



## Louisiana Bridge Association February 2019

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### President's Message February 2019

We are entering the 2019 year with **three new board members**. Congratulations to **Theresa Federico, Jackie Madden** and **Steve Romig** who were voted as new board members to three-year terms. In addition to those new members, we have eight members who remain on the board to fulfill their terms: **Suzanne Cliffe, Carolyn Dubois, Ellen Lappa, Mary LeBlanc, Lowen, Hunter McFadden, Wayne Weisler**, and me (**Linda Freese**).

Thank you to **Alan** and **Linda Jacobs** for running the election. They and their surrogates did a wonderful job insuring that the election results are valid.

Our **annual meeting** was held on January 27, 2019 between Swiss Team sessions. The Bridge Center is doing well financially, and we are gathering bids to do some major renovations.

Thank you to **Erin O'Sullivan** and **Gigi Matthews** for doing a great job running the **Natalie and Julius Rosenblum Tournament**. The players had a wonderful time, and given the other tournaments held at the same time, ours was a big success. Some of you may not know that **Julius** and **Natalie Rosenblum** are considered the city's first recorded bridge celebrities. Julius Rosenblum won many tournaments and was the Louisiana Bridge Association's president from 1948 to 1951. The Rosenblum family provided seed funds for the current Louisiana Bridge Association clubhouse, and we are still grateful to Natalie and Julius Rosenblum and also to our own **Paul Rosenblum**, their son, for their generous gift.

**Too many players are arriving at game time or even after!** Please be sensitive to the fact that the director must set up the game with the correct number of tables. So if it takes you 15 minutes to get to the Bridge Center, please leave earlier---like 25 minutes before the game---in case you encounter traffic or can't find a parking space.

**Linda Freese**

### February Events

\*= extra points, no extra fees

\*\*=extra points, extra fees

Feb 1-3 Gulfport Sectional Fri-Sun

Feb 2 ACBL-wide Int'l Fund\*\* Sat

Feb 4-10 STAC\*\* Mon-Sun

Feb 20 ACBL-wide Charity\*\* Wed

Feb 22-24 Hattiesburg Sectional

### 70 percent games

#### Open Pairs

Jan 3 John Onstott & James Bush 73.75%

#### Fast Pairs

Jan 17 Gail Fayard & Cindy Lewis 72.5%

Jan 17 Cappy McIver & Pat Ellis 72.5%

#### 99ers

Jan 4 Susan Stephens & Bette Marks 74.55%

*See also the Metairie Sectional Results*

### *In Memoriam*

**Peggy Allen**

Peggy was editor of the Kibitzer and club webmaster for many years, until health issues caused her to step down in 2013. And she continued to provide us with crucial web support for some time after she left her official role as webmaster.

### NEW MEMBERS

Trudy Bourgeois, Barry Foster, Richard Foster, Pat Galloway, Gayle Jones, Rose Westphal, William Wright

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## Julius and Natalie Rosenblum Sectional Firsts

### Thurs

**AM 0-20 Pairs** Mary Krajcer & Mary Beth Fine; Laurie Hart & Larry Holbrook Flt B

**499er Pairs** Kathleen Vogel & Gigi Matthews; Marilyn Duet & Maline Levy Flt E;  
Kathy Plauche & Debbie Reily Flt F

**Open Pairs** Keenan Romig & Suzanne Cliffe; Jane Goldring & Jean Frank Flt C

**PM 499er Pairs** Michael Schlosser & Albert Solomon

**Open Pairs** Paul Deal & Jacob Karno; Sherrie Goodman & Cathy Alford Flt B; Erin O'Sullivan & Gigi Matthews Flt C

### Fri

**AM 499er Pairs** Susan Martin & Frieda Johnson **76.19%**; William Varney & Leslie Nolan Flt F

**Open Pairs** Ed Word Jr & Barbara Norris; Mark Greensfelder & David Woods Flt B

**PM 499er Pairs** Gary Bergeron & Myra Menville; Stacey Williams & Jennifer Holmes Flt F

**Open Pairs** Joan Van Geffen & JF Lowenstein **70.35%**; Nelson Daigle & Sigurd Nordvoll Flt B;  
Mary Regottaz & Marilyn Methvin Flt C

