

December 26, 2024 Volume 7, Issue 1

SAM AMER UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

All Kidding Aside—Pre-Bulletin



The Prez Says ...

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to Atlanta, Georgia, for the 2024 Sam Amer Junior USBC.

On behalf of the USBF, we appreciate your commitment to this Championship as well as your participation. We want you to have a great experience while you are here. And we want you to remember that your opportunity to play in these trials, and to represent the United States in international competition, has been made possible through the generosity of a large number of players (donors) who very likely did not have this opportunity themselves.

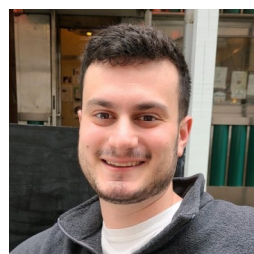
Participants must uphold the ethics, camaraderie and sportsmanship ideals for which the United States Bridge Federation is known worldwide.

Best of luck to all. Your enthusiasm for the game is an inspiration to the many other juniors in the USBF Junior Training Program. We look forward to watching you on VuGraph and cheering you on!

Aaron Silverstein, President, USBF

The USBF Junior Program gratefully acknowledges the donors whose generous contributions are being used to fund this 2024 Sam Amer Junior USBC. Many thanks to:

- Sam Amer Memorial Golf Tournament
- Hakan Berk
- Dave Caprera & Anne Brenner
- Xin Ge
- Dianne Giancarlo
- Connie Goldberg
- Joe Grue
- Ralph & Martha Katz
- Linda & Paul Lewis
- Amber Lin



- John McAllister
- Frank Morgan
- David Moss
- Nick Nickell
- Alex Perlin
- Anant Rathi
- Andrew Rosenthal
- Max Schireson
- Joe Stokes
- Kari Tetzalf
- Ilan Wolff

- USBF President**
Aaron Silverstein
- USBF Vice President**
Lynn Baker
- USBF COO & Secretary**
Jan Martel
- USBF CFO & Treasurer**
Max Schireson
- USBF Recorder**
Jack Oest
- Bulletin Editor & Chief Communications Officer**
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- Directors**
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Al Hollander
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- Appeals Panel:**
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Bart Bramley
Kitty Cooper
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Ron Gerard
Marty Hirschman
George Jacobs
Ralph Katz
Bobby Levin
Chip Martel
Adam Wildavsky
- Junior Committee Chair**
Joe Stokes
- Junior Program Co-Ordinator**
Alex Kolesnik
- Junior Training Camp Officials**
Amber Lin
Kevin Rosenberg

On pages 20-25, you will find instructional guidance for using LoveBridge software. Familiarizing yourself with the look and feel of the system is advised!
Read about Bridge Camp on page 9!

Teams Entered

U26:

Brezak	Luke Brezak, Capt Alan Hale	Chris Staszak Cade Johnson
Chen	Tianyang Chen, Capt Philip Wang Fangqing Yuan	Rory Xiao Jonathan Yue Will Duan
Eckert	Kai Eckert, Capt Matthew Rippin	Isaac Stone Levi Katriel
Jiang	Kevin Jiang, Capt Ryan Carlson Zihao Sun	Alex Safonov Andy Zhang Jingcheng Dai
Kolesnik	Finn Kolesnik, Capt Harrison Luba Ethan Wood	Michael Xu Bo Han Zhu Michael Hu
Wan	Stella Wan, Capt Brent Xiao Cornelius Duffie	Olivia Schireson Richard Jeng Jacob Freeman
Yang	Yanlai Yang, Capt Ruizhe Wang	Renyu Li Eric Shao
Yeung	Alan Yeung, Capt Evan Alexis	Dan Irish Rohan Srivastava
Zheng	Lixin Zheng, Capt Vasisht Ganesh	Weilong Shen Tom Ye

U21:

Ge	Brandon Ge, Capt Brian Zhang Charlie Chen	Kayden Ge Arthur Gong Eric Xiao
He	Edward He, Capt Nathan Gong	Eric He Jason Yao
Hoagland	Michael Hoagland, Capt Owen Jiang	James Fu Eric White
Silverstein	Avery Silverstein, Capt Sam Pahk Ethan Derman	Daniel Balof Michael Haas Jack Boge
Xie	Ethan Xie, Capt Kyle Lin	Zach Posternak Keith Lin

RONA (GIRLS):

2024 Sam Amer Junior USBC - U26W PAIRS

Stephanie Bergman
Rachel Yoken

Leyi Chen
Maiya Clouse

Alexandra Deschenes
Avery Liang

Ava Donnellan
Margot Donnellan

Cecilia Ehrlichman
Katie Hwang

Kyra Helmbold
Jasmine Bakhshi

Helena Hsieh
Yichen Cai

Nicole Qian
Helen Chow

Ella Su
Sharon Chu

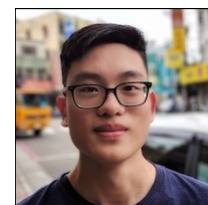
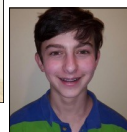
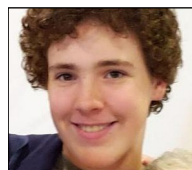
Katie Sullivan
Caroline Zhao

Yihan Xiao
Zara Weiss



2024 Sam Amer Junior USBC - U16 PAIRS

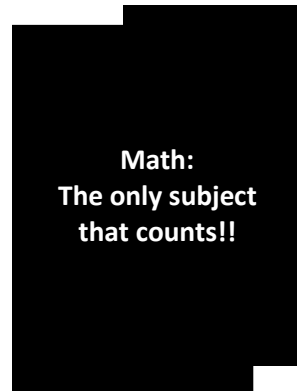
Beatriz Aldana	Ethan Wu
Andrew Chen	Jeff Xiao
Ryo Chen	Jeremy Zhang
Joseph Hoagland	Clayton Kaneko
Jayson Lee	Lee Blocher
Kate Lee	Adam Hemmer
Zinnia Meyer	Kyo Chen
Eli Shuster	Chloe Chow
Kevin Wei	Arjun Chaunal
Brandon Wolpert	Demian Li
Ryan Wolpert	Kaining Sheng
Alex Xu	Derek Deschenes



U26 Schedule:

Schedules continued on pages 4 and 5

Day	Date	Time (EST)	Boards
Training Camp			
Thursday	Dec 26	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Optional evening session
Friday	Dec 27	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM	Details TBA
Saturday	Dec 28	11:00 AM - 4:30 PM	Details TBA
ROUND ROBIN			
Saturday	Dec 28	5:30-6:35 6:50-7:55 8:10-9:15	Match 1 Boards 1-10 Match 2 Boards 11-20 Match 3 Boards 21-30
Sunday	Dec 29	11:00-12:05 12:20-1:25 1:40-2:45 3:45-4:55 6:10-7:15 7:30-8:35	Match 4 Boards 31-40 Match 5 Boards 41-50 Match 6 Boards 51-60 60 Minute BREAK Match 7 Boards 61-70 Match 8 Boards 71-80 Match 9 Boards 81-90
USA1 Semifinal & USA2 Stage 1			
Monday	Dec 30	11:00 - 12:45 1:00 - 2:45 4:00 - 5:45 6:00 - 7:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15 Segment 2 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 3 Boards 31-45 Segment 4 Boards 46-60
USA1 Final & USA2 Quarterfinal			
Tuesday	Dec 31	11:00 - 12:45 1:00 - 2:45 4:00 - 5:45 6:00 - 7:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15 Segment 2 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 3 Boards 31-45 Segment 4 Boards 46-60
USA2 Semifinal			
Wednesday	Jan 1	10:00 - 11:45 12:00 - 1:45 3:00 - 4:45 5:00 - 6:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15 Segment 2 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 3 Boards 31-45 Segment 4 Boards 46-60
USA2 Final			
Thursday	Jan 2	10:00 - 11:45 12:00 - 1:45 3:00 - 4:45 5:00 - 6:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15 Segment 2 Boards 16-30 75 minute Break Segment 3 Boards 31-45 Segment 4 Boards 46-60



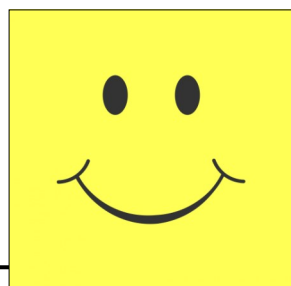
Jan Kamras, Jessica Udomsriungruang, Cecilia Ehrlichman, Morgan Johnstone, Jacob Freeman, Katie Sullivan, Khan Tran Nguyen, NPC Michael Shuster, Eric Laurent



Bruce Zhu, Harrison Luba, Nathan Gong, Michael Xu, Arthur Gong, Olivia Schireson, NPC Roger Lee

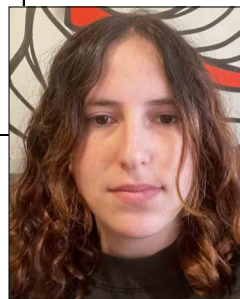
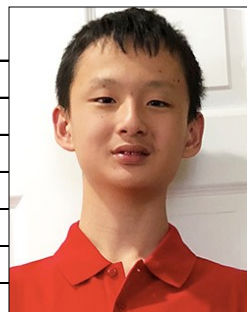
You could say that abstemious was the shortest English word having all vowels in the correct order, but that would be facetious.

