

# Daily



# Bulletin

Houston, Texas

52nd Spring North American Bridge Championships

Editors: Brent Manley and Dave Smith

## Welcome to Houston!

Welcome to the 2009 Spring North American Bridge Championships in Houston. Considered by many to be the energy capital of the world, Houston is the fourth-largest city in the U.S. Houston is also home to the world renowned Texas Medical Center, Rice University and the University of Houston. Among our professional sports teams, the Rockets will be playing at the Toyota Center only a few blocks from the hotel.

All of the events at the NABC will be held inside the brand new and beautiful Hilton Americas, so there is no need to go outside if you don't want to. Houston, however, has many things to see and do if you do choose to venture out. Tours are planned Monday through Thursday, including the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, shopping at the Galleria (the venue of the 2002 Spring NABC), the Johnson Space Center and historic Galveston. Be sure to check with our Information Desk for times and availability.

Our committees and volunteers have been working hard to make sure that you have a fun and memorable experience. We want to give a special thanks to our committee chairmen:

**Partnerships:** Jolie Hess and Terrie Curry.

**Registration:** Yvonne Strangmeyer and Kathy

Hughes.

**Information:** Barbara and Joe Nance.

**Prizes:** Connie Robichaux and Vicki Ornowski.

**Special Events:** Marsha Bernstein.

**Publicity:** Jane Armstrong.

**Volunteers:** Carol Irvin and Judy Smith.

**Hospitality:** Julia Miller and Barbara Peck.

**Caddies:** John and Virginia Zilic.

**Decorations:** Debra Bellan and Ellen Greenfield.

**Logistics:** Bert Onstott and Sandy Lobliner. Restaurant Guide and Program: Dianna and

Joe Gittelman.

**Pre tournament:** Katherine Onstott.

**Fund Raising:** Lew Levy and Terrie Curry.

**Treasurer:** Carolyn Fox.

**I/N Program:** Betty Starzec and Sue Williams.

**Entertainment:** Toni Snow and Sandy Stevens.

**Tee-shirts:** Brigitte Sandifer.

They and their committee members have worked tirelessly for months to make this tournament a great success, so please be sure to give them your thanks when you see them.

Again, we hope y'all have a great time, win lots of points, make lots of friends, have a safe trip home and come back to see us again and again in the future. We have a fabulous regional every year in February.

- Eric and Toni Snow and Betty Starzec, Tournament Co-Chairs



Betty Starzec and Eric and Toni Snow are the tournament co-chairs.



Jim Krekorian and John Rengstorff won the North American Pairs.

## New Yorkers take NAP-A

Jim Krekorian and John Rengstorff won the North American Pairs, Flight A, by more than a board. The New York City pair took the lead after the first final session by more than 17 matchpoints (13 top). They had a 53.85% game in the evening to win by about 15 matchpoints.

"With three rounds to go, we went into the four corners," said Krekorian, making a basketball reference. "I knew a pair would have to have a huge game to catch us, and I didn't want any zeroes."

"We went conservative," added Rengstorff.

The winners have been a regular partnership for about 15 years. They credit their defense as the biggest reason for their victory.

This is Rengstorff's second NABC title and Krekorian's fifth. This is their first NABC championship as partners. They have one previous win as teammates in the 1997 Board-a-Match Teams in St. Louis. Krekorian is a full-time player. Rengstorff is an actor.

In second place were Robert Heitzman Jr, of Suffern NY and Jonathan Weinstein of Princeton NJ. Their score was 412.86. In third place were Mark Itabashi of Murrieta CA and Steven Love of Laguna Niguel CA with 390.81.

## Silodor Pairs starts today

The four-session Silodor Open Pairs starts today with two qualifying sessions. It will conclude on Saturday with two final sessions.

The winners' names are engraved on the Silodor Trophy, presented in memory of Sidney Silodor, winner of the Bermuda Bowl, the McKenney Trophy and more than 30 North American championships.

Silodor, a member of the team that won the first Bermuda Bowl World Championship in 1950, won the Vanderbilt eight times, the Reisinger six times, the Spingold, the Open Pairs and the Master Mixed Teams three times each and the Mixed Pairs five times.

For more information see page 8.

## An ace in space? You bet!

Astronaut Gregory Johnson today will present to the ACBL an ace of spades that he carried on the Shuttle Endeavor on a 15-day mission. The STS-123 Endeavor orbited the earth 250 times, traveling 6.6 million miles in 15 days and 18 hours March 11 - 25 in 2008.

Johnson will present the card to Jay Baum, ACBL's chief executive, at 11:30 a.m. today on the fourth floor at the Hilton Americas near the registration desk.

Astronauts are allowed to carry up to 10 items on shuttle flights, and Johnson selected the ace of spades from an official ACBL deck of cards to honor the organization and demonstrate his love of bridge.

Johnson has been a bridge player for more than 30 years. He started duplicate as a new U.S. Air Force pilot in 1988. He is a Life Master.

## Plug them in and see how it goes

Today, the ACBL will conduct an experiment in remote bridge play.

In the Silodor Open Pairs, one pair will have a player sitting at a table in Houston. His partner and a monitor will be sitting at a computer in Las Vegas.

Via the Internet, with assists from numerous humans, the experiment will help the ACBL evaluate possibilities for future bridge competition.

Thanks to all competitors for your cooperation.

## Goodwill Message

Welcome to the 2009 Spring North American Bridge Championships in Houston.

Tournament chairs Betty Starzec, Toni Snow and Eric Snow and their committees have lined up a great schedule of bridge events, terrific late-night food, celebrity speakers and more.

Please join me in saying "thank you" to our hosts.

Aileen Osofsky, Chairman  
National Goodwill  
Committee



## SPECIAL EVENTS

### MEETINGS / SEMINARS / RECEPTIONS

#### Friday, March 13

- 9 am - Noon **Teacher Accreditation Program (TAP).** Second session of the ACBL's popular 10-hour seminar for people interested in learning how to teach bridge successfully. Pre-registration required. *Meeting Room 336.*
- 9:30 am - Noon **ACBL Charity Foundation meeting.** *Meeting Room 331.*
- 10 am - Noon **ACBL Disciplinary Committee meeting.** *Meeting Room 326.*
- 10:30 am - Noon **ACBL Tournament Director meeting.** *Meeting Room 327.*
- 4:30- 6:30 pm **Reception for Teachers and Club Officials.** This is the ACBL's "thank you" reception for the teachers and club officials who work so hard to recruit and retain our members. *Meeting Room 343.*
- 11 pm - Midnight **National Appeals Committee meeting.** *Meeting Room 327.*
- 11 pm - 1 am **Grant Baze memorial.** *Meeting Room 335.*

#### Saturday, March 14

- 9 am - Noon **Bridge Teachers and Bridge Cruises Seminar.** Join instructor Sue Williams for great tips on being a successful teacher and bridge host on a cruise ship. Fee: \$25 at the door. *Meeting Room 327.*
- 9 am - Noon **ACBL Educational Foundation meeting.** *Meeting Room 331.*
- 10 am - Noon **ACBL Laws Commission meeting.** *Meeting Room 332.*
- 9:45 am - Noon **Free Bridge Lesson with Jerry Helms.** Helms, well-known teacher and Bridge Bulletin columnist, presents a fun bridge lesson for intermediate and newer players. *Lanier Ballroom GHI.*
- 10 am - Noon **ACBL Hall of Fame Committee meeting.** *Meeting Room 326.*

- 10:30 am - Noon **ACBLscore Seminar.** Join ACBL National Director Rick Beye for an informative seminar on the ACBLscore program. *Meeting Room 345.*
- 1 - 3 pm **Bridge Plus+.** Special game for new players. 14 boards, no card fee. *Lanier Ballroom GHI.*
- 5 - 7 pm **Junior Reception.** All Junior players are invited to attend. *Meeting Room 343.*

