



# Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 20 Number 4 – April, 2018

14 pages



## April Events

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

**April 2 – mentor Monday ACBL charity pairs**

**April 9 – ACBL charity open pairs      April 16 – ACBL charity open pairs**

**April 23 – ACBL charity open pairs      April 30 – mentor Monday ACBL charity open pairs**

**Contact Ann Schuyler at 309-826-9791/309-663-4052 for information or to arrange for a partner.**

**Mike's Bridge Club schedule:**

**Monday, April 2, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian**

**Wednesday, April 4, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Thursday, April 5, 11:45AM – ACBL charity open pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Saturday, April 7, 12:01PM – ACBL charity open pairs - Centennial Christian**

**Monday, April 9, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian**

**Wednesday, April 11, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Thursday, April 12, 11:45AM – ACBL charity open pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Saturday, April 14, 11:45AM – ACBL charity open pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Monday, April 16, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian**

**Wednesday, April 18, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Thursday, April 19, 11:45AM – ACBL charity open pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Saturday, April 21, 11:45AM – ACBL charity open pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Monday, April 23, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian**

**Wednesday, April 25, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Thursday, April 26, 11:45AM – ACBL charity open pairs – Centennial Christian**

**Saturday, April 28, 12:01PM – ACBL charity open pairs - Centennial Christian**

**Monday, April 30, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian**

**Contact Mike Tomlianovich at 309-825-5823 for information or to arrange for a partner. All game results are posted online: <http://clubresults.acbl.org/>**

**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 3/6/2018 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only  
paid up ACBL members only



- 1     **3,775.15 Steve Babin**
- 2     **3,729.55 Betty Capodice**
- 3     **3,011.15 Zack Freehill**
- 4     **2,894.89 Eunice Patton**
- \*\*\* **2,557.18 Laura Addison**
- 5     **2,338.54 Cindy Moore**
- 6     **2,304.02 JoAnn Schroeder**
- 7     **2,183.06 Mike Tomlianovich**
- 8     **2,004.07 Ann Schuyler**
- \*\*\* **1,735.61 Steve Hawthorne**
- 9     **1,717.98 Lori Moore**
- 10    **1,665.88 Dewey Gronau**
- 11    **1,601.58 Ron Emmett**
- 12    **1,452.03 Charlie Morton**
- \*\*\* **1,398.35 Sharad Chitgopekar**
- \*\*\* **1,320.43 Ed Lombard**
- 13    **1,263.31 Stan Gutzman**
- 14    **1,241.43 Jeff Furler**
- 15    **1,234.21 Jeanne Strand**
- 16    **1,156.10 Ivey Weaver**
- \*\*\* **1,091.94 Marian Edmunds**
- 17    **1,045.75 Jean Barnett**
- 18    **994.16 Randall Motchan**
- 19    **959.89 Joyce Clay**
- 20    **907.89 Steve Wulfers**
- \*\*\* **835.37 Glen Beaman**
- 21    **797.02 Henrietta Crain**
- \*\*\* **792.95 Don Strand**
- \*\*\* **780.34 Jack Kessler**
- 22    **768.93 Dave Freehill**
- 23    **766.07 Dennis Moll**
- \*\*\* **741.06 Pearl Harris**
- \*\*\* **699.99 Peg Deutsch**
- \*\*\* **610.73 Martin Compton**
- \*\*\* **570.80 Ann Farnsworth**
- \*\*\* **567.22 Ruth Wettaw**
- 24    **536.05 Lane O'Connor**
- 25    **512.16 Sallie Boge**

