



Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 13 Number 7 – July, 2011

12 pages



July Events



Monday Morning Duplicate games at the First Christian Church located at Jefferson and Lee streets near downtown Bloomington starting at 11:45AM:

July 4 – No game - enjoy your holiday

July 11 – open pairs

July 18 – NAP qualifier open pairs

July 25 – open pairs

Contact Betty Capodice at 309-827-3318 for information or to arrange for a partner.

Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

Saturday, July 2, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, July 4, NO GAME – Enjoy your holiday!

Tuesday, July 5, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, July 6, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, July 7, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, July 9, NO GAME – Tournament at UAW 2488

Monday, July 11, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, July 12, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, July 13, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, July 14, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, July 16, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, July 18, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, July 19, 6:15PM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, July 20, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, July 21, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, July 23, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Westminster

Monday, July 25, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – Heartland

Tuesday, July 26, 6:15PM – open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, July 27, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – Knights of Columbus

Thursday, July 28, 11:45AM – open pairs – Knights of Columbus

Saturday, July 30, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Contact Mike Tomlianovich at 309-825-5823 for information or to arrange for a partner.

All game results are posted online: clubresults.acbl.org

Post game online discussions of deals are available at: mikesbridge.blogspot.com

All games sanctioned by the American Contract Bridge League.

The Bloomington-Normal "Top 25" Masterpoint holders
 As of 5/1/2011 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only – paid up ACBL members only

- 1 **3,320.26 Betty Capodice**
- 2 **2,630.44 Steve Babin**
- *** **2,557.18 Laura Addison**
- 3 **1,828.88 Mike Tomlianovich**
- 4 **1,610.89 Zack Freehill**
- 5 **1,568.96 Steve Hawthorne**
- 6 **1,457.68 Hank Hoffman**
- *** **1,398.35 Sharad Chitgopekar**
- *** **1,320.43 Ed Lombard**
- 7 **1,303.24 Dewey Gronau**
- 8 **1,265.48 Eunice Patton**
- *** **1,091.94 Marian Edmunds**
- 9 **1,090.64 Stan Gutzman**
- 10 **1,065.07 Jeanne Strand**
- 11 **1,037.84 Ivey Weaver**
- 12 **889.08 Jean Barnett**
- 13 **788.39 Don Strand**
- 14 **783.65 Charlie Morton**
- *** **780.34 Jack Kessler**
- 15 **774.51 Glen Beaman**
- 16 **751.78 Henrietta Crain**
- *** **741.06 Pearl Harris**
- 17 **724.37 Randall Motchan**
- 18 **702.37 Ann Schuyler**
- 19 **610.73 Martin Compton**
- 20 **570.63 Peg Deutsch**
- 21 **570.46 Ann Farnsworth**
- *** **567.22 Ruth Wettaw**
- 22 **482.16 Dennis Moll**
- *** **481.88 Bev Upp**
- *** **474.92 Nona Wooley**
- 23 **461.38 Bob Smith**
- 24 **445.91 Dave Freehill**
- 25 **413.76 Steve Wulfers**
- *** **deceased**

Other players:

- *** **12,741.55 Dick Benson-LeRoy**
- 10,609.71 Chris Benson-LeRoy**
- 4,047.37 Alan Wienman-Morton**
- 3,900.10 Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap**
- 3,559.43 Larry Matheny-Colorado**
- 2,948.34 Ron Sholes-Springfield**
- 2,757.79 Leonard Kaufman-Peoria**
- 2,401.88 Georgia Heth-Morton**
- 2,356.51 Gail Moon-Tennessee**
- 2,322.91 Liz Zalar-Springfield**
- 2,282.60 Kish Devaraj-Georgia**
- 2,181.44 Chuck Zalar-Springfield**
- 2,119.04 Leah Newell- Springfield**
- 2,014.63 Paul Lindauer-Varna**
- 2,004.05 Ray Russ-Henry**
- 1,961.79 Joanne Glazebrook-Peoria**
- 1,883.32 Carole Sholes-Springfield**
- 1,835.85 Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign**
- *** **1,776.22 John Burdon**
- 1,789.99 Margaret Hansell-Champaign**
- 1,506.03 Tim Cull-Springfield**
- 1,460.20 Bobbie Straker-Pekin**
- 1,375.73 Marilyn Stickel-Lacon**
- 1,189.96 Jim Moon-Tennessee**
- 998.06 Donna Kaufman-Peoria**
- 906.60 Floyd Sherry-Eureka**
- 756.53 Bev Fast-Peoria**
- 708.92 Phil Kenney-Eureka**
- 685.79 Marilyn Toubeaux-Peoria**
- 675.03 Camilla Rabjohns**
- 620.84 Eunice Viktor-Morton**
- 592.17 Bill Carley-Peoria**
- 586.77 Carole Miller-Champaign**
- 527.58 Bill Bulfer-East Peoria**
- 417.35 Chris Biggs-South Carolina**