#### Sunday, March 15

- 9:45 am - Noon **Free Bridge Lesson with Gary King.** *Lanier Ballroom GHI.*
- 10 am - Noon **Board of Governors/ACBL Membership Meeting.** This meeting is open to all members. *Lanier Ballroom A-F.*
- 10 am - Noon **Reception for Bridge Teachers of Junior Players.** Interested in teaching bridge to Juniors? Currently teaching Juniors? Meet officials of the School Bridge League and the ACBL Education Department staff to exchange ideas and find others interested in pursuing Junior bridge activities in their areas. *Meeting Room 343.*
- 10 am - Noon **Open Team Trials meeting.** *Meeting Room 331.*
- Noon - 5 pm **Happy Bridge.** Special game for new players. *Lanier Ballroom GHI.*
- 5 - 7 pm **Teaching Bridge to Young Students seminar.** Be among the first to take our new, free continuing education course in Houston. It will help you strengthen and grow your current school bridge program. Join Patty Tucker for a great seminar following the afternoon session. *Meeting Room 346.*
- 11 pm - 1 am **ACBL Patron Member Reception.** *Hilton Americas, Suite 21027.*

### CELEBRITY SPEAKER PROGRAM

Be sure to hear these free expert lectures in Houston.

#### Friday, March 13

- 12:15 pm Jerry Helms *Ask Jerry*
- 6:45 pm Toni Snow *The Lady - When to Play the Queen*

#### Saturday, March 14

- 12:15 pm Harriette Buckman *Rule of 14*
- 6:45 pm Gary King *Making Close Decisions*

#### Sunday, March 15

- 12:15 pm Ken Monzingo *Hand Patterns*
- 6:45 pm Allan Mazer *Tell Your Partner Where to Go!*

### LATE NIGHT/ENTERTAINMENT

Entertainment will be provided in Lanier Ballroom J at 11:30 p.m.

#### Friday, March 13

Frontier Squares. This popular dance group performs all over the world. There will be a contest for the best Western duds: \$100 first prize, \$50 second prize.

#### Saturday, March 14

The Over-the-Hill Dixieland Jazz Band

Food will be served nightly in the Lanier Ballroom pre-function area at 11:30 p.m.

#### Friday, March 13

Burritos

#### Saturday, March 14

Hero sandwiched and chips



**John Onstott** is a Grand Life Master who has more than 20,000 masterpoints. Onstott, of New Orleans, won Keohane North American Swiss Teams in 1998 and has several second-place finishes. He is a WBF Senior Life Master who won the World Senior Teams

Championship in 2001 and 2004.

### Special thanks

- "Thank you to Baron Barclay Bridge Supply for sponsoring the Win a Bridge Library contest in the Intermediate Newcomer area." Please put this in a small box and include in each day's bulletin.
- "Thank you to Kronberg's Flags and Flagpoles for supplying and delivering the Texas State flag displayed on the 2nd floor."

### Slow Play

Slow play, as opposed to careful or thoughtful play, is discourteous to your opponents — and to all other competitors as well. Players and pairs who take more than their allotted time are subject to

penalty.

In general, pairs who are rarely late will be warned while pairs who are habitually tardy and/or pay no attention to time limits will be penalized.

### Dress Up Night

Players are encouraged to dress up for the evening session Saturday, March 14. This is a regular feature of all NABCs.



**Saturday,  
March 14**

## Bridge Teachers and Bridge Cruises

Join Sue Williams, experienced bridge cruise host, for an informative session about what you need to know to be a successful teacher and bridge host on a cruise ship. An interesting morning program for current and prospective teachers/directors.



**Location:** Hilton Americas — Meeting Room 327

**Time:** 9 a.m. — Noon

**Fee:** \$25 at door



# JUST FOR NEW PLAYERS

## Dear New Players:

By Marti Ronemus

Congratulations! Here you are at the Mecca of bridge ... the North American Bridge Championships. Wow. Pretty exciting, no? And for a relative newcomer, it can be a little overwhelming. Not



to worry. Just like the government, I'm here to help you. Only I'm not going to help you with your actual bridge game – there are others much better qualified to do that. (Don't miss a single column in this newspaper. Ideas everywhere.) No, I'm going to help you with the decisions and problems that no one else ever tackles, and yet are pivotal to your success.

For example, today we are going to discuss "Sitting North-South or East-West," a decision that can affect your entire game. If your position goes against your basic nature ... well, there goes your afternoon.

Theories abound. You've heard the one about sitting the same direction as the bathtub, haven't you? I had a partner who insisted it was lucky, but couldn't begin to explain why. She was adamant she start sitting the same way as the tub at every party. (Okay, okay. I admit I like to sit facing the same direction as the makeup counter at Saks in New York, my personal Mecca. In case you care, it faces East.) Others like to sit East-West "because I like to stretch between rounds." Listen folks, there is absolutely no law against standing up and stretching if you are North-South, so let's be a little more thoughtful about our rationalizations.

All this doesn't really make any sense, so let's talk about reasons that *do* make sense. It really comes down to your personality type.

**Do you like to be in charge?** Sit North. The responsibilities on North are myriad. You must make sure the right people and the right boards are in place. You are an official greeter and act as host at the table. You are responsible for switching to the next board, although you may delegate that to South if you can bear to give up that much control. (Do you know why only one person is to turn the boards? Well, some day when the director must be called because three of you are playing with yellow cards, and one with blue, you'll get it.) Some people are just plain born to be North. If you are one of them, you will drive everyone nuts if you are sitting somewhere else, being bossy, trying to resist touching the boards and just generally twitching.

**Do you like to be associated with greatness?** Sit South. Bask in North's glory. (South also should be someone who likes to declare. After all, South plays all the contracts in the newspaper.)

**Do you like to know what's going on everywhere?** Sit East-West. As you have to wait between rounds, you can be checking out the room, seeing where everyone is, noticing who is with whom, being in the know. But, horrors, avoid even glancing at hands being played! (Also, if you like to make the opening lead, sit West. Again, in the newspaper, West always leads.)

Another important distinction between North-South players and East-West players: **Are**

**you a minimalist, or "heavy" traveler?**

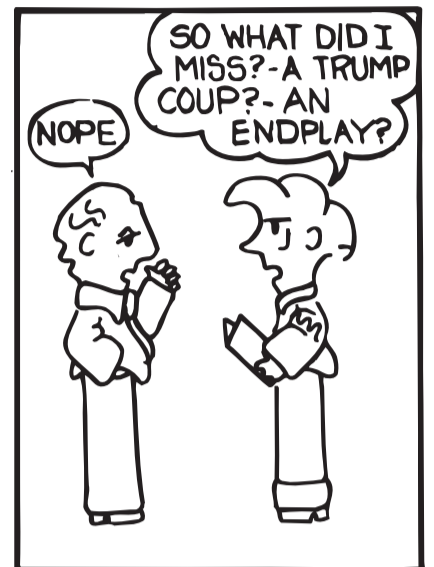
Do you find it impossible to go to the playing area without a coat, light sweater, travel bag with socks, emergency rations for that 3 p.m. blood-sugar drop? Knitting? A good book? A travel mug with a capacity that rivals a camel? A newspaper *and* the Daily Bulletin? For heaven's sake, sit either North or South. A heavy traveler takes forever to gather all their belongings, pack them up and move to the next table. Plus they invariably leave something behind. You don't really want to be that annoying, do you?

A minimalist is someone who pops a lipstick or room key into a pocket, along with a few bucks, and off they go. This is you if you can make do with those teensy hand-out pencils, see no need to drag stuff wherever you go. You happy-go-lucky folks are the perfect East-Wests, as you are ready for the next round with a few seconds' notice.

It all comes down to style. Here's what my friend Paul McMullin has to say. He's a director and player in the Washington DC area.

"The truth is, on some days, the deals will match your style no matter what seat you're in. All your decisions will be good ones and you'll have a great game for no particular reason. On other days, the deals will be disasters for your style, and all your decisions will turn out poorly ... again, for no particular reason.