What should we call it when one loses their job running a tractor?
Unemploughment of course!



Tournament Schedules... continued from page 3

U21 Schedule			
Day	Date	Time (EST)	Boards
Training Camp			
Thursday	Dec 26	6:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Optional evening session
Friday	Dec 27	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM	Details TBA
Saturday	Dec 28	11:00 AM - 3:15 PM	Details TBA
ROUND ROBIN			
Saturday	Dec 28	4:10-5:15	Match 1 Boards 1-10
		5:30-6:35	Match 2 Boards 11-20
		6:50-7:55	Match 3 Boards 21-30
		8:10-9:15	Match 4 Boards 31-40
Sunday	Dec 29	11:00-12:05	Match 5 Boards 41-50
		12:20-1:25	Match 6 Boards 51-60
		1:40-2:45	Match 7 Boards 61-70
			60 Minute BREAK
		3:45-4:55	Match 8 Boards 71-80
		6:10-7:15	Match 9 Boards 81-90
	7:30-8:35	Match 10 Boards 91-100 [exact board # might change]	
USA1 Semifinal			
Monday	Dec 30	11:00 - 12:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		1:00 - 2:45	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			75 minute Break
		4:00 - 5:45	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
	6:00 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60	
USA1 Final & USA2 Semifinal			
Tuesday	Dec 31	11:00 - 12:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		1:00 - 2:45	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			75 minute Break
		4:00 - 5:45	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
	6:00 - 7:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60	
USA2 final			
Wednesday	Jan 1	10:00 - 11:45	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:00 - 1:45	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
			75 minute Break
		3:00 - 4:45	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
	5:00 - 6:45	Segment 4 Boards 46-60	



When fish are in schools, they sometimes take debate.
 A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.
 When the smog lifts in Los Angeles, U.C.L.A.
 The batteries were given out free of charge.
 A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.
 A will is a dead giveaway.
 With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
 A boiled egg is hard to beat.
 When you've seen one shopping center you've seen a mall.
 Police were called to a day care center where a three-year-old was resisting a rest.

Did you hear about the fellow whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.
 A bicycle can't stand alone; it is two tired.
 When a clock is hungry it goes back four seconds.
 The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine is now fully recovered.
 He had a photographic memory which was never developed.
 When she saw her first strands of grey hair she thought she'd dye.
 Acupuncture is a jab well done.
 That's the point of it.



U26W SCHEDULE			
Training Camp			
Friday	Dec 27	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM	Details TBA
Saturday	Dec 28	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM	Details TBA
STAGE 1			
Sunday	Dec 29	10:30 - 11:30	Round 1 Boards 1-9
		11:40 - 12:40	Round 2 Boards 10-18
		12:50 - 1:50	Round 3 Boards 19-27 70 MINUTE BREAK
		3:00 - 4:00	Round 4 Boards 28-36
Monday	Dec 30	4:10 - 5:10	Round 5 Boards 37-45
		5:20 - 6:20	Round 6 Boards 46-54
		10:30 - 11:30	Round 7 Boards 55-63
		11:40 - 12:40	Round 8 Boards 64-72
		12:50 - 1:50	Round 9 Boards 73-81 70 MINUTE BREAK
		3:00 - 4:00	Round 10 Boards 82-90
		4:10 - 5:10	Round 11 Boards 91-99
		STAGE 2	
Tuesday	Dec 31	10:30 - 12:15	Round 1 Boards 1-15
		12:30 - 2:15	Round 2 Boards 16-30 75 MINUTE BREAK
		3:30 - 5:15	Round 3 Boards 31-45
		5:30 - 7:15	Round 4 Boards 46-60
Wednesday	Jan 1	10:30 - 12:15	Round 5 Boards 1-15
		12:30 - 2:15	Round 6 Boards 16-30 60 MINUTE BREAK
		3:15 - 5:00	Round 7 Boards 31-45

U16 SCHEDULE			
Training Camp			
Friday	Dec 27	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM	Details TBA
Saturday	Dec 28	11:00 AM - 9:00 PM	Details TBA
STAGE 1			
Sunday	Dec 29	10:30 - 11:30	Round 1 Boards 1-9
		11:40 - 12:40	Round 2 Boards 10-18
		12:50 - 1:50	Round 3 Boards 19-27 70 MINUTE BREAK
		3:00 - 4:00	Round 4 Boards 28-36
Monday	Dec 30	4:10 - 5:10	Round 5 Boards 37-45
		5:20 - 6:20	Round 6 Boards 46-54
		10:30 - 11:30	Round 7 Boards 55-63
		11:40 - 12:40	Round 8 Boards 64-72
		12:50 - 1:50	Round 9 Boards 73-81 70 MINUTE BREAK
		3:00 - 4:00	Round 10 Boards 82-90
		4:10 - 5:10	Round 11 Boards 91-99
		STAGE 2	
Tuesday	Dec 31	10:30 - 12:15	Round 1 Boards 1-15
		12:30 - 2:15	Round 2 Boards 16-30 75 MINUTE BREAK
		3:30 - 5:15	Round 3 Boards 31-45
		5:30 - 7:15	Round 4 Boards 46-60
Wednesday	Jan 1	10:30 - 12:15	Round 5 Boards 1-15
		12:30 - 2:15	Round 6 Boards 16-30 60 MINUTE BREAK
		3:15 - 5:00	Round 7 Boards 31-45

Tournament Schedules... continued from page 4

No Electronic Devices are Permitted in the Playing Area. This applies to both players AND kibitzers. Severe penalties will be assessed for violation of this rule. Please turn off all cell phones and check them at the door. The USBF reserves the right to randomly wand attendees as they enter the playing field.



These days, Lance is not a popular name, but in earlier times, people were called Lance a lot!

I was diagnosed with sausage phobia. I fear the wurst!

People who can't distinguish between etymology and entomology bug me in ways I cannot explain!

Home Depot is putting its Christmas decorations in the second aisle of housewares... in other words, Aisle B home for Christmas!

Nurse: Doc, there's a guy in the waiting room who thinks he's invisible!

Doctor: Tell him I can't see him today!

Why doesn't Dodge make electric cars? Because they would have to give away a Dodge Charger with every purchase!

Board 24 Dealer W None Vul		♠ AQJ109764 ♥ — ♦ AQ9 ♣ 43		
♠ — ♥ KQ983 ♦ 1072 ♣ AKQ105	♠ 2 ♥ J652 ♦ 86543 ♣ 872		NT ♠ ♥ ♦ ♣ N 8 11 4 4 5 S 8 11 4 5 5 E 1 1 8 8 7 W 1 1 8 8 7	
	♠ K853 ♥ A1074 ♦ KJ ♣ J96		Par +450 4♠+1 NS NS: 13+12=25HCP EW: 1+14=15HCP	
NS	EW	Contract	Lead	Score
fnickell & ralph	Robert Levin & Steve Weinstein	6♠ = N	♥ 5	980

This hand was played mid-November. Experts practice as often as they can to hone their systems and to stay in shape, especially as an NABC in Las Vegas was nearing. In physical sports, one exercises their body and in mental sports, one exercises their mind. To this end, the Nickell team gets together in varying partnerships several times a week on Real-Bridge where they can see and hear one another on the screen. It makes for great team chemistry and keeps everyone in a bridge frame of mind. This is an interesting hand from their Las Vegas preparation.

