

Volume 14, Issue 3
June 1, 2020

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Homewords Bound ... USBF Online Invitational Tournament

Results of the 2 Day Round

USBF Invitational #1 2020 Round Robin

Team Name	Total	6	12	5	11	9	4	7	8	3	10
6. Gupta	137.43		11.43	16.57	6.99	>17.92	16.57	17.92	>18.21	17.45	14.37
12. Rosenthal	117.66	>8.57		>15.33	12.09	18.49	>18.49	>9.63	>7.59	>9.26	>18.21
5. Fleisher	105.61	3.43	4.67		12.41	>13.85	11.09	10.74	17.77	18.35	13.30
11. Robinson	101.94	>13.01	>7.91	>7.59		>14.11	>9.26	>11.77	>7.29	>16.38	>14.62
9. Moss	87.92	2.08	1.51	6.15	5.89		15.97	15.76	12.09	12.09	16.38
4. Donner	72.63	>3.43	1.51	>8.91	10.74	>4.03		>15.55	>4.90	16.57	6.99
7. Lebowitz	70.98	>2.08	10.37	>9.26	8.23	>4.24	4.45		>20.00	2.72	9.63
8. Levine	70.38	1.79	12.41	>2.23	12.71	>7.91	15.10	0.00		8.23	10.00
3. Dinkin	69.32	2.55	10.74	>1.65	3.62	>7.91	3.43	17.28	>11.77		>10.37
10. Reynolds	66.13	>5.63	1.79	>6.70	5.38	>3.62	>13.01	10.37	>10.00	9.63	

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Brad Moss

USBF Vice President

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Jan Martel

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Mitch Dunitz

Ron Gerard

Oren Kriegel

Kerri Sanborn

Ron Smith

Danny Sprung

Adam Wildavsky

VuGraph Organizer

Jan Martel

Bulletin Editor

Suzi Subeck

Photographer

Peg Kaplan

Today's Matches...

Nickell v Robinson

Spector v Moss

Gupta v Donner

Rosenthal v Fleisher



Jan Martel when she's not busy setting up Championships, running the NABF, or negotiating hotel contracts for the USBF!

Special Pandemic Competition

Teams Entered...

"TRIALS" AND TRIBULATIONS—PRE-BULLETIN

There are 12 teams entered. Following the two teams with byes, entries are listed in alphabetical order.