"The *real* trick to picking where to sit is to make sure it is opposite someone who smiles at you when you return from the restroom; someone



who usually leads your suit and returns your lead. And the easiest way to find that seat is to provide those same courtesies for your partner when you take your seat at the table."

Listen to the man.

Tomorrow, we'll once again take on the tough problems in bridge. Until then, have fun. And remember, I'm one of the few people who really wants to hear about your newcomer experiences. You can e-mail me anytime at [mronemus@comcast.net](mailto:mronemus@comcast.net).

## Thinking bridge

By Eddie Kantar

Dlr: South ♠ J 5 4  
 Vul: None ♥ A 6 5 4  
 ♦ 8 4  
 ♣ A K Q 7

♠ 7 2 ♠ A K Q 6 3  
 ♥ K 9 8 ♥ 3  
 ♦ K 7 6 5 3 ♦ J 10 9 2  
 ♣ 9 6 4 ♣ 8 5 3

♠ 10 9 8  
 ♥ Q J 10 7 2  
 ♦ A Q  
 ♣ J 10 2

West	North	East	South
Pass	1♣	1♠	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

**Opening lead:** ♠7.

**Bidding commentary:** South is not strong enough to open, but is strong enough to accept

North's invitational raise. Note: North does not count the ♠J as a point. Unsupported jacks in suits bid by the opponents are usually worthless – unless partner bids notrump.

**Defensive commentary:** After East cashes three spades, West must find a discard. As West, before discarding, ask yourself which suit you want partner to lead. If you said a diamond, think again. You want a spade! Look at your hearts. If partner leads a spade and declarer discards, your ♥8 drives out the ace. The ♥K is now the setting trick. If declarer ruffs with an honor (likely), you will discard – and your ♥K 9 8 will now produce a trick! This is one of those time when you want partner to give declarer a ruff and a sluff!

So how do you get partner to lead a spade? You make a discouraging discard in diamonds, the suit partner will be tempted to lead. If you discard the ♦3, discouraging, it doesn't take an Einstein to figure out you want a spade. After all, how could you want a club?

## Baldwin NAP-A winners

Play in the Baldwin North American Pairs, Flight A — a grassroots event that began last summer at the local club level — began Wednesday.

Qualifiers at the club level advanced to unit competition and those qualifiers advanced to district finals. Three pairs from each district — more, depending upon attendance — qualified for the North American final.

Winners will have their names inscribed on the Baldwin Memorial Trophy and will also receive certificates of recognition.

The trophy is presented in memory of Col. Russell J. Baldwin (1889-1969), U.S. Army officer and expert on tournament procedure who was ACBL *Honorary Member of the Year* in 1943.

Baldwin was active as an organizer from the earliest days of contract bridge. He became a director of the American Bridge League and its treasurer shortly after its founding in 1927. He was a member of the ACBL Laws Commission and primarily responsible for the first Duplicate Code issued in 1935.

Baldwin was active as a tournament director from 1927 until 1941. After service in World War II, he was ACBL business manager from 1946 until 1951.

He was recalled to military serve at the outbreak of the Korean War and retired from the U. S. Army in 1957. He rejoined ACBL in 1958 and was in charge of tournament scheduling until his retirement in 1963.

### Winners:

1979 Arthur Moore, Eric Robinson  
 1980 Bob Feller, Jeffrey Hall  
 1981 Helen Blakey, Robert Blakey  
 1982 Bill Nuttig, Ivan Scope  
 1983 John Griscom, Jim Felts  
 1984 Steve Sion, Harold Stengel  
 1985 Peter Boyd, Steve Robinson



*Xiaodong Shi and David Yang*

1986 Drew Cannell, G. Sekhar  
 1987 Jan Janitschke, Dick Reed  
 1988 Jan Martel, Chip Martel  
 1989 David Caslan, Dennis Clerkin  
 1990 Sidney Lazard, Jack LaNoue  
 1991 Mark Stein, Boris Baran  
 1992 Jim Krekorian, Rick Zucker  
 1993 James Griffin, Kenneth Schutze  
 1994 James Griffin, Kenneth Schutze  
 1995 David Berkowitz, Lisa Berkowitz  
 1996 Marshall Tuly, James Cunningham  
 1997 Aidan Ballantyne, Gordon McOrmond  
 1998 Ron Sukoneck, Bill Cole  
 1999 James Griffin, Kenneth Schutze  
 2000 Patty Tucker, Kevin Collins  
 2001 Frank Merblum, Doug Doub  
 2002 JoAnna Stansby, Lew Stansby  
 2003 Steve Landen, Michael Zerbini  
 2004 Henry Lortz, Wayne Ohlrich  
 2005 David Yang, Nikolay Demirev  
 2006 Gordon Campbell, Piotr Klimowicz  
 2007 Dave Abelow, Dick Wegman  
 2008 Xiaodong Shi, David Yang

## Defenders, Spring North American Bridge Championships

### Baldwin North American Pairs, Flight A:

Xiaodong Shi, David Yang

### Golder North American Pairs, Flight B:

Sidney Kanter, Ron Nelken

### President's Cup North American Pairs, Flight C:

Abraham Pallas, Dmitri Bourilkov

### Vanderbilt Knockout Teams:

Jerzy Skrzypcak, Boguslaw Gierulski, Krzysztof Martens, Krzysztof Martens

### Jacoby Open Swiss Teams:

Perry Johnson, Chris Compton, Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell

### Machlin Women's Swiss Teams:

Cheri Bjerkan, Joan Glasson, Lisa Berkowitz, Sue Weinstein

### Silodor Open Pairs:

Robert Lebi, Dan Jacob

### Whitehead Women's Pairs:

Lynne Feldman, Chris Benson

### Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs:

Sheldon Kirsch, Morrie Kleinplatz

### Rockwell Mixed Pairs:

Gail Greenberg, Jeffrey Hand

### Lebhar IMP Pairs:

Doug Doub, Adam Wildavsky

### Bean Red Ribbon Pairs:

Mike Develin, LiChung Chen

### Mott-Smith Trophy:

Krzysztof Martens, Krzysztof Martens

## ACBL discounted parking

Discounted parking for the Houston NABC is available at the following locations:

**George R. Brown Convention Center (GRBCC) and Hilton Americas garage.** Please note there are no in-and-out privileges with the discounted parking. A person from the Houston Convention and Visitors Bureau will be at the entrance of the garage from 6 a.m. until 7:30 pm. Please identify yourself as a bridge player or show your convention card. You will be given a parking pass that must be presented to the parking attendant upon exit to receive the \$5 parking. The garage is connected to the Hilton Americas with a skywalk on the second floor of the hotel. There are 400 discounted spaces available. The availability will fluctuate each day depending on the number of overnight cars.

**If you leave the garage you will have to pay for parking and upon re-entering you will have to get a new pass (if available).**

**Parking lot at Polk and Chenevert.** Please note there are no in-and-out privileges with the discounted parking. The entrance for this lot is on Polk and is two blocks from the Hilton Americas Houston. There are 200 discounted parking spaces available. The cost is \$5 per day. You will pay upon entering the lot.

## NABC Insider

Welcome to Houston!! Even though it is cold and dreary, the Insider assures you that warm weather is just around the corner. (But then, this is the NABC Insider not the Weather Channel Insider — that title is reserved for the Insider's close personal friend "Stormy" Jim Cantore.) You got us off to a good start on Thursday and we're looking forward to a well-attended, well-played NABC here in Houston. If you attended the last NABC here, you know the local folks are known for their hospitality before, during and after the game. Today, they'll give you a great bag at Registration, a snack at the table and a burrito at the square dance after the game. Let them know how much you appreciate what they've done to show their Texas-sized-extra-large friendliness and smiles.

