

KIBITZER ♣♦♥♠

Louisiana Bridge Association October 2019

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President's Message October 2019

"Greetings" Our **workshops** continue with **Lowen, Iype** and **Sue's** classes well attended. Members who are attending have enjoyed the classes and are learning so many new bridge techniques. I am sure **Sherrie** will make plans for more workshops in the near future.

Our **bridge center has taken on a new look**. It is comfortable, attractive, and a pleasing place to meet friends and enjoy BRIDGE. The art work was donated by **Peter Briant** and is not for sale.

Beginning Bridge started **Monday September 23 at 6:30**. We had twenty-three very enthusiastic beginners. Our Newcomers' Chairperson and her helpers were there to help and were greatly appreciated. Thank you! IF you know a friend who has missed a class there is still time to join. **Beginning Thursday, October 10 at 9AM**, another beginning bridge class will start. Tell a friend. **SHARON HENRY IS TEACHING THE BEGINNER BRIDGE.**

Please look in the entrance way for a **WILLINGNESS TO SERVE** form if you are interested in running for the Board or contact **Suzanne Cliffe**.

Please take a few minutes to view our **TV MESSAGES**. There is a wealth of information about our club. **WITCHES, CATS, AND OTHER HALLOWEEN CREATURES** will be roaming our club **Thursday October 31 at 6:30PM**. Tell your friends and dress for the occasion to enjoy BRIDGE, FOOD AND FUN

Carolyn Dubois

October Events

*= extra points, no extra fee

**=extra points, extra fee

Mondays 6:30PM EZ Bridge continues

Thursdays 9AM starting Oct 10 EZ Bridge

Sharon Henry teaches both,

(first four lessons free)

Oct 2-9-16 Sue Himel's play lessons continue

Oct 3-5 NLM Sectional** Thurs-Sat.

Oct 4 ACBL-wide Sr. Pairs** Fri

Oct 11-13 Jackson Sectional Fri-Sun

Oct 14-20 Club Appreciation Week*

Oct 21-27 Club Appreciation Week*

YES—TWO Club Appreciation Weeks! Both Mon-Sun

Oct 28 Mon nite unit championship*

Oct 31 ACBL-wide Instant MP** Thurs

Oct 31 Unit Championship* Thurs Night

70 percent games

99er Sep 5 Thurs eve Stephanie Navarre &

Marva Arceneaux 75.83%

Sun 299er

Sep 8 Newt Jackson & Linda Jackson **81.34%**

Sep 15 Quin Bates & John Treen 70.63%

Sep 22 William Sewell & Wayne Cooper 75%

Open Sep 11 John Federico & Jean Talbot

71.40%

RANK ADVANCEMENTS

NEW JUNIOR MASTERS

Diane Kallenborn, Kelly Londeree, Mary McGuinness

NEW CLUB MASTERS

Jeannette Galleguillos,

Dr Donald Harmon, Susan Stephens

NEW SECTIONAL MASTERS

Debby Habig, Terry Habig, Leslie Nolan, Dan Zelenka

NEW REGIONAL MASTERS

Mary Belcher, Fran Early, Kathy Plauche

NEW NABC MASTERS

Margaret Shirer, Edward Trapp

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Arnaldo Partesotti

NEW MEMBERS

Wayne Cooper, Dianne Green, Laurie Hart, Anne Milling

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In Memoriam
Bob Bowers

DIREKTORS KORNER

THIS MONTH'S DIREKTOR IN CHARGE: the cute one

TOPIC: that extra dollar you sometimes have to pay

You show up at the club to buy your entry and you have \$7.00 in your hand. The director says, "Today is a special game. I need another dollar." You roll your eyes, reach into your wallet for another dollar and make a mental note to complain to the club manager.

Special games mean that more masterpoints are at stake. In the bridge world, the more masterpoints at stake, the higher the entry fee for the event. That is why sectional entry fees cost more than club games and regional entry fees are higher than sectional entries.

When the club holds special games it must pay a higher sanction fee to ACBL. Those fees range from an extra \$5.00 per table for Charity Games to an extra \$12.00 per table for Instant Matchpoint Games. The club collects only \$4.00 per table and makes up the difference to ACBL. Players are receiving anywhere from a 20% to 66% discount. The more masterpoints awarded the larger the discount to the players.

Thank you, Louisiana Bridge Association.

Gulfport Sectional Firsts

Fri AM Stratified Pairs Chuck Pitard & Allan Siebert

Fri PM 0-300 Pairs Jeannette Galleguillos & Leonardo Galleguillos

Sat AM Stratified Pairs Audrey Cerise & Peggy McCranie Flt C

Sat PM Stratified Pairs Chuck Pitard & Allan Siebert

An August St. Louis Regional first

Tues-Wed KO 3

Sheryl Thompson & Linda Conner

Some Atlanta NABC firsts

Nadine Wood bracketed KO 3 Sherrie Goodman-Sherry Anton-Molly Silvia-Elizabeth Cordes

Jacob Morgan & James Melville **Tuesday open pairs and Thurs A/X pairs**

Wednesday Grand Slam Jackpots

Sep 4 Joan Van Geffen & Judy Katz; Jean Talbot & Juanita Heidingsfelder

Sep 25 Audrey Cerise & Bill Gentry; Marilyn Ducase & Mary Leblanc

PAUL'S DEAL OF THE MONTH Easley Blackwood developed the 4NT ace asking convention as a means of checking whether a slamworthy hand was "off" two fast tricks. In today's game many club level players go through a rote Blackwood or Gerber routine in an effort to determine whether a hand is slamworthy in the first place.