### Other players:

- \*\*\* **12,568.06 Dick Benson-LeRoy**
- 12,562.51 Chris Benson-LeRoy**
- 5,043.82 John Seng-Champaign**
- 4,973.28 Larry Matheny-Colorado**
- 4,409.23 Ron Sholes-Springfield**
- \*\*\* **4,073.45 Alan Wienman-Morton**
- 4,118.47 Christine Carroll-Champaign**
- \*\*\* **4,048.11 Jim Carbaugh-Metamora**
- 4,025.08 Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap**
- 3,900.20 Kish Devaraj-Georgia**
- 3,183.50 Paul Lindauer-Varna**
- 2,869.94 Mary Allen-Peoria**
- 2,834.82 Carole Sholes-Springfield**
- 2,641.89 Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign**
- 2,614.46 Ray Russ-Henry**
- 2,595.49 Pat Carrington-Champaign**
- 2,550.34 Georgia Heth-Morton**
- 2,507.18 Margaret Hansell-Champaign**
- 2,450.98 Gail Moon-Tennessee**
- 2,147.77 Hank Hoffman-East Peoria**
- 2,003.93 John Maloney-Champaign**
- 1,910.55 Tim Cull-Arizona**
- 1,837.35 Marilyn Stickel-Lacon**
- \*\*\* **1,776.22 John Burdon**
- 1,572.05 Bobbie Straker-Pekin**
- \*\*\* **1,525.29 John La Rue-Pontiac**
- 1,284.01 Jim Moon-Tennessee**
- 1,271.04 Chuck Langley-Mechanicsburg**
- 1,197.36 Bill Bulfer-East Peoria**
- \*\*\* **1,093.04 Phil Kenney-Eureka**
- \*\*\* **916.41 Floyd Sherry-Eureka**
- 816.29 Wes Seitz-Champaign**
- 708.02 Carole Miller-Champaign**

\*\*\* deceased



# IMPROVE YOUR PLAY

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#1 –

The opportunity to use the suit preference signal occurs often. This East-West pair used it to defeat the contract.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand 17-31	♠ K3	West	North	East	South
	♥ 83	-	-	Pass	1 ♥
Vul None	♦ QJ105	3 ♠	DBL	Pass	4 ♥
	♣ KQ543	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♠ AJ106542	♠ Q97				
♥ Q2	♥ 7				
♦ 72	♦ AK983				
♣ 108	♣ 9762				
	♠ 8				
	♥ AKJ109654				
	♦ 64				
	♣ AJ				

**Bidding:** After West's preempt, North made a negative double showing values and the other two suits. Holding a great suit, South rebid hearts.

**Play:** West led the ace of spades and East played the queen as a suit preference for diamonds, the higher ranking side suit. West led a diamond at trick two and the defense quickly had three tricks. The auction suggested there were no other tricks available in the side suits, so East continued with a third diamond. This was the winning defense as West's heart queen was promoted and the contract was defeated.

This E-W pair had the only plus score. Many E-W pairs bid 4S which went down one.

#2 –

When declaring the hand, it's always necessary to develop a plan. This often involves identifying the dangerous opponent.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand 17-32

♠ 1095  
♥ 43  
♦ A7653  
♣ 954

Vul None

♠ A642  
♥ QJ986  
♦ Q9  
♣ A7



♠ 7  
♥ 10752  
♦ J84  
♣ QJ863

♠ KQJ83  
♥ AK  
♦ K102  
♣ K102

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

**Bidding:** East made a preemptive raise to three hearts and South doubled. North bid diamonds and South's rebid of four spades showed a very strong hand.

**Play:** West led the queen of hearts to declarer's ace. Seeing the danger of a club shift from East, declarer's plan was to establish dummy's diamond suit without allowing East in the lead. At trick two declarer led the king of spades and it won as West ducked. Needing an entry to dummy, declarer continued with a small spade to dummy's ten. Next, declarer led a low diamond and inserted the ten. West won the queen but had no good answer. He followed with the ace of spades and led a 4<sup>th</sup> round. Declarer now had 4 spades, 2 hearts, and 4 diamonds.