On a sad note, the Insider left Ask Me Girl's sign back in Memphis. She'll have to make do with a big yellow and blue ACBL logo and volunteer information without waiting to be asked. BUT, as a loyal Insider reader, here's a tip: you can still ask her. You can get inside information like this only in one place — right here in the ACBL Daily Bulletin! The Bulletin Boys continue to do their amazing magic act — making this informative, results-filled newspaper appear every day in a matter of just a few hours from the time the editor hits "send" until 4000 copies show up on the hotel's front porch. Thank you, guys, you do a great job. Another hot tip, since they don't go to bed until after 4:00 (on a slow news night), don't come looking for them before you buy your entry for the morning knockout.

More quick tips: Look for information on the evening restaurant shuttles elsewhere in this issue. Join us on the fourth floor — near the registration desk — around noon to meet astronaut Greg Johnson, who will be presenting Boss Baum with an out-of-this-world ACBL ace of spades direct from space. Watch for the Channel 13 news crew shooting footage for the evening news during the 1:00 game. Try the food court at Houston Center — but do it before 5:00 p.m. when they shut down for the day. (No, they wouldn't take our advice and stay open later for the influx of bridge players.) There are some full-service restaurants over in the same building that stay open late, but not the food court. And, the hottest tip of them all: Check in here tomorrow for more critical information (critical in terms of the Insider's future employment not in terms of our dear reader's needs.)

## Monitoring

At this and future North American Championships, ACBL will be monitoring NABC+ events with visible, real-time cameras. The images will be recorded and will be available for later official inspection and review.

By general monitoring of the session and participants' behavior, ACBL has another source of information that may be useful in determining facts and settling issues arising from some types of ethical and behavioral complaints or actions. Please summon a director if a problem occurs at the table.

This procedure is intended to assure everyone that the playing field is level and that misbehavior will not be tolerated.



## Teaching Bridge to Young Students



Be among the first to take our new FREE continuing education course in Houston. It will help you strengthen and grow your current school bridge program. Join Patty Tucker for a great seminar following the afternoon session.

**Date:** Sunday, March 15 **Location:** Hilton Americas — Meeting Room 346 **Time:** between sessions

# National Appeals Committee Roster and Schedule for the Houston NABC

**Director**  
Bruce Reeve, Raleigh NC

**Chairman**  
Adam Wildavsky, New York NY

## National Appeals Committee Meeting

There will be a meeting of the National Appeals Committee on Friday, March 13, from 11 p.m. to midnight in Meeting Room 327.

### RED TEAM

**Team Leaders**

Mark Bartusek, Santa Barbara CA  
Ron Gerard, White Plains NY  
Michael Huston, Joplin MO

**Team Members**

Darwin Afdahl, Oro Valley AZ  
Jeff Aker, Ossining NY  
David Berkowitz, Old Tappan NJ  
Dick Budd, Portland ME  
Tom Carmichael, Atlanta GA  
Curtis Cheek, Huntsville AL  
Gary Cohler, Chicago IL  
Jan Jansma, Malden, Netherlands  
Mike Kovacich, Stone Mountain GA  
Ed Lazarus, Baltimore MD  
Jeff Meckstroth, Tampa FL  
Bill Passell, Coral Springs FL  
Marlene Passell, Coral Springs FL  
Lou Reich, Wheaton MD  
Becky Rogers, Las Vegas NV  
Hendrik Sharples, Brush Prairie WA  
Peggy Sutherland, Dallas TX\*  
Patty Tucker, Atlanta GA  
Bob White, Raleigh NC  
Eddie Wold, Houston TX

**On duty**

Saturday, March 14  
Tuesday, March 17  
Friday, March 20

### WHITE TEAM

**Team Leaders**

Doug Doub, West Hartford CT  
Richard Popper, Wilmington DE

**Team Members**

Karen Allison, Las Vegas NV  
Ken Barbour, Scottsdale AZ  
Jon Brissman, San Bernardino CA\*  
Shannon Cappelletti, Hollywood FL  
Mark Feldman, New York NY  
Robb Gordon, Sedona AZ  
Gail Greenberg, New York NY  
Joe Grue, New York NY  
Ellen Kent, Marina Del Ray CA  
Chris Moll, Lavonia GA  
Tom Peters, Grapeland TX  
Jeff Polisner, Walnut Creek CA  
Judy Randel, Albuquerque NM  
Jeff Roman, Alexandria VA  
Blair Seidler, Fair Lawn NJ  
Bob Schwartz, San Pedro CA  
Joann Sprung, Philadelphia PA  
Jim Thurtell, Dallas TX  
Steve Weinstein, Glen Ridge NJ\*  
Chris Willenken, New York NY  
Migry Zur Campinile, East Palo Alto CA

**On duty**

Sunday, March 15  
Wednesday, March 18  
Saturday, March 21

### BLUE TEAM

**Team Leaders**

Jeff Goldsmith, Pasadena CA  
Aaron Silverstein, New York NY

**Team Members**

Bart Bramley, Dallas TX  
Lynn Deas, Schenectady NY  
Jerry Gaer, Scottsdale AZ  
Abby Heitner, Wheaton MD  
E.J. Kales, East Lansing MI  
Fred King, Falls Church VA  
John Lusky, Portland OR  
Jacob Morgan, Madison WI  
Mike Passell, Dallas TX  
Barry Rigal, New York NY  
Bruce Rogoff, Upper Grandview NY  
Michael Rosenberg, North Rochelle NY  
John Solodar, Palm Beach Gardens FL  
Dan Sprung, Philadelphia PA  
Kathy Sulgrove, Twinsburg OH  
Riggs Thayer, San Diego CA  
Howard Weinstein, Sarasota FL\*

**On duty**

Friday, March 13  
Monday, March 16  
Thursday, March 19

\* Semi-active members remaining on the National Appeals Committee



**Discover The Best Value in Bridge Cruises!**

**Bridge Voyages Welcomes You to Houston & the North American Bridge Championship!**  
From March 13 to 16, we invite you to stop by our table at the NABC so we can share the fun and excitement of our Bridge Cruises with you and answer all of your questions. We look forward to meeting you!

## PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR UPCOMING VOYAGES!

**PANAMA CANAL - May 22, 2009 - 14 Nights**  
Sail from Costa Rica to Ft. Lauderdale aboard the *MV Explorer*  
**Cruise & Bridge Package from \$1699 INCLUDING AIR!**

**ALASKA - June 28, 2009 - 7 Nights**  
Sail Roundtrip from Seattle aboard the *Norwegian Pearl*  
**Cruise & Bridge Package from \$1099!**

**BERMUDA - September 11, 2009 - 7 Nights**  
Sail Roundtrip from Boston aboard the *Norwegian Spirit*  
**Cruise & Bridge Package from \$899!**

**MEXICAN RIVIERA - October 17, 2009 - 7 Nights**  
Sail Roundtrip from Los Angeles aboard the *Norwegian Star*  
**Cruise & Bridge Package from \$699!**

**PANAMA CANAL - January 2, 2010 - 14 Nights**  
Sail from Los Angeles to Miami aboard the *Norwegian Star*  
**Cruise & Bridge Package from \$1249!**

**E. CARIBBEAN - January 30, 2010 - 7 Nights**  
Sail Roundtrip from Miami aboard the *Norwegian Pearl*  
**Cruise & Bridge Package from \$799!**

**BAHAMAS / FLORIDA - March 6, 2010 - 7 Nights**  
Sail Roundtrip from New York aboard the *Norwegian Gem*  
**Cruise & Bridge Package from \$949!**

**W. CARIBBEAN - March 21, 2010 - 7 Nights**  
Sail Roundtrip from New Orleans aboard the *Norwegian Spirit*  
**Cruise & Bridge Package from \$849!**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** To attend our private Bridge Voyages events, you must book your cruise directly through Bridge Voyages using the phone number/website indicated. If you do not book through Bridge Voyages, you can only participate in the program if you contact [bridgevoyages@ovc.cc](mailto:bridgevoyages@ovc.cc) and pay a bridge program surcharge. Those not booking through Bridge Voyages who do not pay the surcharge cannot participate in the Bridge Voyages program.