Nickell

Frank Nickell, Capt
Bobby Levin
Jeff Meckstroth

Ralph Katz
Steve Weinstein
Eric Rodwell

Bye to Rnd of 8

Spector

Warren Spector, Capt
John Kranyak
John Hurd

Gavin Wolpert
Vincent Demuy
Joel Wooldridge

Bye to Rnd of 8

Dinkin

Sam Dinkin, Capt
Finn Kolesnik
Lynn Baker

Michael Shuster
Michael Xu
Karen McCallum

Donner

Gary Donner, Capt
Rachael Moller
Rose Meltzer

Yoko Sobel
David Gurvich
Wayne Stuart

Fleisher

Martin Fleisher, Capt
Joe Grue
Geoff Hampson

Chip Martel
Brad Moss
Roger Lee

Gupta

Naren Gupta, Capt
Curtis Cheek

Huub Bertens
Daniel Korbel

Lebowitz

Laurence Lebowitz, Capt
Zachary Grossack
Kevin Rosenberg

Adam Grossack
Michael Rosenberg
Zia Mahmood

Levine

Michael Levine
Mike Passell
John Diamond
Robert Morris, NPC

Eddie Wold
Marc Jacobus
Brian Platnick

Moss

Sylvia Moss, Capt
Justin Lall
Kevin Dwyer

Ishmael Delmonte
Kevin Bathurst
Shan Huang

Reynolds

W. Thomas Reynolds, Capt
William Hall
George Jacobs

Lance Kerr
John Jones
Claude Vogel

Robinson

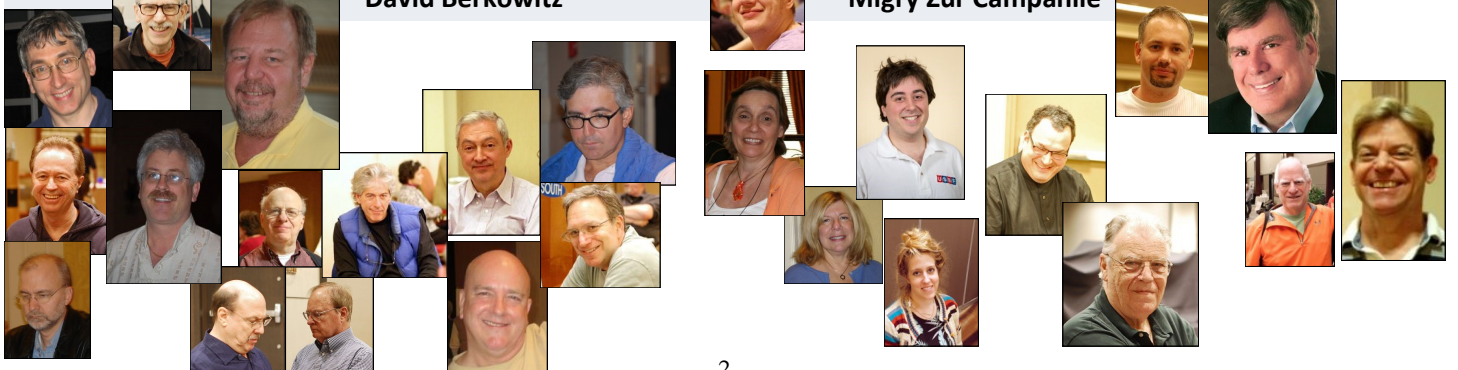
Steve Robinson, Capt
Kit Woolsey

Peter Boyd
Bart Bramley

Rosenthal

Andrew Rosenthal, Capt
Chris Willenken
David Berkowitz

Aaron Silverstein
Eldad Ginossar
Migry Zur Campanile



Tournament Schedule

QUARTERFINAL - SEGMENTS ON BBO HAVE TO START WITH BOARD 1			
MONDAY	JUNE 1	3:45 PM	CAPTAINS' MEETING (ZOOM)
MONDAY	JUNE 1	4:00 - 5:45	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-14
		5:50 - 7:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 1-14
		8:05 - 9:50	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-14
		9:55 - 11:40	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 1-14
SEMIFINAL - SEGMENTS ON BBO HAVE TO START WITH BOARD 1			
TUESDAY	JUNE 2	4:00 - 5:45	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-14
		5:50 - 7:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 1-14
		8:05 - 9:50	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-14
		9:55 - 11:40	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 1-14
FINAL - SEGMENTS ON BBO HAVE TO START WITH BOARD 1			
WEDNESDAY	JUNE 3	4:00 - 5:45	SEGMENT 1 BOARDS 1-14
		5:50 - 7:35	SEGMENT 2 BOARDS 1-14
		8:05 - 9:50	SEGMENT 3 BOARDS 1-14
		9:55 - 11:40	SEGMENT 4 BOARDS 1-14

shdinkin
 ♠ 53
 ♥ AK7
 ♦ AKQJ
 ♣ KQ98

curtis
 ♠ Q876
 ♥ 942
 ♦ 96
 ♣ AJ74

dank
 ♠ J42
 ♥ Q10653
 ♦ 1084
 ♣ 106

shuster
 ♠ AK109
 ♥ J8
 ♦ 7532
 ♣ 532

NS: 0
EW: 0

curtis	shdinkin	dank	shuster
	1♦	Pass	1♥
Pass	1♠	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	2♦
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	2NT	Pass	3♥
Pass	3♠	Pass	4♦
Pass	6♦	Pass	Pass
Pass			

What do you call a super articulate dinosaur? A Thesaurus.

What superlative did Robert E. Lee win in high school?
Most likely to secede!

How did the Native Americans get to America first? They had reservations.

Why was King Arthur's army too tired to fight? All of those sleepless knights.

What kind of cats like to go bowling? Alley cats.

What's so great about whiteboards? If you think about it, they're pretty re-markable!

I went to see the Liberty Bell the other day. It's not all it's cracked up to be.

How do you invite a dinosaur for lunch? Tea, Rex?

What do you call someone who tells too many dinosaur jokes? A dino-bore.

I've got a phobia of over-engineered buildings. It's a complex complex.

Napoleon may not have designed the coat he wore... But he did have a hand in it.

What kind of tea did the American Colonists want? Liberty.

What do you call a dinosaur with one eye? A do-you-think-he-saur-us.

Did you hear about the negative nelly who hates German sausage? He always fears the wurst.

Why did the mathematician work from home? Because he could only function in his domain.

If your iPad is making you fall asleep? I can help—there's a nap for that.

Will glass coffins be a success? Remains to be seen.

With a combined 30HCP and no long suit, most N/S pairs settled for a calm 3NT on Board 1 of the fifth segment. Using their exotic bidding methods, Dinkin/Shuster found their 4-4 diamond fit and settled in 6D after seven rounds of bidding. What it all means:

- 1D = 15+ Artificial Force
- 1S = Artificial Game Force
- 2C = Relay
- 2H = Relay
- 2NT = Relay
- 3S = Control Ask
- 6D = To Play

- 1H = Artificial Semi-Positive
- 1NT = 4+ spades and 0-3 hearts
- 2D = Balance or 3-suited
- 2S = Balanced
- 3H = 4-2-4-3
- 4D = 3 Controls

This is not a great spot, but when Dan Korbel chose to attack by leading the H3, the hand became easy. Declarer won the HJ, drew trumps, crossed to dummy in spades and led toward his club honors. He won the CK and cashed the HA and HK, discarding a club from dummy. He crossed to dummy in spades and led a second club toward his hand to take twelve tricks and a 10 IMP win.

Vugraph... Special "PANDEMIC" instructions...

The **2020 USBF Invitational 1** will be covered on BBO Vugraph starting with the Quarterfinals. All of the matches will be listed in the BBO Vugraph Theatre.

To watch the Vugraph online, go to the **BBO website**, log on to BBO, go to "Vugraph" and choose which match to watch. To watch on your smartphone or tablet, install the BBO app and watch using that.