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#1

Partnership cooperation is important at bridge and this is especially true when on defense. Here is a hand that illustrates that point.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#11-13 ♠ A1032
 Dir S ♥ 76
 Vul BOTH ♦ 76
 ♣ QJ953

♠9	♠87
♥AK832	♥QJ54
♦K1095	♦J843
♣A42	♣1076
♠ KQJ654	
♥ 109	
♦ AQ2	
♣ K8	

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

BIDDING: After South opened the bidding, West was hesitant to overcall vulnerable with only a five-card suit but he felt his hand was strong enough to warrant the gamble. North raised and South made a very aggressive leap to game.

PLAY: West led the ace of hearts to which his partner followed with the queen. This promised either the jack or a singleton queen. West followed with the eight of hearts to the jack and East shifted to a low diamond. Declarer had no choice but to finesse the queen and the contract was quickly defeated. If West carelessly cashes his king of hearts at trick two, declarer will be able to win whatever card West exits with, draw trumps, and knock out the ace of clubs. East will never gain the lead to put a diamond on the table.

#2

The game of bridge demands complete concentration. Doze for a moment and it may be too late. Here is an example of a defender who should have been alert.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#11-14 ♠ 542
 Dlr S ♥ AQ64
 Vul N/S ♦ J6
 ♣ K976

♠ 3 ♠ KQJ976
 ♥ 1082 ♥ 5
 ♦ 10987532 ♦ A4
 ♣ J8 ♣ Q543

 ♠ A108
 ♥ KJ973
 ♦ KQ
 ♣ A102

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

BIDDING: North's jump in hearts was a limit raise inviting game. East overcalled spades and South with extras confidently bid the game.

PLAY: West led his spade and declarer won the ace. South was worried as he counted four possible losers: two spades, one diamond, and one club. He decided to try to fool East. He drew trumps in three rounds ending in dummy. Next he led the jack of diamonds as if he was going to finesse for the queen. It worked because East ducked his ace. Now declarer led his last diamond and East was in trouble. East cashed his two spade winners but now had to either lead a club or give declarer a ruff/sluff. He finally led a low club but declarer went with the odds and played for split club honors. Declarer won West's jack in dummy and then led a club to his ten and wrapped up his game.

Note that East must rise with his ace of diamonds, cash his two spades, and exit with his remaining diamond. Defense can be difficult.

#3

Matchpoint scoring awards bold bidding and bold play. Here was a hand where good defense should prevail but the defenders had to carefully watch the spot cards.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#11-15 ♠ 10
 Dlr S ♥ J63
 Vul N/S ♦ 103
 ♣ AJ97642

♠ KQ74 ♠ AJ832
 ♥ K5 ♥ 10942
 ♦ 9842 ♦ KJ65
 ♣ 1083 ♣

 ♠ 965
 ♥ AQ87
 ♦ AQ7
 ♣ KQ5

West	North	East	South
			1NT
Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

BIDDING: North wasn't sure how to bid his hand but finally boldly raised to 3NT.