### Sat

**AM 499er Pairs** Joseph Gaudette & Carole Leslie; Mary Belcher & Kathy Plauche Flt F

**Open Pairs** JF Lowenstein & Judy Katz; Ernest Levinson & Sherrie Goodman Flt B;  
Om Garg & Sylvia Kitziger Flt C

**PM 499er Pairs** Fran Early & Nancy Linzy

**Open Pairs** JF Lowenstein & Judy Katz; Erin O'Sullivan & Lynn Giordano Flt B

### Sun Swiss

**Bkt 1** JF Lowenstein-Judy Katz-Jean Talbot-Joan Van Geffen

**Bkt 2** Cindy Lewis-JoAnn Ippolito-Audrey Cerise-William Gentry

**PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH** When using Blackwood "asker" bids 4NT followed by 5NT to request a count of the number of Aces and Kings held by "teller." When using Roman Keycard Blackwood (RKB) "asker" bids 4NT to request a count of the number of "keycards," the four Aces plus the trump King, held by "teller." If holding exactly two keycards the "teller" can show two keycards plus or minus the trump suit Queen in one bid. Occasionally the Kings of two eight or more card fitting suits confirmed to be held by the partnership are both keycards, making six in total. If followed by 5NT, the RKB "asker" confirms that the partnership possesses all possible keycards plus the Queen of the trump suit and requests that "teller" denote "up the line" in ascending suit order (clubs before diamonds, diamonds before hearts) which non-trump King(s), if any, are held. Additionally, if "teller" has sufficient information to count thirteen available tricks, "teller" may bid seven of the trump suit in response to 5NT without specifying which King(s) are held. While most expert level partnerships have adopted RKB, a few experts and many lower level partnerships avoid the possible ambiguity and complexity of RKB by playing the simpler Blackwood convention as originated by Easley Blackwood many years ago. With that background conventional understanding, let's move on. My partner and I recently held the hands in the diagram at the left which afforded us an opportunity to benefit by playing RKB. I luckily

<b>N</b>	♠10xxx
	♥KQJx
	♦Axx
	♣Ax
<b>S</b>	♠AKQJxx
	♥Ax
	♦Q109x
	♣K

held the South hand, with its dominating highest ranking solid spade suit, in first seat at a local weekly club duplicate game, and confidently opened 1S, curious to find out whether this would turn out to be "our" hand in a final contract. To my pleasant surprise, with no competitive bid by my LHO, partner responded 2NT, a "Jacoby" game forcing spade raise. My RHO inserted a tepid 3C call, usually a lead directing effort. If opener does not have a first or second round control of the intervening suit bid, it is usually best to "pass," which immediately tells partner to avoid bidding a slam if responder does not have a control of the intervening suit either. But here I held the singleton club King, so I was able to cuebid 4C to show a singleton but not necessarily the King. With me being thankful that my RHO had not preempted with 5C, which would have gummed up the works, the auction then proceeded 1S-P-2NT-3C-4C(singleton)-X-4D(cuebid)-P-4NT (how many keycards)-P-5H (two, no trump Queen)-P-5NT

(any Kings?)-P-7S! Although holding only one King, partner correctly reasoned that I probably had at least one non-trump King or I would not have bid 5NT. If I had solid spades I probably had six of them, so partner could count 13 tricks, consisting of six spades, four hearts, one diamond, one club plus one non-trump King. Partner gambled a bit with his Grand Slam bid but "all's well that ends well," a tired, old cliché which proved to be true in this instance.

**ADDENDUM:** No other pair, most playing simple Blackwood, bid the Grand Slam. But was it RKB or just unusually good judgment which allowed partner to bid seven? All I can say is that without RKB partner would have no logical reason to bid seven with only one King over a 5NT simple Blackwood bid.

## Ego Te Absolvo By Arnaldo Partesotti

As I said recently, some hands just bid themselves. That, however, does not mean that they will do a good job, or they might come up very unlucky! Consider the hand below left.