The tables listed in the Vugraph Theatre are not real Vugraph tables, just links to actual tables on BBO where the players are playing. What you will see once you click on a "Vugraph" table is the same thing you would see if you got to the BBO table by searching for your favorite player and clicking on "join" on his or her profile. This means that some things are different from a normal Vugraph table:

1. We aren't able to load a starting score for segments after the first one. Instead, we will be putting the score from previous quarters in the Vugraph Theatre list, and will put (+##) after the name of the leading team in the score box to show how much that team was ahead at the start of the session. You will be able to determine the "real" running score by adding the score shown in the score box to the score after the +.
2. We do not have to have both tables "on Vugraph" to let you choose which table to watch. We only have 4 special Vugraph operators who can set up the links from the Vugraph Theatre to the tables in play. So for the Quarterfinal we will list one table from each match. To get to the other table, click on the blue "hamburger" menu in the upper right of the screen where the hands are shown and select "Other Table."
3. The names you see are the players' BBO names, but all of them will have their real names in the profile you can get by clicking on their name.
4. We will not have the usual pop ups with player pictures and links to convention cards. Instead, each pair has prepared a BBO convention card with links to the pair's USBF System Summary Form and either filled in the BBO convention card or provided a link to an electronic convention card. You can get to the BBO convention card using the hamburger menu, and to the linked system information by selecting the appropriate URL and either copying it and pasting it into a new tab or window, or right-clicking on it and going to it in a new tab or window (the links are not clickable).

There will often be a "yellow" user on BBO called USBF. If you have general questions, please ask USBF, although she will also be dealing with tournament issues and may not respond promptly.

Each day's schedule is the same (these are Eastern US times; to see the times for your time-zone, go to the **BBO Vugraph schedule site**)

4:00-5:45
5:50-7:35
8:05-9:50
9:55-11:40

All of the teams will play the same boards throughout the event.



Recipes For Your Home Dining Pleasure ... Pandemic Pleasures...

Grandma's Slow Cooker Mushroom Stuffing:

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup butter, cubed
- 1 pound baby portobello mushrooms, coarsely chopped
- 4 celery ribs, chopped
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 12 cups unseasoned stuffing cubes
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1-1/2 teaspoons rubbed sage
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 teaspoon poultry seasoning
- 1/2 teaspoon dried marjoram
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 2 large eggs, lightly beaten
- 3 cups vegetable broth



Directions

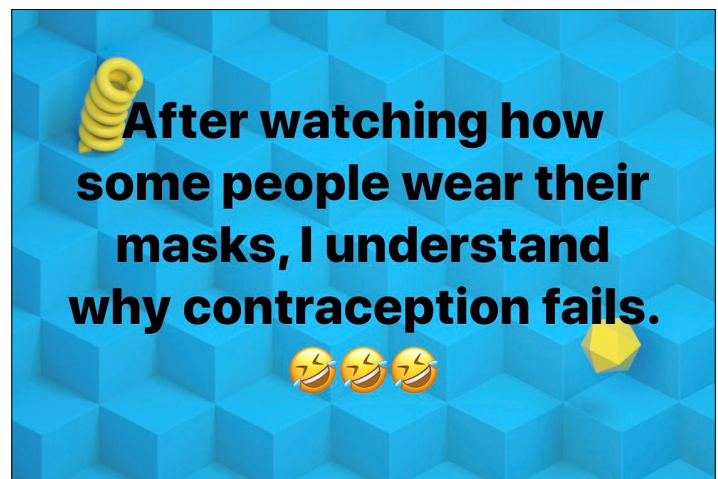
- In a 6-qt. stockpot, heat butter over medium-high heat. Add mushrooms, celery and onion; cook and stir until crisp-tender, 5-7 minutes. Transfer to a bowl. Add stuffing cubes, parsley and seasonings, toss. Whisk together eggs and broth. Pour over stuffing mixture; stir to combine.
- Transfer to a greased 6-qt. slow cooker. Cook, covered, on low until heated through, 3-4 hours.

Grandma's Pea Soup:

Ingredients

- 1/2 pound dried whole peas
- 1/2 pound dried green split peas
- 1 meaty ham bone
- 3 quarts water
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 medium carrot, chopped
- 2 celery ribs, chopped
- 1/2 cup chopped celery leaves
- 1 teaspoon bouquet garni (mixed herbs)
- 1 tablespoon minced fresh parsley
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 pound smoked sausage, chopped, optional
- **SPAETZLE DUMPLINGS:**
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 large egg, beaten
- 1/3 cup water

Pandemic Comment from a child in isolation:
Please can we go out for dinner? I'm tired of eating groceries!!!



(Continued on page 6)

Directions

- Cover peas with water and soak overnight. Drain, rinse and place in a Dutch oven.
- Add ham bone, water and remaining soup ingredients except sausage and dumplings. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 2 to 2-1/2 hours.
- Remove ham bone and skim fat. Remove meat from bone; dice. Add ham and, if desired, sausage to pan.
- For dumplings, place flour in a small bowl. Make a depression in the center of the flour; add egg and water and stir until smooth.
- Place a colander with 3/16-in.-diameter holes over simmering soup; transfer dough to the colander and press through with a wooden spoon. Cook, uncovered, 10-15 minutes. Discard bay leaf. **Freeze Option:** Prepare soup without dumplings and freeze in serving-size portions to enjoy for months to come.

IF COOKING FOR TWO: Prepare soup without dumplings and freeze in serving-size portions to enjoy for months to come.

Grandma's Biscuits:

Ingredients

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/3 cup shortening
- 2/3 cup 2% milk
- 1 large egg, lightly beaten



Directions

- Preheat oven to 450°. In a large bowl, whisk flour, baking powder and salt. Cut in shortening until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Add milk; stir just until moistened.
- Turn onto a lightly floured surface; knead gently 8-10 times. Pat dough into a 10x4-in. rectangle. Cut rectangle lengthwise in half; cut crosswise to make 10 squares.
- Place 1 in. apart on an ungreased [baking sheet](#); brush tops with egg. Bake until golden brown, 8-10 minutes. Serve warm.

