



# Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 16 Number 4 – March, 2014

14 pages



## April Events



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

April 7 – open pairs      April 14 – open pairs

April 21 – open pairs      April 28 – open pairs

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

**Mike's Bridge Club schedule:**

Wednesday, April 2, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick

Thursday, April 3, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick

Saturday, April 5, 11:45AM – open pairs – Heartland

Monday, April 7, 6:15PM – 99ers only & open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, April 9, 1:15PM - 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick

Thursday, April 10, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick

Saturday, April 12, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, April 14, 6:15PM – 99ers only & open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, April 16, 1:15PM - 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick

Thursday, April 17, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick

Saturday, April 19, 11:45AM – open pairs – Westminster

Monday, April 21, 6:15PM – 99ers only & open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, April 23, 1:15PM - 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick

Thursday, April 24, 11:45AM – open pairs – St Patrick

Saturday, April 26, NO GAME – GNT in Springfield

Monday, April 28, 6:15PM – 99ers only & open pairs – Heartland

Wednesday, April 30, 1:15PM – 99ers & NLMers only pairs – St Patrick

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

All game results are posted online: [clubresults.acbl.org](http://clubresults.acbl.org)

Post game online discussions of deals are available at: [mikesbridge.blogspot.com](http://mikesbridge.blogspot.com)

All games sanctioned by the American Contract Bridge League.

Announcement: Effective 4/1/2012, all ACBL-sanctioned bridge games held in Bloomington-Normal are fragrance free. Please be respectful of those who are fragrance intolerant. Thank you!



## The Bloomington-Normal "Top 25" Masterpoint holders

As of 2/6/2014 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only – paid up ACBL members only

1	3,528.19	Betty Capodice	
2	3,075.73	Steve Babin	
	*** 2,557.18	Laura Addison	
3	2,144.33	Zack Freehill	
4	1,995.69	Mike Tomlianovich	
5	1,864.30	Eunice Patton	
6	1,760.57	Hank Hoffman	
	*** 1,735.61	Steve Hawthorne	
7	1,490.11	Dewey Gronau	
	*** 1,398.35	Sharad Chitgopekar	
	*** 1,320.43	Ed Lombard	
8	1,231.08	Stan Gutzman	
9	1,223.84	Ann Schuyler	
10	1,126.20	Jeanne Strand	
	*** 1,091.94	Marian Edmunds	
11	1,093.42	Ivey Weaver	
12	1,058.62	Charlie Morton	
13	1,043.55	Ron Emmett	
14	988.35	Jean Barnett	
15	977.03	Cindy Moore	
16	875.15	Randall Motchan	
17	808.28	Glen Beaman	
	*** 792.95	Don Strand	
	*** 780.34	Jack Kessler	
18	771.09	Henrietta Crain	
	*** 741.06	Pearl Harris	
19	717.35	Lori Moore	
20	653.14	Peg Deutsch	
21	643.14	Dennis Moll	
	*** 610.73	Martin Compton	
22	601.88	JoAnn Schroeder	
	*** 570.80	Ann Farnsworth	
	*** 567.22	Ruth Wettaw	
23	583.20	Dave Freehill	
24	561.45	Steve Wulfers	
	*** 481.88	Bev Upp	
	*** 474.92	Nona Wooley	
25	460.30	Stevie Joslin	***
		deceased	

### Other players:

*** 12,741.55	Dick Benson-LeRoy
11,217.50	Chris Benson-LeRoy
4,150.34	Larry Matheny-Colorado
*** 4,073.45	Alan Wienman-Morton
3,987.76	Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
3,547.68	Carl Brueckner-Champaign
3,540.95	Ron Sholes-Springfield
2,993.50	Kish Devaraj-Georgia
2,649.75	Liz Zalar-Springfield
2,570.35	Paul Lindauer-Varna
2,472.57	Georgia Heth-Morton
2,415.18	Gail Moon-Tennessee
2,306.64	Ray Russ-Henry
2,295.04	Carole Sholes-Springfield
2,275.74	Chuck Zalar-Springfield
2,172.43	Margaret Hansell-Champaign
2,161.37	Joanne Glazebrook
2,052.13	Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
1,912.95	Mary Allen-Peoria
*** 1,776.22	John Burdon
1,696.50	Tim Cull-Springfield
1,523.21	Bobbie Straker-Pekin
1,521.63	Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
1,437.05	Dennis Fitton-Champaign
1,313.38	John Maloney-Champaign
1,248.63	Jim Moon-Tennessee
1,037.00	Camilla Rabjohns-Peoria Heights
*** 916.41	Floyd Sherry-Eureka
955.37	Melissa Maloney-Urbana
804.35	Phil Kenney-Eureka
743.14	Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
690.09	Doug Steele-Seymour
624.35	Carole Miller-Champaign
453.38	Chris Biggs-South Carolina