### POINTS OF DISTINCTION

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**Call 866-254-1095 or visit**  
**[www.BridgeVoyages.com](http://www.BridgeVoyages.com)**

Price is per person, double occupancy, subject to availability, and may change at any time. Government taxes, transfers, service fees, and other ancillary charges are additional unless otherwise noted. Registered Seller of Travel with the States of Florida (ST-37947), California (CST-2064227-40), and Washington (WA SOT 602250083).

## Bored-a-match victory?

By Barry Rigal

Toward the end of the second qualifying session of the North American Pairs, I was pressing hard in an ultimately unsuccessful campaign to qualify for the second day.

Dlr: West ♠ J 5 4  
 Vul: None ♥ 4 2  
 ♦ 9 7 2  
 ♣ A K Q 10 5

♠ K 10 2 ♠ A 9 8 7 6 3  
 ♥ A Q J 5 3 ♥ K 10 8  
 ♦ K J 5 3 ♦ A  
 ♣ 9 ♣ J 4 3

♠ Q  
 ♥ 9 7 6  
 ♦ Q 10 8 6 4  
 ♣ 8 7 6 2

West	North	East	South
1♥	2♣	2♠	Pass
4♣	Pass	4♦	Pass
4♥	Pass	4NT	Pass
5♥	Pass	6♠	All Pass

Maybe I did too much as West but at the time I thought I had my bids. Alex Ornstein was hoping to buy four trumps, of course.

The wily campaigner in the North seat won the opening club lead and returned the suit (a naïve diamond shift might have worked).

Alex ruffed and played the ♠K. When the queen appeared, he elected to unblock the diamond suit, playing to the singleton ace, then a heart to dummy allowed him to pitch a club on the ♦K. He then finessed North for the ♠J. Contract made.

When I asked why he had taken the apparently anti-percentage in spades (North clearly had five or six clubs from the auction, while South had three or four), he told me:

"Many years ago I read a story about an expert declarer who tranced in this position. When one of his opponents ordered a drink from a passing water, he played him for the missing card. Here, while I was thinking, North yawned three times. Nobody could be that disinterested – he had to have the critical card!"

## Entry fees

Players must be ACBL members whose service fees or dues are current in order to compete in any of the following nationally ranked events: Silodor Open Pairs, Vanderbilt Knockout Teams, Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs, Rockwell Mixed Pairs, Lebhar IMP Pairs, Whitehead Women's Pairs, Jacoby Open Swiss Teams, and the Machlin Women's Swiss Teams. The entry fees for these contests are \$20 per player per session.

Players must also be current ACBL members to play in the Bean Red Ribbon Pairs. The entry fee is \$17 per player per session.

Regional championships are \$16 per player per session for ACBL members, \$18 for nonmembers.

All other events are \$15 per player per session for ACBL members, \$17 for nonmembers.

(Note: There is no entry fee for any flight of the North American Pairs, but participants are still required to be paidup members.)

## Thanks to sponsors

Submitted by Sherry Gerdes

**GO TEXAN DAY** – This day is celebrated throughout Houston, so you will probably be seeing lots of folks dressed in their finest western clothes. We will have a contest for the best Western duds tonight in the Lanier JKL Ballroom, 4th floor, after the game. Be sure to attend, first prize of \$100.00, second prize \$50.00. Judges will be ACBL Directors Tom Marsh and Kevin Perkins plus Publicity Chairman Jane Armstrong, should you like to try to curry favor with them prior to contest time.

Thanks from the NABC Committee to Stephen and Robert Reichek for making storage available to us for all the items that help make the tournament enjoyable for everyone.

A big thanks to Virginia Zilic and Target for the door prizes.

### HELEN LEVY APPRECIATION SIDE GAME

Central Texas Unit 233 is proud to sponsor this game for Helen. She has been the Unit's Secretary-Treasurer, Membership Chairman and Tournament Coordinator since March 1989. She also writes the bi-monthly SCORECARD column for the unit. All of her work is volunteered and we appreciate all she has done over the years.

### BOB GERBERICH APPRECIATION STRATIFIED PAIRS

Bob began playing bridge at Jack Mehrens' club in the late 70's. Since then, he has served on the Board of Directors of Unit 187, twice serving as President, and is the photographer at tournaments and special games.

Currently he manages Jack's Bridge Club using the overriding principle that bridge must be fun for new players. After all, he says, "If you can't keep new players, soon you won't have any old ones." He makes a point to play with as many new players as possible. In fact, he gets as much satisfaction in winning a club game with a newcomer as doing well in tournament events with experienced players.

### JO DENE BOND MEMORIAL STRATIFIED 299er PAIRS I

How do I describe Jo Dene Bond? Mother, friend, bridge player, club owner, director, board member, teacher. Her greatest love of all was I/N director. She worked long and hard all year long for them. She really loved her novices. She always decorated the non-Life Masters' area at tournaments. When you walked into the area it always stood out.

She was a tiger at the bridge table and a kitten when she was teaching. She was my mentor and my friend. I will miss her beautiful smile, red hair and her love of bridge. She's one of the brightest leaves in my memory book and I miss her dearly.

## Electronic devices banned in national events

The ACBL Board of Directors approved a comprehensive ban on electronic devices for all national level events, but not to regional or Intermediate Newcomer contests:

*Electronic devices, excluding health related equipment, capable of sending or receiving communication, including but not limited to, headphones, earphones, cellular phones and minicomputers: (1) shall not be allowed in the playing areas, adjacent hallways, restrooms or accessible break areas; and (2) shall not be used during a session.*

### ED HOFFING MEMORIAL BRACKETED K.O.

Edgar Hoffing passed away on March 8th, 2008. He was 84 years old.

Born in Chicago, he received his undergraduate degree in chemical engineering from the University of Illinois. Moving on to the University of Southern California, he received his doctorate. After an illustrious career with M.W. Kellogg, he retired as V.P. of Latin American sales.

Being the consummate bridge player, his contributions to the bridge world are many. In 1990, he volunteered and gave bridge lessons at Spring Branch Community Center. After two years of teaching, he wrote a booklet for beginners titled, "Competitive Bidding." At the same time he directed a nonsanctioned game once a week.

Being the visionary he was, in 1992 he founded the ACBL sanctioned duplicate games at the community center, directing twice a week. This affected hundreds of bridge players and the games grew to other community centers. Many new players were added to the Houston membership. Again, volunteering his time at the community center, he taught advanced players the system of Max Hardy's "Two Over One Game Force."

In August 2007, he achieved the rank of Gold Life Master. Edgar is survived by Judith Hoffing, his wife of 26 years, son Glen, and four beautiful grandchildren.

### NANCY STROHMER BIRTHDAY STRATIFIED SWISS

"It's a game you can play at any age. If you take it up young, you have fun doing it the rest of your life" — Bill Gates

Happy Birthday, Nancy, from Hans

### ANNA MARLATT APPRECIATION ZIP KO

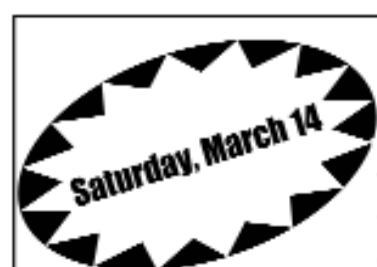
Anna Marlatt is a player with many talents, but her most outstanding talent is being the best partner you could have. Playing with her is fun and no matter what happens during the bidding or play of the hands on any given day, at the end of the session she will always make a comment such as "We'll get 'em next time" or "We did alright today."

*These restrictions shall apply to all pairs, team members, captains, coaches, recorders and kibitzers and shall apply throughout any actual playing session or segment.*

*A violation of this policy shall result in a disciplinary penalty of one full board (or 12 IMPs at that form of scoring) for the first offense. A second offense shall result in disqualification from the event for the pair/team.*

*Kibitzers violating this policy shall be removed from the playing area for the remainder of the session.*

Participants will be reminded not to approach the playing area with a personal electronic device in their possession, even if the device is turned off.



