

Newsletter

of the

Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club

February 2003

Tournament Report

District 10 North American Open Pairs Finals,
Jackson, MS, January 10–12

- Marilyn Biegler & Cindy Devish, 3rd in C (6 pairs).

Memphis TN Sectional, January 3–5

- Ben Allen & Cleet Judkins, 5th in B in open pairs (50 pairs).
- Norma Campbell, Mike Compton, Jane Dickey, & Bonnie Fincher, 2nd in C in Bracket IV Knockouts (6 teams); 2/3 in C in Swiss Teams (43 teams).
- Al Childs & Russ Jones, 4th in A in "Speedball" open pairs (16 pairs).
- Ann Clay & Dane Clay, 3rd in A in open pairs (50 pairs).
- Ann Clay, Dane Clay, Gerald Koonce, & Bonnie Melchior, 4th in A in Swiss Teams (43 teams).
- Sharon Cissell & partner (her mother, Jane Cherry), 2nd in C in open pairs (55 pairs); 3rd in C in open pairs (32 pairs); 3rd in C in open pairs (64 pairs); 5th in C in open pairs (50 pairs).
- Ann Lewis & Diane Lord, 1st in A & B in 99er pairs

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OPEN GAMES

MONDAY	11:00 A.M.
TUESDAY	7:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY 0–50	7:00 P.M.
THURSDAY	11:00 A.M.
THURSDAY 0–300 STRATIFIED	7:00 P.M.
FRIDAY	7:30 P.M.
SATURDAY	12:30 P.M.
SUNDAY	1:30 P.M.

All games are stratified when possible.

All games are non-smoking. ↔

Step Up To The Plate

Al Childs

Playing in the January Sectional in Memphis we had some great hands.

Hand One. Sitting south, no one vulnerable, my hand is:

♠ A 9 ♥ A J 9 ♦ A 4 ♣ A K Q 8 7 6

Bidding goes 2♥ on my right; I bid 3NT; 4♥ on my left; two passes to me. I think about the new information I have, that partner has at most one ♥, and that if he has one king or other holding I can make six. Well I step up to the plate and bid it.

His hand was:

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

Hand Two. Another auction that requires partnership trust. Your partner's hand:

♠ Q J 4 ♥ A K 10 9 ♦ 9 8 ♣ K J 8 7

The bidding:

S	W	N	E
1♠	P	2♥	P
3♣	P	3♠	P
4♣	P	5♣	P
5♠	P	6♠	All Pass

Didn't partner notice I didn't show a ♦ control?

I disagree with partner on another point in this auction. His two-over-one bid should show a 5-card suit, definitely when it's a major.

Hand Three. In another hand bidding vulnerable with opener not vulnerable. First seat bid 3♥; pass; 4♥.

You hold (vulnerable):

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Comeback Victory

Gerald Koonce

Trailing by 13 IMPs with one board to go in a Swiss Team match against a good team, Bonnie Melchior (South) and I were dealt the following hand:

Dir: South

Vul: E-W

	♠ A J 2 ♥ K 8 7 3 2 ♦ K Q 10 9 ♣ A		
♠ 5 ♥ J 6 5 4 ♦ 8 7 6 ♣ K 8 6 4 2	♠ K Q 8 6 4 ♥ A ♦ A 4 3 ♣ Q 9 7 3	♠ 10 9 7 3 ♥ Q T 9 ♦ J 5 2 ♣ J T 5	
S (Bonnie)	W	N (me)	E
1♠	Pass	2♥*	Pass
3♣	Pass	3♠**	Pass
4♦***	Pass	4NT#	Pass
5♣###	Pass	5♦####	Pass
6♠\$	Pass	7♠	All Pass

*game force

**slam try agreeing ♠s as trump

***cue bid

#Key Card Blackwood

##0 or 3 controls

###do you have the trump queen?

\$yes, but I have no outside king

Opening Lead: ♦8

This auction is a good example of the subtleties available in a 2/1 auction and why it is a good system for slam bidding. It also shows the primary advantage of Roman Key Card Blackwood, which is the ability to locate the trump king and/or queen.