Grandma's Carrot Chowder:

Ingredients

- 1 pound ground beef, browned and drained
- 1/2 cup chopped celery
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup chopped green pepper
- 2-1/2 cups grated carrots

- 1 can (32 ounces) tomato juice
 - 2 cans (10-3/4 ounces each) condensed cream of celery soup, undiluted
 - 1-1/2 cups water
 - 1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
 - 1/2 teaspoon dried marjoram
 - 1 teaspoon sugar
 - 1/2 teaspoon salt
 - Shredded Monterey Jack cheese
-

Directions

- In a Dutch oven, combine all ingredients except the cheese. Bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer, uncovered, about 1 hour or until the vegetables are tender. Sprinkle each serving with cheese.

Grandma's Baked Apple Pudding:

Ingredients

- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 cup 2% milk
- 3 medium tart apples, peeled and chopped
- 2 tablespoons butter, cubed
- 2 cups boiling water
- Vanilla ice cream, optional



Directions

- Preheat oven to 400°. In a large bowl, mix the first five ingredients. Add milk; stir just until blended. Fold in apples. Transfer to a greased 2-1/2-qt. deep baking dish. Dot with butter.
- Pour boiling water over top. Bake, uncovered, 40-45 minutes or until golden brown. Let stand 15 minutes before serving. If desired, serve with ice cream.

Today's recipes are ones our Grandmas made during the Great Depression... With the Pandemic, it seemed fitting to print them here...



Sudoku

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

Sudoku 1

Sudoku 2

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

Answers to Puzzle on Page 12:

Online Ethics -

We're not trying to provide security for this event, as we do when we sometimes have "real" events online. However, the provisions of the USBF General Conditions of Contest regarding ethical obligations and possible penalties still apply to this event. If an expert committee is convinced that any player covertly communicated with his/her partner or unethically obtained information about any other player's hand, the player will be subject to discipline, which may include suspension or expulsion from the USBF.

Fun and Games Page

Bedroom Items

C	L	O	S	E	T	P	E	T	L	Y	C	T	O	BED
R	T	E	F	R	I	S	T	R	E	U	I	T	S	LAMP
A	A	F	W	L	S	S	A	L	R	V	O	A	S	ALARM CLOCK
E	P	E	L	E	T	W	R	T	D	H	U	C	H	RADIO
B	I	O	W	E	I	O	A	E	P	S	C	D	E	CURTAINS
Y	W	B	E	D	A	I	E	R	P	H	R	O	L	TEDDY BEAR
D	L	H	E	R	N	D	S	V	D	P	L	A	F	SLIPPERS
D	S	E	H	S	G	A	R	D	L	R	I	T	V	WARDROBE
E	A	R	M	O	B	R	R	A	D	P	O	L	L	PILLOW
T	Y	K	C	O	L	C	M	R	A	L	A	B	S	CLOSET
M	A	T	T	R	E	S	S	T	O	A	L	M	E	MIRROR
M	B	L	T	P	U	G	U	R	E	M	M	S	A	MATTRESS
U	M	I	R	R	O	R	O	B	C	P	L	A	E	RUG
A	C	O	S	E	D	L	D	L	L	O	T	E	S	PHOTO

PUNdemic...

The male pig puts everyone to sleep.
 You might say he's quite a boar.
 There was a kidnapping at school yesterday.
 Don't worry, though—he woke up.
 I tried to sue the airline for losing my luggage.
 I lost my case.
 What do you call a girl with an hourglass figure?
 A complete waist of time.
 What do you call a goat that's lazy?
 Billy Idle.
 The guy who invented throat lozenges died last week.
 There was no coffin at the funeral.

I knew a mathematician who couldn't afford lunch.
 He could binomial.
 I wanted to learn to drive a stick shift.
 Thing is, I couldn't find a manual.
 What do you call children who are born in a whore-
 house?
 Brothel sprouts.
 What did the mermaid wear to math class?
 An algae-bra.
 Where do robots go for fun?
 The circuits.
 What do you call a turtle who takes up photography?
 A snapping turtle.

Logic Puzzle Page



		First Names					Lakes					Phone Numbers				
		Aubrey	Bryson	Cassandra	Ruben	Zachariah	Lake Champlain	Lake Geneva	Lake Tanganyika	Lake Titicaca	Lake Vostok	281-0911	368-9614	445-7953	589-2812	867-5309
Birthdays	May 8															
	September 9															
	September 19															
	October 21															
	December 22															
Phone Numbers	281-0911															
	368-9614															
	445-7953															
	589-2812															
	867-5309															
Lakes	Lake Champlain															
	Lake Geneva															
	Lake Tanganyika															
	Lake Titicaca															
	Lake Vostok															

		Birthdays		First Names		Lakes		Phone Numbers	
		May 8							
		September 9							
		September 19							
		October 21							
		December 22							

- The person whose phone number is 445-7953 was born before Zachariah.
- The person whose phone number is 445-7953 was born after Ruben.
- The person born on October 21 lives on the Lake Vostok shoreline.
- The person whose phone number is 589-2812 doesn't own a home on Lake Vostok.
- The person who lives on the banks of Lake Titicaca was born before the person who lives on the banks of Lake Geneva.
- The person born on May 8 is Bryson.
- Of Ruben and the person who lives on the banks of Lake Titicaca, one can be reached at 368-9614 and the other can be reached at 445-7953.
- The person born on December 22 is not Aubrey.
- Either the person born on May 8 or the person born on September 9 can be reached at 867-5309.
- The 5 people were Cassandra, the person who lives on the banks of Lake Tanganyika, the person whose phone number is 589-2812, the person born on September 9, and Aubrey.
- The person whose phone number is 281-0911 is not Cassandra.

