Orleans, while Bobby's game climbed as high as possible when Bob Hamman and he formed one of the most successful partnerships in ACBL history. I followed Bobby's professional bridge career carefully thereafter until he and Hamman finally split up years later. Lest you erroneously think that those two bridge luminaries always play a close to perfect game, take a look at this hand which they played against the infamous Italian Blue Team in the finals of the 1974 World Championship, later called the Bermuda Bowl, only one week after the two Bobs had won the World Pairs Olympiad. The USA East dealt and opened 1D, all vul, holding ♠xxx ♥QJx ♦AKQxx ♣xx. The Italian South overcalled 2C, following which West blasted into 4S, holding ♠J1098762 ♥10xx ♦10 ♣KJ. That bid pressured the Italian North into bidding 5C, which was duly doubled and set 800, seemingly a somewhat wild bidding triumph for the Americans, noting that 4S would go down one. But wait. You are about to hear from the Hamman-Wolff partnership when they held the North-South cards. Over the Italian East's minimal 1D opener Wolff, sitting South, took a major risk and overcalled 1NT with ♠KQ ♥Kx ♦Jxxx ♣AQxxx. West pre-empted to 3S and Hamman, holding ♠A ♥Axxxx ♦xxx ♣10xxx, stretched a bit and closed the bidding at 3NT. West led the Jack of spades and Wolff surveyed his kingdom and noted that he would need five club tricks to make his 3NT contract. Wolff rejected the obvious safety play of first cashing the club Ace and conceding down one if an honor fell, which would have led to a splendid result on the board. Instead, he overly optimistically went for the "make" of five club tricks by double finessing the clubs, losing to both the Jack and then the King. The Italians then cashed five spades and three diamonds, ten tricks instead of the five tricks the safety play would have given them, for the bizarre result of down six! So although the Aces gained 200 on the deal, it was a minimal triumph instead of a bonanza, and the Aces went on to lose the World Championship to the Blue Team. Bridge--what a wonderful game, replete with errors by both sides, even at the world championship level.

## Solution to Editor's Challenge on p.1.

There are twelve tricks on top and the issue is how best to find a thirteenth trick. There are finesses available in each red suit, and perhaps one can work out which finesse to take by playing off some clubs, but the problem does posit formidable defenders. The recommended line, which caters to any level of defenders, is to play off all nine winners in hand: five clubs, and AK in each red suit. If a red queen drops, cash the jack in that suit for your thirteenth trick. Otherwise try to run the spades. Note that after you have cashed your original nine winners in hand, the defender with four or more spades must give up all other cards to guard spades. So if he started with either red queen you make the contract. In sum, this line works if either red queen drops, or if the defender with four spades has either red queen. If we add up all the probabilities this line has nearly a 75% chance of success, and you do not get into mind games with superior defenders.

*Idea ripped off from an article by Franco Baseggio at Bridge Winners (bridgewinners.com)*

## Partnership Bidding Checkup

Suppose you are playing with your regular partner and with LHO dealing the bidding goes as in the four cases below. In each case, what is going on? There is no right or wrong answers--what is important is that you and your partner are on the same page. Some possible answers at bottom of page.

- (a) LHO 1H Pard 3H RHO P (b) LHO 1C Pard 3C RHO P  
 (c) LHO 2H Pard 3H RHO P (d) LHO 2H Pard 4C RHO P

## Crazy Bids and Lightner Doubles

By Arnaldo Partesotti

We all make crazy bids, sometimes they work and sometimes they do not. The common theme is that with a "crazy bid" you usually trade an average result for a top or a bottom. In my opinion **average+** results are what win tournaments but... crazy bids are a lot more fun!

At the regular Tuesday night game as South, first hand, both vulnerable, I hold ♠JT842 ♥ - ♦A953 ♣JT94 I am thinking Lightner double: if they bid game in anything other than hearts, in the end I can double, get an unusual hearts lead, and beat the contract. Just keep dreaming... LHO opens 4H, Partner bids 4NT, and RHO bids 5H. This Partner never bids on fumes, so 4NT is takeout with a nice 5-5 in the minors (or 5 Spades and a 5-card minor). I am thinking that she must have a couple of Hearts and therefore a singleton Spade, maybe the Ace if she lacks an honor in the minors. The post-mortem analysis says that I should pass 5H but I bid 6C, which Partner can always correct. It is followed by two passes and a Double on my right. Now is time for the "crazy bid" and I stick to my guns and Redouble. I am hoping to scare the opponents into 6H for a Double and an average+ score but they do not budge, now it is either top or bottom. On the lead of a Heart I score twelve easy tricks ruffing two Hearts in hand, pulling trumps and when the Diamonds behave I am home. This was the full deal(below left) For the record the score on 6CXX is 1830.

♠6	
♥62	
♦KQ862	
♣AKQ87	
♠Q9	♠AK752
♥AKJT9843	♥Q75
♦JT	♦74
♣5	♣632
♠JT842	
♥void	
♦A953	
♣JT94	

A few deals later, the same night, both vulnerable, I am dealt ♠T ♥QT6 ♦QJT98754 ♣6 RHO opens 1S. I do not like to preempt in second seat with Diamonds, and I would have to jump to the four level when partner has not yet spoken (she might be strong with Hearts, for all I know). So I pass, LHO bids 4S and it comes back to me. Time for the "crazy bid": I bid 5D with a straight face, LHO thinks a short while and goes to 5S, down one for a top on a Club lead and a cross ruff of diamonds and clubs. If partner had used a Lightner Double, declarer would have been down two (Diamonds lead and ruff, Ace of Clubs, Club ruff and another Diamond ruff). This was the full deal

	♠75	
	♥K8752	
	♦void	
	♣AJ8754	
♠Q832	♠AKJ954	
♥AJ9	♥43	
♦A32	♦K6	
♣K93	♣QT2	
	♠T	
	♥QT6	
	♦QJT98754	
	♣6	

5D would have been down three due to the unfortunate lay-out of the Hearts, this was not such a "crazy bid" after all if it had been down only two.

# PLAY NICE

## Partnership Bidding Checkup Answers

Answers that used by many experienced players (OK if you and your partner agree on other answers)

- (a) Western cue. Pard likely has a running minor suit and is asking you to bid 3NT if you can stop hearts.  
 (b) natural-Pard has a good long club suit and at least strong opening values or equivalent playing strength.  
 (c) Western cue again. Bid 3NT if you can stop hearts. Some would play this as Michaels.  
 (d) Leaping Michaels. Pard has a good 5+(hopefully 6) card club suit, 5+ spades and game going values.

**As we say, you and your partner may settle on other answers.**