Different actions could and would have dramatically changed the result!

First, Weinstein could have avoided a minus 980 score by simply passing out 4S. However, his hand clearly dictates a reopening and his decision to do so could have been a big winner had Levin miraculously found the lead of a club ... Reopening with double was the only route to an East/West plus score!

As such, Weinstein reopened with double and Nickell redoubled to show the high end of his 4S call. Levin hoped to slow things down with a “psychic” 4NT bid. Muddying the waters seemed like a good idea with his one-count.

Katz was not fooled. He reevaluated his first and second round controls as well as his massive fit for partner’s suit and jumped to the slam.

Poor Levin!! While a club lead would clearly defeat the slam, his partner opened 1H. He had no way to know that partner held AKQ of clubs. The heart lead was inevitable. Levin led the H5. Nickell played dummy’s ace and claimed 12 tricks!

It is interesting to see how many different scenarios could occur on any single hand. A pass instead of a double would have saved 500 points East/West ... a club instead of a heart would have cost North/South dearly. There are no magic formulas in these situations. You do what you think right and hope for the best result.

The good news is that when you practice on line against your teammates, it’s a team victory either way!

The screenshot shows a bridge hand interface with the following elements:

- Hand 1 (Top Left):** ♠ AQJ109764, ♥ —, ♦ AQ9, ♣ 43. Player: fnickell (North).
- Hand 2 (Bottom Left):** ♠ —, ♥ KQ983, ♦ 1072, ♣ AKQ105. Player: Steve Weinstein (West).
- Hand 3 (Top Right):** ♠ 2, ♥ J652, ♦ 86543, ♣ 872. Player: Robert Levin (East).
- Hand 4 (Bottom Right):** ♠ K853, ♥ A1074, ♦ KJ, ♣ J96. Player: ralph (South).
- Contract:** Bd 24, Dlr W, 6♠ = N.
- Bidding Log (Bottom Right):**

	W	N	E	S
1♥		4♠	P	P
X		XX	4NT	6♠
P		P	P	



International Federation
recognised by the



International
Olympic
Committee

47th World National Teams Championships

By WBF

The World Bridge Federation is pleased to announce that we have reached in-principle agreement to hold the 2025 World National Teams Championship (including the Bermuda Bowl, Venice Cup, D'Orsi Senior Trophy and Wuhan Cup) in Herning, Denmark between August 20 and August 31 with registration and the Opening Ceremony on August 19. The city of Herning, the Herning Bridge Club and the Danish Bridge Federation are generously offering to host their second major international bridge championship in 2 years.

Herning, with its small-town feel, was a popular venue for the European National Teams Championships this year, with a good playing venue, good restaurants, and easy access by road, rail and air (Billund International Airport is a 35-minute drive).

Play will commence on August 20 with a new "6+6" schedule. The qualifying round robins will be played over 6 days (4 matches per day except the 6th day). In parallel with the subsequent 6-day knockout rounds (2-day matches starting with Quarterfinals from the 26th) there will be a transnational teams event with 6 guaranteed days of play. The Finals will end on 31 August

The 2-day schedule reduction is a step in our efforts to ease the cost of participating in our Representative events; a wish expressed by many of our member NBOs.

The Gianarrigo Rona Trophy



What happens when you hire an odd-job guy to do 8 jobs? They only do 1, 3, 5 and 7.
Why should you never mention the number 288? Because it's two gross.
What do you call dudes who love math? Algebras.
What did the math teacher rate the movie American Pie? 3.14 thumbs up
Why is six afraid of seven? Because seven eight nine!
Why DID seven eat nine? Because you're supposed to eat 3 squared meals a day!
Why didn't the Romans find algebra very challenging? Because they always knew X was 10.
Why couldn't the angle get a loan? His parents wouldn't Cosine.
Why did the obtuse angle go to the beach? Because it was over 90 degrees.
Why do plants hate math? Because it gives them square roots.
What do you call an angle that is adorable? Acute angle.
Why doesn't anybody talk to circles? Because there is no point!

The Gianarrigo Rona Trophy corresponds to the World Girls Teams Championship. This competition is for players who must not have achieved their 25th birthday by 31st December of the year prior to the year in which the competition is to take place.

Kibitzing...

Our site is undergoing a migration and some things may not work as expected. We appreciate your patience.

There will be delayed kibitzing for all of the 2024 Sam Amer JUSBCs on LoveBridge

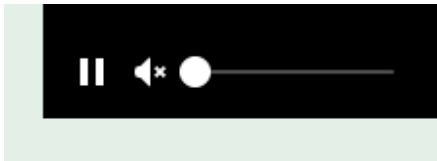
You can follow the Sam Amer JUSBC on the [LoveBridge website](#). There will often be voice commentary, which you can access by clicking on the TV icon.

If you get to the voice commentary and there is no sound, you need to "unmute." When you first get to the page, there is a small icon of a speaker in the middle of your screen with an x on it:



Just click on it to unmute.

If you miss that icon, you can still unmute - move your cursor to the bottom left of the screen and you should see a similar icon:



Click on the speaker. It should unmute your machine.

Vugraph is delayed for 30 minutes or until all tables have completed play on a board, whichever is later.

(Kibitzing, continued on page 26)

[LoveBridge website](#)

Bridge is not a matter of life and death...

It is far more important than that!



Under the capable direction of Amber Lin and Kevin Rosenberg, this year's Sam Amer Junior United States Bridge Championships (SAJUSBC) will include a new, exciting and fun "Bridge Camp!"

Bridge Camp will be both social and educational. It will be an excellent ice breaker to introduce the 115 players, ages 8-24, to one another before the start of the actual competition. The Camp will take place in Atlanta from December 26-28, the 3 days preceding the USBC.

About the event:

There is at least one visiting player from Mexico (sponsored by the ACBL Educational Foundation.)

Events will include: An IMP Pairs for U16 and for U26W (Women). This new format is experimental. Hopefully, it will prove viable for the future.

The USBF recognizes the following Juniors and their accomplishments at the recent Vegas NABC:

Stella Wan for 2nd in the Mixed Pairs, Brent Xiao / Richard Jeng for 2nd in the Fast Pairs, Jacob Freeman for Soloway QF, Avery Silverstein / Jack Boge for first on Day 1 / 20th overall of the Mixed Swiss ... Way to Go All!

Who are the USBF coaches/mentors (many of whom are parents or former juniors)?

- o Aaron Silverstein - parent to Avery Silverstein, U21
- o Adam Kaplan - former junior
- o Alex Kolesnik - parent to Finn Kolesnik, U26
- o Amber Lin - former junior
- o Anant Rathi - former junior
- o David Bahkshi - parent to Jasmine Bahkshi, U26W
- o Debbie Rosenberg
- o Jenny Wolpert - parent to Brandon & Ryan Wolpert, U16
- o Kevin Collins
- o Kevin Rosenberg - former junior
- o Michael Shuster - parent to Eli Shuster, U16
- o Ming Sheng - parent to Kaining Sheng, U16
- o Patty Tucker
- o Ron Smith
- o Patricia Herrera

A  **ding**

Bridge Camp!

What to anticipate while at the Training Camp:

Team Matches

Cardplay lessons

Partnership coaching

Fun spins on BRIDGE such as "Crazy Bridge Tournament" and "Bridge Olympics"

The USBF Junior Committee under the chairmanship of Joe Stokes has repeatedly sponsored highly successful Junior USBC's. Bridge Camp is certain to enhance the experience. We encourage attendees to share stories and comments by writing to newsletter editor, Suzi Subeck, at stansubeck@prodigy.net once the camp sessions end. It would be great to include your stories in SAJUSBC bulletins during the days that follow.

Atlanta Restaurants Worth a Visit updated 12/1/2022

From Eater... Atlanta's newest restaurants worth a try... Updated December 1, 2022... (phone #'s included for verification purposes!)

É Ke Pizza

Pizza connoisseurs in Vinings are raving about this new pizzeria from the team behind Baraonda. Here, folks will find Neapolitan-style, wood-fired pies, including a traditional margherita, pizza topped with pesto, pancetta, and sun-dried tomatoes, and specialty pies like the meaty Diavolo topped with Italian salami, ham, Italian sausage, bacon, and Calabrese peppers. Look for three pagnotelle sandwiches at lunch as well as creamy gelato and other desserts like pistachio cannolis, carrot walnut cake, and tiramisu.

