

Volume 19, Issue 12  
 April 23, 2026

# “Trials” and Tribulations MUSBC

UNITED STATES BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Results of Day 1 RoundRobin:

#		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.		
1.	Hamman							17.28	16.18	17.61	12.71	3.43						-1.00	66.21
2.	Zhang			14.11				10.37	17.45		13.58					10.00	0.00	65.51	
3.	Kaplan				2.55			18.07			7.59	19.74	17.11					0.00	65.06
4.	Lewis		5.89	17.45						13.85	9.63	15.55						0.00	62.37
5.	Rubenstein							17.61	11.09	4.90					18.07	10.00	0.00	61.67	
6.	Ding								2.23		18.35	8.57	20.00	10.00			0.00	59.15	
7.	Dinkin	2.72	1.93								15.97	18.49	20.00				0.00	59.11	
8.	Ge		9.63			2.39					16.93	16.75	10.00				0.00	55.70	
9.	Rosenthal	3.82				17.77				7.59			12.09	10.00			0.00	51.27	
10.	Smid_Sarnow		2.55	6.15	8.91				12.41						14.62		0.00	44.64	
11.	Millens	2.39		10.37	15.10							3.07	11.09				0.00	42.02	
12.	Henner			12.41	4.45	1.65	3.07			16.93							0.00	38.51	
13.	Compton	7.29	6.42			11.43	4.03			8.91							0.00	38.08	
14.	Bramley	16.57	0.26			1.51	3.25	7.91									0.00	29.50	
15.	Li			2.89	1.93	0.00	0.00			5.38							0.00	10.20	
16.	Bye		10.00		10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00								0.00	0.00	

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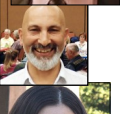
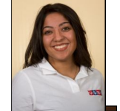
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# Mixed Schedule:

Mixed Schedule			
Round Robin (15 or 16 TEAMS - with 15, each team has a sit out)			
Day	Date	Time	Boards
Wednesday	April 22	10:00 - 11:25	Round 1 Boards 1-11
		11:45 - 1:10	Round 2 Boards 12-22
		2:30 - 3:55	80 minute Lunch Break
Thursday	April 23	4:15 - 5:40	Round 3 Boards 23-33
		6:00 - 7:25	Round 4 Boards 34-44
			Round 5, Boards 45-55
Friday	April 24	10:00 - 11:25	Round 6 Boards 1-11
		11:45 - 1:10	Round 7 Boards 12-22
		2:30 - 3:55	80 minute Lunch Break
Saturday	April 25	4:15 - 5:40	Round 8 Boards 23-33
		6:00 - 7:25	Round 9 Boards 34-44
			Round 10, Boards 45-55
Sunday	April 26	10:00 - 11:25	Round 11 Boards 1-11
		11:45 - 1:10	Round 12 Boards 12-22
		2:30 - 3:55	80 minute Lunch Break
Monday	April 27	4:15 - 5:40	Round 13 Boards 23-33
		6:00 - 7:25	Round 14 Boards 34-44
			Round 15, Boards 45-55
Tuesday	April 28	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 1 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 2 Boards 16-30
		3:30 - 5:30	75 minute Break
Wednesday	April 29	5:45 - 7:45	Segment 3 Boards 31-45
			Segment 4 Boards 46-60
Thursday	April 30	10:00 - 12:00	Segment 5 Boards 1-15
		12:15 - 2:15	Segment 6 Boards 16-30
		3:15 - 5:15	60 minute Break
		5:30 - 7:30	Segment 7 Boards 31-45
			Segment 8 Boards 46-60