Such a conventional "role reversal" is ill advised and unnecessary. At left is an example hand from a club game in which a small slam could sensibly be bid without using ace asking at all.

N ♠AK109x

♥Qxxx

♦K109

♣K

S ♠Qxxx

♥Kx

♦AQxx

♣Axx

I held the South hand and bid the Jacoby 2NT game forcing spade raise after partner opened 1S with the North hand. (I prefer the original, simple Jacoby version with which opener shows shortness. Others prefer a point count version of Jacoby, in which opener first states the point count range of the opening hand and responder then can ask for shortness or other features. Still other partnerships retain the 2NT response as natural and balanced, 13-15 hcp, while 3C becomes their shortness "ask.")

Our auction went 1S (natural, five or more spades)-2NT (ask for shortness, game forcing in opener's major)-3C (singleton club)-3D (diamond control)-3S (strong trumps but no heart control)-4C (first round club control)-4D (secondary diamond control)-4H (secondary heart control)-6S (safe with tertiary heart control plus partner's king). So this sound small slam was carefully reached without the use of ace asking at all. Using specific cuebids made that possible and successful.

Note that opener should not use Ace asking over responder's 2NT response because opener lacked a first or second round heart control. It is ill advised to use ace asking when holding two or more fast losers in a side suit because if an ace is missing the asker can't tell if two fast tricks are cashable or not.

The Devil's Coup - Part 1 by Arnaldo Partesotti

No, I am not talking about the latest screw-up by your partner, or a contract made by the opponents when they should have been down four. The Devil's Coup is well known in the bridge world, there are different examples, but it is extremely rare. Brian Senior calls it "a rare play - so rare, in fact, that I do not recall ever having brought it off in all my years of bridge."

North NV			
♠A87			
♥A95			
♦Q6			
♣A8632			
West V	East VD		
♠Q65	♠J3		
♥864	♥K72		
♦975	♦T432		
♣KJT7	♣Q954		
South NV			
♠KT942			
♥QJT3			
♦AKJ8			
♣ -			
West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	1S	
Pass	2NT*	Pass	4C**
Pass	4H	Pass	6S
All Pass			

* Jacoby 2NT ** Shortness

Here it is (see box at left), for your entertainment, executed by Geir Brekka of Norway, sitting South, at the 2015 European Championships. West led a Heart. Brekka won dummy's ♥A and played the ♣A (discarding a heart), club ruff, diamond to the ♦Q and another club ruff. He then played high diamonds (discarding a heart from dummy on the third round) and, on the last one, West wrongly elected to discard a heart, so dummy's last heart was thrown. Declarer trumped a heart, then a club (trumping low) to reach this position:

♠ A8	
♥ —	
♦ —	
♣ 8	
♠ Q65	♠ J3
♥ —	♥ K
♦ —	♦ —
♣ —	♣ —
♠ KT	
♥ J	
♦ —	
♣ —	

On the ♥J, West had no adequate answer. If he trumped high, Brekka would overtrump, then finesse the ♠J (or even trump the club). If he trumped low, dummy over-ruffs, and declarer makes the last two tricks on a high cross-ruff. With a trump loser and the heart finesse failing, he had made all 13 tricks!

Next month we will see another version of the Devil's Coup, coming from England via Italy.

HANDS FROM THE PAST 2 by Chuck Pitard

Not all hands remembered from the past are pleasant. There's those hands that you make you fret all night. Here's a few examples:

Many years ago, somehow Jack Lanoue and I were leading after the first day in the national Life Master Men's Pairs. The first hand of the second day, NV vs V, I held 7 hearts led by the ♥A and a void in clubs. I bid 3 hearts, doubled on my left, and raised to 4 Hearts by jack. The opponents got to 6 spades with me on lead. I led the 2 of hearts, hoping that Jack had the king. Dummy came down with 3 small hearts. Jack, holding the ♥KJ doubleton played the ♥J. Declarer won his singleton ♥Q, making the contract. Needless to say, that was the end of our Life Master Men's Pairs.

Recently in a Gulfport Tournament, playing with Allan Siebert, I opened 1H holding a singleton spade. Jamie Bush overcalled 1S. My partner bid 4S. John Onstott passed. Now, what the hell did 4S mean? Finally, after huddling forever, I passed. John made his opening lead and partner threw his hand down on the table saying "Take what you want". He held a void in spades and was bidding Exclusion Blackwood. John had passed with 6 spades. We were playing a 1-0 fit.

About one hundred years ago, I was playing with Jim McMullin in a regional in Gatlinburg. One the last day of the Tournament, on the first board, we were playing against 2 ladies. One of the ladies committed an infraction and the director was called. We explained the infraction to Jerry Macklin, a famous national director. Finally, he said "Just reshuffle". I told him no, that a penalty was called for. We argued back and forth until he said "Reshuffle and one more word on the subject and you are out of the tournament". I replied, 'OK, but I protest'. You have no idea how miserable it is walking the streets of Gatlinburg all day waiting for your ride home. There are no bars in this dry county, only a million chocolate shops everywhere. Bridge is a great game!