

# Newsletter

of the

## Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club

August 2017



### Tom Byarlay

Tom has earned the rank of Bronze Life Master (a Life Master with 750 masterpoints). Tom's favorite partner is Bill Mattox, and they have been playing together for a number of years.

Tom is a true gentleman, and a worthy opponent. Congratulations, Tom, for this achievement.

### Jay Lucas and Frank Swan

Jay and Frank, Frank and Jay, the "Dynamic Duo," Opponents You Would Rather Avoid . . . whatever you call them, call them a huge success at the North American Bridge Championships in Toronto!

This pair from OUR CLUB placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Young Life Master Pairs event. There will be a full article (with photo) in the September Newsletter.

Please congratulate them on a job well done, and for representing the Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club in such an awesome fashion.



### Bonnie Melchior (our new Emerald!)

Bonnie started playing serious duplicate at a unit game in Bethesda, Maryland, where she regularly got beaten up by the likes of Steve Robinson, Jo Morse, and Kit Woolsey. Bonnie says it was a thrill when she came in fourth and got 0.15 masterpoints. She read every bridge book she could get her hands on, and the one that really changed her bridge life was Eddie Kantar's big red book on defense. "Gosh: if you led a suit headed by the king, you could tell that your partner had the queen when declarer won the trick with the Ace!" Kantar emphasizes trying to figure out distributions and cards in the closed hands.

When Bonnie started playing bridge in Little Rock (about 1979), she had all of 20 masterpoints. She was fortunate to be mentored by Peggy Jett and her sister Martha Harris. Many other friends have helped Bonnie win points.

Bonnie says, "We have a wonderful club with a pleasant environment and super special people." "Absolutely no obnoxious persons!" She asked, "Where but in our club can you find a person with 35,000+ points, like Allan Siebert, who (in addition to generously contributing to the club financially) is willing to share his expertise with us lesser players?" Bonnie's advice to up-and-coming players: play up (you learn more), keep on reading, and keep on trying.

# Congratulations to Our Members Reaching Masterpoint Milestones!

**Junior Master** (5 masterpoints)

**Don Rebsamen**

**Sectional Masters** (50 Masterpoints including at least 5 silver)

**Tanner Chapman**

**Joyce Hilliard**

**Regional Masters** (100 masterpoints including at least 15 silver and 5 red, gold or platinum)

**Lana Foot**

**Bill Golden**

**Mary Hudson**

**Ken Williams**

**NABC Masters** (200 masterpoints including at least 25 silver, and 20 red, gold or platinum of which at least 5 must be gold or platinum)

**Carol Eiseman**

**Karen Irico**

**Kaye Stanley**

**Jean-Noel Willk**

**Advanced NABC Masters** (300 masterpoints including at least 50 black, 25 silver, 50 red, gold or platinum of which at least 25 must be gold or platinum)

**Tom Wahl**

**Alex Zacny**

**Bronze Life Master** (Life Master with 750 masterpoints)

**Tom Byarlay**

**Emerald Life Master** (Life Master with 7500 masterpoints including 1500 silver, red, gold or platinum of which 750 must be gold or platinum)

**Bonnie Melchior**



Deb Phillips and Mary Jane Weindorf prepare for the big 4<sup>th</sup> of July Potluck and Game

## Trump Squeeze or Not?

Gordon Campbell

Please accept that I do not wish to explain how we reached 5♥, but we did. However, Declarers with many years of experience in contracts which are too high or inferior, develop better play of the hand skills!

Contract: 5♥

Lead: ♣Q

♠ AJ  
♥ KQJ96  
♦ 10876  
♣ 85

♠ WEST  
♥  
♦  
♣



♠ EAST  
♥  
♦  
♣

♠ KQ8  
♥ 75  
♦ AKJ2  
♣ AK63

Against your 5♥, West led the ♣Q which you win. You can't be deceptive, East knows you have both the Ace and King. You play a Trump (Heart) towards the dummy but East wins the Ace offside and returns a low Diamond. You win as you can always finesse later if

(continued on Page 3)

(continued from Page 2)

you need, and you play two more rounds of trumps. Sadly, East has another trump trick with his original holding of A1083. Now what?