2810 Paces Ferry Rd NW Suite 120, Atlanta, GA
(770) 405-8798

Serenidad

Deborah VanTrece (Twisted Soul Cookhouse and Pours) just opened her second restaurant in Cascade Heights, a Latin soul food spot called Serenidad. Located just steps from Oreatha's, which centers on soulful homestyle dishes from around the globe, Serenidad channels the soulful cooking roots of the Caribbean and Latin America, including dishes styled after those found in countries like Mexico, Peru, Venezuela, and Brazil. Led in the kitchen by chef Whitney Thomas, expect dishes such as paella grits with mussels and head-on shrimp, duck fat tamales, and canoas de plantanos paired with cocktails made with tequila, mezcal, cachaça, and pisco. *Outdoor seating available.*

2317 Cascade Rd, Atlanta, GA
(404) 343-1342

Omakase Table

Omakase Table began life as a pop-up at Silom Thai and Sushi prior to the pandemic, eventually moving to Brush Sushi Izakaya (now Cuddlefish), where founder chef Leonard Yu offered a six-seat omakase of up to 20 courses. Now open as a restaurant at Seven88 complex, Yu brings his intimate pop-up to life on a grander scale, offering two seatings per night for up to 12 people. An omakase here includes course after course of otsumami (small bites), fresh nigiri, dishes like atsuyaki tamago castella (multi-layered omelette), temaki (hand roll), and dessert. Jeff Banks joins Omakase Table as bar manager. He previously worked behind the bars at Brush Sushi, C. Ellet's Steakhouse, and Southbound. At Brush, Banks was known for crafting refined cocktails using sake, Japanese whisky, and soju. Expect similar cocktails and non-alcoholic drinks at Omakase Table, along with wine and sake meant for pairing. Look for a takeout option to launch in 2023. *Reservations required.*

788 West Marietta St NW, Atlanta, GA
(404) 205-5876

Westside Motor Lounge

Located on the corner of Northside Drive and Donald Lee Hollowell Parkway, Westside Motor Lounge takes over two former automotive shops, four shipping containers, and a 1982 Mercedes Wagon on the property, transforming the site into three dining, drinking, and entertainment spaces. The restaurant here serves a menu of Southern dishes and snacks, including mac and cheese mixed with bechamel sauce and a four-cheese blend topped with a jalapeno cornbread crust, a grilled pimento and bacon sandwich, and meat-and-three plates. Weekend brunch features biscuits and gravy. West Bar, a cocktail lounge and listening room on the western side of the property, includes a game room. A beer garden completes the entertainment complex, with a serving station and draft system located in a converted shipping container. *Multiple outdoor seating options available.*

725 Echo St NW, Atlanta, GA
(404) 371-0889



(Continued from page 10)

Corner Slice

Owned by a former partner in Comet Pub and Lanes, Ben Horgan, Corner Slice recently took over the former Avelino’s space on West College Avenue, in the same complex as Tortuga y Chango. For folks who love to thicken-crust pan pizzas, Corner Slice is serving up Detroit-style pies topped with everything from Calabrian peppers and Italian sausage to bacon, red onions, and jalapenos. Look for batches of saucy wings, fried mozzarella sticks, and sandwiches like meatball parmesan and a meaty hero served on fresh sesame seed focaccia bread on the menu, too.

902 W College Ave, Decatur, GA
(404) 343-0415

Cuddlefish

After closing Brush Sushi on October 9 ahead of its relocation to Buckhead in 2023, chef Jason Liang and John Chen opened their latest venture together in the space just two weeks later. They didn’t skip a beat with Cuddlefish, billed as a casual omakase restaurant where people choose between four, seven, nine, and 12 courses, with the latter offering sea urchin and dessert from Momonoki pastry chef ChingYao Wang. Look for hand rolls and a la carte nigiri, too. Unlike Brush, Cuddlefish doesn’t include a sushi bar, but instead serves its omakases via table service and at the restaurant’s full bar. *Reservations highly encouraged.*

316 Church St, Decatur, GA
(678) 949-9412



The Bite of Korea

Korean street food restaurant the Bite of Korea (BOK), owned by Gavin Lee and Chloe Jung, recently opened at the Hugh Howell Marketplace in Tucker. Like the pop-up, BOK serves a similar menu that includes its popular bulgogi quesadillas, soy garlic Korean fried chicken, doenjang-jjigae stew, so-dduk skewers, and japchae noodles. Look for a lunch box special (or dosirak), Tuesday through Friday, featuring a choice of meat (bulgogi, jeyuk pork, or Korean fried chicken), fried or white rice, soup and salad, batter-fried vegetables, and mandu (dumplings). *Outdoor seating available.*

4650 Hugh Howell Rd STE 670, Tucker, GA
(470) 339-7413

(Continued on page 13)



	Falcons
	Commanders

Dec 29
TBD

All times are in Central Time

Atlanta Falcons at home on December 29th!



Facts You Might Not Know About Atlanta...

- 1.** Atlanta was originally named Terminus and Marthasville (the latter for Governor Wilson Lumpkin's daughter.)
- 2.** The city got its current name from railroad engineer J. Edgar Thompson. It's thought to be a shortened version of "Atlantica-Pacifica."
- 3.** Your GPS might be confused if you punch in "Peachtree" as your destination. There are over 55 streets with the name.
- 4.** And it's possible none of them are named for an actual peach tree. Historians suggest they're named after the Native American village of "Standing Pitch Tree." The pronunciation corrupted over the years.
- 5.** Atlanta was the only city in North American destroyed as an act of war. (General Sherman burnt it to the ground.)
- 6.** Only 400 buildings survived.
- 7.** That's why the city's symbol is a phoenix.
- 8.** Lots of airports claim to be the world's busiest. But Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport truly is the world's busiest airport.
- 9.** Why? Because Atlanta is a perfect location. It's just a three hour flight from many major American cities.
- 10.** The terminal is as big as 45 football fields!
- 11.** Atlanta is Georgia's fifth capital. Savannah, Augusta, Louisville, and Milledgeville boasted the title earlier.
- 12.** The Georgia State Capitol building is gilded with 43 ounces of locally-mined gold.
- 13.** The Continental Divide out west gets all the love, but Atlanta is home to the Eastern Continental Divide, which separates water draining into the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic.
- 14.** One of the largest Hindu temples outside of India is located in the Atlanta metro area.
- 15.** It was once illegal to put an ice cream cone in your back pocket in Atlanta.
- 16.** Atlanta also outlawed tying a giraffe to a telephone pole.
- 17.** Want to ride your bike to Alabama? The Silver Comet Trail starting in Smyrna will get you there.
- 18.** In 1996, Terry Hitchcock ran from Minneapolis to Atlanta in just 75 days. He covered over 2100 miles!
- 19.** Stone Mountain outside Atlanta is one of the largest blocks of exposed granite in the world.
- 20.** Stone Mountain's etching of Robert E. Lee, Stonewall Jackson, and Jefferson Davis is the largest bas relief in the world, too!
- 21.** Atlanta had some tough competition when it nabbed the 1996 Olympics hosting duty. The city beat out Athens, Toronto, Melbourne, Manchester, and Belgrade for the spot.
- 22.** The fastest baseball game in history happened in Atlanta, when the Mobile Sea Gulls beat the Atlanta Crackers 2-1 in just 32 minutes.
- 23.** Atlanta also played host to the greatest rout in football history—a 1916 contest in which Georgia Tech blew out tiny Cumberland College 222-0.
- 24.** When pro football moved to Atlanta, the owners considered over 500 names. A schoolteacher came up with the Falcons nickname, a bird she endorsed because it was "proud and dignified, with great courage and fight."
- 25.** Atlanta resident Margaret Mitchell wrote *Gone with the Wind* because an ankle injury kept her from walking and she was really, really bored.