Responder's 2♥ established a game force. Some people play that opener going past two of her first suit shows extra, but we just play it as bidding out your pattern without showing any extras. With a minimum, responder would have signed off in game, so the 3♠ call set the trump suit and showed slam interest both.

Bonnie's 4♦ seemed automatic to her—she had much better than a minimum.

At this point I could have kept cue-bidding but it would not tell me what I needed to know about trumps. I was definitely going to 6♠ if Bonnie had three controls (with the trump king counting as a control) or two controls and the ♠Q, and wanted to avoid slam if she only had one control. Finding this out is what Roman Key Card Blackwood is for.

When she showed three controls, now I became interested in bigger things. Over a Key Card Blackwood response that does not cover the trump queen, the bid of the next higher suit (as long as it is not your trump suit) asks about that card. When Bonnie showed the trump queen, I bid seven even though she did not have the ♣K.

I have been told many times that at IMPs you should never bid a grand slam unless you can count 13 tricks. While it was not a sure thing, I thought it was an odds-on proposition. I could count five trumps in Bonnie's hand, two ♥s, three ♦s, the A♣, and a ♣ ruff in the dummy, which is 12 tricks. Unless ♠s were breaking 5-0, 13 tricks were a certainty as long as she had either the ♥Q, ♦J, or ♠10 (in which case she could ruff two ♣s in dummy safely). And even if she did not have any of those cards, she could still make the grand by ruffing two ♣s if ♠s split 3-2 or by ruffing only one ♣ if the ♦J dropped. There also could be squeeze possibilities, or if she had ♥Ax, a 3-3 ♥ break would see us home. I don't know what the odds are on all that, but the possibility of a 3-2 ♠ break is 68%, which by itself is the break-even point for a grand slam.

Or, we could get a fortunate lead, which is what happened. Our auction was pretty revealing. Normally you want to make a safe lead against a grand slam and a trump is usually what you select, but the opening leader knew her partner had 4 ♠s, so she was afraid a trump would finesse her partner out of the setting trick. A ♣ away from the K♣ into opener's second suit seemed suicidal, and with dummy known to have a 5-card suit, a ♥ also looked dangerous. So she led a ♦, picking off her partner's J♦ and Bonnie only had to ruff one ♣ to chalk up the grand.

I thought we might gain on the deal, since our opponents could conceivably settle for a small slam. I was very pleasantly surprised when I found out that

they had stopped in game, where a non-♦ lead held them to six. (The auction started the same, but over 3♠, opener signed off in four.)

The gain of 14 IMPs on this hand allowed us to squeak out a 1-IMP victory. ♠

MAKE TRAVEL PLANS

Check *The Bridge Bulletin* published by the ACBL or the ACBL web site at www.acbl.org for details on these and other upcoming tournaments.

NATIONALS (NABC)

- March 6–16, Philadelphia, PA
- July 17–27, Long Beach, CA
- November 20–30, New Orleans, LA

REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS TO CONSIDER

- February 3–9, Houston, TX
- April 7–13, Gatlinburg, TN
- May 12–18, Oklahoma City, OK
- June 9–15, Tulsa, OK
- June 16–22, Jackson, MS
- June 23–29, Las Vegas, NV

NEARBY SECTIONAL TOURNAMENTS

- February 14–16, Bartlesville, OK
- February 21–23, Arlington, TX
- February 28–March 2, **Pine Bluff, AR**
- March 14–16, **Hot Springs Village, AR**
- May 23–26, Little Rock, AR

(15 pairs).

- Art Pfeifer, Alex Phillips, Deb Phillips, & Burla Sims, 2nd in Bracket III Knockouts (6 teams).
- Deb Phillips & Burla Sims, 1st in A & B in “Speedball” open pairs (16 pairs).
- Jane Teed & Jan Trotter, 5/6 in B, 3/4 in C in “Speedball” open pairs (16 pairs); 2nd in C in open pairs (50 pairs).

Jackson MS Sectional, January 10–12

- Bodie Cobb & Marilyn Watt, 6th in A in open pairs (34 pairs); 2nd in A in open pairs (29 pairs).
- Bodie Cobb, Russ Jones, Marilyn Watt, & teammate, 1st in A & X Swiss Teams (7 teams). ♥

♠ K Q 10 7 ♥ 7 ♦ 8 ♣ A 10 9 8 6 5 2

To bid or not to bid? What to consider:

1. Right hand could have a good or bad hand.
2. Partner can have no more than two ♥s—that leaves him with a lot of fitting cards.