I suspected that East held a singleton Diamond, and wondered if it were possible to make the hand with the ♦Q offside. Let's assume it is a singleton, and we know East holds 4-card Hearts, so he holds 8 black cards. Surprisingly there are 2 different successful lines of play, but before you embark you need to guess how the Club suit is divided.

Scenario 1 – East holds 4 or more Clubs – likely 3415 or 4414.

The plan here is to try to ruff your 2 small clubs in dummy, while East helplessly follows. After the first ruff, lead a Diamond off dummy towards your remaining high honor. It doesn't help East to ruff air in front, so he pitches, and you then ruff your 4<sup>th</sup> Club. Declarer scores 3 Spades, 2 Hearts, 2 Club ruffs, 2 Diamonds and 2 Clubs for 11 tricks. The Opponents' three tricks have been squashed into two, as the last trick is won by both their ♦Q and ♥10.

After playing ♣A, ♠K and ruff a Club, there are 2 sub-scenarios.

Scenario 1a.

If West shows in then the Clubs are 4324 around the table, and East is 4414. Continue with the plan above, and you succeed. On the Diamond lead towards your hand East must pitch a Spade because a Club pitch makes your last Club high, and you won't need the 2<sup>nd</sup> ruff.

Scenario 1b.

If West shows out then the Clubs are 4225 around the table, and East is 3415. The problem here is that when you lead a Diamond, East pitches a Spade. Later he can ruff your winning Spade as opposed to ruffing your losing Diamond, then he can cash his 5<sup>th</sup> Club. You can thwart this by cashing 3 rounds of Spades before ruffing the 1<sup>st</sup> Club, so we should incorporate this into the original plan. Cashing side-winners is always essential before cross-ruffing hands, and this follows the same general principle.

Scenario 2 – East holds 3 or fewer Clubs – likely 5413.

The plan here is to squeeze West who guards both Diamonds and Clubs. This is a rare squeeze called a Trump Squeeze within the fascinating family of Criss-Cross squeezes. (It seems "he" has even affixed his name to a bridge line of play ☺). To start we must give East his trump trick while we pitch Diamonds. After cashing 2 Spade winners we come down to this 4-card end-position with South on lead (see next column):

♠ --		♠ --
♥ 9		♥ --
♦ 1087		♦ --
♣ --		♣ 7
♠ --		♠ 976
♥ --		♥ --
♦ Q9		♦ --
♣ J10		♣ 7
♠ K		
♥ --		
♦ K		
♣ 63		

The count is rectified as we have 3 of the last 4 tricks. Now we play the squeeze card, the ♠K.

If West pitches a Diamond, we cash the ♦K and enter dummy with a ruff to cash the good ♦10.

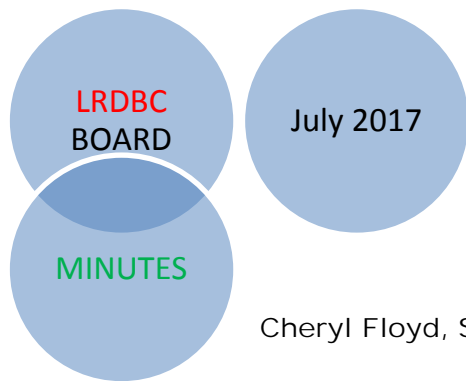
If West pitches a Club, we ruff a Club in Dummy and return to the ♦K to score the last Club.

As East held Heart length I decided to play West for longer Clubs, so luckily picked Scenario 2. This squeeze worked with West being 3244 but it will also work if West is 2245.

A very interesting hand. I wish I could claim to have worked everything out at the table ☺



**Carolyn Stowers** (Tournament of Roses Chair) and **Kaye Stanley** (Tournament of Roses Co-Chair) enjoy a "brief" moment of diversion from their numerous responsibilities. Great job, Carolyn and Kaye!