## ACBLscore Q&A Session

You have a problem? We'll find a solution! Join the ACBL staff for a lively, informative and entertaining 90 minutes on hints to help make your club's computing problems disappear. Come by for coffee and help us solve problems and find new ideas too.

**Location:** Hilton Americas — Meeting Room 345

**Time:** 10:30 a.m. — noon

**Fee:** FREE

## Welcome, Intermediate/ Newcomer Players, to Houston!

All IN (Intermediate/Newcomer) events will be played in the Ballroom of the Americas at 9 a.m., and in the Lanier Ballroom at 1 and 7:30 p.m.

Don't forget to pick up your registration gift.

The IN Partnership Desk will guarantee you a partner if you sign up one hour prior to game time.

Celebrity Bridge Speakers will give free mini lessons at 12:15 and 6:45 p.m. all week. On Thursday, March 12, at 6:45 p.m., John Hermann will discuss "Third and Fourth seat Openings." On Friday, March 13, at 12:15 p.m., Jerry Helms will present "Ask Jerry." And at 6:45 p.m., Toni Snow will discuss "The Lady: When to Play the Queen."

On Friday, March 13, there will be free Newcomer games (0-5 MPs) at 9 a.m., 1 and 7:30 p.m.

On Saturday, March 14, at 9:45 a.m., Bridge Bulletin columnist Jerry Helms will give a free two hour lesson. On Sunday, March 15, at 9:45 a.m., Gary King will also give a free two hour lesson.

On Saturday, Mar. 14, there will be a reception for IN players at 5 p.m. in the Lanier Ballroom.

Entry fee special! Players with 0-100 MPs who buy a regular price entry March 13-15 will receive a half priced entry for games held March 20-22.

### Child Care

Child care is available daily from noon to 5 pm and 7 pm to midnight.

For more information, contact Donna Compton at the Hilton-Americas.



### ACBL Restaurant Shuttle

Friday, March 13-Saturday, March 21, 2009  
4:00pm-7:00pm

**Shuttle Route 1:** This bus will circle every 10 minutes. There will be 2 buses on this route.

**Stop 1:** Stopping in front of House of Blues on Caroline St.

Houston Pavilions-following restaurants located here:

House of Blues  
McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant  
Guadalajara del Centro  
Josephine's Ristorante

**Stop 2:** Stopping on Lamar St. next to Massa's Seafood Grill

Massa's Seafood Grill  
Strip House

**Shuttle Route 2:** This bus will circle every 20 minutes. There will be 4 buses on this route.

**Stop 1:** Stopping on Texas Ave next to Hard Rock Café

Bayou Place-following restaurants located here:

### Touch and go

By Barry Rigal

This deal comes from the first qualifying session of the North American Pairs.

Dlr: East ♠ 9 8 5 2

Vul: E-W ♥ K 5

♦ K 8

♣ A 6 5 4 3

♠ J 10 6 4

♥ 8

♦ Q 9 7 3 2

♣ A 10 2

♠ A 7 3

♥ Q 10 4 2

♦ J 10 4

♣ K 9 7

♠ K Q

♥ A J 9 7 6 3

♦ A 6 5

♣ J 8

West	North	East	South
		Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	2♥
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All Pass			

Say you reach 4♥ as South on a diamond lead. The normal but unsuccessful line is to play three rounds of diamonds, ruffing in dummy. Now you unblock hearts, play a spade to the king and cash the ♥A, finding out the bad news. Your only chance now is the trump endplay, and you need to reduce trumps twice to achieve that.

When you exit with your ♠Q, East must win and should not exit with a spade. If he does, you ruff, cross to the ♣A to ruff a spade, then exit with a club to collect one of the last two tricks. Instead, East plays a club at the critical moment, and you can no longer ruff two spades.

Armed with hindsight, can you do better? Yes, though protecting against 4-1 hearts onside with West having a low singleton trump is against the odds.

There are lines involving trump endplays where you don't cash the ♥A. Win the diamond lead in dummy and play a spade to the king. Then exit with the ♠Q. Now you can arrange to ruff a spade while you still have an entry to dummy. When you test hearts to find the 4-1 break, you can then use the remaining entry to North to ruff again.

After two hearts, three diamonds, four rounds of spades and the ♣A, you can exit with a second club and collect a trump trick from your J-9.

Hard Rock Café  
Mingalone Italian Bar and Grill  
Slick Willie's

**Stop 2:** Stopping @ Sambuca's on the corner of Travis and Texas

Main Street-following restaurants located here:

Azuma Sushi and Robata Bar  
Cabo  
Café Express  
Chipolte  
Flying Saucer Draught Emporium  
Frank's Pizza  
Sambuca's Jazz Café  
Timpano Chophouse and Martini Bar  
Yatra Brasserie  
Zula

Pick up and drop off located at the Hilton Americas EAST ENTRANCE.

Buses will pick up where you were dropped off at the restaurant locations.

### Tough defense

Jim Krekorian and John Rengstorff won the Baldwin North American Pairs Flight A by less than 15 matchpoints on a top of 13. This deal from the second final session helped the winners to a cold top.

Dlr: North ♠ J 9 4

Vul: Both ♥ A 10 9 8 7

♦ K 8

♣ K Q 9

♠ Q 5 3

♥ J 4 3 2

♦ 9 7 5

♣ 8 5 3

♠ 10 8 6

♥ K Q 5

♦ A 6 4

♣ A 6 4 2

♠ A K 7 2

♥ 6

♦ Q J 10 3 2

♣ J 10 7

West	North	East	South
Rengstorff		Krekorian	
	1♥	Dbl	1♠
Pass	1NT	Pass	3NT
All Pass			

Krekorian led the ♣2: 7, 3, Q. Declarer played the ♦K, ducked by Krekorian. Rengstorff played the ♦9, suit preference for spades.

Krekorian won the next diamond with the ace and stopped to consider. He could count declarer for at least the heart ace (no opening bid without it), four diamonds, two clubs, two top spades, and he inferred that declarer had three spades from his partner's count card in clubs at trick one, marking declarer with three clubs as well. Declarer surely was 3=5=2=3, so Krekorian knew North could duck a spade to get three tricks in that suit. Krekorian reasoned that it couldn't cost to switch to the ♥K and it might gain, so he played the high heart. Declarer won the ♥A, played a spade to dummy's ace and ran diamonds, pitching a heart and his other two clubs.

Declarer then exited with the ♣J, pitching another heart. Krekorian won the ♣A and could have cashed the ♥Q and played a heart to his partner's jack to hold declarer to nine tricks, but he gave North a chance to go wrong, continuing with a low spade. Declarer, aware that the defense had been pretty sharp to that point, hoped to regain some matchpoints by making an overtrick, so he ducked, not unreasonably playing the takeout doubler for the ♠Q. Rengstorff won the ♠Q and the defense cashed out for one down. That was 13 out of 13 matchpoints.

If you make  
Life Master  
or achieve a  
New LM  
rank during this  
tournament,  
don't forget to  
tell the  
Daily Bulletin  
about it.



## Workshop for Teachers of Youth Players



Currently teaching young students or interested in starting a youth class? Meet with Patty Tucker, Julie Greenberg and a School Bridge League official to exchange ideas and brainstorm about youth bridge.

**Date:** Sunday, March 15 **Location:** Hilton Americas — Meeting Room 343 **Time:** 10:00 a.m. — Noon

## Open Pairs competitors vie for Silodor Trophy

The Silodor Open Pairs is a four-session event consisting of two qualifying and two final sessions. The winners' names are engraved on the Silodor Trophy, presented in memory of Sidney Silodor, winner of the Bermuda Bowl, the McKenney Trophy and more than 30 North American championships.