We make five of either black suit.

Defense. One of the reasons Kathy and I won the District-wide Instant Matchpoint Game was defensive gems such as this. We play UDCA (upside down count and attitude) and thinking I had a doubleton ♦ forced dummy to ruff at trick three. Not splitting my ♥s caused the hand to blow up. If Kathy shifts to a ♥ instead of continuing ♦s declarer has no problem making four.

Dir: South

Vul: E-W

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

S (me)	W	N (Kathy)	E
Pass	Pass	1♦	2♦
Pass	4♠	All Pass	

Opening Lead: ♦A
Score: 200

Result: Down 2
Points: 88.10

1. North ♦A, J, 4, 5
2. North ♦K, Q, 7, 6
3. North ♦3, ♠2, ♦10, ♦9
4. East ♥3, 2, 10, 5
5. West ♠K, 3, 4, 6
6. West ♠Q, 8, 5, 7
7. West ♥A, ♣5, ♥4, ♥6
8. West ♣2, 8, ♠9, ♣4
9. East ♥J, Q, ♠10, ♦2
10. West ♣3, 9, ♠A, ♣6
11. East ♥7, K, ♣7, ♦8
12. South ♣J, Q, K, ♥8
13. North ♣A, ♥9, ♠J, ♣10

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SWISS TEAM GAME

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1:30 P.M.

UNIT 161 STAC GAMES (ALL OPEN PLAY)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 11:00 A.M.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 7:00 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 7:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 11:00 A.M.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 7:00 P.M.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 7:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 12:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1:30 P.M.—SWISS TEAMS

CLUB TOURNAMENT GAMES

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 7:00 P.M.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 11:00 A.M.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1:30 P.M.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 7:00 P.M.

DAVID SIEBERT'S 2/1 LESSON

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 5:30 P.M.

VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, PARTY 7:00, GAME 7:30 P.M.

BOARD MEETING

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 12:15 P.M.

BIRTHDAY SUNDAY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1:30 P.M.

CLUB SERIES BEGINNING BRIDGE LESSONS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 10, 17, & 24, 6:30 P.M.

ACBL SENIOR GAME

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 11:00 A.M.

MASTER/NOVICE GAME

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 7:00 P.M.

PINE BLUFF SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

FEBRUARY 28—MARCH 2, PINE BLUFF

Board Meeting Minutes

Jo Blanchard, Secretary

January 12, 2003. Ann Ferrill called the meeting to order and welcomed the new members: Lou Morris, Leah Lasley, Diane Tait, Burla Sims, and Jo Blanchard.

The other attendees were Ann Ferrill, Margaret Kelly, Rick Lowens, and Jan Trotter.

Rick Lowens provided a treasurer's report that included an income statement for the complete year of 2002. Net income for 2002 is \$422. The club's certificate of deposit holdings total \$36,649 as of 12/31/02.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Club Series is still scheduled to begin Monday, January 13, and continue weekly for 8 weeks. To date, seven individuals have enrolled.

The quilt raffle was discussed. It was recommended that the quilt be displayed at each club party. Margaret Kelly volunteered herself and Liz Parry to set up a display at the Pine Bluff tournament and sell raffle chances.

Margaret Kelly and Liz Parry relabeled our mailboxes. (THANKS!) This project was discussed. Next time the boxes need to be reassigned, it was suggested a new system be considered—a number system where the boxes are labeled with a number and then a chart is posted next to the boxes with the club members' names and box number assignments. It was also recommended that the members' box numbers be posted in the directory.

NEW BUSINESS:

A life master party is scheduled for January 19, 2003, to honor our six members who recently attained Life Master status. Deb Phillips will be asked to chair the party. The party be a POTLUCK and the club provide a cake. Ann said she would get the cake and make signs.

The Unit 161 STaC tournament is scheduled for February 3–9. The Monday day, Tuesday night, Wednesday night, Thursday day and night, Friday night, Saturday day, and Sunday day games during that week will be open play STaC games. In addition, the Sunday game will be a Swiss game.