#3 –

When evaluating your hand and deciding what to bid, you must take the vulnerability into account. Failing to do so can be costly.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand 17-33	♠ 85		West	North	East	South
	♥ 8					
	♦ Q75432		-	-	-	2♥
Vul N/S	♣ 5432		Pass	Pass	DBL	Pass
♠ AK62		♠ J974	Pass	Pass		
♥ AJ10943	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; display: inline-block;"></div>	♥				
♦		♦ AKJ				
♣ AQJ		♣ K109876				
	♠ Q103					
	♥ KQ7652					
	♦ 10986					
	♣					


**Bidding:** South opened with a weak-two bid and West passed in tempo. East made a takeout double and, noting the vulnerability, West passed. North considered rescuing to three diamonds but decided his suit was too weak and finally passed.

**Play:** West led the ace of spades and the massacre had begun. Declarer managed four tricks for -1100. Several E/W pairs reached slam in spades to score +980. No one reached the grand slam in clubs which would have been the best result.

There are worse weak-two bids made every day so perhaps it is wrong to blame South too much for her bid. However, when you have unfavorable vulnerability, you must tread lightly.

While some hands are difficult to declare, others are quite friendly. This one was fun for declarer.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

Hand 17-34	♠ 10	West	North	East	South
	♥ K10643	-	-	-	1NT
Vul N/S	♦ Q942	Pass	2♦	Pass	2♥
	♣ A84	Pass	3NT	Pass	4♥
♠ Q87654		Pass	Pass	Pass	
♥ Q2					
♦ J7					
♣ J75					
	♠ K92				
	♥ J7				
	♦ A1085				
	♣ Q632				
	♠ AJ3				
	♥ A985				
	♦ K63				
	♣ K109				

**Bidding:** North transferred to hearts and although he held a balanced hand, South opted to play in four hearts with the nine card fit rather than three notrumps.

**Play:** West led the six of spades to the king and declarer's ace. It usually easier to establish the long trump hand, so after drawing trumps, declarer saw only three potential losers: two diamonds and one club. In dummy with the second trump, he next led a low diamond to his king. He followed with a low diamond and ducked when the jack was played by West. Declarer now enjoyed his position: If West returned a low spade, declarer would discard a club from dummy and win the jack; if West played a club, declarer would duck in dummy and play for the missing honors to be split; and finally, if West played a third diamond, that meant the suit was dividing 3-3 and a club could be discarded on the 13<sup>th</sup> diamond. West finally led a club and declarer won the queen with the king and then finessed West for the jack. The score of +650 for eleven tricks was a good result.

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**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**  
**Years 2017-18 only**  
**Sponsored by: TBA**

