

KIBITZER ♣♦♥♠

Louisiana Bridge Association March 1, 2025

Editor – Diana Powell with help from Sherrie Goodman and
Jim Thornton email: dspowell10@gmail.com

President's Message:

We are roughly six weeks away from hosting the French Quarter Regionals at Copeland Tower (April 14-18) with lots of work to be done. Start lining up your partners for the event and please contact Sherrie Goodman or Jim Thornton if you are willing to work and are not yet assigned.

Thanks to those of you who completed the survey regarding club participation. We appreciate your willingness to help.

We have a committee now tasked with looking for ways to increase club attendance and generate additional revenue for the club. Suggestions thus far are included in this Kibitzer and will be publicized in the club. Please feel free to offer feedback or additional suggestions.

We are still looking for someone to oversee the Longest Day activities on Saturday June 21st; planning for this event will probably start after the Regionals. We are also searching for a nature lover (or lovers) who will water our thirsty plants.

Newt Jackson and Charles Waldrop still need a third person to join their Maintenance Committee to develop a long-term plan for handling club maintenance. We are also looking for handyman recommendations for the club's needs (reliable, quick to respond, etc.). If you have any suggestions for us, please let us know.

Keenan Romig

Manager's Report:

We start the month with our annual Mardi Gras game on Tuesday at 10:30 with lunch and a Unit Championship! If there are enough for 2 games, the director will set that up. We have an ACBL-wide Senior Pairs game on Monday, March 10 at 10:30. Many of you will be going to the NABC in Memphis, but we will still have our face to face and online games March 12-23. Then we will finish a busy month with an ACBL-wide Charity game on Tuesday, March 25.

Our online games continue to bring much needed revenue to the club. I know you have been bombarded with lots of promotional material for the ACBL Community Club games. We are supposed to receive \$1.25 per player when our members play in the community games, but we receive no compensation when our members play in the BBO ACBL games. The best way you can support LBA online is to play in our virtual club games where we receive around \$3 every time you play. The virtual club has helped our club operate in the black without raising table fees again. Please have consideration for your home club when playing online.

Jim and I are gearing up for the Regional and will be scheduling meetings for each committee head over the next couple of weeks. Our fundraising efforts have surpassed our budget. Thank you very much for those who have contributed. There is a great deal to do to host a regional and we need everyone's participation. Thanks to those of you who completed our survey. We will be contacting you shortly. If you are going to a tournament including the NABC in Memphis, please let Sherrie know so she can send you with buttons and flyers to help spread the word about our upcoming regional.

Sherrie Goodman, Club Manager (504-329-7411)

LBA Financial Situation

Since Covid our face-to-face attendance, and subsequent revenue, have not been sufficient to meet the annual expenses of the club. The rebates from our online virtual club games have kept our cash losses manageable. Now, however, we are facing a situation where the ACBL is increasing the fees they will be charging for the club's online virtual games. The result is that the amount that our club will receive from those virtual online games will be reduced. Anticipating that loss of revenue, the BOD has projected an operational loss of \$23,000 this year.

The BOD has asked a volunteer committee to brainstorm ways to increase attendance/revenue for our in-house games. A few of the various ideas that have been floated are:

- Raise table fees.
- Sponsor ads in the Kibitzer or post ads at the club.
- Have an annual, voluntary, membership fee with a "Member Appreciation" lunch.
- Solicit cash donations with recognition in the Kibitzer and at the club.
- Give a free play to members who bring in a new member.
- Have a game for new players coming out of bridge lessons to get them in the habit of playing at the club.
- Solicit legacy gifts.
- Arrange transportation from various senior centers to bring people to the club to play.

The committee will present a range of suggestions to the BOD. The BOD will then discuss and proceed with a plan to improve our cash flow situation.

We invite your feedback; we especially solicit your ideas. Feedback can go directly to members of this committee or via email to Mike Russell - jmrjcr47@gmail.com

The committee: Mary Belcher, George Jeansonne, Richard Jeansonne, Sue Guarisco, Carol Jambon, Greg Browne, Raphael Velazquez and Glenn Barnett.