Cheryl Floyd, Secretary

The July meeting of the LRDBC board was called to order by President Byron Southern at noon on Sunday, July 9, 2017. Attending were President Byron Southern, Vice-President Fran Cockcroft, Treasurer Rick Lowens, Secretary Cheryl Floyd and board members Dick Heil, Gerald Koonce, Leslie Hollingsworth, Carolyn Stowers, Robert Downie, and Bitsy Cates. Also attending were Ex-officio members Karen Proetz, Deb Phillips, and Dick Chapman, representative from TBH Art Pfeifer, and Newsletter Editor Becky Bien. The minutes of the June meeting were approved by a voice vote.

Treasurer Rick Lowens reported that we are 232 tables behind last year.

Frank Swan asked that the Board consider allowing players who have over the masterpoint limit to teach or mentor in limited games with their students. Gerald Koonce made a motion that no player in a limited game may have above the eligible masterpoint limit unless they are a fill-in. The motion was seconded and approved.

Renee Shackleford informed the Board that for a player with less than 100 points to play in an open game is very difficult as they do not know the rules such as pausing too long and are intimidated by the open players.

Kaye Stanley presented a proposal to change the venue next year for The Tournament of Roses to the Pleasant Valley Country Club for Friday and Saturday with the Sunday Swiss Teams game held at the Curtis Finch Bridge House. The Country Club will provide the tables and chairs along with coffee and tea. Lunch will be available for \$12.95, or there are numerous restaurants within a mile of the club. The cost is \$450 more than the church for two days but we will not have to transport tables and chairs from Hot Springs and assemble and disassemble them. A motion was made and passed that we follow Kaye's recommendation and move the venue next year to Pleasant Valley Country Club.

Deb Phillips reported that STaCs week is at the end of August. She suggested that we find volunteers to help with the kitchen clean up so that the directors do not have to spend so much of their time cleaning up before and after a game.

David Cockcroft reported from the Conduct and Ethics Committee on the resolution of two complaints of psychic bidding by the same individual. The Committee's report and recommended action were accepted.

There was no further business so the meeting was adjourned.

## North American Pairs (NAP)

North American Pairs qualifying games continue during the month of August for flights A (Open); B (500/NLM-2500); and, C (0-500/NLM). Club-level qualifications may be earned at any club in any Unit in any District. A player may qualify as often as desired and with as many different partners as desired. Unit-level qualifiers are optional and held after September 1<sup>st</sup> and before the District final (which may be held after the Unit final until the third week in January). NOTE: LRDBC will host the Unit Qualifying Event on Saturday, September 9. At the District final, both players must have qualified at the club level and must be members of the parent District.



## Special August Games

August 1-2	Club Championship
August 3	Unit Championship
August 6	Eight is Enough Swiss Team
August 7	Charity Games
August 8	Inter-Club Championship (1:00 p.m.)
August 8	Charity (7:00 p.m.)
August 9	Unit Wide Championship Games
August 10-12	Charity Games
August 13-23	North American Pairs (NAP) Qualifying Games (see calendar for details)
August 18-20	Hot Springs Village I/N Sectional
August 24	Inter-Club Championship (11:00 a.m.)
August 24	Club Membership (7:00 p.m., 0-750)
August 25-26	NAP Qualifying Games
August 28-31	STaCs (Sectional Tournament at Clubs – all games)