Answer:

May 8	Bryson	Lake Tanganyika	867-5309
September 9	Ruben	Lake Champlain	368-9614
September 19	Cassandra	Lake Titicaca	445-7953
October 21	Aubrey	Lake Vostok	281-0911
December 22	Zachariah	Lake Geneva	589-2812



Michael Brad Moss was born in 1971 in New York City. It should come as no surprise to find that he took to bridge like a duck to water - his parents are Mike Moss and Gail Greenberg.

Brad was named the ACBL King of Bridge at the age of 18. Two years later, he became the youngest player ever to win the New York Player of the Year title. Also in 1991, he was a member of the USA team that just missed out on a medal at the World Junior Teams in Ann Arbor, Michigan, finishing fourth, and won his first National title - the Master Mixed Teams. In 1993, he added to his tally by winning the Grand National Teams and the Life Masters Open Pairs.

His successful partnership with Fred Gitelman included wins in the 1998 NABC Board-a-Match Teams, a third in the 1998 Cavendish Invitational Pairs, first in the 2005 & 2010 Spingolds, the 2010 Roth Open Swiss, the 2012 Jacoby Open Swiss, the Bronze medal in the 2005 Bermuda Bowl and gold in the 2010 Rosenblum teams.

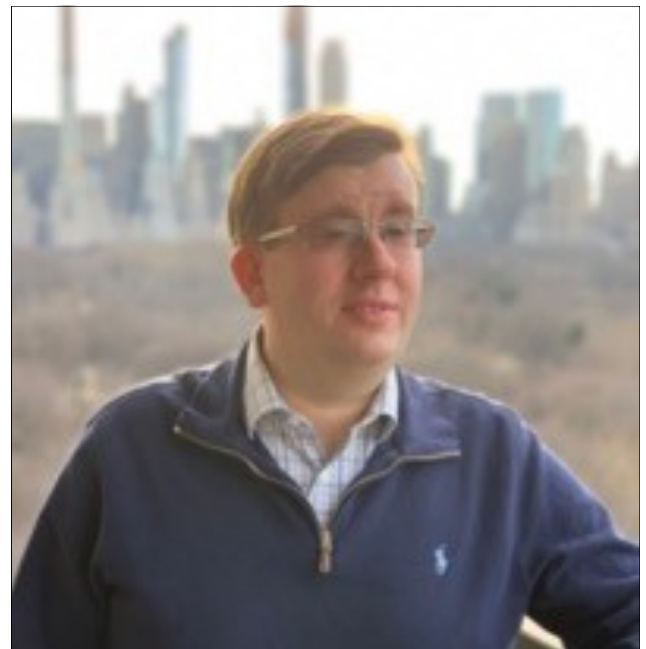
With Joe Grue he finished second in the 2013 Spingold (tied at the end of regulation play) and won the 2016 Spingold and 2017 Bermuda Bowl.

Brad is now serving as President of the United States Bridge Federation. He has been a great promoter of the game and a tireless volunteer.

Joe Grue, who gr"ue" up in Minnesota and now lives in New York City, is a professional bridge player. Joe has had great success with many different partners. He won Junior World Championships with John Kranyak in 2001, 2005 and 2006. He won the Reisinger, North American Swiss and Vanderbilt with Curtis Cheek. Since then he & Brad Moss have won the Spingold, Vanderbilt, Bermuda Bowl and two USBCs, as well as finishing second in the World Open Pairs.

Joe won the Blue Ribbon Pairs in 2015, 2016 and 2018 and finished second in 2017.

He won the 2018 Barry Crane top 500, winning a record total of 3676 masterpoints.



Meet the Players

Puzzle Answers:

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

Sudoku

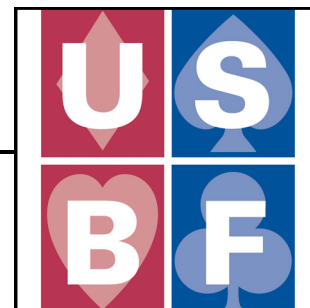
on page 8

Puzzle 1 on left

Puzzle 2 on right

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

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. As a Supporting Member, you are eligible to:

1. Enter the fantasy brackets, run on Bridge Winners, for the USBF trials choosing our Open and Senior teams for the World Championships. The highest-ranking Supporting Member in the fantasy brackets for each of these two events will win the prize of your choice - either an online match against the USBC winners or dinner with them at the next NABC.
2. Receive daily emails during the USBF Championships. These will summarize the previous day's results and provide vugraph information and links to daily bulletins containing pictures and commentary on individual hands.
3. Upon advanced request, make arrangements for you to kibitz a USBF member of your choice for a session once each year – either at an NABC or the USBF Championships.
4. Upon advanced request, we will arrange for you to be one of the vugraph commentators for one session of the team trials.

A Supporting Membership is \$25 for one year (\$75 for 3 years) and the ACBL now offers you the chance to become an USBF Supporting Member when you renew your ACBL membership. If you don't want to wait that long, you can join by choosing the red Donate Now button on the USBF website. 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.

We hope you will join us.