# Mixed Entries:

Bramley	Bart Bramley, Capt Kit Woolsey	Kitty Cooper JoAnna Stansby
Compton	Chris Compton, Capt Gigi Simpson Jeff Meckstroth	Donna Compton Gary Cohler Candyce Pfluger
Ding	Hong Ding, Capt Lin-huan Chen	Ming Sheng Ding-hwa Hsieh
Dinkin	Sam Dinkin, Capt Cenk Tuncok Adam Grossack	Avery Silverstein Lynn Baker Emma Kolesnik
Ge	Xin Ge, Capt Michael Rosenberg Kevin Rosenberg	Disa Eythorsdottir Debbie Rosenberg Amber Lin
Hamman	Kristen Onsgard, Capt Bob Hamman Kerri Sanborn	Mike Passell Jill Meyers Steve Sanborn
Henner	Christal Henner, Capt Steve Garner Adam Wildavsky	Uday Ivatury Shawn Quinn Pam Wittes
Kaplan	Adam Kaplan, Capt Harrison Luba Garth Yettick	Jenni Carmichael Allison Howard
Lewis	Linda Lewis, Capt Raluca Nistor Max Rotaru	Finn Kolesnik Radu Nistor Ljudmila Kamenova
Li	Music Li, Capt Genie Thai-May	Qinqin Zhang Leyi Chen
Millens	Shan Huang, Capt Sandra Rimstedt Kevin Dwyer-Rimstedt	Joan Millens Cecilia Dwyer-Rimstedt
Rosenthal	Andrew Rosenthal, Capt Chris Willenken Eldad Ginossar	Migry Campanile Olivia Schireson Dana Berkowitz
Rubenstein	Stewart Rubenstein, Capt Joe Grue Zach Grossack	Anam Tebha Jenny Wolpert Giorgia Botta
Smid_Sarnow	Ariel Smid-Sarnow, Capt Philip Wang	Julie Arbit Nicole Qian
Zhang	Sylvia Shi, Capt Susan Zhang Janice Molson	Daniel Korbel Eddie Wold Geoff Hampson



BOARD: 4  
 DEALER: WEST  
 VULNERABLE: ALL

♠ 6  
 ♥ 94  
 ♦ AK65  
 ♣ Q98742

♠ J4  
 ♥ KQJ832  
 ♦ J82  
 ♣ AT

♠ Q98  
 ♥ A765  
 ♦ QT974  
 ♣ K

Par: 140

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	10	4	4	9	4
EW	2	8	8	3	8

♠ AKT7532  
 ♥ T  
 ♦ 3  
 ♣ J653

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	=	★	IMP
					NS	EW Home Visiting
Bramley	Dinkin	Open	4♠x	S ♥K	-1	200
		Closed	5♣x	N ♥A	-1	200
Compton	Ding	Open	5♣x	S ♥Q	-1	200
		Closed	4♥	W ♦A	-1	100
Ge	Rubenstein	Open	4♥	W ♦K	-1	100
		Closed	4♠x	S ♥K	=	790
Hamman	Rosenthal	Open	3♠x	S ♥K	=	730
		Closed	5♥	W ♠6	-3	300
Henner	Millens	Open	5♥x	W ♦K	-2	500
		Closed	4♥	W ♦A	-1	100
Kaplan	Li	Open	4♠	S ♥K	=	620
		Closed	4♥	W ♦K	-2	200
Lewis	Smid_Sarnow	Open	4♠x	S ♣A	=	790
		Closed	4♥	W ♦K	-2	200

It is easy to see why no games should be successful on Board 4 of the first set of the RoundRobin. If N/S play in clubs, they have two clubs and a heart to lose off the top. If N/S play in spades, they have 2 clubs, 1 heart and 1 spade to lose. So how were three declarers successful? It is really easy for E/W to slip during the defense. In Rubenstein/Ge, Disa led the HK and continued hearts to Ge's ace, ruffed by declarer. Declarer led the CJ and Disa rose with the CA felling her partner's king! In Kaplan, Li, Jiang also led the HK. When that held, they switched to the CA again felling their partner's king. In Lewis/Sarnow, Julie Arbit led the CA on the go! So much room for error on this lie of the cards... tough defense!

# Delayed Kibitzing Throughout the USBCs on the LoveBridge site!

There will be delayed kibitzing for both of the 2026 USBCs on the LoveBridge website. Live Vugraph is delayed 30 minutes or until all tables have completed play on a board, whichever is later.

## Live video commentary of Finals

In addition to your opportunity to watch the 2026 USBC play on LoveBridge Vugraph, Rob Barrington, Ewan McNay, and Adam Parrish will be hosting full day video commentary of the 2nd day of both Finals on the USBF YouTube channel at 11:30 AM and 5:00 PM EDT, on the following dates:

- April 21, Open Final, April 30, Mixed Final.

## Highlights after each stage of each event

Teams of experts, including some of the players in the USBCs, will join Rob, Ewan, and Adam for round ups of each stage of play. These BridgeCasts will be posted on the USBF YouTube channel the morning after each segment airs:

- 4/16 - Open Round Robin;
- 4/18 - Open Quarterfinal;
- 4/20 - Open Semifinal;
- 4/25 - Mixed Round Robin;
- 4/27 - Mixed Quarterfinal;
- 4/29 - Mixed Semifinal.