The Valentine Party is scheduled for February 14th. Diane Tait agreed to chair the party and will recruit volunteers to help her.

The Pine Bluff Tournament is scheduled for February 28th–March 2nd.

The second-Friday of the month party scheduled for

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**LITTLE ROCK DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSE
January 1, 2002—December 31, 2002**

INCOME:

Club Games	Tables	Entries	Directors	Net
Sunday	314.5	\$ 3,745.00	\$ 558.00	\$ 3,187.00
Monday	514.5	6,640.00	936.00	5,704.00
Monday EB	102.5	1,247.00	255.00	992.00
Tuesday Night	255.0	3,178.00	457.00	2,721.00
Wednesday EB	171.5	2,142.00	459.00	1,683.00
Thursday Day	384.5	4,870.00	530.00	4,340.00
20-300	404.5	5,432.00	691.00	4,741.00
Friday	133.0	1,747.00	304.50	1,442.50
Saturday Day	214.0	2,778.00	453.00	2,325.00
Saturday Night	25.5	300.00	42.00	258.00
Total Club Games	2,519.5	\$32,079.00	\$4,685.50	\$27,393.50
Rent - Clubs				\$ 780.00
Other Rentals				450.00
Concessions				1,540.71
Coke Machine				793.50
Beer / Wine				295.50
Dues				2,369.00
Donations (Memorial Fund)				628.00
Interest				8.21
Supplies sold				112.00
Miscellaneous				1,463.58
TOTAL INCOME				\$35,834.00

EXPENSES:

Rent	\$14,400.00
Insurance (Pro-rated)	645.00
Tournament Support	628.25
Utilities	5,170.40
ACBL Monthly Fees	1,997.71
ACBL Other Fees	2,886.75
Bridge Supplies	1,301.56
Other Supplies	809.43
Cleaning Service	1,740.00
Maintenance/Repairs	80.00
Concessions	655.46
Coke	426.31
Beer / Wine	155.19
Parties	210.30
Memorial Fund Expenses	332.05
Miscellaneous	3,973.73
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$35,412.14

NET INCOME **\$ 421.86**

Sincere thanks to all my friends at LRDBC for your cards, calls, concern, and prayers during my recent illness.

Gerald Berry

April 11th was discussed. Suzanne Siebert submitted a request that this party be designated as a "We've been missing you" party and she volunteered to chair the party and send out invitations to former members.

Renewal dues were discussed and a recommendation was made to send reminders to members who have not renewed their dues for 2003. Rick will provide a list.

Little Rock is scheduled to host the Grand National Team Qualifying Event for our whole unit—Unit #161. It will require two sessions. The timing for this event was discussed and Saturday, April 5th, was selected. A director will need to be assigned for this event.

To be a Star 3 Club, a resolution must be passed adopting a Zero Tolerance policy on rudeness. This issue was discussed but no action was taken.

The club needs to assign games in June, July, and August for the qualifying North American Pairs. Bobby Morgan will be asked to schedule qualifier games during two of our 11:00 a.m. Monday games, two of our 7:00 p.m. Thursday games, and during one of each of our other regularly scheduled weekly games.

Margaret agreed to provide the BIRTHDAY CAKE for February. ♣

Little Rock Duplicate Bridge Club
2320 Durwood Road
Little Rock, AR 72207

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

LITTLE ROCK DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

BRIDGE HOUSE

2320 DURWOOD ROAD, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72207

(501) 666-9841

Officers

Ann Ferrill 664-7941 (H)	President ferrill38@aol.com
Margaret Kelly	Vice President
Jo Blanchard	Secretary
Rick Lowens	Treasurer
Don Gattinger	Past President

Board of Directors

<i>One Year</i>	<i>Two Years</i>
Mike Compton	Leah Lasley
Dick Heil	Lou Morris
Mike Porta	Burla Sims
Jan Trotter	Diane Tait
Bobby Morgan 666-2435 (H)	ACBL Club Manager bkbing@cs.com
Jane Dickey 377-0312 (O)	Newsletter Editor jdickey@roselawfirm.com