Bomb Biscuit Atlanta

Celebrated baker Erika Council relocated her popular biscuit stall to the former Field Day space on Highland in November. Now open as a full-fledged restaurant, Bomb Biscuit Co. continues to offer Council's fluffy buttermilk biscuit sandwiches, including her signature Glori-Fried chicken biscuit and breakfast standards like the BEC topped with American cheese. Not into biscuits? Order one of the scrumptious cinnamon rolls or trio of B'Onuts (deep-fried biscuit dough balls coated in cinnamon sugar). Council eventually plans to expand the menu, offering catfish and grits and pancakes made from biscuit dough. She's also considering launching Sunday brunch in the future, with dishes styled after those found on menus at restaurants frequented by parishioners after church. Order takeout at the counter or asked to be seated in the sunny dining room beyond the kitchen or on the back patio.

668 Highland Ave NE, Atlanta, GA
(678) 949-9439

Mai Kitchen

Fans of Atlanta restaurateur Alex Kinjo (MF Sushi, Anh's Kitchen, Kinjo Room) are already flocking to his latest venture in Virginia-Highland, Mai Kitchen. Sporting a stylish design for which Kinjo is now known, this Vietnamese restaurant features dishes like shaken beef, hot bowls of savory pho, spicy green papaya and mango salad, and Ha Long Bay noodles tossed with fried tofu. Order the passionfruit mousse for dessert, which comes domed in a rich hard chocolate shell.

1040 North Highland Avenue Northeast, Atlanta, GA
(404) 907-4405

Tio Lucho's

After running Peruvian pop-up La Chingana for over a year, chef Arnaldo Castillo opened his first restaurant in Poncey-Highland with Atlanta restaurateur Howard Hsu of neighboring Sweet Auburn BBQ. Tio Lucho's is an ode to Castillo's father, who was known for his ceviches. The restaurant even bears his father's nickname (Tio Lucho or "Uncle Luis"), given to him while working in Peruvian restaurants throughout Atlanta over the years. Dishes at Tio Lucho's blend Peruvian techniques and recipes with Southern ingredients, like tiradito (similar to sashimi), lomo saltado, and a few favorites from the La Chingana pop-up menu. But ceviches take center stage at this restaurant, as do other coastal Peruvian seafood dishes and cocktails. *Outdoor seating available.*

675 North Highland Avenue Northeast #6000, Atlanta, GA
(404) 343-0278

Wylie & Rum

Billed as a "Floridian" (Floridan and Caribbean) restaurant and rum bar, Wylie and Rum takes over a 1950s-era commercial building along busy Moreland Avenue and brings the Reynoldstown and Edgewood neighborhoods tropical vibes, food, and drinks with plenty of outdoor seating. Here, people can indulge in guava barbecue ribs, jerk chicken, black and white soup, handmade empanadas, and a vegan plate with pulled jerk jackfruit tossed in guava barbecue sauce. Expect rum-based cocktails like the Mai Tai, Hurricane, and mojito from the bar, which also features over 30 rums to try.

45 Moreland Ave SE, Atlanta, GA (404) 941-7877

Gigi's Italian Kitchen & Restaurant

Chefs Eric Brooks and Jacob Armando transformed their weekly pop-up in Candler Park into a permanent restaurant in August, transforming the former Gato space into a cozy Italian bistro with tables draped in red checkered linens set off by candlelight and flowers. Serving a menu of traditional red sauce classics made with in-season produce and fresh-made pastas, expect dishes like rigatoni fazool with cowpeas replacing cannellini beans and chicken marsala served with fresh focaccia. Dessert features Gigi's popular tiramisu. A tight list of cocktails, wine, beer, and amaro round out the beverage list, which includes the Dirty Gigi martini and a rye Old Fashioned punched up with espresso and coffee bitters.

1660 McLendon Ave NE, Atlanta, GA (404) 371-0889

Sudoku

4	8			2				
					6			
	3	2		1	4			
					3			
	5		6			2		
					7		4	
1				5	4			
	2			7	9	8		
7								

Sudoku 1

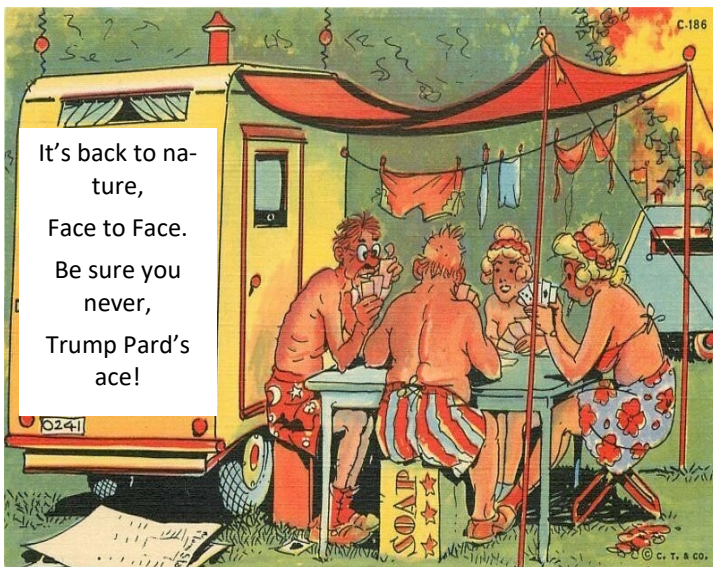
Answer to Sudokos on page 18

Answer to Logic Puzzle on Page 17

First	Brittanie	Red Blouse	Red Shoes
Second	Stephanie	Jordache Jeans	Izod Shirt
Third	Nekole	Corduroy Jumper	Wool Skirt
Fourth	June	Stirrup Pants	14k Gold Earrings
Fifth	Paulette	Kaspar Suit	Cashmere Coat
	Lady	Returned	Purchased

Sudoku 2

			8					
		2				5		7
		8	4		5	9		
1				3				
2		9		7	1			
	4						7	
8	9	5					2	
	6	4				9		



Puzzle Page

Christmas Tree

Find and circle all of the Christmas Tree words that are hidden in the grid.
The remaining 53 letters spell a secret message.

T S T N E S E R P D N L L A M S G
T O P P E R P I N E W I H R E D R
O T E V I T S E F C O G R E R N E
F R E S H C U T E O D H A T A A E
D D N A T S I G T R G T T A I L N
O S N A O F R H A A N S S W V R I
E S N N M A G A R T I F I C I A L
S E A O L E G N A E K C H R Y G S
A T M S I I N O I T A R B E L E C
H T S R E T T T R D T M A A N S S
C I S T A L A A S R E R G A R E E
R N E P O F D R E T L C C I H R L
U G K I R I E E O Y R Y E C F E G
P U I N T U L E E C D I N M S T L
N P A I U O C T R N E A K N B A S
E D O I T R N E A T R D I S E E G
E N S C E N T C R B M T A R N Y R

ANGEL
ARTIFICIAL
BRANCHES
CANDY CANES
CELEBRATION
DECEMBER
DECORATE
DECORATIONS
FESTIVE
FRESH CUT

GARLAND
GIFTS
GREEN
LARGE
LIGHTS
NEEDLES
ORNAMENTS
PINE
PRESENTS
PURCHASE

REAL
SCENT
SETTING UP
SKIRT
SMALL
SPRUCE
STAND
STAR
TAKING DOWN
TINSEL

TOPPER
TRADITION
TREE FARM
TREE LOT
TRUNK
WATER
YEARLY

Tom Swifties...