Please make any suggestions or comments by March 14.

Directors Corner

The good news is “we have 3 new directors!” Well, one isn’t new, but Linda Freese hasn’t had a regular game since before Covid (except online.) We are thrilled that she is taking back her old Thursday game! Elizabeth Sewell & Linda Morrison are taking the Monday games. Wayne will still stop by for a lesson at 9:15 before the game.... such a dedicated teacher!

Here are some things that are important to help our games run smoothly and keep our directors happy:

1. Arrive early and be in line to pay your entry. If we are collecting at your seat you must be in your seat at 5 minutes to game time. That doesn’t mean to wander off to a neighboring table to socialize. If you arrive early, social time is before the 5 minutes until game time. This is the MOST important thing you can do, so the director can determine the movement and start the game on time!
2. If you are delayed because of traffic or whatever, call the club and get word to the director. If you are not in the building by 5 minutes to game time and you have not let the director know, you will be unable to play. Once the movement is set at 5 minutes to game time, the directors have been informed to refuse latecomers. This is a directive from the Board of LBA.
3. If there is a revoke at your table, continue to play until the hand is finished. Call the director for a ruling. It is to your advantage not to mention it until the end of the hand, but make sure everyone keeps their tricks in order of play!!
4. Use the TD Call button on the Bridgемate so the director will know which table needs her. It’s the 2nd button from the right on the top row.
5. When the game has ended, gather your belongings and the table card, Bridgемate and boards, and move away from the playing area so that the rest can finish their game without too much disturbance. If you are unable to carry the Bridgемate, table card and boards, please ask the East/West players to carry them for you.

If you follow these rules, you will keep the directors happy and the game running smoothly. These are nice directors, and we want to keep them. If there are no directors, we have no game. Thanks for your cooperation.



LOUISIANA BRIDGE ASSOCIATION presents

French Quarter Fest Regional

April 14-18, 2025 Sanction # 2504117

Comfort Inn & Suites at Copeland Tower
Metairie, Louisiana

2025 French Quarter Fest Regional

Hotel Rate \$119 COMFORT INN & SUITES at COPELAND TOWER
(available rate for French Quarter Fest - Saturday & Sunday, April 12 & 13)
Complimentary Breakfast for hotel guests

Free Parking
Coffee and Snacks provided daily

Single Session \$16, 2-session \$32
0-5 Players Free

Schedule includes:

Morning, Afternoon and Evening Games
with Open Pairs and 99er games,
Gold Rush Events and Bracketed Team Games
ALSO INCLUDES ONE DAY OF ONLINE PLAY
OPEN TO MEMBERS OF DISTRICT 10!

Tournament Chairs

Sherrie Goodman
Email: mail@la-bridge.com
Jim Thornton
Email: jthornton2000@hotmail.com

Partnership Chair

David Woods
dwoods.on.bell@cox.net

Director in Charge:

Kevin Perkins

STRATIFICATIONS

Bracketed Teams (by avg) - bracketed by attendance
Open Pairs (by avg) A: 5000+ B: 4999-2000 C: <2000
Gold Rush Pairs (750 by avg) A: 750-400 B: 399-100 C: <100

Regional Schedule

Monday, April 14

Bracketed Round Robin Teams (Session 1 & 2 of 2)10 & 2:30
 Open Pairs (Session 1 & 2 of 2).....10 & 2:30 *
 Gold Rush Pairs (Session 1 & 2 of 2).....10 & 2:30 *
 99er Pairs (1 session).....10:00
 Evening Side Pairs (Session 1, of 4).....7:30

Tuesday, April 15

Bracketed Round Robin Teams (Session 1 & 2 of 2)10 & 2:30
 Open Pairs (Session 1 & 2 of 2).....10 & 2:30 *
 Gold Rush Pairs (Session 1 & 2 of 2).....10 & 2:30 *
 99er Pairs (1 session).....2:30
 Evening Side Pairs (Session 2, of 4).....7:30