1. Why do men's clothes have buttons on the right while women's clothes have buttons on the left?

BECAUSE When buttons were invented, they were very expensive and worn primarily by the rich.. Since most people are right-handed, it is easier to push buttons on the right through holes on the left. Because wealthy women were dressed by maids, dressmakers put the buttons on the maid's right! And that's where women's buttons have remained since.

2 Why do ships and aircraft use 'mayday' as their call for help?

BECAUSE This comes from the French word m'aidez - meaning 'help me' - and is pronounced, approximately, 'mayday.'

3. Why are zero scores in tennis called 'love'?

BECAUSE In France, where tennis became popular, the round zero on the scoreboard looked like an egg and was called 'l'oeuf,' which is French for 'the egg.' When tennis was introduced in the US, Americans (naturally), mispronounced it 'love.'

4. Why do X's at the end of a letter signify kisses?

BECAUSE In the Middle Ages, when many people were unable to read or write, documents were often signed using an X. Kissing the X represented an oath to fulfill obligations specified in the document. The X and the kiss eventually became synonymous.

5. Why is shifting responsibility to someone else called 'passing the buck'?

BECAUSE In card games, it was once customary to pass an item, called a buck, from player to player to indicate whose turn it was to deal. If a player did not wish to assume the responsibility of dealing, he would 'pass the buck' to the next player.

6. Why do people clink their glasses before drinking a toast?

BECAUSE In earlier times it used to be common for someone to try to kill an enemy by offering him a poisoned drink. To prove to a guest that a drink was safe, it became customary for a guest to pour a small amount of his drink into the glass of the host. Both men would drink it simultaneously. When a guest trusted his host, he would only touch or clink the host's glass with his own.

7. Why are people in the public eye said to be 'in the limelight'?

BECAUSE Invented in 1825, limelight was used in lighthouses and theatres by burning a cylinder of lime which produced a brilliant light. In the theatre, a performer 'in the limelight' was the Centre of attention.

8. Why is someone who is feeling great 'on cloud nine'?

BECAUSE Types of clouds are numbered according to the altitudes they attain, with nine being the highest cloud. If someone is said to be on cloud nine, that person is floating well above worldly cares.

9. In golf, where did the term 'Caddie' come from?

BECAUSE When Mary Queen of Scots went to France as a young girl, Louis, King of France, learned that she loved the Scots game 'golf.' He had the first course outside of Scotland built for her enjoyment. To make sure she was properly chaperoned (and guarded) while she played, Louis hired cadets from a military school to accompany her. Mary liked this a lot and when she returned to Scotland (not a very good idea in the long run), she took the practice with her. In French, the word cadet is pronounced 'ca-day' and the Scots changed it into caddie.

10. Why are many coin collection jar banks shaped like pigs?

BECAUSE Long ago, dishes and cookware in Europe were made of dense orange clay called 'pygg'. When people saved coins in jars made of this clay, the jars became known as 'pygg banks.' When an English potter misunderstood the word, he made a container that resembled a pig.

2020 USBCs CANCELLED

Although the WBF has not scheduled the 2021 World Championship, they have announced that there will be only one World Championship in 2021. It will be held in the late summer in Salsomaggiore, Italy. The USBF Board has therefore cancelled the scheduled 2020 USBCs. We expect to hold 2021 USBCs in May of 2021 to select the teams for whatever World Championship the WBF schedules. *The plan (still to be ratified) is to hold the Bermuda Bowl in 2021 and the World Bridge Games in 2022.*

Captains of teams that were entered in the 2020 USBCs should have received an email telling them of the cancellation and that they can either move their entry to 2021 or receive a full refund of their entry fee. If you are a team captain and did not receive the email, you can email Jan at Marteljan@gmail.com for more information.

Byes to the 2021 Open USBC will almost certainly be based on team performance in the 2019 USBC, Spingold, Soloway, and Reisinger, and the 2020 Soloway, and Reisinger and 2021 Vanderbilt, if those events are held.

For new teams, the entry pages for the 2021 USBCs will be online soon at the USBF website: USBF.org. Closing date for guaranteed entries is currently March 31, 2021. By then we should have firm dates for the events and will adjust those dates appropriately.

curtis	andrewr	dank	aarons
♠ KJ8	♠ 107653	♠ Q2	♠ A94
♥ A762	♥ J94	♥ K10853	♥ Q
♦ A87	♦ QJ10	♦ K95	♦ 6432
♣ K106	♣ Q5	♣ J98	♣ A7432

curtis	andrewr	dank	aarons
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass
2♥	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

In Gupta/Rosenthal, on Board 5 from segment 6, both East/Wests played in 4H from West. Both Norths led the DQ.

Berkowitz won the DK in dummy and played the SQ to set up a diamond discard. Bertens won his SA and played the C3 to declarer's ten and Gupta's queen. Gupta returned his small club to Huub's ace and got a club ruff to defeat the game.

In the other room, after winning the DK, Cheek led a heart to his ace and a spade toward dummy's queen. Silverstein won with the SA and returned a small club. Cheek rose with the king, drew trumps, cashed his spades pitching a diamond from dummy. He cashed the DA and ruffed a diamond in dummy.