- "Can't talk, busy camping," replied Tom, intent.
- "The French don't deserve our thanks," said Tom mercilessly.
- "Haven't you heard me singing in church?" Tom inquired.
- "I'll win this tennis game if I get one more point," Tom deduced.
- "I didn't eat my T-bone tonight," said Tom mistakenly.
- "So you're asking about my mink coat," Tom inferred.
- "I'm wearing a watch around my wrist," said Tom with abandon.
- "I'm the most important salmon vendor," said Tom selfishly.
- "I was correct the first three times, and I am correct now," said Tom forthrightly.
- "I brought the dessert," said Tom piously.
- "I command my own private army," said Tom maliciously.
- "I'll order the same meat as last time," Tom revealed.
- "I've never swum in Egypt's longest river," said Tom in denial.
- "Et tu?" asked Tom brutally.
- "That's women for you," said Tom dismissively.
- "I'll have a bowl of Chinese soup," said Tom wantonly.
- "I eat everything," said Tom in jest.
- "I gave you your freedom, and I can take it away," said Tom deliberately.
- "Maybe if I rub this lamp something good will happen," said Tom ingeniously.
- "I'm never taking an Uber again," Tom derided.
- "That dog is a mongrel," Tom muttered.
- "It's too bad Babe isn't on our team," said Tom ruthlessly.
- "Maybe I should stop using worms to catch fish... or maybe not," Tom debated.
- "Hemingway is my favorite author," said Tom earnestly.
- "This drumming is too easy," said Tom without missing a beat.
- "This is a frozen dessert," I screamed.
- "Now I have TWO duck feathers", Tom doubled down.
- "She would never answer her phone the first time, you always had to hang up once," Tom recalled.
- "Two plus five is seven," Tom added.
- "I only have Diamonds, Clubs and Spades," said Tom heartlessly.
- "It's okay, the PlayStation still works," Tom consoled.
- "Capital punishment is mostly used on the lower classes," said Tom with poor execution.
- "Where are all of my old board games?" asked Tom cluelessly.
- "I might be acquitted," said Tom without conviction.
- "I've never dyed my hair red, but I'll try it," said Tom gingerly.
- "Ugh! I need to shave again," Tom bristled.
- "Whale hunting makes me so sad," Tom blubbered.
- "I like hot dogs more than hamburgers," said Tom frankly.
- "I signed it twice," Tom remarked.
- "I received a letter to take my car in for repair," Tom recalled.
- "I would walk 500 miles," Tom proclaimed.
- "Mark my words," Tom highlighted.
- "I removed the shell from my snail," Tom said sluggishly.
- "I don't understand addition," said Tom nonplussed.



From the Editor:

If you find an interesting hand and want to call my attention to it, please send the board #, the names of the players, the session in which it was played and any relevant comments to me at:

stansubeck@prodigy.net

Extra eyes and ears are always appreciated! Please address any Letters to the Editor, tournament tales or fun photos to that address as well.

Thank you! I will include as much as I can daily! And give you credit!

Suzi

'Twas the day after Christmas and all through the mall, all the shoppers were rushing to outdo them all. Five ladies were in line with adrenaline high, each with a return and a purchase, Oh My! The line that they chose was the same as the rest, out of those available, this one seemed the best. The items they returned were in perfect condition, it was each ladies taste that caused the transition. Their husbands all waited snug in the lounge, so sorry their gifts were accepted with frowns.

From the information provided, can you determine what position in line each lady was standing, the item they returned and the item they purchased?

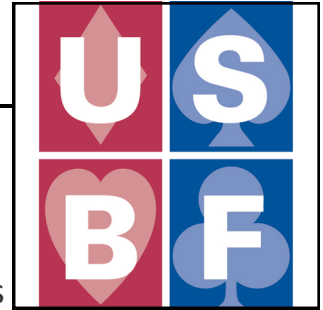
		Lady					Returned					Purchased				
		Mekole	Stephanie	Paulette	June	Brittanie	Corduroy Jumper	Kaspar Suit	Stirrup Pants	Red Blouse	Jordache Jeans	Red Shoes	14k Gold Earrings	Wool Skirt	Cashmere Coat	Izod Shirt
Position	First															
	Second															
	Third															
	Fourth															
	Fifth															
Purchased	Red Shoes															
	14k Gold Earrings															
	Wool Skirt															
	Cashmere Coat															
	Izod Shirt															
Returned	Corduroy Jumper															
	Kaspar Suit															
	Stirrup Pants															
	Red Blouse															
	Jordache Jeans															

- The lady that purchased the Izod Shirt was not Brittanie.
- The lady that returned Jordache Jeans was immediately between Nekole and the lady that returned the Red Blouse In some order.
- The lady that returned the Corduroy Jumper was immediately between the lady that purchased 14k Gold Earrings and Stephanie, in some order.
- The lady that purchased Red Shoes was closer to the front of the line than June. At least one lady was between June and the lady that purchased Red Shoes.
- The lady that returned the Stirrup Pants was immediately between Paulette (who was behind but not directly behind the lady that purchased the Izod Shirt) and the lady that purchased a Wool Skirt, In some order.



	Lady	Returned	Purchased
First	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>
Second	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>
Third	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>
Fourth	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>
Fifth	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>	<input type="text" value="-"/> <input type="text" value="v"/>

Answer to Puzzle can be found on page 14



USBF Supporting Membership

If you don't want to play in the USBF Championships that choose teams to represent the USA in the World Bridge Federation Championships, but do want to aid our events, a **Supporting Membership** can be the perfect way for you to be involved.

A Supporting Membership is \$25 for one year (\$75 for 3 years) and your donation will be used to cover inevitable expenses: attorney fees, accounting fees, website support services, tournament directors, insurance, WBF dues, and vugraph operators.

The USBF is an **all-volunteer** organization.

Our meetings are by conference call and at NABCS. Board members and the organization's officers are not compensated for meetings, travel, or hotel expenses.

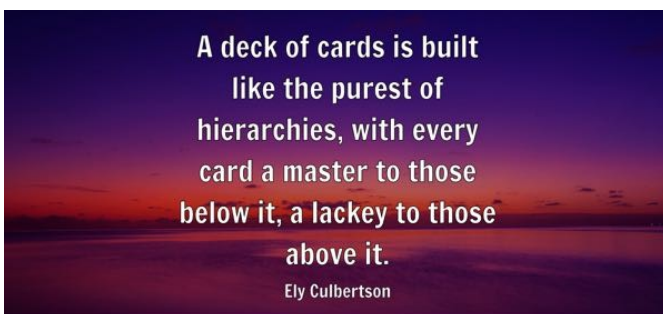
Sudoku 1

7	9	3	8	2	6	1	4	5
5	2	4	3	1	7	9	8	6
1	6	8	9	5	4	2	3	7
8	1	9	2	3	5	7	6	4
3	5	7	6	4	9	8	2	1
2	4	6	1	7	8	3	5	9
6	3	2	5	9	1	4	7	8
9	7	5	4	8	3	6	1	2
4	8	1	7	6	2	5	9	3

Sudoku 2

7	6	4	2	5	9	3	1	8
8	9	5	1	4	3	2	7	6
3	2	1	7	6	8	4	5	9
5	4	6	9	8	2	7	3	1
2	3	9	6	7	1	8	4	5
1	8	7	5	3	4	6	9	2
6	7	8	4	1	5	9	2	3
4	1	2	3	9	6	5	8	7
9	5	3	8	2	7	1	6	4

Puzzles on Page 14



My journey in bridge by Jonathan Yue August 17, 2023 BridgeWinners



I did my elementary schooling in China, where I also learned to play bridge. I was instantly hooked. I would think about all the possible opening-response-rebid sequences and see if I can assign meanings to each of them. I would deal and play all 4 hands by myself, seeing if I could bid to the optimal contract (which inevitably ends up with me swapping the cards so that all the finesses are onside). My parents do not play the game, but supported me throughout.

Meet the Players: Jonathan Yue

I moved to California in my 7th grade. The first order of business was to check out a bunch of bridge books from the public library. Even with a language barrier, I knew that those books were probably outdated. I wasn't satisfied. I did a quick Google search and found out about the Palo Alto Bridge Center. Little did I know, that was likely one of the most important Google searches in my life.

Dropped off at where Google Maps told us 432 Stierlin Rd was, I nervously knocked on the door. Someone answered, and after parsing through my nervous and broken English, told me that the bridge club is to the left. Embarrassed, I ran away, leaving my parents to apologize. I knocked on the correct door this time, and was greeted by the tournament director there. He explained that there is this organization called SiVY that I might be interested in. I left my email address and walked away full of excitement.

A few days later, I received an email from Debbie Rosenberg (the 4th item in my inbox!) saying that she has a partner for me for the upcoming Non-LM sectional. I happily obliged. That Saturday, I showed up at the right door and met my partner. We discussed conventions for a bit (mostly me trying translate words that he said into convention names in Chinese) and played. I didn't know that when my partner called for "play" from my dummy, that implied the smallest card. This kind of mishap happened a few times, but we did well (55.25% to be exact), especially considering that I thought we were playing 16-18 1NT instead of 15-17. I was told that we earned 0.42 masterpoints. They explained to me what masterpoints are, and about the ACBL. They told me that if I became a member that day, my precious 0.42 would be added to my tally. That was more than enough convincing. From that day on, I became a tournament bridge player.