PLAY: West led a low spade to East's ace and declarer's five. East now returned the THREE of spades and declarer followed with the six. West started to win cheaply with the seven but stopped and wondered "Where is the TWO of spades?". East's return of the three showed an original holding of two, three, four, or five spades. Two wasn't possibly since declarer would have bid a six-card suit. With A32, East would return the three but declarer would not have failed to play a higher card than the six. So that meant East began with four or five spades. Declarer could have concealed the deuce to confuse the defense but it was also possible that East had five. Finally, West won the second spade with the QUEEN and followed with the king and the seven. East won the last two spade tricks to defeat the contract.

Several N/S pairs bid to the good club game, some played in a club partial, but many were successful in a 3NT contract that should have been defeated.

#4

Transfer bids have been around since the 1950's but were originally used only for the major suits. Transfers into the minors are now being used by many pairs and can be very helpful in reaching the right contract.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#11-16	♠ 10				
Dir S	♥ J63				
Vul N/S	♦ 103				
	♣ AJ97642	West	North	East	South
					1NT
♠KQ74	♠AJ832	Pass	2♠*	Pass	2NT
♥K5	♥10942	Pass	3♠**	Pass	5♣
♦9842	♦KJ65	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♣1083	♣				
	♠ 965				
	♥ AQ87				
	♦ AQ7				
	♣ KQ5				

*transfer to clubs
 **spade shortness

BIDDING: North wasn't sure how bid his hand but started with a transfer to clubs. South liked his hand and showed a "super accept" by bidding 2NT. North's next bid showed a singleton or void in spades so 3NT was no longer an option. South just decided to bid what he thought he could make.

PLAY: West led the king of spades and East overtook with the ace to shift to a low diamond. Looking at an almost certain heart loser, declarer was forced to take the diamond finesse. When that succeeded, declarer wrapped up his game losing only one spade and one heart.

Those N/S pairs who ended in 3NT should have lost five spade tricks but after a spade to the ace and a low one returned, some West players won cheaply with the seven and could only collect two more tricks.

Bloomington-Normal Sectional July 8-10, 2011

Location:

UAW Local 2488 Hall, 10226 East 1400 North Road, Bloomington, Illinois

Schedule of events

Friday

1:00 PM Stratified open pairs
7:00 PM Stratified open pairs

Saturday

11:00 AM & 4:00 PM Stratified open pairs
2 session event
(single session entries accepted)
11:00 and 4:00 49ers only pairs at no charge

Sunday

10:30 AM Stratified open Swiss teams double session, play through

Complimentary coffee and snacks for all sessions.

Stratification

A: open; B<1,500; C<Non Life Master under 500.

NOTE: All stratifications will be determined by the team or partnership *average* POINTS.

Entry fees:

Friday and Saturday, \$8.00 per session
Sunday, \$84.00 per team, including meal

We appreciate participants not use any fragrance as some are sensitive to it. Thank you.



Remember: All Bloomington-Normal duplicate events adhere to the ACBL's zero tolerance for unacceptable behavior. Do NOT let this person's conduct rub off on you!!

Bloomington-Normal 70% club – year 2011 only
Sponsored by: Heartcare Midwest
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Offices located in Bloomington, Peoria, and Pekin
Bloomington office located at:
Eastland Medical Plaza, 1505 Eastland Drive, Bloomington

2011/06/13	70.14%	Mary Tweedie & Lori Moore(99ers)
2011/05/16	73.89%	Joyce Werner & Dorothy Berg(99ers)
2011/05/12	73.81%	Lane O'Connor & Jerry Oswald
2011/03/23	72.22%	Marilyn & Gene Byers(99ers)
2011/03/15	72.00%	Hank Hoffman & Steve Babin
2011/03/02	84.26%	Joyce Werner & Dorothy Berg(99ers)
2011/03/01	72.00%	Steve Wulfers & Randall Motchan
2011/02/10	70.00%	Steve Hawthorne & Zach Freehill
2011/02/08	71.00%	Margaret Hansell & Steve Babin
2011/01/24	70.00%	Sallie Boge & Hank Hoffman
2011/01/21	70.31%	Dennis Moll & Steve Babin

BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell



#25 - FISHING FOR CLUES

As the play-of-the-hand develops Declarer is constantly on the look-out for the clues which will point to the right line of play. But these clues don't always come gift-wrapped, sometimes Declarer must go fishing.