# August 2017

## Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 1:00 Open Club Championship 7:00 Open Club Championship	2 9:30 0-500 Club Championship 1:00 0-50 Club Championship 7:00 0-100 Club Championship	3 11:00 Open Unit Championship 7:00 0-750	4 11:00 0-300 <i>6:30 Mexican Potluck</i> 7:00 Open	5 1:00 Open
6 1:30 Eight is Enough Swiss Team Charity N	7 11:00 Open & 0-300 Charity L 7:00 0-500 Charity N	8 1:00 Open Inter-Club Championship 7:00 Open Charity L	9 9:30 0-500 Unit Wide Championship 1:00 0-50 Unit Wide Championship 7:00 0-100 Unit Wide Championship W708161A	10 11:00 Charity Open N <i>6:00 PM Mentoring</i> 7:00 0-750 Charity L	11 11:00 0-300 Charity N <i>6:30 Italian Potluck</i> 7:00 Open Charity L	12 1:00 Open Charity N
13 <i>12:00 Board Meeting</i> 1:30 Open NAP	14 11:00 Open NAP & 0-300 7:00 0-500 NAP	15 1:00 Open NAP 7:00 Open NAP	16 9:30 0-500 NAP 1:00 0-50 7:00 0-100	17 11:00 Open NAP 7:00 0-750	18 11:00 0-300 <i>6:30 Potluck</i> 7:00 Open NAP	19 1:00 Open NAP
20 1:30 Open NAP <div>HSV I/N</div>	21 11:00 Open NAP & 0-300 7:00 0-500 NAP	22 1:00 Open NAP 7:00 Open NAP	23 9:30 0-500 NAP 1:00 0-50 7:00 0-100	24 11:00 Open Inter-Club Championship 7:00 0-750 Club Membership	25 11:00 0-300 <i>6:30 Potluck</i> 7:00 Open NAP	26 1:00 Open NAP
27 1:30 Open	28 11:00 Open & 0-300 STaCs 7:00 0-500 STaCs #1709055	29 1:00 Open STaCs 7:00 Open STaCs	30 9:30 0-500 STaCs 1:00 0-50 & Open STaCs 7:00 0-100 STaCs Open House 4:00-7:00	31 11:00 Open STaCs 7:00 0-750 STaCs		



Can anyone identify this member unloading the dishwasher?

(No good deed goes unnoticed.)

## A Summer Junior Bridge Camp Thank you!

Richard Kalkbrenner

Eleven young people from 11 to 16 years old – 4 girls and 7 boys – including one out-of-stater – survived the first LRDBC Junior Bridge Camp the week of June 26, and I think those eleven would call it a big hit!

Success often comes easily at this Bridge club because there are so many wonderful “you”s out there.

The very existence of Junior Bridge Camp is thanks to the perseverance and hard work of **Kaye Stanley** who also undertook the roles of teacher and game-master, devising a Bridge Jeopardy game using facts the students had been taught. **Karen Proetz** prepared kid-friendly lunches for the students, the teachers and the volunteers each day and for the graduation ceremony she threw an ice cream party.

Every day there were at least two volunteers who helped at the tables keeping the students (and me) on task, answering questions, encouraging, teaching, cajoling and since there were 11 students, one volunteer had to sit and bid and play hands with the young people. These selfless individuals I’d like to thank for their sizeable contribution. They were **Evelyn Hodges, Elaine and Rick Lowens, Suzanne Patton, Pat Phillips** (who also prepared lunches), **Margaret Barros** and **Faye Barry** who came several days, and especially **Jean Hendrix** who volunteered every day.

Special guests dropped in during the week that I’d also like to thank. **Gordon Campbell** spoke about his lifetime journey through three countries and various table games but enthralled the kids with his story of winning a gold medal at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. I showed the students the wall plaque we maintain of our club’s national winners and I read through the names. When the next special guest dropped in, I picked up the plaque and asked the students “whose name appears more than any other

on the plaque?” and the resounding response was “**Allan Siebert!**” So I said “I’d like for you to meet Allan Siebert” (who then spoke of his love of the game yet admonishing to students to get an education first).

**Becky Bien**, who won a national Mini-McKenney in 2010, told the kids the club was so happy to have them with us that week. Much thanks to these three special speakers.

So many of you brought snacks that I lost track, but know that I am grateful and want to thank you. Like I said, there are so many wonderful “you”s out there.

## 4-Week Competitive Bidding Classes

David and Fran Cockcroft will offer two classes starting this month:

**Intermediate Competitive Bidding** (beginning Mondays, August 14, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m., designed for more experienced players, or those who have 200+ masterpoints)

**Introduction to Competitive Bidding** (beginning Wednesdays, August 16, from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m., designed for players with duplicate experience who have less than 200 masterpoints).

Sign-up sheets are posted at The Bridge House.



