



Louisiana Bridge Association September 2019

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President's Message September 2019

Dear members, our beautification is drawing near completion. The week after labor day **Barbara** and her committee will complete the first phase, painting, carpet, paintings (by **Peter Marks**), shades, clocks, and a new bookshelf. **Maline Levy** and **Rene Spratt** are adding plants to the interior and when the temperature gets cooler a few flowering plants will be added to the outside garden.

Your board is looking into a handicap door, and busy writing to update the easybridge curriculum. A **Bridge Chat** was held Wednesday after the games and both the Open and Easybridge players gathered for conversation and snacks. Those who attended enjoyed themselves.

Elizabeth Sewell and I inquired about teaching a youth bridge class at Trinity. We have a new TV that shows information important to you. A lot is happening and I hope you enjoy the hard work that has gone into these projects. Thank you!

Carolyn Dubois

September Events

* = extra points, no extra fee

Sept 2 Unit Championship* Mon Labor Day

Sept 7,14,21,28 Iype Koshy defense classes

Sat 9-11:30 AM \$120/4 classes

Sept 16-22 Tunica Reg'l Mon-Sun

Sept 18-October 16 Sue Himel play of hand classes Wed 9-11 \$75/5 classes

Sept. 23-30 Club Champ week* Mon-Sun

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Sue Aupied, Neil Nadler, Cathy Turnage, Rose Westphal

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Joann Kennedy, Charles Neuman

NEW SECTIONAL MASTER

Deborah Skorlich

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Kathy Gilmore, Anna Rolling Lee

NEW NABC MASTERS

Barbara Fitz-Hugh, Barry Norman, Janice Wattigny

NEW LIFE MASTER

Nancy Linzy

NEW MEMBERS

Wayne Cooper, Dianne Green, Laurie Hart, Anne Milling

In Memoriam
Maebeth Merritt

Baton Rouge Sectional firsts

Thurs PM Open Larry Federico & Idell Adams

Fri AM Open Jamie Bush & John Onstott

Fri PM 299er P Quin Bates and John Davis (tie for first in Flt E)

Sat AM Open Craig Cordes & John Onstott; Jacob Karno & Wayne Weisler Flt B

Sat PM Open Larry Federico & Idell Adams

Sun Swiss Jay Segarra-Allan Siebert-Iype Koshy-Chuck Pitard **Bkt 1**; Cindy Lewis-Gail Fayard-Peggy McCranie-Audrey Cerise **Bkt 3**

70 percent games

299er Aug 6 Newt Jackson & Charles Waldrop 71.75%

Aug 21 Newt Jackson & Jennifer Holmes 71.27%

499er Aug 9 Ronald Ocmund & Steven Plotkin 70%

Open Aug 16 Chuck Pitard & John Onstott 72.34%

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DIREKTORS COLUMN

DIREKTOR IN CHARGE: THE HAT LADY

TOPIC: ACBL RULE #94

What?? The ACBL Laws end at #93. Some are Bidding Laws, and some are Playing Laws, etc. But one important Law should be added, "Courtesy Law #94".

When the opponents arrive at your table a **SHORT** greeting followed by each player removing their cards from the board, checking they have 13 cards, and then start bidding **ASAP**. Commentary before, during and after the bidding is **NADA**.

After 3 passes the player on lead must lead face down, **BEFORE** recording the contract, and the dummy must face the dummy cards **BEFORE** recording the contract. Next board should begin as soon as the results are entered and approved. After the final board is finished then time for conversation until the next round is called. The players waiting to play the next round will appreciate this, but no one will appreciate it more than the Director.

PS: When discussing the played hand, whisper, so the next table will not overhear.

PPS: Do not allow the opponents to make any rulings. Say Director Please.

Sunday Swiss Notes

On Sunday, July 28, 12 tables of Swiss players celebrated Louise Ritter's 98th birthday. They enjoyed cake and cookies, and some also enjoyed good cards. Louise's team (Louise, Barbara Pyburn, Susan Guarisco, Gaye Wilson) finished **FIRST** in C. Come out and enjoy Sunday Swiss!

Some Jacob Morgan regional firsts (w James Melville)

Phoenix Agave KO 1

Atlanta Tuesday Open Pairs

More Atlanta Regional results in October issue

BREAKING ATLANTA NEWS—Molly Silvia, Elizabeth Cordes and Sherrie Goodman finished first in an open KO Aug 29.

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH Dealer, the East player in this all vulnerable matchpoint gem of a hand, momentarily lost his nerve and opened 2D, a true distortion of a weak two bid. The 2D bid was a poor one because the bidder neither wanted a diamond lead nor did 2D have much of a preemptive effect.