I must confess.  
I would finesse!

**Kibitzing Schedule (EDT) For all KO days** of the 2026 USBCs, kibitzing times will be :

Segment 1: 11:30 am EDT

Segment 2: 1:45 pm EDT

Segment 3: 5:00 pm EDT

Segment 4: 7:15 pm EDT

**For Round Robin days**, each kibitzing segment will start 30 minutes after play starts.

**To view a Single Table**, click on the blue arrow on the scores page. It provides the largest view of one table, with buttons to get to other information.

**Match View** will show the two tables of a match side by side on your screen;

**Split View** will give you 4 panes of your window and you can put whatever you want in each of them to watch 2 side-by-side matches at once, or one match and the scores of others.

**Click on Buttons to get interesting information:**

- The image of the sticker with the number of the board (upper right) takes you to the results of the board;
- the arrow in the bottom right corner takes you to the scoresheet
- the DDS shows the double dummy analyses. Besides 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.
- **NEW THIS YEAR:** Written commentary will show in a large area on the left of the screen in Single Table view and at the top of the screen in Match View. If you are interesting in providing written commentary, please email Jan and she will get you authorized.

## Navigation icons:

While surfing here and there in the vugraph, or amongst the archive sessions, 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”. 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.

# Helpful Information for Players On Site!

**No Electronic Devices are Permitted in the Playing Area.**

**This applies to 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 wand anyone entering the playing field.**



## MASSAGES

Our wonderful massage therapist, Ela, will come to the hotel whenever there are enough people who want a massage. Hopefully, she will be coming on Sunday, April 12.

Please let Jan Martel (on site) know if you want a massage that Sunday or on any other day and Jan will arrange it.

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## HOSPITALITY

The hospitality suite (room 2321) will be open most of the day. You may watch Vugraph or get a snack when there. We are providing breakfast and lunch each day of play. **Marie France Benoit** will be our lead hostess, with help from **Jacob** and **Marge Morgan**. If you can volunteer to help with hospitality (mainly picking up last-minute things at Costco and other local stores) please let Jan Martel or Marie France know and they will put you to work!!

**Breakfast:** From 8:00-10:00 am. There will be the usual breakfast food: cereal, bagels, toast, salmon, fruit, juice, coffee and tea. Keurig coffee will be available in the hospitality suite. So long as the suite doesn't become too crowded, you are welcome to eat there.

**Lunch:** On the first three days of the Open and Mixed USBCs we will be serving a buffet lunch in the hotel restaurant. The hotel is unwilling to have people take food out of the restaurant to eat someplace else. Lunch will be served from 12:30-2:30. The second Round Robin match each day is scheduled to end at 1:10 and the third match starts at 2:30.

After the first 3 days of each event, lunch will be available in the hospitality suite from 1:45-3:45. There will be a main dish (sandwiches, chicken, main dish salads, pizza) as well as tuna salad, green salad, cheese, fruit, berries, cookies or other desserts.

There is a water dispenser in the hospitality suite. Please bring a water bottle to use. Soft drinks will be available in refrigerators. As with breakfast, you are welcome to eat in the hospitality suite unless it is too crowded.

**Let us know if you have specific needs:** please make our hosts aware of your needs and they will do their best to accommodate you.

## Playing Rooms & Player's Break Room

We have a water dispenser in the Office/Player's Break Room (1321), as well as soft drinks, Nespresso, some packaged snacks, and some fruit. We ask that you recognize that we are working in that room, and others are playing in the rooms next door and across the hall, so please try to keep voices low.

**NEW:** The hotel has requested we use coupons for the in restaurant lunches we are providing. Please see your team captain to get a coupon on days when meals are being provided in the hotel dining room.

# Puzzle Page ...

## The Raven

Find and circle all of the words from the poem "[The Raven](#)" that are hidden in the grid.  
The remaining letters spell an Edgar Allan Poe quotation.