<b>2018/3/17</b>	<b>72.22%</b>	<b>Ron Emmett &amp; Paul Lindauer</b>
<b>2018/2/26</b>	<b>78.08%</b>	<b>Bob Bray &amp; Larry Ziegler(99ers)</b>
<b>2018/1/24</b>	<b>70.24%</b>	<b>John Ford &amp; Ray Dostal(499ers)</b>
<b>2017/12/18</b>	<b>74.31%</b>	<b>Ron Calabrese &amp; Bob Bye(99ers)</b>
<b>2017/12/13</b>	<b>70.00%</b>	<b>John Ford &amp; Ray Dostal(499ers)</b>
<b>2017/12/12</b>	<b>77.78%</b>	<b>Marilyn &amp; Darryl Bremner(Clinton invitational)</b>
<b>2017/12/11</b>	<b>73.08%</b>	<b>Lori &amp; Cindy Moore</b>
<b>2017/12/7</b>	<b>72.22%</b>	<b>Tom Teeters &amp; Steve Wulfers</b>
<b>2017/12/6</b>	<b>70.00%</b>	<b>Jim Swanke &amp; Kirk Kimmell(499ers)</b>
<b>2017/12/2</b>	<b>71.85%</b>	<b>Cindy Moore &amp; Zach Freehill</b>
<b>2017/11/13</b>	<b>70.14%</b>	<b>Tom Teeters &amp; Steve Wulfers</b>
<b>2017/11/5</b>	<b>76.85%</b>	<b>Lori &amp; Cindy Moore</b>
<b>2017/9/25</b>	<b>73.15%</b>	<b>Bev Branning &amp; Lynn Steffen(99ers)</b>
<b>2017/9/23</b>	<b>72.22%</b>	<b>Cindy Moore &amp; Steve Babin</b>
<b>2017/8/7</b>	<b>71.25%</b>	<b>Eric Malchodi &amp; Larry Ziegler(99ers)</b>
<b>2017/8/7</b>	<b>71.88%</b>	<b>Eunice Patton &amp; Steve Babin</b>
<b>2017/7/31</b>	<b>70.14%</b>	<b>Ron Calabrese &amp; Bob Bye (99ers)</b>
<b>2017/6/19</b>	<b>73.33%</b>	<b>Gary Kemp &amp; Larry Ziegler(99ers)</b>
<b>2017/6/3</b>	<b>71.43%</b>	<b>Eunice Patton &amp; Steve Babin</b>
<b>2017/5/15</b>	<b>74.31%</b>	<b>Lynn Steffen &amp; Mary Houska(99ers)</b>
<b>2017/5/15</b>	<b>73.61%</b>	<b>Gaye Hoselton &amp; Larry Ziegler(99ers)</b>
<b>2017/5/9</b>	<b>70.83%</b>	<b>Nancy Lamkin &amp; Connie Finney(Clinton invitational)</b>
<b>2017/5/8</b>	<b>70.56%</b>	<b>Ron Calabrese &amp; Bob Bye(99ers)</b>
<b>2017/5/4</b>	<b>71.48%</b>	<b>Ann Schuyler &amp; Mike Tomlianovich</b>
<b>2017/4/25</b>	<b>73.61%</b>	<b>Marilyn &amp; Darryl Bremner(Clinton invitational)</b>
<b>2017/3/27</b>	<b>75.69%</b>	<b>Lynn Steffen &amp; Mary Houska(99ers)</b>
<b>2017/3/22</b>	<b>70.24%</b>	<b>Bob Clay &amp; Kirk Kimmel(499ers)</b>
<b>2017/2/8</b>	<b>73.81%</b>	<b>Kay Marvin &amp; Linda Odette(499ers)</b>
<b>2017/2/1</b>	<b>70.24%</b>	<b>Kay Marvin &amp; Linda Odette(499ers)</b>



## BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell



### #033 – THIRD HAND TRICKERY

“Third hand high” is common advice, and on this hand East plays “Third hand *extra* high” in order to fool Declarer.

♠ KJ6 ♥ 3 ♦ AKJ95 ♣ 8743		
♠ 9854 ♥ Q652 ♦ 8764 ♣ A	<i>North</i>	♠ T73 ♥ AKJT9 ♦ QT2 ♣ Q2
	<i>West</i> <i>East</i>	
	<i>Declarer</i>	
♠ AQ2 ♥ 874 ♦ 3 ♣ KJT965		

*E-W Vulnerable*

<i>South</i>	<i>West</i>	<i>North</i>	<i>East</i>
			1♥
2♣	2♥	3♥	Pass
4♣	Pass	5♣	All Pass

On defense, in third hand, it's standard procedure to win the trick with the lowest card possible, that's the best way to let Partner know what is going on. So, when West leads a low Heart against 5♣, East would normally win that trick with the King. But this week's East decided to win the opening trick with the ♥A, supposedly denying possession of the King. He then returned the ♥T. What was East up to?

To answer that question put yourself in Declarer's shoes. From East's play to the first two Heart tricks Declarer deduces that East does not have the King (he would have played it at Trick 1), nor does he have the Jack (he would have returned it at Trick 2). So, it appears that East started with ♥AQT9x. Based on this logic Declarer will calculate that East has a maximum of 8 HCP outside the Club suit. Now, when Dummy leads a low Club from the board and East plays low, how should Declarer guess? East needs the ♣A for his opening bid and must have started with ♣A2 or ♣AQ2, so let's not blame Declarer if he guesses wrong and goes up with the ♣K, playing East for ♣A2.