Silodor, a member of the team that won the first Bermuda Bowl World Championship in 1950, won the Vanderbilt eight times, the Reisinger six times, the Spingold, the Open Pairs and the Master Mixed Teams three times each and the Mixed Pairs five times.

Barry Crane holds the record in the event with seven victories.

Silodor was an original member of the Bridge Hall of Fame, elected in the Sixties when the institution was the province of its creator, *The Bridge World* magazine.

The trophy was presented in 1963 in memory of Silodor and made retroactive to include winners of the event, which began in 1958.

### Previous winners:

1958 Leonard Harmon, Ivar Stakgold  
 1959 Lew Mathe, Edward Taylor  
 1960 Robert Jordan, Alvin Roth  
 1961 Mark Hodges, Hampton Hume  
 1962 Robert Jordan, Arthur Robinson  
 1963 Norman Kay, Sidney Silodor  
 1964 Barry Crane, Oswald Jacoby  
 1965 John Biddle, James Wisemiller  
 1966 Edgar Kaplan, Norman Kay  
 1967 Harvey Cohen, Maury Genuid  
 1968 Ronald Balu, Richard Spero  
 1969 Robert Freedman, James Mathis  
 1970 Barry Crane, John Fisher  
 1971 1-2. Barry Crane, John Fisher  
 1-2. Joan Remy, Vincent Remy  
 1972 1-2. Barry Crane, John Fisher  
 1-2. Matt Granovetter, Merle Tom  
 1973 Michael Hoffman, Jack Rhatigan  
 1974 Barry Crane, John Fisher  
 1975 Garey Hayden, Daniel Hyland  
 1976 Terry Hause, Ernest Ivey  
 1977 Barry Crane, Peter Rank



Last year's Silodor Open Pairs: Robert Lebi and Dan Jacob.

1978 Robert Levin, Mike Passell  
 1979 Jeff Meckstroth, Eric Rodwell  
 1980 Paul Lewis, Michael Schreiber  
 1981 Dan Gertsman, Marc Nathan  
 1982 Gerald Caravelli, Craig Janitschke  
 1983 Barry Crane, Mike Passell  
 1984 Lou Bluhm, Bart Bramley  
 1985 Jim Robison, Joey Silver  
 1986 Lew Stansby, Ralph Katz  
 1987 Ed Manfield, Kit Woolsey  
 1988 Ron Rubin, Michael Becker  
 1989 Kit Woolsey, Ed Manfield  
 1990 Don Campbell, Barry Harper  
 1991 Larry Mori, Henry Bethe  
**(became Open Pairs)**  
 1992 Bernie Miller, Mike Lucas  
 1993 Russ Ekeblad, Peter Weichsel  
 1994 Lloyd Arvedon, Allan Falk  
 1995 John Strauch, Evan Bailey  
 1996 Ralph Katz, Howard Weinstein  
 1997 Eric Greco, Geoff Hampson  
 1998 Geir Helgemo, Tony Forrester  
 1999 Mike Passell, Michael Seamon  
 2000 Mike Cappelletti, Larry Hicks  
 2001 Jim Tritt, Richard Meffley  
 2002 Joergen Molberg, Boerre Lund  
 2003 Ralph Katz, Michael Rosenberg  
 2004 Larry Cohen, David Berkowitz  
 2005 Bob Morris, Eddie Wold  
 2006 David Berkowitz, Larry Cohen  
 2007 Giorgio Duboin, Roy Welland  
 2008 Robert Lebi, Dan Jacob

## Houston 2002: A look back

The last NABC held in Houston was Spring of 2002. The table count was 10,656.5 and Paul Soloway was the leading masterpoint winner with 357. Jeff Meckstroth was second with 292. NABCs were also held here in Spring of 1978 and Fall of 1970.

The tournament drew players from 17 countries, fewer than usual. Norman Kay was remembered at a memorial service. Dan Morse and Gary Blaiss were given a Goodwill tribute. The World Bridge Federation announced that revisions to the Laws of Duplicate Bridge were under consideration.

Here are some of the bridge deals reported in the Daily Bulletin in 2002. Hands rotated for convenience where needed.

### Quiz #1

A series of bridge quizzes were written by Eddie Kantar and presented in the Daily Bulletin each day. This is the first one:

♠ A Q 9  
 ♥ A J 8 7 6  
 ♦ Q  
 ♣ Q 4 3 2

♠ 10 7 2  
 ♥ K 10 9  
 ♦ A 10 3 2  
 ♣ A K 5

The contract is 3NT by South. West leads the ♠6. Assuming you were playing this contract for your life, how would you pay to ensure nine tricks?

### Kantar's answer:

♠ A Q 9  
 ♥ A J 8 7 6  
 ♦ Q  
 ♣ Q 4 3 2

♠ 6 5 4  
 ♥ 3 2  
 ♦ K J 5 4  
 ♣ J 8 7 6

♠ K J 8 3  
 ♥ Q 5 4  
 ♦ 9 8 7 6  
 ♣ 10 9

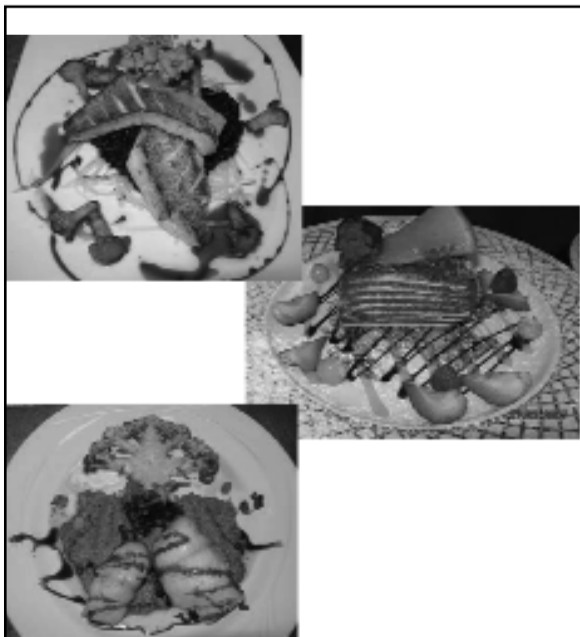
♠ 10 7 2  
 ♥ K 10 9  
 ♦ A 10 3 2  
 ♣ A K 5

For your life, rise with the ♠A, lead a heart to the king and run the ♥10 into East. Assuming this loses, you have nine sure tricks, and a 10th if the clubs are 3-3.

If you duck the spade lead or put in the queen, the cards could lie in such a way that you would live to regret your greediness. East could shift to a diamond.

True, with the actual lie of the cards, you could still come out of this by rising with the ace and finessing a heart into West. Even if the finesse fails, the defenders could take only two more diamonds, but then again the diamonds might be placed differently, and you could lose three or even more diamonds tricks.

On the other hand, if you duck the diamond switch around to the queen, the cards might be as you see them. West wins and plays a second spade, which you duck again. This time, East wins and returns a second diamond, and you feel as if your head is on a swivel. You now find yourself down to guessing the ♥Q for your contract. Ugh.



### Charivari Restaurant

Romanian born Chef/Owner Johann Schuster is the master of European specialty dishes found no where else in Houston, delighting patrons with Beef Carpaccio, Foie Gras "Budapest Style", dry aged Steaks and incredible seafood uniquely prepared in a manner that won Charivari accolades as one of Houston's best and most unique dining treats.

Charivari Restaurant  
 2521 Bagby  
 Houston, TX. 77006  
 tel 713 521-7231  
 www.Charivarirest.com

Open hours:  
 Lunch : Monday - Friday 11am - 2 pm  
 Dinner : Monday - Saturday 5pm - 11 pm



INTERNATIONAL FUND OPEN PAIRS

Table with 4 columns: Score, Rank, Name, and Percentage. Includes entries for 66.0 Tables and 26.0 Tables.

299ER INTERNATIONAL FUND

Table with 4 columns: Score, Rank, Name, and Percentage. Includes entries for 26.0 Tables.