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

ANGELS	DOOR	GRIM	NAPPING	QUOTH
BEAK	DREAMS	HEART	NEPENTHE	RADIANT
BEGUILING	DREARY	HORROR	NEVERMORE	RAPPING
BIRD	EBONY	LATTICE	OMINOUS	RAVEN
BLACK	ENTRANCE	LENORE	PALLAS	RUSTLING
BLEAK	EYES	LORE	PALLID	SHADOW
BURNING	FEATHER	MAIDEN	PERCHED	SHUTTER
BUST	FIEND	MELANCHOLY	PLACID	SOUL
CHAMBER	FLITTING	MIDNIGHT	PLUME	TAPPING
CROAKING	FLUTTER	MORTAL	PLUTONIAN	VISITOR
DARKNESS	FOWL	MYSTERY	PROPHET	WEARY
DECEMBER	GHASTLY	NAMELESS	QUAFF	WIND



The king of hearts is not  
a chump...

Especially when his suit  
is trump!

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

Sudoku 1

How do you get Pikachu onto the bus? You Pokemon.

With the rise of self-driving vehicles, it's only a matter of time before we get a country song where a guy's truck leaves him too.

Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

What did E.T.'s mother say to him when he got home?  
"Where on Earth have you been?!"

What's worse than raining cats and dogs? Hailing Taxi.

A diplomat is someone who can tell you to go to hell in such a way that you will look forward to the trip.

I wanna hang a map of the world in my house. Then I'm gonna put pins into all the locations that I've traveled to. But first, I'm gonna have to travel to the top two corners of the map so it won't fall down.

My fear of moving stairs escalates.

My sister bet me I couldn't make a car out of spaghetti. U should of saw her face as I drove pasta.

# Hard Sudoku

## Sudoku Solutions on Page 12

Sudoku 2

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



Please be "scent"sitive! Many players have allergies and have trouble breathing when perfumed aromas are present! Thank you!!



# World Bridge News...

These are the proposed Upcoming Dates for some of the Online Women's Events sponsored in part by the WBF Women's Committee:

**Women's Autumn November 9-15, 2026**

**Women's Spring Festival, April 12-18, 2027**

**Women's Autumn Festival, November 8-14, 2027**

Mark your calendars and plan to play!



The North American Bridge Federation (NABF) is otherwise known as Zone 2 of the World Bridge Federation. It is comprised of the United States Bridge Federation, the Canadian Bridge Federation and the Mexican Federation of Bridge. At its most recent meeting, Marty Fleisher was elected President, replacing Jan Martel who resigned. Tim White is Secretary replacing Nadar Hannah. Suzi Subeck is continuing as Treasurer.

The NABF representatives to the World Bridge Federation were also elected: Margot Hennings is representing the ACBL replacing A.J. Stephani. Howie Weinstein is representing the United States Bridge Federation replacing Adam Wildavsky who is retiring. Suzi Subeck is continuing as a representative of the United States Bridge Federation. Paul Janicki is representing the Canadian Bridge Federation replacing Nadar Hannah. Gonzalo Herrera is continuing as a representative of the Mexican Federation of Bridge.

## Illinois Trivia...

Although the Big 10 Conference has gained many schools over the years, only one school has left the conference. What is this school that is often considered the most prestigious university in the state of Illinois?

Answer: University of Chicago

Perhaps the most famous debates of all time featuring a future president weren't actually presidential debates. Rather, in 1858 Abraham Lincoln participated in a series of seven debates against which other man vying to be a U.S. Senator from Illinois?

Answer: Stephen Douglas

In 1893, Ida B. Wells joined Frederick Douglass and other Black leaders for a boycott of the World's Columbian Exposition in what Midwest city?

Answer: Chicago

In what year was the current Illinois Constitution passed, which retained the three-tiered court system of the Judicial Article to the state constitution passed six years earlier?

Answer: 1970

If you arrest a mime, do you have to tell him he has the right to remain silent?

Money talks. But all mine ever says is goodbye.

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.

A computer once beat me at chess, but it was no match for me at kickboxing.

Apparently, you can't use "beef stew" as a password—it's not stroganoff.

Parallel lines have so much in common, but it's a shame they'll never meet.

There are three kinds of people: those who can count and those who can't.

It's impossible to joke around with a kleptomaniac. They always take things literally.

Why aren't dogs good dancers, you ask? Because they've got two left feet.

My friends didn't like their son's biology teacher. He had too many skeletons in his closet.

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

The easiest time to add insult to injury is when you're signing somebody's cast.

You don't need a parachute to go skydiving. You need a parachute to go skydiving *twice*.

Letting go of a loved one can be hard. But sometimes, it's the only way to survive a rock-climbing catastrophe.

There was a kid who started a business tying shoelaces on the playground. It was a knot-for-profit.

A positive attitude may not solve all your problems. But it will annoy enough people to make it worth the effort.