Vulnerable and with that poor a suit and hand, a pass was more appropriate. For those who can't resist preempting at matchpoints whenever possible, opening 3D would have been dangerous but at least might have been effective to stymie the opponents accurate bidding. But I digress. When competing with a two suited major/longer minor suited hand over a minor suit two or three level preempt it often proves best to start with a simple overcall in the bidder's long minor.

In this case South overcalled a simple 3C. The auction in its entirety was 2D-3C-P-3H (forcing)-P-3S (forcing)-P-3NT (North misinterpreted South's natural 3S bid, thinking that South was showing a stopper, not a suit)-P-4S (a natural bid, in case North had not recognized 3S as natural)-P-P-P. North had a choice of conservatively passing 4S, which surely ought to make or taking a shot at 6S, which could easily fail. But with the $\heartsuit K$ seemingly in the wrong position under the 2D opener it is hard to criticize North's pass. West surprised all concerned with the opening lead of the $\heartsuit A$. South ruffed and paused to take stock. If West

held the $\heartsuit A$, it seemed likely that East held the $\heartsuit A$. So South played the hand aggressively, crossing to a high spade (both defenders followed) and cashing the $\heartsuit K$ to discard South's singleton heart. The $\heartsuit K$ from dummy was then covered by East's $\heartsuit A$ and it too was ruffed away. South crossed over to another high spade in dummy and ruffed a low heart, hoping to establish the rest of the heart suit. South then cashed the $\clubsuit AK$, discarding dummy's remaining two diamonds and then crossed to dummy's remaining high spade, which had broken 3/1. When hearts had proven to split favorably so that no further heart ruff had been necessary, South then claimed, making seven. After a bit of confusion on North's part, the hand proved to have been well bid and well played, for a good matchpoint result, losing only to those who had chanced bidding six and made it. The bidding lesson of this hand is to be aware that the change of suit by an unpassed hand opposite a high level overcall of an opening preemptive bid is a one round force.

N	$\spadesuit KQJx$	
	$\heartsuit KQJxx$	
	$\diamond Kxxx$	
	\clubsuit void	
W	$\spadesuit xxx$	E $\spadesuit x$
	$\heartsuit 10xxx$	$\heartsuit Axx$
	$\diamond Ax$	$\diamond QJxxxx$
	$\clubsuit Qxxx$	$\clubsuit Jx$
S	$\spadesuit A10xxx$	
	$\heartsuit x$	
	\diamond void	
	$\clubsuit AK10xxxx$	

What Is Your Lead? by Arnaldo Partesotti

Team Blass won the recent Spingold in Las Vegas, defeating the Zimmermann team in the final. The eleven players on the two teams were from Europe, five from Poland (although some play professionally in the US), further supporting the theory expressed by several commentators recently that bridge in Europe is now further advanced than in the US. Time will tell...

You are now playing in an initial round of the Spingold, as South you hold: ♠A ♥5432 ♦AT86 ♣JT52 and

West	East
(Ulf Nilson)	(Owen Lien)
1D	1S
1NT	2C
2D	2H
2S	2NT
3C	3S
5D	5S
6S	All Pass

you hear the auction at your left, what is your lead? Sorry, I cannot help you with the auction, not even the commentators on Vugraph knew what system was being played, you will see the hands later. Suffice to say that East-West had bid a slam in Spades, there were Clubs to your left, Diamonds to your right and the jump to 5D indicated a likely void in the suit. If you are Bobby Levin, partnering Steve Weinstein for the Nickell team (they are one of the top teams and pairs in the world), you lead... the ♦6 away from your Ace! (see the full hand below.) I will tell you immediately that the slam was unbeatable so, bottom line, the lead did not make any difference, sorry if I tricked you. I hope however that you realize how brilliant this lead was: it caused declarer to

think that the ♦A was in the North hand, and it might have further caused him to adopt a different line of play if there was one available (there was not).

North NV	
♠J65	
♥Q976	
♦752	
♣643	
West NVD	East NV
♠KQT87	♠9432
♥KJT	♥A8
♦—	♦KQJ943
♣AKQ98	♣7
South NV	
♠A	
♥5432	
♦AT86	
♣JT52	

And Levin was not done, follow the play, (full hand is at the left).

The lead of the ♦6 was ruffed in dummy, declarer played the ♥T to the ♥A, and he followed with the ♠2, won perforce by Levin's ♠A, who continued... with the ♦8, again under-leading the Ace. Brilliant! Declarer ruffed with the ♠T, played the ♣A and ruffed a club in hand, pulled trumps and claimed when the clubs split 4-3.

The idea of leading a small Diamond away from the Ace would never cross my mind, I probably would lead the ♠A to take a look at dummy, just in case, and to decide what to do next. That is why Levin is playing in the Spingold, and I am not. You must however admire a brilliant play, when you see one, even if it is not rewarded by the result.