**Doris Bland** says it all for us . . . “Pretty Good at Bad Decisions”



## August Birthdays

Sandra Morris	2
Libby Taylor	2
Judy Fuller	2
Margaret Norton	2
Carol Jones	5
Leslie Hollingsworth	6
Kay Swanson	6
Ti Davis	7
Norma Stewart	7
Marilyn Moores	11
Afton White	11
Tanner Chapman	13
Mary Lou Cravens	13
Nell Harris	13
Phillip Oliver	13
Marcia Chapman	14
G. L. Rhoades	14
Johnna Rice	14
Esmerelda Rodriguez	14
Ann Ferrill	15
Kathy Gates	15
Julia Robinson	15
Judy Rutherford	15
Doug Wood	15
Joan Sinadinos	16
Beverly Kinneman	17
Sherry Wortsmith	17
Marsha Boss	18
Jim Hathaway	18
Pat Kyser	19
Glennnda Fread	20
Richard Meyer	20
Chuck Arrington	21
Cindy Devish	21
Barbara Hope	22
Mary Millsap	24
Karen Potts	25
Michael Popkin	26
Ginger Quinn	29
Bitsy Cates	30
Tom Conley	31
Richard Johnson	31
Renee Shackelford	31

## For the Donations:

The Bridge House gratefully acknowledges the following monetary contributions:

In Memory of Jim Gauntt, by Rick and Elaine Lowens

In Memory of Diane Siebert, by Billie Corrothers and Ann Clay

For The Bridge House Scholarship Fund, by Gay and Jim Hathaway

The Bridge House regrets that it cannot accept gifts of tangible personal property other than bridge books. Gifts of cash and securities are gratefully accepted and help fund the many educational offerings of the organization. The Bridge House thanks each of its many donors for making bridge education possible. Please contact Dick Chapman for any omissions in this listing, and for information on donations or planned giving.

We are saddened by the death of Diane Siebert.



## New Members

Margaret Norton  
Larry Weatherly  
Joe Luzzi  
Marianne Thompson  
Connie Wardell

Delta Dealin' Regional Tournament  
(we call it Tunica), September 11-17 at the  
Gold Strike Casino. Mark your calendar now!



## Big Games at the Club:

**Maybian Wardlaw & Sandra Crawford, 73.02%, 7/6**  
**Anna Hayden & Carolyn Stowers, 71.78%, 7/12**  
**Hugh Pollard & Sue Gaskin, 70.59%, 7/19**  
**JeanBeth Hill & Roger Amick, 75.83%, 7/19**  
**Roger Amick & Nate Atkinson, 70.22%, 7/28**  
**Allan Siebert & Gerald Koonce, 70.60%, 7/31**



Rick Lowens, Elaine Lowens, Matt Williams, David Cockcroft are winners in the morning Swiss Team Match, and second in the afternoon Swiss Team Match! (Tournament of Roses)



There were a number of fun t-shirts at the North American Bridge Championships in Toronto, but the funniest was sported by a rather large man, stating: "Exercise? I

*Thought You Said "Extra Fries!"*

This one also caused a lot of comments: "*The Older You Get The Better You Get – Unless You're A Banana.*"

## Comments from a Director

Dick Chapman

Normally in this space I discuss the Laws or player deportment or other director-related stuff. But this month I want to just brag about our club. I only wish readers knew how good it is! Judy and I try to play at local clubs when we travel, and we have had some

nice experiences. But nothing has come close to the good friendships, quality playing space, strong competition, and overall recreational experience we get in Little Rock. Good food, too! And, for thrifty players like me (read: "cheap"), it's only five bucks to play.

We recently returned from New York where we accomplished a small part of our bucket list by playing at the Honors Bridge Club on East 58th Street. This is the largest club in the United States (perhaps the world) in terms of table count, so we expected a beautiful place with a tournament-like atmosphere. Wrong and wrong. It would be rude to take shots at that good club, so I won't. But it wasn't Little Rock. The playing space was crowded (at 20 grand a month or whatever the rent is, they have to squeeze players) and low ceilings made it seem even more so. Players were friendly enough but we just didn't feel all that comfortable. Pros with clients self-selected into one event, the 0-750 players were in a second event, and there was a third event for everyone else. Our event was open but all the big dogs seemed to have been playing in the other section. Even our section *sans professional* was pretty tough and we felt ok about our better than average finish. But it wasn't Little Rock.