<b>North V</b>	
♠Q	
♥KQJ5	
♦KQJ65	
♣A54	
<b>West V</b>	<b>East VD</b>
♠98	♠KJ3
♥8632	♥T974
♦AT973	♦2
♣QJ	♣KT872
<b>South V</b>	
♠AT76542	
♥A	
♦84	
♣963	

Sitting in the South chair with a partner picked-up at the last moment, you hear East pass. You could Pass or bid 3S (or maybe 2S) but, with no agreements and a new partner (and also with many of your regular partners) this hand should be passed. The seven cards Spade suit is important, but it is 'Swiss cheese' (full of holes). Also the side Ace is not desirable for a 3-level opening, it would be better if those 4 points were in Spades, say ♠K and ♠J, giving consistency to the suit. You "know" however that this hand will most likely be played in a Spade contract and that it is always important to pre-empt the opponents, so you decide to open 3 Spades anyway.

You are now sitting in the North chair, after hearing: "Pass - 3 Spades - Pass", and you look at your hand: 18 HCP, one Spade honor and one Ace. It is practically impossible to pass, even if you do not know what 3-level bids by this partner mean. The choice seems to be between 3NT and 4♣, you decide to bid 4♣, fearing that at 3NT you will never be able to reach partner's Spades in dummy. Everybody passes.

You are now sitting in the West chair, and you are on lead against 4♣ from your hand: what is your lead? I do not think there is a "right or wrong" answer, I would probably favor a ♣Q lead. At our table West led the ♦A - very aggressive - and found a singleton Diamond in

partner's hand for a ruff, a Club return which removed the entry to dummy, and eventually we ended up down 2, losing the ♦A and the ♦ ruff, an additional trump, and 2 Clubs.

Had you passed initially with the South hand, the bidding probably would have gone:

West	South	East	North
P	P	P	1♦
P	1♠	P	2♥/2NT
P	4♣	All Pass	

Same result. For the record this hand makes only 2♣, or 2NT which would be a top. At the club everybody was in 4♣, with one exception, with varying results: one pair made 4♣ + 1, 3 were in 4♣, 1 in 4♣ - 1, 4 in 4♣ - 2, 1 in 4♣ - 3, and 1 in 6♣ - 4. Since everybody was in 4♣ and the final result depended on the defenders' play, *ego te absolvo* (you are absolved) from overbidding, with the exception of the 6♣ bidder, who now should be rotting in bridge hell! I do not know of anybody who could stop short of game with 26 combined HCP and an 8 Spades suit with 3 Honors.