Jonathan is on U26 Team Chen!

I was paired up with another youth player, David. "David and Jonathan, very fitting names", many of our opponents commented. Then they would tell us how they tried and (mostly) failed to get their grandchildren into bridge. That left a lasting impression on me.

A YNABC and a team trial later, I had the privilege to represent the US in the under-16 event at the World Youth Teams Championships held in Wujiang, China. We finished 1st in the RR stage, but fell to France in a close semi-final match. A tense win against Sweden won us a bronze. I don't quite remember how I felt back then, but it was certainly not an overwhelming sense of joy.

School got busy for me. I played less tournament bridge. We didn't do so well at the 2019 junior trials. Covid happened. The World Championships were pushed back to 2021, then to 2022, then to 2023. My motivation for personal bridge improvement fell to an all-time low. I wasn't sure whether I really liked the game or that it was just sunk cost. Being a college student gave me unprecedented freedom. I could spend my time focusing on my academics and career, socialize and have fun, or any number of other things. Even though I always use playing bridge as a fun fact at orientation, bridge wasn't that high on my priority list. I did not attend a single bridge club meeting my first semester (partly since I wasn't aware of one).

The calendar flipped to 2022. A number of bridge events were happening. I helped my university earn a spot at the collegiates. As the junior trial in December closed in, there was a growing spirit of competitiveness in me. We got the old band that played in China in 2018 together (Michael-Arthur, Rory-me) and practiced. We were in bad shape. Some of them experienced a similar dip in interest in bridge as I did. On the other hand, the under-21 field was more competitive. In the end, we secured a spot as USA2. We lost badly to the USA1 team, but for the first time in years, I **enjoyed bridge**. I didn't realize that I missed the thrill of making a close slam or pulling off the perfect application of a convention. My hands were tingling, not with nervousness, but excitement.

Us 4 resolved that, together with whichever pair we add, we will practice our hardest and, hopefully, do something at the worlds the year after that. And the rest is history.

Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About LoveBridge and more...

An Introduction to the Software... LoveBridge has become more popular than ever. The USBF pioneered its use in the USBC's and since, it is being used in various forms (face2face and online) around the world. At the recent Buenos Aires World Bridge Games, 41 countries' top bridge players showcased their skills in Open, Women, Senior and Mixed categories for the ultimate title... and LoveBridge was live in the mix!

After the first six days of round-robin qualifications, the play-offs began on LoveBridge Bid+Score. The live results showing all the auctions could be followed both on LoveBridge vugraph and the championships' microsite.

On the Lovebridge vugraph, it is possible to follow a match live in each session. Live text is an option. In the two-day final of the Senior Competition, the online kibitzers followed the gold medal match in the Senior category, where the USA and India competed. Our own Zia M, was among the contestants.

The USBF has embraced the LoveBridge software and has used it for years. We are gratified to see its becoming more universal at bridge tournaments around the world.



Is there a way to show played cards when watching vugraph?

You can change to diagram view in the upper left corner of the screen. In that view, you will see the already played cards as well.

How can I see my statistics?

Once you complete your first LoveBridge tournament, the statistics profiles will be generated automatically. Afterwards, you can request your account details by sending an email to info@lovebridge.com. You can then access your account by logging in at <https://stats.lovebridge.com/login>.

Can I enlarge the card and numbers on the tablets in the settings?

Unfortunately, we do not have a solution for that. If you have poor eyesight and are planning to participate in a LoveBridge tournament, we recommend that you contact the organizers to ensure that you are provided with a device that has a large screen. It is up to them to make accommodations for players with poor vision.

Is it possible to have a short practice on the platform before we have to use it in a LoveBridge tournament?

LoveBridge was designed to be played at face-to-face tournaments and bridge clubs, this way playing is only possible at venues that have been equipped for it. We do not have an online platform where players can play against each other.

In our experience, players who have prior experience with any digital platforms will have no difficulty using our tablets. Most players adapt very quickly to LoveBridge and will find that it is a very similar experience to playing at a regular tournament with cards.

If you are concerned about adapting to the interface, we suggest trying it out during the practice sessions at the venue of the tournament. Typically, there is at least one practice session available.

Helpful FAQ's from LoveBridge

Helpful LoveBridge Links

Bid + Score Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-4l10sbY-E>

LoveBridge One Tutorial:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2PgLIQ1iI0c&t=8s>

Background and General Information:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-_O69gPQ7yM

With this year's "all online" bulletins, these links are active and you can access them from your mobile or desktop equipment.

TABLET GUIDE

CONVENTION CARD
You can set here the language, bidding and playing preferences anytime.
The system will remember your settings when you play next time.

RESULTS
You can review the previous boards anytime.

CALL TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR
Call Tournament Director
Reason for call:
• Ruling on current board (stop play)
• Undo last request (stop play)
• Score correction
• Tech issue
• Non-bridge reasons
• Other
Cancel Cancel last call OK
You don't have to shout for a director, just click the button and select a reason for call. The first 2 reasons stop play.
In case of a misclick, don't panic! Call TDs and they will try their best to help you.

MENU
CC Settings Results Cover Screen Claim

COVER SCREEN
To hide your screen from view, tap this icon.

CLAIM
7NT XX - = + 2280
Claimed No. of tricks 13
Trick sum 13
Here you can text your plan
Cancel OK
Tap - or + to adjust number of tricks.
You can write your plan in the text field.

BIDDING SCREEN
At the top left corner you will always see vulnerability and the dealer from your perspective (you are at the bottom).
You can tap on a bid to alert your calls or ask for information. You can even give written explanation.
If you misclick during the bidding, you have a few seconds to cancel bid. You can change this timeframe at Settings/Bid menu.

Live streaming: <https://vugraph.lovebridge.com>



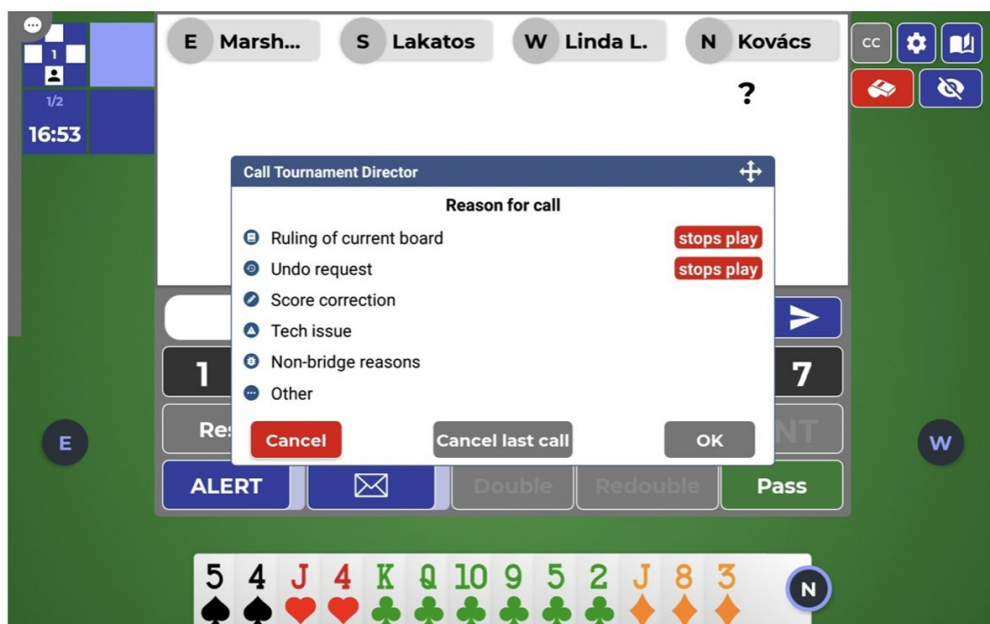
For those of you who are new to LoveBridge, here are some screenshots of what the tablet looks like at different times, with annotations about what you can do. I hope they help.

Here's what the tablet screen looks like right after you get your hand and before you have bid:



When you start to play on Monday, just call the director for any and all tablet-related issues.

***One of the changes LoveBridge made for us for this year is a sub-menu that appears when you press the "Director" button so you can specify what the call is for:



LoveBridge for Dummies...