Always borrow money from a pessimist. He won't expect it back.

The early bird might get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese.

A fish swam into a concrete wall. Dam!

I saw a parade of rabbits hopping backward. It was crazy, I'd never seen a receding hare line like that.



# A Little Humor!

(Continued on page 11)

	Ontheway	Spinner	Weatherby	Weaver	Windswept	Fell Hollows Lodge	Meadow Hotel	Outlook Inn	Peak's Inn	Wayside Lodge	five-star	five-star	four-star	four-star	three-star
Joseph															
Michael															
Patricia															
Sarah															
Wendy															
five-star															
five-star															
four-star															
four-star															
three-star															
Fell Hollows Lodge															
Meadow Hotel															
Outlook Inn															
Peak's Inn															
Wayside Lodge															

**Answer to Puzzle  
on page 12  
Bottom of Page**

First Name	Last Name	Hotel	Rating

Five people fly into town to attend a conference. Unfortunately, hotel space for the conference had filled up fast so even though they're from the same company, the five ended up in different hotels. The good news is that the hotels were all within walking distance of the convention center where the conference was being held. The odd thing about the hotels where they stayed is that all were individually-owned, rather than part of corporate chains. However, each was still a very well-rated and successful business. Determine the full name of each person, the name of the hotel each stayed at, and the hotel's rating.

1. The Outlook Inn had a higher rating than the hotel where Patricia stayed. The three-star hotel was not Peak's Inn.
2. Michael's last name was Ontheway but he didn't stay at the Wayside Lodge. Sarah, whose last name wasn't Spinner, stayed at the Outlook Inn.
3. Ms. Windswept and Joseph both stayed at four-star hotels.
4. Ms. Weatherby stayed at the Meadow Hotel, which wasn't a five-star hotel.
5. The Wayside Lodge was a five-star hotel. Wendy's last name wasn't Weaver.
6. The Fell Hollows Lodge was rated with one star less than the hotel where the person whose last name was Spinner stayed.

# Meet the Players



**Andrew Rosenthal**, a lifetime New Yorker, graduated Collegiate School in 1980 and Pitzer college in 1984, studying theater. He learned to play bridge as a child from his parents but didn't start playing seriously until he was 30.

Bridge highlights including winning the Red Ribbons with Jenni Hartsman (now Carmichael), the Goldman Pairs with David Moss, coming in second in the 2019 Spingold and becoming USA2 in the 2019, 2021, and 2023 Mixed Trials. In 2023, Andrew and his teammates won the World Mixed Teams.

Andrew is playing here in Schaumburg as captain of the Rosenthal squad with teammates Migry Zur Campanile, Olivia Schireson, Dana Berkowitz, Chris Willenken, and Eldad "Gino" Ginossar.

*(Continued from page 9)*

I saw a bear with no teeth the other day. His friends kept calling him Gummy Bear.

Did you see that illegally parked frog get toad away?

There's a veterinarian who prescribes birth-control pills for dogs. It's part of an anti-litter campaign.

I just read that alligators can grow up to 15 feet. But I haven't seen any with more than 4.

Lab reports are always my dog's favorite homework assignment.

I told my niece that I saw a moose on the way to work this morning. She said, "How do you know he has a job?"

Letting the cat out of the bag is a whole lot easier than putting it back in.

It's funny, when I walk into a spider web I demolish his home and interrupt his dinner yet I still feel like the victim.

My wife told me to stop impersonating a flamingo. I had to put my foot down.

The teddy bear had to say no to dessert. He was already stuffed.

Change is inevitable—except from a vending machine.

Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars but check when you say the paint is wet?

There was a heated debate about theft at the restaurant, so I decided not to take sides.

You'll always stay young if you live honestly, eat slowly, sleep sufficiently, work industriously, worship faithfully, and lie about your age.

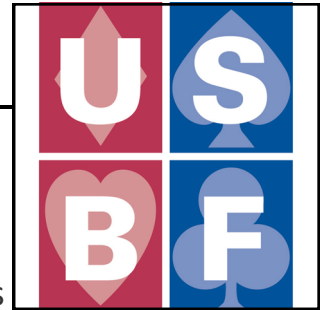
9	2	8	5	4	6	7	3	7	1	3	1
5	7	3	8	2	1	4	9	4	6	9	9
1	4	6	9	7	3	5	8	2	5	8	2
8	3	6	9	2	1	4	5	4	1	2	6
4	6	4	3	1	8	9	2	7	2	9	8
7	1	7	4	2	9	3	6	8	6	3	9
6	4	5	2	9	7	8	1	3	1	8	7
3	9	3	6	1	5	8	2	7	4	7	2
2	8	7	1	3	4	6	5	9	8	6	3

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

## Sudoku Answers Puzzles on Page 7

Answer to Sudoku 1

Answer to Sudoku 2



# 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.

We hope you will join us.