If East plays more routinely, winning the ♥K on the first round and continuing with the Ace, then he no longer needs the ♣A to make up his opening bid. That being the case, Declarer will be more inclined to make the normal Club play of running the Eight on the first round, hoping for Q2 or AQ2 in the East hand (two chances) rather than A2 (only one chance). Nice deception, Mr. East!

#034 – A DUMMY REVERSAL

	♠ AQJ ♥ 875 ♦ 7532 ♣ QJ8	
♠ 87 ♥ AJT9 ♦ AK86 ♣ T92	North  West East  Declarer	♠ 642 ♥ K6 ♦ QJT94 ♣ 643
	♠ KT953 ♥ Q432 ♦ ♣ AK75	

None Vulnerable

South	West	North	East
1♠	Dbl	Rdbl	2♦
Pass	Pass	2♠	3♦
3♠	Pass	4♠	All Pass

N-S stumble into 4♠ and West leads ♦A. Declarer can count 5 Spade tricks and 4 Clubs. That's 9, where's the 10<sup>th</sup>? A ruff in the "short hand" is a common ploy for an extra trick, but that won't work here, Dummy has no short side-suits. Any ideas?

Does ruffing the opening Diamond lead generate a 10<sup>th</sup> trick? No, that is a ruff in the long hand, that still leaves us with

only five trump tricks. But suppose that Declarer ruffs *three* Diamonds. Now he gets six trump tricks via Dummy's three high trumps plus three ruffs by Declarer (the long hand). In effect, Dummy becomes the master hand, the hand which will be used to draw the enemy trumps after Declarer has got his ruffs.

Therefore, the sequence of plays is: ruff the Diamond lead, cross to the ♠Q, ruff another Diamond, cross to the ♠J, ruff a third Diamond, cross to the ♣Q, draw the remaining enemy trump. This line works whenever trumps are 3-2.

The thing to remember here is that Declarer needs *three* ruffs for the Dummy Reversal to produce an extra trick. It's that third ruff which reduces Declarer's trumps to a shorter length than Dummy's. Actually, it would even be possible for Declarer to get a fourth ruff, but there are insufficient entries to take advantage of this. So, 10 tricks it is.

## #035 – THE CROCODILE COUP

Bridge has a number of exotic “coups” and for the next few weeks we’ll look at some of them, starting with the aptly named Crocodile Coup.

	♠ KQT9 ♥ 8732 ♦ K6 ♣ 843	
♠ J63 ♥ J5 ♦ 932 ♣ KT976	<i>North</i>  <i>West</i> <i>East</i>  <i>Declarer</i>	♠ A87542 ♥ T64 ♦ QT7 ♣ J
	♠ ♥ AKQ9 ♦ AJ854 ♣ AQ52	

We’ll spare you the auction and just say that American many-time world champion Bob Hamman found himself in a poor 6♦ contract after East had overcalled Spades. You are sitting West, try playing this out looking at just the N-W hands.

You lead the Spade Three, Dummy plays the King, East the Ace and Declarer ruffs. Then a Diamond to Dummy’s King, a Diamond to Declarer’s Jack, and the ♦A. Partner follows with the Seven, Ten and Queen. With trumps drawn, Declarer now plays ♥A, ♥K, ♥Q, East playing the Four, Six, Ten.

Of course, while all this going on, you are busy counting the distribution, because that’s what successful defenders do. Declarer ruffed the first Spade so East is known to have

started with 6 Spades. Hearts? East played the Four and then the Six, and “low-high” shows an odd number, in this case three. Diamonds? East started with three of those also. That leaves just one Club with East, he started life with 6=3=3=1 distribution.