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2051 Ireland Grove Road, Bloomington, IL 61704

#1

This excellent declarer problem was given to me by a friend who got it from a friend who read about it in some book. I am unable to give credit to the author.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#13-38	♠ KQ863	West	North	East	South
Dir E	♥ A5	-	-	Pass	1 ♠
Vul Both	♦ AJ4	Pass	2NT	Pass	4 ♠
	♣ 753	Pass		Pass	
♠ 97	<input type="checkbox"/>		Pass		
♥ Q8432					
♦ 965					
♣ K98					
	♠ 4				
	♥ KJ1097				
	♦ KQ82				
	♣ J104				
	♠ AJ1052				
	♥ 6				
	♦ 1073				
	♣ AQ62				

Bidding: I suspect the auction was similar to this.

Play: West led a trump and declarer stopped to analyze the hand. He saw four possible losers: two diamonds and two clubs. After giving the problem some thought, declarer saw a line that would guarantee the contract. He drew the last trump followed by the ace of hearts and a heart ruff. Next he simply played ace and another club. West won and shifted to a low diamond. Declarer ducked and East won the queen. East played his last club and declarer covered with the queen. West won the king and played a second diamond but declarer rose with the ace, came to his hand with a trump, and discarded a diamond from dummy on the 13<sup>th</sup> club. He ended up losing one diamond and two clubs.

This line would succeed no matter how the clubs were divided. Try it.

#2

Sometimes it only takes one bid to throw an auction completely out of control. Take a look at this wild ride.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

#13-40	♠		West	North	East	South
Dir S	♥ 32		-	-	-	1 ♠
Vul N/S	♦ KJ1096		2 ♥	DBL	2 ♠	3 ♥
	♣ J109832		Pass	4 ♣	Pass	6 ♠
♠ A76	□	♠ 9543	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♥ KJ10654		♥ Q987				
♦ 874		♦ 52				
♣ 4		♣ AKQ				
	♠ KQJ1082					
	♥ A					
	♦ AQ3					
	♣ 765					

**Bidding:** North's negative double with only five high card points was ill-advised. South believed him, and expecting more values in the minor suits, bid very aggressively. South certainly had a good hand but leaping to slam was too much.

**Play:** West led his singleton club and the defense soon captured the first three tricks. Declarer still had to lose the ace of spades for down three. I was North at the other table and when my partner opened 1 ♠, West passed, I passed, and so did East. Playing in 1 ♠, the defense could take the same four tricks but my partner was allowed to make eleven tricks.

You have to admit, playing 1 ♠ at one table and 6 ♠ at the other table doesn't happen very often.

#3

Sometimes it only takes one bid to throw an auction completely out of control. Take a look at this wild ride.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

#13-40	♠		West	North	East	South
Dir S	♥ 32		-	-	-	1 ♠
Vul N/S	♦ KJ1096		2 ♥	DBL	2 ♠	3 ♥
	♣ J109832		Pass	4 ♣	Pass	6 ♠
♠ A76		♠ 9543	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♥ KJ10654		♥ Q987				
♦ 874		♦ 52				
♣ 4		♣ AKQ				
	♠ KQJ1082					
	♥ A					
	♦ AQ3					
	♣ 765					

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#4

As declarer, it is so important to develop your line of play before you play to the first trick. This hand makes that very point.

Scoring: IMPs (Teams)

#13-41	♠ A5	West	North	East	South
Dir E	♥ KQ103	-	-	2♣	Pass
Vul N/S	♦ 876	Pass	DBL	Pass	4♥
	♣ A1082	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♣ K9		♠ QJ10743			
♥ 762		♥ 8			
♦ A103		♦ QJ54			
♣ Q7653		♣ J9			
	♠ 862				
	♥ AJ954				
	♦ K92				
	♣ K4				

Bidding: North made a takeout double and South jumped to the heart game.