He played a club from dummy and whoever won the trick was endplayed! At the table, Silverstein rose with the CA, felling his partner's queen, but if he ducked, Rosenthal would win the CQ and be forced to give declarer a ruff and sluff!

mikeyb	nareng	migry	H Berten	11 IMPs to Gupta
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass	
1NT	Pass	2♦	Pass	
2♥	Pass	3NT	Pass	
4♥	Pass	Pass	Pass	

4

kdwyer

♠ 4
♥ AKQ10
♦ 1043
♣ AKJ82

wstuart

♠ J95
♥ 864
♦ J7652
♣ 95

rcm

♠ K876
♥ J32
♦ KQ8
♣ Q64

precisebri

♠ AQ1032
♥ 975
♦ A9
♣ 1073

NS: 0
EW: 0

	wstuart	kdwyer	rcm	precisebri
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠	
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♣	
Pass	3♥	Pass	3♠	
Pass	4♣	Pass	4NT	
Pass	5♣	Pass	Pass	

Board 4 of the fifth segment produced a challenge for declarers in 3NT. In Moss/Donner, Donner/Sobel reached the no-trump game from North. Moss led her DK. It is best to duck one round of diamonds in case diamonds are 6-2. (excepting the case of KQ tight) After winning the diamond, declarer can test hearts. When hearts split, he can cash the ace and king of clubs, hoping for the drop of the queen. When the queen fails to succumb, declarer can finesse the spade... and as the cards lie, take 9 tricks.

Donner won the first diamond and immediately finessed for the club queen. Moss won her CQ, continued diamonds and the contract was defeated a trick.

In the other room, Dwyer/Huang had a long auction to arrive in the impregnable minor suit game. Meltzer led her DK. Dwyer ducked and won the diamond continuation. He played a club to the ace and ruffed a diamond; a club to the king and two rounds of hearts. He yielded to the CQ and Meltzer exited her HJ. Dwyer claimed his game. 12 IMPs to Moss

In Dinkin/Gupta, again there was a 12 IMP swing. Both tables played in 3NT from South.

Shuster received the lead of the D5. Korbel played the queen, winning. He continued with the DK. Cheek followed with the D6, concealing his deuce. If diamonds were 4-4 as they appeared, Shuster could afford to lose a club trick. He led a club to the jack; Korbel won the trick... East/West cashed three more diamonds. A good deceptive play by Cheek for down one!

At the other table, Bertens also received the lead of the D5. He ducked the first diamond and won the second with his ace. Like Cheek, Xu followed with the D6. Bertens played a club to the ace and cashed four rounds of hearts on which all discards were spades. He cashed the CK in case the queen was doubleton. When the queen failed to fall, he read the position correctly and played the DT to Xu. If diamonds were 4-4, the best East/West could do was to cash two diamonds and the CQ before leading a spade. As it was, Xu cashed three diamonds and was endplayed.

In Rosenthal/Lebowitz, Willenken/Ginossaur reached the cold 5C while Zia/M Rosenberg, played in 3NT. Berkowitz led the D5 and followed with the two on the second round of the suit. Zia advanced the C7 to the 9 and ace, cashed four rounds of hearts and the CK, on which Berkowitz following with the 5. Zia knew diamonds were 5-3 so he could not afford to exit with a diamond if Berkowitz held the CQ. Zia figured that Berkowitz might have played the five rather the nine from Q95 on the first round of clubs. Like Bertens, Zia exited a diamond and made 3NT when Berko-

witz was endplayed. *Note that when Bertens played the hand, he led CT and West followed with the five... no revelation there.*

ishd	gdonner	sylvie	yokosob
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♥
Pass	1NT	Pass	2♣
Pass	2♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

curtis	shdinkin	dank	shuster
Pass	1♦	Pass	1NT
Pass	2♣	Pass	3♦
Pass	3♠	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

michaeli	nareng	fkolesnik	H Berten
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♣	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

mikeyb	scotty	migry	zia
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

germs34	junior	kevsters	eldad
Pass	1♣	Pass	1♠
Pass	2♥	Pass	3♣
Pass	3♦	Pass	3♥
Pass	4♥	Pass	5♣
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Rosenthal/Lebowitz

Limey Jack...

Blimey Yanks:

What is the point of continuing without the beloved Zia en saddle? Limey Jack did clearly point out that Levine would not make it so the muffin rose there.

To the morrow.

Robinson-Nickell: Nickell always comes in late and is always as rusty as the rear gate to the Parsonage. Usually they have 2 days to recover but not this time. Tho Limey Jack is not beholden to four handed squads, The wee ones comported themselves well. Nickell needs 2 extra furlongs to cash and runs out of room.

Spector-Moss: In a very difficult joust, if Moss is the least bit cackhanded, Spector will put her in the boot. Whilst coming in stiff, the lads can play.

Gupta-Donner: One of these two has to win, but while Gupta led wire to wire, the little Dutch Boy was very narked with his sponsor. Gupta prevails.

Rosenthal-Fleisher: Two of the best squaring off in what should be a great tilt and another oppo for Howie Dung to play the fool. Playing Greco discards proves to be the difference. Rosenthal wins by a nose.

Despite the hour, Limey Jack will stay the course and help you take the measure of the punters.

Limey Jack

Howie Doing...

Nickell and Katz are playing just fine.
Practicing daily 'gainst teammates online.
They're used to "undos" to fix their misclicks,
Whenever they can, they play for wish tricks.
Their system is honed. They're ready to spar.
Robinson's team should head for the bar.
Happy to see everyone play...
Now head for the bar but keep 6 feet away.

Spector is rested. Moss has played well.
Whose gonna win? In time we will tell.
Both teams have stamina; Players are young.
He too aggressive sometimes get stung!
Dwyer takes flyer and that's the last word!
Spector takes match; Least, that's what I've "hurd."