**The hand bids itself - but not very well!**

## Baton Rouge Regional Firsts

**Mon Tues KO1-2** Buddy Massey-Patricia Roberts-Betty Norton-Robert Reich

**Mon Tues KO1-3** Sheryl Thompson-Linda Conner-Elizabeth Cordes-Barbara Fitz-Hugh

**Mon eve Swiss flt B** Ronald Omond-Gary Bergeron-Nancy Gates-Helen St Romain

**Tues Compact KO 1** John Onstott-Jacob Morgan-Drew Casen-Jim Krekorian

**Tues Stratified Swiss** John Federico-Daryl Fisher-Michael Moses-Hall Whitaker;

Buddy Massey-Robert Reich-Walter Rudd-Kathryn Tillson Flt B

**Tues Wed KO2-1** John Onstott-Howard Parker-Drew Casen-Jacob Morgan-Jim Krekorian

**Tues Wed KO2-2** Sheryl Thompson-Linda Conner-Elizabeth Cordes-Barbara Fitz-Hugh

**Wed Open Pairs** Larry Federico & John Federico

**Thurs A/X Swiss** John Onstott-Jim Krekorian-Jacob Morgan-Howard Parker-Drew Casen

**Thurs AM 299er Pairs** Diane Scott&Virginia Dabbs

**Thurs Aft 299er Pairs** Diane Scott&Virginia Dabbs

**Fri AM 299er Pairs** Diane Scott&Virginia Dabbs

**Fri aft 299er Pairs** Diane Scott&Virginia Dabbs; Kathy Plauche & Jennifer Holmes Flt E

**Thurs Bracketed Swiss 3** Mary Becker-Morris Place et al

**Thurs Bracketed Swiss 4** Robert Reich-Buddy Massey-Myra Menville-Irene Labiche

**Fri Open Pairs** Iype Koshy & Chuck Pitard; Wayne Weisler & Jacob Karno Flt B

**Fri Gold Rush Pairs** Elaine Wilcinski & Mae O'Neil

**Sat Open Pairs** Iype Koshy & Chuck Pitard

**Sat Compact KO-1** John Onstott-Jacob Morgan-Drew Casen-Jim Krekorian

**Sun Stratiflighted Swiss** Larry Federico-Idell Adams-Jan Galey-Dana Hastings

**Bracketed Swiss 1** Stephen Heffner-Leslie Kolb-Connie Caffery-William Weed

**Bracketed Swiss 2** Elaine Wilczynski-Mae O'Neil-Nancy Linzy-Christine Beesley

**AM Side Series** John Onstott

**Aft Side Series** JF Lowenstein & Eleanor Onstott

**Eve Side Series** Jenny Flynn Sauviac & Charlie Robert

## DIREKTOR'S KORNER

**THIS MONTH'S DIREKTOR IN CHARGE: SBC**

**TOPIC: IT'S ELEMENTARY, MY DEAR WATSON**

If you are an experienced player with many games and tournaments under your belt, skip this article\*\*. Move on to Paul's Deal of the Month. This article is aimed at our many newer players, players that don't want to offend anyone at the table. For you there are THREE RULES:

**DO NOT MAKE RULINGS AT THE TABLE**

**DO NOT ALLOW ANOTHER PLAYER TO TELL YOU WHAT TO DO**

**CALL THE DIRECTOR**

Of these rules, the newer players, who don't want to offend the opponents, will not only not call the director, they will allow their opponents to make the rulings. Guess what! The opponents are frequently wrong, not intentionally, but still wrong. Many infractions have more than one possible rectification depending on who made it, such as a bid out of turn. It makes a difference if the bid out of turn was made at the left hand opponent's turn to bid, the right hand opponent's turn to bid, or the partner's turn to bid. It also makes a difference when there is an exposed card as to the disposition of that card. The rules for insufficient bids was changed last year and even national tournament directors are still working on these options.

**The purpose** of this short commentary is not to explain all of the rules, **it is simply to emphasize how important it is to call the director for a correct ruling.** It is not only fair to every player at the table, it is also important for fairness to the field.

It should never offend anyone to have the director called to the table, that's what we are there for. And remember, there is the option of calling the director by using the "Director" button on the Bridgemate.

**\*\*Editor's note:** *The editor thinks that everyone should read this article, especially the part about how rules keep changing so that do it yourself directing can be costly.*

## RANK ADVANCEMENTS

### NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Dr Donald Harmon, Theresa Harmon,  
Judy Kase, Sandy Lassen, William Varney

### NEW CLUB MASTER

Stacey Williams

### NEW SECTIONAL MASTER

Newton Jackson

### NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Angeline Christie, Barbara Claiborne,  
Janet Gindro, Dottie Stephenson

### NEW NABC MASTERS

Robert Owens, Mercedes Wells

### NEW ADVANCED NABC MASTER

Morris Place Jr

### NEW SILVER LIFE MASTER

Cappy McIver

### NEW RUBY LIFE MASTER

Sherrie Goodman

### NEW SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTER

Paul Freese

## Sandestin Regional Firsts

**Tues Aft Swiss** John Onstott-Drew Casen-  
James Krekorian-C.Reis-Howard Parker

**Wed Thurs KO Bkt 1** John Onstott-Drew Casen-  
James Krekorian-C.Reis-Howard Parker

**Wed Thurs KO Bkt 3** Sheryl Thompson-Linda Conner-  
Di Lapeyre-Molly Silvia

**Thurs Aft Swiss Teams** Linda Freese-Paul Freese-  
Dianne Chesson-Ralph Chesson Flt B

**Mon Tue Eve Swiss Teams** Linda Freese-Paul Freese-  
Dianne Chesson-Ralph Chesson Flt X

**Wed Thurs Eve Swiss Teams** Eleanor Onstott-Jay Segarra  
-Michael Moses-Arun Limaye

**Fri Sat Eve Swiss Teams** John Onstott-Eleanor Onstott-  
Drew Casen-Jim Krekorian-Howard Parker