Play: West led the king of spades and declarer stopped to analyze the hand. He saw a spade loser and three possible diamond losers. His goal was to keep East out of the lead to prevent a diamond lead through his hand. Therefore, he ducked the first spade and won the second. Next, he drew trumps followed by the king and ace of clubs. His original game plan was to ruff the third round of clubs, ruff his last spade in dummy, and then lead dummy's last club pitching a diamond. He hoped West would then have to lead a diamond. However, when the jack and nine of clubs appeared, he simply had to lead third club and discard a diamond. Dummy's good 10 of clubs was now a parking place for another diamond and declarer had his ten tricks.

Note if the first spade is not ducked, West can put East in the lead for the deadly diamond switch.



**Bloomington-Normal 70% club – year 2013 only**  
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**Eastland Medical Plaza,1505 Eastland Dr, Bloomington**

2014/03/26	73.33%	Zoe Freeman & Jim Fernstrom (NLMers)
2014/03/19	70.14%	Kirk Kimmel & Jim Swanke (NLMers)
2014/02/19	71.67%	Carroll Kinnaman & Jerry Oswald (NLMers)
2014/01/29	70.00%	Joyce & Bob Clay(NLMers)
2014/01/11	70.53%	Betty Capodice & Jason Cannell
2013/11/23	70.00%	Steve Wulfers & Randall Motchan
2013/11/11	71.67%	Margaret Wolf & Sue McGroarty(99ers)
2013/09/30	72.22%	Lynda Frankeberger & Mary Houska(99ers)
2013/09/18	70.56%	Sallie Boge & Jason Cannell(NLMers)
2013/09/11	70.00%	Bob Ragland & Jim Swanke(NLMers)
2013/08/26	71.25%	Doug Lamb & John Ford(99ers)
2013/08/24	70.00%	Stan Gutzman & John Maloney
2013/08/01	73.15%	Cindy Moore & Eunice Patton
2013/05/29	75.00%	Bob Ragland & Jim Swanke(NLMers)
2013/05/06	86.81%	Vi Kothe & Lou Savage(99ers)
2013/03/30	70.37%	Ann Schuyler & Camilla Rabjohns
2013/03/07	72.22%	Cindy Moore & Eunice Patton
2013/02/20	74.44%	Carroll Kinnaman & Jerry Oswald (NLMers)
2013/01/30	70.00%	Joyce Werner & Dorothy Berg(NLMers)
2013/01/23	74.31%	Mary Tweedie & Sallie Boge(NLMers)
2013/01/23	70.83%	Carroll Kinnaman & Jerry Oswald(NLMers)
2013/01/09	79.63%	Lou Savage & Joe Krause(NLMers)
2013/01/02	73.96%	Don Randall & Bob Clay(NLMers)

**Carl Sandburg Sectional Tournament**  
**April 11 to 13, 2014**  
**Community Room – Sandburg Mall**  
**1150 W. Carl Sandburg Drive**  
**Galesburg, Illinois**

**Friday, April 11, 2014**

1:00 PM Open Pairs

6:00 PM Open Pairs

Stratified Events

A: Open

B: Less than 2000

C: Less than 500

**Saturday, April 12, 2014**

10:30 AM Open Pairs.

3:30 PM Open Pairs.

**Sunday, April 13, 2014**

10:30 AM Stratified Swiss Teams

**Play Through, Lunch Included with entry**

Entry Fees: \$9 per person Swiss Team \$22 per person  
(non-ACBL members pay an additional \$3 per session)

**This is fragrance free and zero tolerance event**

Information and Partnerships: Ron Greek Cell (309) 472-6105

Hospitality: Judy Greek Home (309) 341-2305

Directions: Take I-74 to Exit 46 - Rte 34 toward Monmouth

In about 2 miles take the Henderson Street Exit toward south

Go south to first stoplight – Carl Sandburg Drive

Turn Right around to West Side of the Mall

Community Room Entrance through Loading Area

between Bergner's and Sears Stores

Lodging: The motels on Carl Sandburg Dr. just North of the Mall are:

Quality Inn Country Inn and Suites Fairfield Inn

309.344-5445 309.344-4444 309.344-1911

Restaurants: There is a wide variety of nearby Restaurants on Henderson Street

Sanction # 1404117



## BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell

### #1 – IT'S ELEMENTARY

Crime in London appeared to be taking a vacation, and Sherlock Holmes found himself on opening lead at the Baker Street Bridge Club:

♠ A65, ♥ 92, ♦ T95, ♣ Q9654

	<i>Holmes West</i>		<i>Watson East</i>
	Pass	1♣	Pass
	Pass	1♠	Pass
	All Pass		1NT

Let's eavesdrop on the post-mortem in Holmes' 221B bachelor quarters.