Gupta lead yesterday wire to wire.
His guys are playing like their team's on fire.
Huub and Sir Curtis are doing quite well.
And it's been exciting to watch Dan Korbel.
Donner goes global but Gupta will reign.
Good bye to Sobel; see Naren remain.

Rosenthal/Fleisher ready for battle.
Neither team's easy to shake or to rattle.
Fleisher sans Greco ... how can that be?
So far they're playing just fine with R Lee.
I'm picking Fleisher. But not by a lot...
Rosenthal's group has been known to get hot!

See you tomorrow!
Howie Doing

6

junior
 ♠ A3
 ♥ J10987
 ♦ 832
 ♣ Q74

georgej
 ♠ Q1062
 ♥ AKQ43
 ♦ A95
 ♣ 5

cvogel
 ♠ J98
 ♥ 2
 ♦ KJ7
 ♣ KJ10962

eldad
 ♠ K754
 ♥ 65
 ♦ Q1064
 ♣ A83

NS: 0
EW: 0

georgej	junior	cvogel	eldad
		Pass	Pass
1 ♥	Pass	1NT	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

mikeyb	lkerr	migry	tomreyn
		Pass	1 ♠
2 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

On Board 6 of the 8th segment, both tables in the Reynolds/Rosenthal match played in a six-card fit from West at the two level. George Jacobs of the Reynolds team landed in his 3-3 diamond fit while Berkowitz of the Rosenthal team landed in 2H. Both declarers made their contracts and Rosenthal gained an IMP by playing in the major suit.

Willenken led a trump against Jacobs. George won the ten with his ace. He played a small spade to the eight and king. Eldad exited the H6 to Jacobs' ace. Jacobs played a spade which Willenken won with the ace. Willenken continued his attack on the trump suit, dummy's jack losing to Eldad's queen. Eldad continued trump to dummy's king. Jacobs played the SJ to his queen and cashed his spade ten and heart king. The C5 rode to the 7, 9, 3. Dummy's CK went to Eldad's ace. Eldad cashed the 13th diamond and was forced to play a club to dummy's jack for trick 13.

Kerr led the SA against 2H. A second spade rode to Reynold's king and a third spade was ruffed by Kerr. A club went to the ace and the last spade was ruffed... The defense had scored the first five tricks. Berk could handle the heart suit at this point. He had the good ace and king of diamonds... and the CK was there for the pitch of a low diamond. 1 IMP to Rosenthal

kit	nareng	bbramley	H Berten
		Pass	Pass
1 ♣	Pass	1NT	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	2NT	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

In Gupta/Robinson, Bramley/Woolsey bid 3NT on a strong club auction. Bertens led the S4. Gupta won his ace and switched to hearts. Bramley won the HA and played a club to his jack, losing to the ace. Bertens played his D4 ... and in the first four tricks against the game, all four suits had been played!! Bramley cashed the CK and played the CT to the queen with North. Gupta exited the HT and Bramley claimed ten tricks.

curtis	robinswr	dank	pab1
		Pass	Pass
1 ♥	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
Pass	Pass		

In the other room, Cheek and Korbel stopped in 3C on a two bid auction. Boyd led the D6 to the 9, 8, and 7 (a mid level wish trick?) Three rounds of top hearts followed while Korbel pitched two spades and Boyd ruffed the third heart with the C3. A spade to the ace followed and the H8 was ruffed with the nine and overruffed with the ace. The DQ went to the ace and the C5 was played to the jack. The club king was cashed and nine tricks were claimed.

11 IMPs to Robinson

Board 6 of segment 9 was a really lucky hand. With diamonds 2-2 and the HQ in the pocket, any reasonable suit contract made game.

Adam Grossack and Larry Lebowitz had a good auction to get to the minor suit game. 5D required only 2-2 diamonds while 4H rests on a variety of red suit possibilities.

Jacobus/Passell and Woolsey/Bramley in the Levine/Robinson match both reached 4H after a Precision 1D opener.

In Fleisher/Gupta, both tables played in 5D.

In Moss/Rosenthal, Berkowitz and Migry found 5D while Dwyer and Huang played in 4D.

NS: 0
EW: 0

6

johnjones
 ♠ AKQJ6
 ♥ 87
 ♦ Q10
 ♣ Q972

0 Ih12
 ♠ 942
 ♥ AKJ5
 ♦ A98752
 ♣

nevereast
 ♠ 75
 ♥ 432
 ♦ K64
 ♣ AKJ43

bhall
 ♠ 1083
 ♥ Q1096
 ♦ J3
 ♣ 10865

0 Ih12	johnjone	nevereas	bhall
		1 ♣	Pass
1 ♦	1 ♠	Dbl	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	5 ♦	Pass

georgej	germs34	cvogel	scotty
		Pass	Pass
1 ♦	1 ♠	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♦	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Dwyer	Eldad	Huang	Willenken
West	North	East	South
		1 ♦	Pass
1 ♥	1 ♠	Dbl	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Berk	Lall	Migry	Bathurst
West	North	East	South
		1 ♣	Pass
1 ♦	1 ♠	Dbl	2 ♠
3 ♥	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 ♦	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Kit	Platnick	Bramley	Diamond
West	North	East	South
		1 ♦	Pass
1 ♥	1 ♠	Dbl	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Passell	Robinson	Jacobus	Boyd
West	North	East	South
		1 ♦	Pass
1 ♥	1 ♠	Dbl	Pass
2 ♠	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Moss/Rosenthal

Robinson/Levine

Stay Safe
Play Cards!!