	♠ 5 ♥ QJ63 ♦ AJ7432 ♣ A8	
♠ A98432 ♥ 84 ♦ ♣ T9754	North West East Declarer	♠ 76 ♥ 92 ♦ Q85 ♣ KQJ632
	♠ KQJT ♥ AKT75 ♦ KT96 ♣	

E-W Vulnerable

	South	West	North	East
1♥	Pass	2♦	Pass	
3♦	Pass	4♥	Pass	
6♥	Pass	Pass	Pass	

Against 6♥, West tries a Heart lead and Declarer draws trumps in two rounds. It's a fine slam but not quite iron-clad. There's a Spade to be lost, and the key to success is not to lose a Diamond. How would *you* play the hand, looking only at the N-S cards?

If Diamonds are 2-1 then Declarer is home free, but suppose that the suit is 3-0. Now, Declarer has a guess. If he thinks that *West* is more likely to hold three Diamonds then he'll play his ♦K on the first round, later finessing against West's Queen if East does indeed show out. Conversely, he'll play Dummy's ♦A first if he suspects that *East* might have the three Diamonds. Which do you choose?

At this point it's a complete guess, so, before playing on Diamonds, Declarer goes fishing. He concedes a trick to the Spade Ace, and let's say that West returns a Club. Declarer ruffs that, then cashes Spades, and reels in a whopper of a clue when East shows out on the third round! Ha! Now Declarer knows that East started with four cards in the majors, and West with eight. The odds have changed dramatically! If one of the defenders has three Diamonds it's surely East. So Declarer plays Dummy's ♦A on the first round, and says a silent "Yippee!" when West shows out. 12 tricks if Declarer delays the Diamond play and first looks for clues in the other suits.

#26 - INTRODUCING DR GOODLEAD

This week we feature a terrific opening lead, found in real life by John Brady of Jacksonville, FL (known to some as Dr Goodlead).

	♠ QJ96 ♥ J974 ♦ 9 ♣ K874	
♠ KT5432 ♥ A5 ♦ A76 ♣ 52	North West East Declarer	♠ ♥ 86 ♦ T5432 ♣ QJT963
	♠ A87 ♥ KQT32 ♦ KQJ8 ♣ A	

N-S Vulnerable

South West North East

1♥ 1♠ 2♥ Pass

4♥ All Pass

Imagine yourself as East, if you will, looking at the N-E hands. West, the good doctor, leads the Spade Ten. A strange-looking lead, don't you think? It's not fourth best, not top of a sequence. Has the doctor's legendary common-sense finally deserted him?

While you are puzzling over that bizarre opening lead, Dummy plays the ♠Q and you gleefully ruff. What next, Mr East? West found a grand opening lead, and life would be even grander if only you could get back to West's hand for a second ruff. If that is to happen, West must have ♦A or ♣A. Any clues as to which?

The opening lead is your much-needed clue. West led an unnecessarily *high* Spade, and is trying to tell you something. Yes, he is advertising the Ace in the *higher*-ranking side-suit! So, after ruffing, you shoot back a Diamond to West's Ace and get your second Spade ruff. Down one!

Doctor G's lead from ♠KT5432 was not without risk, but he saw no appealing alternative, and he reasonably concluded that East had no more than two Spades (due to non-support in the auction). He didn't necessarily expect a void, but singleton was also a possibility (in which case West would later win the ♥A and give East a second-round Spade ruff).

What just happened was a *Suit Preference* signal, whereby, in certain situations, the play of a high card says "I have the higher-ranking suit", vice versa with a low card. This defensive signal is a rare bird on opening lead, it usually comes later in the hand and even then only in specialized situations. Dr Goodlead gave us the caviar, we'll have some meat-and-potatoes examples in later Bridge Bites.

#27 - THREE DEGREES OF BACON

This week's hand features an astonishing defense by West - we'll get to the winning play by degrees.

