

KIBITZER ♣♦♥♠

Louisiana Bridge Association August 1, 2026

Editor – Jean Weiss with help from Sherrie Goodman,
Keenan Romig, & Jim Thornton (jeanandbill223@mac.com)

President's Message:

We had a very successful Wes Busby Firecracker Sectional Tournament last month. I want to give a huge thank you to our co-chairs, Arlene Goldincastle and Cathy Kenny; they put in a lot of hard work to make the tournament a success. I very much appreciate their volunteering to take on this important job.

I want to thank Kathy Plauche for her educational and publicity contributions over the last few years. Kathy is stepping away from the club and those efforts for the time being so that she can nurse her husband Teddy back to health following heart surgery the first week of August. We wish them both well and are hoping for a full and speedy recovery.

We are very fortunate that Denise Dufour has agreed to teach our beginning bridge class in September, and she has also agreed to be a member of our education committee. While Denise is somewhat new to our club, she is not new to teaching beginner bridge and has taught it a number of times at her previous club.

You've probably noticed that we have a new web portal (same url: <https://www.la-bridge.com/>). Once again, thanks to Denise Dufour who has taken over as our webmaster and who designed and implemented the new website.

Newt Jackson

Club Manager's Report:

August at LBA

Many changes at the club..... a new website (same address), new email (also same, but will look different), new Beginner Bridge teacher (definitely looks different), maybe a new way to pay at the club, a new partner finder, and a reservation system.....you would think it was fall, not quite! There may be a slight learning curve on all of this, but it will be easier in the long run. Anyone needing help can get it from Sherrie or Denise Dufour, our new Webmaster! More on all of this to come soon.

The first week of August will be a NAP week. By a vote of 15-14, the Wednesday 750 game players decided not to have NAP games so that all of their players can play in a regular point game. The second

week will be Club Championship week. The third week is again a NAP week for the Open games. The 4th week is an NABC Fund Raiser week. So, there will be extra points in all Open games and most limited games this month. Baton Rouge is hosting an I/N Regional on August 20-22.

The online club will host 200% Black NABC fundraiser games on August 3-7. The Online Nap Games will be August 10-23. These events will be on both BBO in the virtual games and on RealBridge.

I mentioned a new Beginner Bridge teacher in the beginning of my report. Denise Dufour will be teaching Beginner Bridge while Kathy Plauche nurses her sweet Teddy back to health. Denise may be a newcomer to LBA, but she is not a newcomer to teaching beginner bridge, running a website, or living in New Orleans. We are lucky to have her. Please give her all the love and support that we give to Kathy, and vice versa. The new Beginner Bridge series will begin on September 8 and runs for 10 weeks. Please tell all your friends and family to join in the fun of learning bridge. The textbook and 10 lessons are a bargain at \$100. Please tell everyone you know .

See you at the table.

Sherrie Goodman

August 2026 Calendar

August 3,4,6,7	NAP Games at LBA
August 3-7	NABC Fundraiser Games on BBO and RealBridge
August 10-14	Club Championship Games
August 10-23	NAP Games on BBO & RealBridge
August 17,18,20,21	NAP Games at LBA
August 24-28	NABC Fundraiser Games on BBO And RealBridge

FQR

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What is the NAP? Why should I care?

North American Pairs is a national event in the spring NABC, this year in Dallas. This is one of the Premier events awarding Platinum points. Every year, District 10 & ACBL help fund the travel expenses for the top pairs in District 10 for the Championship and A bracket, and the top two teams in the B and C bracket. This is to help defray the travel expenses. The District competition this year will be held on RealBridge. For the A and C bracket, the District 10 competition is Saturday, November 7. The District Competition for Flight B and the Championship (over 6000) brackets will be on Saturday, October 3. I sincerely hope that LBA has several pairs vying for these District spots. We want representation in these District and National events. So, get your pair together and start practicing. We have Open Games 4 days and 1 night a week and limited games 5 days a week. We also host online games every day on BBO & Realbridge. It is really fun to compete for District (gold points!) and if you are lucky enough to win (or come in 2nd in B or C), it is really fun to participate in a National event against your peers (Platinum points). I hope to see many of you at the District competition.