INTERNATIONAL FUND EVENING STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS

Table with 4 columns: Score, Rank, Name, and Percentage. Includes entries for 89.0 Tables.

NORTH AMERICAN PRS FLIGHT A

Table with 4 columns: Score, Rank, Name, and Percentage. Includes entries for 14.0 Tables.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION KOS BRACKET I 9 Tables

Table with 2 columns: Name and Percentage. Includes entries for 9 Tables.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION KOS BRACKET II 13 Tables

Table with 2 columns: Name and Percentage. Includes entries for 13 Tables.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION KOS BRACKET III 9 Tables

Table with 2 columns: Name and Percentage. Includes entries for 9 Tables.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION KOS BRACKET IV 12 Tables

Table with 2 columns: Name and Percentage. Includes entries for 12 Tables.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION KOS BRACKET V 12 Tables

Table with 2 columns: Name and Percentage. Includes entries for 12 Tables.

Carol Wilson - Carolyn Lanier - Bette Liebgold - Linda Marlin, Houston TX

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION 299ER PAIRS

Table listing 12.5 Tables of pairings with names, scores, and percentages. Includes names like Larry Harrington, Barbara Blaine, Patsy Pierce, Richard Cunningham, and Ralph Raber.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION KOS BRACKET VI 12 Tables

Table listing pairings for Educational Foundation Kos Bracket VI with names like Karen Dittert, Kathleen McCool, and Don Grider.

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS FLIGHT A - SECOND FINAL SESSION

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTION Z, EAST-WEST, names, and percentages. Includes names like Mark Itabashi, Peter Boyd, and Robert Heitzman Jr.

INTERNATIONAL FUND EVENING STRATIFIED OPEN = EVENING SESSION

Large table with multiple columns (A, B, C) and rows for North-South, Section WW, XX, YY, ZZ, and UU. Lists names and percentages for various international pairs.

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION 299ER PAIRS

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTION SS, EAST-WEST, names, and percentages. Includes names like Arlene Rawitscher and Joan Kalinousky.

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS A FIRST QUAL SESSION

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTIONS Y Z, EAST-WEST, names, and percentages. Includes names like John Rengstorff and Niel Walatzky.

NORTH AMERICAN PRS FLT A SECOND QUAL SESSION

Table with columns for NORTH-SOUTH, SECTIONS Y Z, EAST-WEST, names, and percentages. Includes names like Ken Scholes and Peter Boyd.



## TODAY'S BRIDGE EVENTS

See page 2 for other events

## Go Texan Day

0-5 Newcomer players play free today.

## Friday, March 13, 9 a.m.

Event	Session	Sold	Entry/player/session ACBL members**	Other
Helen Levy Side Game	1st single session	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
<i>Part of the Friday-Sunday Morning Side Game Series</i>	2nd single session	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
ACBL Educational Foundation Bracketed KO Teams	single	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$15	\$17
299er, 199er, 99er, 49er Pairs	single	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$15	\$15
0-20 Pairs	single	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$15	\$15
0-5 Pairs	single	2nd Floor Ballroom	Free!	Free!

## Friday, March 13, 10 a.m. &amp; 3 p.m.

Stratified Senior Pairs	1-2	4th Floor Ballrooms JKL	\$16	\$18
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## Friday, March 13, 1 p.m.

Friday-Saturday Side Game Series	1st single session	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
Jo Dene Bond Memorial 299er, 199er, 99er, 49er Pairs	single	4th Floor Ballrooms GHI	\$15	\$17
Jo Dene Bond Memorial 0-20 Pairs	single	4th Floor Ballrooms GHI	\$15	\$15
Jo Dene Bond Memorial 0-5 Pairs	single	4th Floor Ballrooms GHI	Free!	Free!

## Friday, March 13, 1 &amp; 7:30 p.m.

<b>Silodor Open Pairs</b>	1-2 Q	4th Floor Ballrooms A-F	\$20	
<i>2 qualifying sessions, 2 final sessions</i>				
Bob Gerberich Stratified Open Pairs	1-2	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
Ed Hoffing Memorial Friday-Saturday Bracketed KO Teams	1-2	2nd Floor Ballrooms	\$16	\$18

## Friday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.

Nancy Strohmer One-session Stratified Swiss Teams	single	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$15	\$17
Friday-Saturday Side Game Series	2nd single session	2nd Floor Ballroom	\$16	\$18
Stratified 299er Swiss Teams	single	4th Floor Ballrooms GHI	\$15	\$17
299er, 199er, 99er, 49er Pairs	single	4th Floor Ballrooms GHI	\$15	\$17
0-20 Pairs	single	4th Floor Ballrooms GHI	\$15	\$15
0-5 Pairs	single	4th Floor Ballrooms GHI	Free!	Free!

## Friday, March 13, 11:30 p.m.

Anna Marlatt Zip KO Teams	single	4th Floor Ballrooms GHI	\$12/team/match	
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Note: Entry for the Vanderbilt Knockout Teams required by 8 p.m. Saturday, March 14.

Unless otherwise noted, strata breaks for Stratified and Stratified Senior events are: A (2000+), B (750-2000), C (0-750).

\*Members whose dues payment is current and Life Masters whose service fee payment is current.

## Convention card reminder

Each player is required to have a convention card filled out legibly and on the table throughout a session. Both cards of a partnership must be identical and include the first and last names of each member of the partnership.

If a director determines that neither player has a substantially completed card, the partnership may play only the Standard American Yellow Card and may use only standard carding. This restriction may be lifted only at the beginning of a subsequent round after convention cards have been properly prepared and approved by the director. Further, the partnership will receive a 1/6-board

matchpoint penalty for each board played, commencing with the next round and continuing until the restriction is lifted. In IMP team games, penalties shall be at the discretion of the director.

If the director determines the partnership has at least one substantially completed convention card but has not fully complied with ACBL regulations, the director may give warnings or assign such penalties as he deems to be appropriate under the circumstances.

The objective of these warnings and penalties is the encouragement of full compliance with ACBL regulations.

## Bid Box Alerts and Announcements

When using bid boxes, ACBL suggests that players tap the Alert strip and say "Alert" at the same time.

When making an Announcement, use the Announcement word — such as "transfer" — and tap the Alert strip at the same time.

A player who Alerts or Announces a bid should make sure his opponents are aware that an Alert or Announcement has been made.

## Lots more than Gatlinburg

There's still time to make your reservations for April 13-19 at Gatlinburg, Tenn., the gateway to the Great Smoky Mountains. These Mid-Atlantic regionals follow, all offering our usual fare: Bracketed knockouts galore, hospitality to the max, and a real bridge bargain — \$10 per gold point session.

• **Richmond, VA, on May 19-25.** There are several Memorial Day regionals, and this will be the ACBL's largest. Excellent site convenient by air or interstate. Holiday Inn Koger Center (804) 379-3800. Co-chair: Jacki Shuman (804) 307-4304, richmondregional@aol.com

• **Greenville, SC, on June 8-14.** The Heritage Regional is at one of the Mid-Atlantic's nicest venues, with loads of shops and restaurants a short walk away in a revitalized downtown. Hyatt Regency (864) 235-1234. Co-chair: Jim Villanueva (864) 322-6153, jaimepvillanueva@aol.com

• **Hunt Valley, MD, on Aug. 17-23.** The countryside outside of Baltimore lures one of the year's largest contingents of East Coast bridge players. Baltimore Marriott Hunt Valley Inn (410) 785-7000. Tournament chair: Patricia Wilson (410) 825-7579, valleybridg@cs.com

• **Atlanta, GA, on Sept. 1-7.** Always the league's largest Labor Day regional, last year with a record 3,467 tables. Book early to enjoy one of our classiest properties, the Crowne Plaza Ravinia (770) 395-7700. Tournament chair: Jack Feagin (404) 252-9246, jfeagin2@bellsouth.net

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