	♠ AT2 ♥ Q6 ♦ KQJT73 ♣ 84	
♠ 765 ♥ 542 ♦ 54 ♣ AQJ96	North West East Declarer	♠ KQJ93 ♥ A3 ♦ 982 ♣ K73
	♠ 84 ♥ KJT987 ♦ A6 ♣ T52	

E-W Vulnerable

South West North East

			1♠
Pass	2♠	3♦	Pass
3♥	All Pass		

E-W did well not to compete to 3♠ (that contract is down one if N-S get their Diamond ruff). Instead, E-W are required to defeat South's 3♥ contract. Will they? West's lead is a Spade, won in Dummy.

In the first degree, you are Declarer. With that running Diamond suit you have loads of winners, but the danger is that E-W will get five tricks first. You can try for a Club ruff in

Dummy, but alert defenders will switch to trumps (being sure to hold up the ♥A until the second round). Nonetheless, at Trick 2, you lead a Club hoping that something good will happen.

In the second degree, you are East, trying to thwart Declarer. Dummy's ♠A wins the first trick, and a Club is led, won by West's Jack. West shifts to a trump, and you have a dilemma:

- If Declarer has the ♣A, and West the ♦A, then the winning defense is to take the ♥A immediately and play another Heart, stopping the Club ruff.
- If Declarer has the ♦A, and West the ♠A, then the winning defense is to duck the first trump, win the next Club, cash ♥A and then a third Club.

To bring home the bacon the defense must go to the third degree. This time, you are West, trying to help East to thwart Declarer. Same start, but instead of routinely winning the ♠J at Trick 2, you do some thinking. Declarer did not play Clubs like someone holding the ♠K, so East surely has that card. In that case you can afford to squander the Ace! This brilliant stroke solves East's dilemma, telling him what he needs to know. How many Wests would find that truly remarkable play? None that we know of!

#28 - WE'VE GOT YOU SURROUNDED

	♠ T9532 ♥ A92 ♦ 8 ♣ KJ32	
♠ J ♥ K76 ♦ KQJ642 ♣ T98	<i>North</i>	♠ 4 ♥ QT85 ♦ T973 ♣ AQ75
	<i>West</i> <i>East</i> <i>Declarer</i>	
	♠ AKQ876 ♥ J43 ♦ A5 ♣ 64	

N-S Vulnerable

<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
1♠	2♦	4♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Perhaps East should have tried 5♦ over 4♠, that would be a cheap sacrifice if 4♠ is making. Instead, she guesses to defend and must find a nice defensive play if she is to justify her shyness in the bidding.

You are that shy East, so try looking at only the N-E hands. West leads the ♦K, won by Declarer's Ace. A Diamond is

ruffed in Dummy, followed by a Spade to Declarer's Ace. Then a Club to Dummy's Jack and your Queen. What next?

At this point, you cannot play a Club or a Diamond without blowing a trick, so you must shift to a Heart. Which Heart? It seems routine to play a low Heart, but let's stop and think. If Declarer has the ♥K it won't matter what you do, so let's assume that West has the King. If West has the ♥J to go along with that King then you can shift to any old Heart, again it won't matter. So the case to worry about is the one you see looking at all four hands.

Look what happens if you shift to a low Heart. Dummy plays low, West must play the King, losing to the Ace. That's only one Heart loser for Declarer. The required shift is the Heart *Ten*! Your Ten and Eight have Dummy's Nine "surrounded" and that's what makes the surprising shift to the Ten the winning play. The Ten is covered by the Jack, King and Ace, after which East's Q8 sits over Dummy's 92, providing two Heart tricks for the defense.

Surrounding plays don't happen every day, and are easy to miss in the heat of battle. But now that you are an expert on the subject you will no doubt spot this one right away:

	<i>Dummy</i> T65	
<i>West</i> A432		<i>East</i> KJ9
	<i>Declarer</i> Q87	

East's J9 surround Dummy's Ten and it is a shift to the *Jack* which is the winning play, picking up the whole suit.



Remember: All Bloomington-Normal duplicate events adhere to the ACBL's zero tolerance for unacceptable behavior. Do NOT let this person's conduct rub off on you!!

Upcoming tournaments:



**Twin City Summer Sectional
July 8-10, 2011, UAW 2488
Bloomington, IL**