*(Continued from page 11)*

No one should have children after 35. Really, 35 children are enough.

A TV can insult your intelligence. But nothing rubs it in like a computer.

When tempted to fight fire with fire, always remember... The fire department usually uses water.

You are such a good friend that, if we were on a sinking ship together and there was only one life jacket, I'd miss you so much and talk about you fondly to everybody who asked.

Some cause happiness wherever they go. Others *whenever* they go.

It's not the fall that kills you. It's the sudden stop at the end.



## Answer to Logic Puzzle On Page 10

five-star	Wayside Lodge	Spinner	Wendy
four-star	Outlook Inn	Windswept	Sarah
three-star	Meadow Hotel	Weatherby	Patricia
five-star	Peak's Inn	Ontheway	Michael
four-star	Fell Hollows Lodge	Weaver	Joseph
Rating	Hotel	Last Name	First Name

*(Continued from page 8)*

The Inter-Ocean was a popular newspaper from the end of the Civil War until 1914. This somewhat unusual name for the paper made more sense when one realized which large American city was home to the paper's headquarters. What was this city?

Answer: Chicago

As of 2023, Illinois Senator Tammy Duckworth serves on three standing committees, including Foreign Relations and what one with legislative oversight of the DoD, DOA, DON, DOAF, and the Selective Service System?

Answer: United States Senate Committee on Armed Services

The building regarded as the world's first skyscraper, the Home Insurance building, was built in 1884 in which American city?

Answer: Chicago

While working as a lawyer in Illinois in 1858, Abraham Lincoln produced what two-word manual to prove that the witness testimony of seeing a crime in the moonlight could not have been true? Lincoln ultimately won the case.

Answer: Farmers Almanac

Abraham Lincoln volunteered in the Illinois Militia in 1832 during what War? Although he never saw combat, he was elected captain of his first company. Although typically deemed a "War," it was in fact a relatively brief conflict between the United States and Native Americans.

Answer: Black Hawk War

What former U.S. Senate candidate from Illinois shares a name with the CIA operative and eventual President who first appeared in the novel *The Hunt for Red October*?

Answer: Jack Ryan

According to a UK insurance expert, there would be a 5 million pound payout for Jake and Elwood's drive through an Illinois shopping mall in what fraternal 1980 musical comedy?

Answer: The Blues Brothers

The annual Pumpkin Festival in Morton, Illinois welcomes visitors to the Pumpkin Capital of the World. That's hardly any guff since 90% of the world's canned pumpkin is processed there and sold under what brand name?

Answer: Libby's

MDW and ORD are both prominent airports found in which U.S. state?

Answer: Illinois

Connecting St. Louis, Missouri with East St. Louis, Illinois, the Eads Bridge, which was built in the 19th century, is the first bridge across what American river?

Answer: Mississippi River

**BOARD:** 5  
**DEALER:** NORTH  
**VULNERABLE:** N-S

♠ AJ873  
♥ KJ3  
♦ A74  
♣ 87

♠ K9  
♥ 954  
♦ KQ2  
♣ AT964

♠ T62  
♥ QT762  
♦ 986  
♣ Q2

♠ Q54  
♥ A8  
♦ JT53  
♣ KJ53

Par: 620

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	8	9	7	10	9
EW	5	3	6	3	3

Board 5 requires good play and some luck to succeed in the 23 HCP game.

Every South showed a limit raise in spades, most showing three pieces.

North became captain and decided to bid or not to bid the game!

With the SK slotted doubleton and CQ onside, North/South can bring in 10 tricks. All but one declarer played for the existing position and met with success.