*Watson:* Dash it, Holmes, why not lead the unbid suit? I must have Hearts.

*Holmes:* Indeed, dear chap, you had four, but so did declarer.

*Watson:* We know that now.

*Holmes:* And I knew it before I made my lead.

*Watson:* An Englishman doesn't peek.

*Holmes:* No, it was the curious matter of your bidding.

*Watson:* But I didn't bid.

*Holmes:* Yes, that was most curious. My 6-count and the opponents' bidding told me that you had a decent hand. And yet you did not overcall 1♥. Clearly you had less than 5 Hearts. The auction also told me that West had less than four Hearts and East less than 5. Thus, the Hearts were 2-3-4-4 around the table.

*Watson:* Very clever. I suppose you also knew that West had three Clubs.

*Holmes:* Yes, Watson.

*Watson:* You *did* know?

*Holmes:* It seemed most likely. I had five and East had at least two.

*Watson:* He did?

*Holmes:* If he was 3=4=5=1 he would raise Spades. With 2=4=6=1 he would rebid Diamonds. Ergo, he had at least two Clubs.

*Watson:* So, if East had two Clubs and

West had four then I would have had just two. With that I would no doubt make a Takeout Double of 1♣.

*Holmes:* By George, I think he's got it!

	♠ KQJ ♥ 8754 ♦ J63 ♣ AJ3	
♠ T972 ♥ AKJ ♦ Q84 ♣ K87	<i>Watson</i>  <i>West East</i>	♠ 843 ♥ QT63 ♦ AK72 ♣ T2
	<i>Holmes</i> ♠ A65 ♥ 92 ♦ T95 ♣ Q9654	

Yes, of course, Holmes did not lead the unbid Hearts, he led through West's Club suit. But how on earth did he know to lead the *Queen*, the only card in his hand which beats the contract. That's a story for another day.

#2 - TOO EASY

This Declarer got to a great slam but he forgot to make his contract. It was just too easy.

	♠ T854 ♥ ♦ KQJT52 ♣ AKQ	
♠ J96 ♥ A9543 ♦ 63 ♣ T43	North West East South	♠ 3 ♥ KQJT76 ♦ A98 ♣ 962
	♠ AKQ72 ♥ 82 ♦ 74 ♣ J875	

None Vulnerable  
**South West North East**  
 2♠ 4♥ 6♠! 2♥  
 Pass Pass Pass

West leads the ♥A and, when Dummy goes down, who would blame Declarer for thinking “Yippee! What a terrific slam, and on just a combined 25 HCP! Nicely bid, pard!”

Declarer ruffs that ♥A opening lead and, without pausing for thought, cashes the ♠A and ♠K. When East shows out on the second round of trumps, Declarer ponders awhile (it’s a bit late now!) before realizing that “Oops!” and not “Yippee!” is the appropriate exclamation. Yes, indeed, Declarer has goofed mightily. He cannot draw the last trump (that would let the defense score a Heart and a Diamond), so he ruffs a Heart on the board and exits with the ♦K. But that doesn’t work, either. East wins the ♦A and returns a Diamond which must be won in Dummy. Now Declarer has no way back to his hand to draw that last enemy trump. He’ll cash a Diamond and lead another one, but, when East follows to the third round, Declarer will know that his goose is cooked. Whether he ruffs high or low, West’s ♠J will score a trick. Down one!

Of course, the winning line is to ruff the opening Heart lead, cross to the ♠A, *ruff another Heart*, and *then* draw trumps. Now is the time for that yippee. Trick 1 was the time for thinking.

### #3 – THE POWER OF TENS

	♠ A97 ♥ K976 ♦ A874 ♣ A6	
♠ J43 ♥ J3 ♦ KQ62 ♣ J873	North  West East  South	♠ Q852 ♥ 8542 ♦ J3 ♣ KQ2
	♠ KT6 ♥ AQT ♦ T95 ♣ T954	

*None Vulnerable*

**North East South West**  
 1NT Pass ??

Put yourself in the South chair. Your partner opens a 15-17 1NT and you have to decide whether to invite game, or whether to bid 3NT all by yourself.