Next, Declarer leads a low Club from his hand and you must avoid the temptation to win this cheaply with the Nine! If you do, East will be forced to overtake with the Jack, and will have to lead a Spade (that’s all he has left), allowing Declarer’s Club losers to go away on Dummy’s Spades. Instead, you alertly squander the ♣K, swallowing Partner’s Jack, and you return the ♣T. Now Declarer never reaches Dummy’s Spades, and eventually loses another Club. Nice defense! When this deal was played in the 2006 World Championships, West was caught napping and missed that Crocodile Coup.

#036 – MORTON'S FORK

We continue our look at some of bridge's exotic coups, and this week it is the Morton's Fork, a play which offers an opponent a choice of evils. Here, the Fork allows Declarer to bring home the 6♥ contract.

	♠ Q7 ♥ 73 ♦ AK642 ♣ K743	
♠ A865 ♥ 654 ♦ Q98 ♣ QT5	North  West East  Declarer	♠ JT432 ♥ J8 ♦ JT73 ♣ 86
	♠ K9 ♥ AKQT92 ♦ 5 ♣ AJ92	

West leads a trump. As Declarer, what is your plan? Of course, if the Club finesse works then 12 tricks will be easy. Alternatively, it would be just grand if Dummy's long Diamond could be set up with a couple of ruffs, then the Club finesse would not be necessary. Alas, there are not enough Dummy entries for that. Or maybe there are! Yes, here is your chance to skewer the defense on a Morton's Fork, offering two losing options.

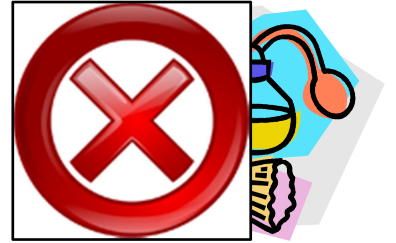
After drawing trumps, you cross to the ♦A and ruff a Diamond. Now you lead the ♠K and West will be impaled on one of these prongs:

*First Prong:* If West wins the ♠K with his Ace he manages to score his Spade, but not without cost. Now Dummy has an extra entry (in Spades) and you have the timing to ruff out the Diamonds. You no longer need the Club finesse, you have your 12 tricks via a Spade, 6 Hearts, 3 Diamonds and 2 Clubs.

*Second Prong:* If West ducks the ♠K then you cross to the ♣K, cash Dummy's ♦K (pitching your remaining Spade), give up a Club, and romp home with 12 tricks. In this variation the defense never scores a Spade trick.

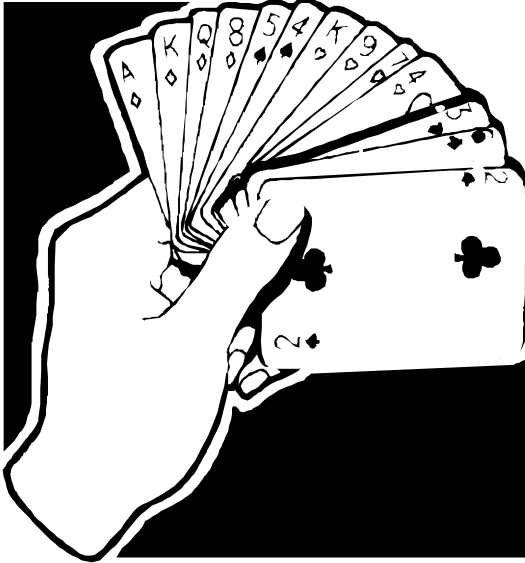
This hand required perfect timing! It was necessary to cash just one high Diamond and then ruff a Diamond before playing on Spades. If you had neglected to do that then you had no chance of getting the long Diamond established. And it would have been fatal to cash *both* Diamonds before playing on Spades, that would have rendered the fork's second prong inoperable. A very pretty deal!

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## Upcoming tournaments:



### **GNT District 8 Final**

**April 28-29, 2018**

Public Library Community Room

1 Community Dr, Rochester, IL 625633

### **Illini Regional**

**May 22-28, 2018**

Hawthorn Suites

101 Trade Center Dr, Champaign, IL 61820