Wednesday, April 16

Bracketed Round Robin Teams (Session 1 & 2 of 2)10 & 2:30
 Open Pairs (Session 1 & 2 of 2).....10 & 2:30 *
 Gold Rush Pairs (Session 1 & 2 of 2).....10 & 2:30 *
 99er Pairs (1 session).....10:00
 Evening Side Pairs (Session 3, of 4).....7:30

Thursday, April 17

Bracketed Round Robin Teams (Session 1 & 2 of 2) ..10 & 2:30
 Open Pairs (Session 1 & 2 of 2).....10 & 2:30 *
 Gold Rush Pairs (Session 1 & 2 of 2).....10 & 2:30 *
 99er Pairs (1 session).....10:00
 Evening Side Pairs (Session 4, of 4).....7:30

Friday, April 18

Bracketed Round Robin Teams (Session 1 & 2 of 2)10 & 2:30
 Open Pairs (Session 1 & 2 of 2).....10 & 2:30 *
 Gold Rush Pairs (Session 1 & 2 of 2).....10 & 2:30 *

ON-LINE PAIRS EVENT Saturday, April 19th

Gold Rush Pairs: 750/500/300
 Mid-Flight Pairs: 3000/1750
 Open A/X Pairs: Open/5000
 Open to District 10 Members Only!
 Conducted on BBO
 Must register for and play both sessions



*If you would like to play one session only, you can sign up for the Open Pairs (Morning or Afternoon) or if under 750 MPS, you can sign up for one session of Gold Rush. If you play only one session that day, you may win gold only if you are the top of a Section.

NOTE: To be eligible for Gold in the OPEN Evening Side Pairs, a player must play in at least 2 of the 4 evening games.

Hotel: Comfort Inn and Suites at Copeland Tower
 2601 Severn Avenue
 Metairie, LA 70002
 (504)526-4595
 Reservation by April 6, 2025

NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

Troy Broussard
Kirk Groome
Maeghan Livaccari
Corey Lloyd
Katherine McElhinney
Glen Voss

Looking for....

- Longest Day Chairperson
- Maintenance Committee member
- Handyman recommendations for club's maintenance needs
- Plants watering volunteer

Keenan Romig

FOR NEW PLAYERS

Play in the **0-20 game** held at **10am** each day at our Regional Tournament.

April 14-18

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 4: Unit Championship Game

March 10: ACBL-wide Senior Pair Games

March 25: ACBL-wide Charity Game

April 14-18: Regional

IN MEMORIAM



Mary Morgan

IN MEMORIAM



Pat Ellis

IN MEMORIAM



Ronnie Berenger

IN MEMORIAM



Susan Landry

ACHIEVEMENTS

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

Junior Masters: Aaron Friedman

Club Masters: Diana Lewis, Douglas Matthews

Sectional Masters: Amy Babich

Regional Masters: Lawrence Holbrook, Jane Hufft

Life Masters: Matti Hietalahti, Margaret Lipps

Bronze Life Masters: Margaret Lipps

Silver Life Masters: Elizabeth Cordes

Ruby Life Masters: Suzanne Baer

LIFE MASTER



Matti Hietalahti

SILVER LIFE MASTER



Elizabeth Cordes

RUBY LIFE MASTER



Suzanne Baer

ACHIEVEMENTS

70 % GAMES

January 29 - February 22

By Jim Thornton

1/30	Club Circle	Diana Lewis, Amy Babich	72.02%
1/31	Club Open	Wayne Weisler, Kathy Logue	70.36%
2/14	Club Open	Judy Katz, David Williams	70.28%
2/15	Club Open	Matti Hietalahti, Vicki Willis	72.22%
2/17	Club 199	Lynn and Carol Jambon	70.51%
2/18	Club Open	Sherrie Goodman, Carol Bagalman	73.81%
2/18	Open	Sid Leblanc, Paul Freese	72.50%