I now must tell readers what this little venture cost: Sixty-four dollars for the two of us. Yikes! The club threw in a buffet lunch which was pretty good, but...it wasn't Little Rock.



**Honors Bridge Club playing area**

The next time something doesn't quite go right at our club, we recommend readers relax a bit and remember what a good deal we have. Movement awkward? Field not balanced? Wait, what, you had to sit East-West?!? Remember, it's five bucks and a great recreational experience. Our club is not privately owned, is well-managed, and doesn't pay \$20,000 rent. And the volunteer spirit is phenomenal. Such a deal...let's enjoy it. See you at the club.

**Bridge Tip:** *Cashing side-winners is always essential before cross-ruffing hands.*



## Need a Partner or Swiss Teammates?

Contact Diane Tate at 501-225-9144, Karen Proetz at 501-454-6085, or Dixie Martin at 501-786-0183. If you are willing to be on the fill-in list, please contact Dixie, Diane or Karen.

## Directory Changes or Dues Payments

Directory changes: send to Rick Lowens at [relo0723@icloud.com](mailto:relo0723@icloud.com), or place in his box at the club. Dues payments (payable to LRDBC): mail to 23 Clervaux Dr., Little Rock, AR 72223, or place in his box at the club. The acting director can also collect dues.

## Newsletter Delivery

Want your *Newsletter* delivered a different way? Contact Dick Chapman at [rwc2223@gmail.com](mailto:rwc2223@gmail.com) or 501-590-7056, or place your request in Box B6.



The Curtis Finch Bridge House

Wednesday, August 30,  
4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

BRING A FRIEND and help promote our exciting Fall Schedule, or help recruit a new member for the club!

## The Longest Day

According to ACBL, a record \$1,000,000 was raised by its members during the fifth annual *The Longest Day* event (a partnership between the ACBL and the Alzheimer's Association). This event supports Alzheimer's disease care and research. Donations have grown from \$575,000 in 2013 to this year's \$1,000,000 (includes expected sanction fees from member clubs, and pledged donations).

The Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club is pleased to be a part of this worthwhile endeavor to raise money for the more than 35 million people worldwide who are living with Alzheimer's and the countless caregivers who face this disease. For those individuals, every day is "the longest day."



To View Game Results &  
Other Information About  
Our Club, Please Visit

<http://www.bridgewebs.com/littlerock>

## The Bridge House Fall Education Program is Being Rolled Out

The Bridge House education committee has been hard at work the past several months preparing to launch an exciting and dynamic new education program. The program will be kicked off at the Open House on August 30. Members are encouraged to bring friends to introduce them to the LRDBC and TBH. There will be libations, hors d'oeuvres, and tours of the Curtis Finch Bridge House. Visitors will be encouraged to sign up for two FREE introductory bridge lessons (9/5 and 9/7 from 3-4:30 p.m., or 9/6 and 9/7 from 6-7:30 p.m.) Even those who cannot attend the Open House can come for the FREE introductory classes. The complete fall schedule is posted on the website, under the TBH Classes (for Students) tab. Contact Ginna Young at 501-615-4009, or Richard Kalkbrenner at 501-993-0879 for more information.

## From the Editor

Becky Bien

**Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, "*It is the practical person who becomes a vein in times of terror that commands the admiration of the wisest.*"**

**Sometimes practicality in Bridge might do the same. Thoughts?**

### LITTLE ROCK DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

CURTIS FINCH BRIDGE HOUSE — *A ZERO TOLERANCE CLUB*

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**BRIDGEWEBS.COM/LITTLEROCK**

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Robert Downie

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Carolyn Stowers

##### *Two Years*

Bitsy Cates

Dick Heil

Leslie Hollingsworth

John Mueller

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Karen Proetz

Past President

Deb Phillips

ACBL Club Manager

Dick Chapman

Lead Director

\* \* \* \*

Art Pfeifer

Board Representative, The Bridge House

\* \* \* \*

Becky Bien

*Newsletter* Editor

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