(continued on page 23)

***Another change the LoveBridge people made at our request was to make the chat more user-friendly:

When someone chats to you, their chat shows briefly in a bubble in the top left hand square:



If you want to open the chat window and respond to chat (or initiate a chat), click on the bubble with the 3 dots at the upper left of the screen and then type into the chat box, which looks like this:



Ed. Note:
Some of you may have participated in USBC's since these changes were implemented. Our intent here is to provide this information for the those who have not.

Latest and Greatest just for YOU

New LoveBridge features for players

1. Explanations

We have created a pop-up window, where you will see the explanations as soon as you receive them, there is no need to take any action. But don't worry, later on you can read them again any time by tapping on the bid.

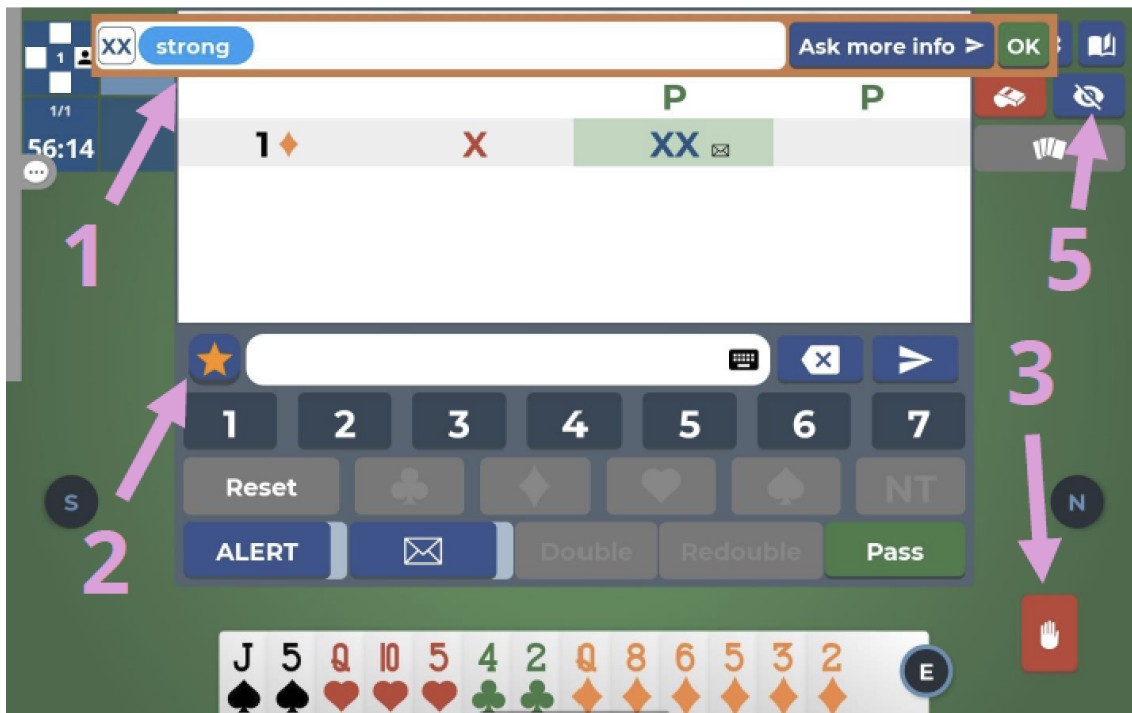
2. Favorite explanations

You can see your favorite explanations even if you use the keyboard instead of the explanation keyboard.

We will automatically save your first 10 explanations for the next match as your favorites, but you can choose to save different ones, you can select them in the settings menu.

3. Important director call

We have moved the play stopping director call button to the bottom right corner of the screen, to avoid accidental director calls.



LoveBridge has not been passive since our last USBC in May and certainly not since the last JUSBC two years ago.

On pages 24 and 25, you can see the newest enhancements to the system.

They hope and we hope these changes will make your experience in Atlanta even more fun!

(continued on page 25)

4. Clock

You will now see the time on the sign-in screen.

5. Curtain-screen

We have redesigned the curtain-screen to show more useful information. (The crossed eye button, that you can use to hide your screen when you leave the table.)

Playing With a Full Deck... About CARDS

Who invented playing cards and what is the origin of 'Hearts', 'Diamonds', 'Clubs' and 'Spades'?

PLAYING cards were invented by the Chinese before AD1000. They reached Europe around 1360, not directly from China but from the Mameluke empire of Egypt. The history of suit marks demonstrates a fascinating interplay between words, shapes and concepts. The Mameluke suits were goblets, gold coins, swords, and polo-sticks. Polo, being then unknown in Europe, these were transformed into batons or staves, which, together with swords, cups and coins, are still the traditional suit marks of Italian and Spanish cards. Fifteenth-century German card-makers experimented with suits vaguely based on Italian ones, eventually settling for acorns, leaves, hearts and bells (hawk-bells), which still remain in use. Around 1480 the French started producing playing-cards by means of stencils, and simplified the German shapes into treble (clover), pique (pike-heads), coeur (hearts), and carreau (paving tiles). English card-makers used these shapes but varied the names. Spade (pique) may reflect the earlier use of Spanish suitmarks, from espadas meaning swords, and clubs are what the Spanish suit of staves actually look like. Diamond is not only the shape of the paving tile, but may perpetuate connotations of wealth from the older suit of coins.

Why are they 52 cards in a deck?

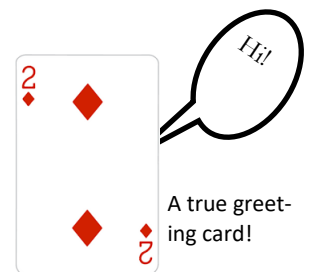
Short answer for a much longer answer; **52 cards represent 52 weeks in a year**, four suits represent the four seasons, the jokers are wild cards to add variety.

What was the original use for playing cards?

William Henry Wilkinson suggests that the first cards may have been actual **paper currency** which doubled as both the tools of gaming and the stakes being played for, similar to trading card games. Using paper money was inconvenient and risky so they were substituted by play money known as "money cards".

What is the oldest deck of cards ever found?

Known alternately as **the Flemish Hunting Deck, the Hofjager Hunting Pack, or the Cloisters Pack** (it is held in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Cloisters location), this set of cards now recognized as the oldest in the world was originally thought to be just "kinda-historic".



Kibitzing Schedule (EDT)

For all KO days of the 2024 Sam Amer JUSBCs, kibitzing times will be :

Segment 1: 11:30 am EDT

Segment 2: 1:30 pm EDT

BREAK

Segment 3: 4:30 pm EDT

Segment 4: 6:30 pm EDT



For Round Robin days, each kibitzing segment will start 30 minutes after play starts. There will not be voice commentary during the Round Robins.

More information

Do you want to listen to commentary? Search for the TV icon! It will send you to the page where you can choose from the available live commentary. If it doesn't do anything, no one is commenting.

Nail biting!

Do you want to be deeply involved? Choose the "Match view" at the starting page of your event. Your screen will be divided into four small screens – two of them showing the two tables of the match you choose, the other two having the scoresheet for your match and the current scores of the other matches. In the 2x2 view you can also personalize the content in all your windows. (The 2x2 view is not available on mobiles.)

Think together!

When watching a table, click on a name and choose "Kibitz". Instead of seeing all 4 hands, you will see what the player sees, and you can decide what you would do and see the result.

More Information:

Be well informed and tell your friends: while following the play, you can click many items. The image of the sticker with the number of the board (upper right) takes you to the results of the board, in the bottom right corner the arrow takes you to the scoresheet, the DDS shows the double dummy analyses, beside that there is a button for the other table of the same match, at the top left corner you can see the bidding with alerts and the explanations (mouse over), the tricks already played, and the double dummy analysis for the available number of tricks with the par score.

Navigation icons:

While surfing here and there, there are icons to help you. You can always go back to the main page with the "house" or to the standings with the "scores". If you cannot see the icons, move your mouse, or touch your screen and they pop up immediately. There is also a built-in back button because the back button of your browser will always take you to the starting page. If this is not what you wanted, push next in your browser and you can continue where you were.

Replay:

After the event you can find every board from every table easily. While replaying the hands, the only surprise can be the way "next board" button works. If you have arrived from a scoresheet, it navigates through the scoresheet. If you have arrived from a screen where the results were shown for a given board then the same buttons move you through the list. Push every button and enjoy!