Eligibility for the four flights is as follows:

1. Championship Flight Open to any player
2. Flight A Players with fewer than 6000 MPs
3. Flight B Players with fewer than 3000 MPs
4. Flight C Players with fewer than 750 MPs who are not Life Masters

Question? Contact Sherrie Goodman, District Nap Coordinator @ (504)329-7411 or mail@la-bridge.

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COURSE TOPICS:

FRIDAYS at 10 am

**Aug. 7th A deeper dive into Roman Key Card
Blackwood, some declarer play problems**

**Aug. 14th Lebensohl over 1N interference, XYZ (a
better version of NMF), declarer play
problems**

**Aug. 21st Lebensohl over a double of a weak 2 by
the opponents, Drury, declarer play
problems**

**Aug. 28th Lebensohl over reverses, multi-Landy
over opponent's 1N, declarer play**

**TO REGISTER: Contact Sue Guarisco 504-722-2578
sueguarisco@gmail.com**

or Sherrie Goodman 504-329-7411 mail@la-bridge.com

Questions?? Contact Craig at 225-892-9152 or craigcordes@cox.net

One year Anniversary of Coffee & Bridge

It was a year ago that Carolyn Stolz and I were casually talking and it came up that there was a group who was meeting at a coffee shop to practice what they had learned in Beginner Bridge. I said, "Why a coffee shop? This club is as much their club as it is mine." We agreed to hold a meeting of these players, and the majority of the group were in favor of moving to the club to financially support the club. The rest is history. Carolyn brought 3 tables of players to the club and we provided mentors at each table to answer any questions or give advice. Fast forward.....we are now up to 8+ tables and guess who is enjoying it the most.....our wonderful mentors! These people give of their time week after week, and they feel they are gaining as much out of the experience as the mentees. Thank you all for your great contribution to the growth of our club! Thank you to the mentees who come every week and pay for the mentoring, but not the coffee.....it's free!



Carolyn Stolz

Mentors



Audrey Cerise



Denise Dufour



John Federico



Denise Fuselier



Sherrie Goodman



Kathy Logue



Lil Range



Keenan Romig.



David Wolf

If you took Beginner Bridge, but you never got to playing a game because you didn't feel comfortable enough, come join us on Wednesday mornings at 9:30. We would love to help you get started playing.

ACHIEVEMENTS

70% Games (5/28-7/31)

6/3	Open	Club	Sherrie Goodman, David Wolf	75.65%
6/3	Open	Club	Gail M. Arnold, Susan Stephens	75.40%
6/4	Circle	Club	Barbara Hammett, Tom Watson	73.80%
6/4	Circle	Club	David Wright, Carol Jambon	72.28%
6/9	299	Club	James Mackay, Bette Marks	70.21%
6/11	Open	Club	Bill and Jean Weiss	72.30%
6/20	Open	Club	David Williams, Jean Talbot	71.67%
6/26	Open	Club	Linda Freese, David Wolf	73.52%
7/5	Open	Swiss	Jean Talbot, Vicki Willis, David Williams Sherrie Goodman	70.00%
7/8	Handi	Club	James Thornton, Sid LeBlanc	70.67%
7/16	Open	Club	Suzanne Cliffe, Mary LeBlanc	70.50%
7/22	Open	Club	Dee Moses, Larry Federico	70.38%
7/26	Open	BBO	Kathy Logue and team	71%
7/27	Open	Club	Jim Thornton, Sherrie Goodman	73.25%
7/27	Open	Club	Denise Fuselier, John Dubberley	71.19%
7/31	Open	Club	Mary LeBlanc, Sid LeBlanc	71.76%

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER



MATTI HEITALAHTI

ROAD WARRIORS



Minneapolis National Bridge Tournament: 4th Bracketed Swiss Teams
11.43 gold Molly Silvia, Cappy McIver, Di Lapeyre, Elizabeth Sewell

Minneapolis National Bridge Tournament: 1st Top Flight Pairs
3.76 gold Sherrie Goodman & Vicki Willis

Minneapolis National Bridge Tournament: Bracketed Round Robin Team 4
10.15 gold David McDonald, Matti Hietalahti & teammates

Austin Firecracker Regional Open Pairs
32.13 gold Guss Ginsburg & Mike Doyle

IN MEMORIAM



BILL GENTRY