The usual benchmark for going to game unaided is “a good 9 or better”. One thing that makes South’s 9-count not so good is the square shape (3-3-3-4), you can almost subtract a HCP for that alone. Does this make South’s hand a “bad 9”? No, not at all, look at that awesome array of intermediate cards! All those lovely Tens may not count for anything on the 4-3-2-1 HCP scale but they certainly count for something in the play of the hand, especially in No Trump contracts. So, South disregards the dismal distribution and, rejoicing in those splendid Tens, goes directly to 3NT.

Declarer has a minimum 1NT opening (and would have declined a game invitation) but, even so, 3NT is a fine contract. The black Tens protect Declarer against the enemy suits and the red Tens help Declarer to build tricks in his own suits. It will be 10 tricks on most lines of play, but check out what happens if all of South’s Tens are swapped with East’s lowest spot card in each suit. Now it’s hard to see how Declarer can scrape up more than 7 tricks! Here’s to those Tens, the most underrated cards in the deck!

#4 – WAKE-UP CALL

On defense, when leading a suit, we follow certain conventions such as “top of a sequence” or “fourth best”, all the better to help partner figure out our holding in the suit. But, once in a while, we lie. Consider this deal:

<i>North</i>	♠ J87
<i>West Dummy</i>	♥ 65
	♦ K973
<i>South</i>	♣ KQ62
♠ 643	
♥ A43	
♦ T8642	
♣ A7	

*Both Vulnerable*

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

Against 4♠ our partner leads the ♥2 and we win the trick with the Ace. Have you figured out partner’s holding in the Heart suit? Of course not, it’s impossible, the lead makes no sense whatsoever! Partner’s Two is

clearly non-standard, it cannot be 4<sup>th</sup> best when he is known from the bidding to have at least a 6-card suit. What’s he up to? He’s issuing a wake-up call, requesting us to think outside the box. He doesn’t want us routinely to continue Hearts, he has something else in mind. What could that be? No doubt he can ruff a minor suit! But which one? Surely not Clubs, that would give Declarer seven of them. Partner must be void in Diamonds!

	♠ 52	
	♥KQJT972	
	♦	
	♣ 9854	
♠ AKQT9	<i>North</i>	♠ J87
♥ 8	<i>West</i>	♥ 65
♦ AQJ5	<i>East</i>	♦ K973
♣ JT3	<i>South</i>	♣ KQ62
	♠ 643	
	♥ A43	
	♦ T8642	
	♣ A7	

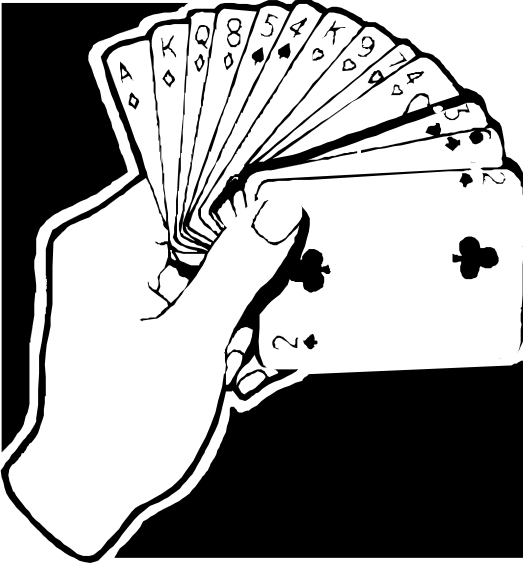
North’s “alarm clock lead”, as it is known, alerts us to the winning defense. A Diamond is ruffed at Trick 2, then a Club returned to our Ace, after which a second ruff. Down one! Those alarm clock leads won’t come up very often but they are great fun when they do!

**Announcement: Effective 4/1/2012, all ACBL-sanctioned bridge games held in Bloomington-Normal are fragrance free. Please be respectful of those who are fragrance intolerant. 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!!**

## Upcoming tournaments:



**Galesburg Sectional  
April 11 - April 13, 2014  
Sandburg Mall – Galesburg, IL**

**GNT district 8  
April 26 - April 27, 2014  
Eagles – Springfield, IL**