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	Contract	Score	IMP
				NS	EW	Home
Bramley	Dinkin	▶	Open	4♠ N ♣Q =	620	-
				Closed	4♠ N ♥2 =	620
Compton	Ding	▶	Open	4♠ N ♥2 =	620	10
				Closed	3♠ N ♣Q +1	
Ge	Rubenstein	▶	Open	3♠ N ♣Q +1	170	10
				Closed	4♠ N ♥2 =	
Hamman	Rosenthal	▶	Open	3♠ N ♥2 =	140	1
				Closed	1N S ♣9 +3	
Henner	Millens	▶	Open	3♠ N ♠2 +1	170	10
				Closed	4♠ N ♠2 +1	
Kaplan	Li	▶	Open	4♠ N ♥2 +1	650	1
				Closed	4♠ N ♥2 =	
Lewis	Smid_Sarnow	▶	Open	4♠ N ♣Q -1	100	12
				Closed	4♠ N ♣Q =	

Only in Lewis/Sarnow did the game fail.

Where did it go awry?

Sarnow, E, led the CQ to the K, A, 7. Arbit returned the C9 to dummy's jack. Raluca Nistor, declarer, played the S4 to the jack, cashed the SA and led a third spade to dummy's queen.

A club was ruffed and a small diamond went to the 6, J, K. Arbit played a heart, to dummy's ace, leaving the five-card end position below:

Raluca is at the crossroads.

To be successful, she needs to play the DT off dummy. If Arbit covers with the queen, Raluca wins it and plays another diamond, ending playing Sarnow in hearts.

If Arbit plays small, Raluca lets the DT hold the trick and the diamond loser goes away. At the table, Raluca played the D3 to her ace and a diamond to Arbit's queen. Arbit had safe exits in clubs and hearts. She played a club. Raluca ruffed in hand and was ended herself in hearts!!

Contract failing 12 IMPs to Smid-Sarnow

BOARD: 17  
DEALER: NORTH  
VULNERABLE: NONE

♠ AT54  
♥ AK4  
♦ AJ  
♣ AQ65

♠ 9  
♥ T9632  
♦ 9763  
♣ 973

♠ Q872  
♥ QJ7  
♦ Q542  
♣ KT

Par: 460

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	11	9	8	11	11
EW	1	4	5	2	2

♠ KJ63  
♥ 85  
♦ KT8  
♣ J842

On Board 17 of the second round of the RR, there were four double-digit swings.

Most pairs predictably played in 4S making five.

Some pairs pushed to a spade slam but with the CK offside and the spades breaking 4-1, there just weren't enough tricks.

Woolsey/Stansby was unique. They were the only pair to play in clubs and the only pair to successfully take 12 tricks.

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	IMP
		▶	🎮	★
			1	=
			NS	EW
			Home	Visiting
Bramley	Ge	Open 6♣ N ♥Q = 920		14
		Closed 6♠ N ♥J -1 50		
Compton	Zhang	Open 4♠ N ♥Q +1 450		-
		Closed 4♠ S ♦3 +1 450		-
Dinkin	Kaplan	Open 6♠ N ♥Q -1 50		11
		Closed 4♠ S ♦6 +1 450		
Hamman	Millens	Open 4♠ N ♥Q +1 450		-
		Closed 4♠ N ♥Q +1 450		-
Henner	Lewis	Open 6♠ N ♥Q -1 50		11
		Closed 4♠ N ♥J +1 450		
Li	Rubenstein	Open 4♠ N ♥J = 420		1
		Closed 4♠ N ♥Q +1 450		
Rosenthal	Smid_Sarnow	Open 6♠ N ♦4 -1 50		11
		Closed 4♠ N ♥Q +1 450		

Six clubs CAN fail! But the opening leader MUST lead a spade ... in this case, from their Q872 so when they win their CK, they can give their partner a spade ruff.

The auction to 6C took seven rounds of bidding, started with a strong club and was fraught with relays!!

Ge knew that South held a 4-2-3-4 GF 8-10 or 14+ with 2 controls. SK no CK, with the DK and no SQ. TMI???

Ge led the HQ and there was no looking back. Woolsey won the ace and played the DJ to the DK. He played the C2 to the queen, losing the finesse to Ge's king.

Since spades hadn't been touched, Ge was helpless. He played a club. Woolsey won and extracted the last trump. He cashed the HK, ruffed a heart, played a spade to the ace, a spade to the king and a diamond to his ace.

Woolsey claimed 12 tricks and 14 IMPs for Bramley

Interesting to note that in all seven rounds of bidding, only Kit's first bid establishing a strong, artificial, forcing club and his last bid setting the slam meant anything... while every bid of Joanna's told a story.

♠ AT54  
♥ AK4  
♦ AJ  
♣ AQ65

N Kit Woolsey

♠ 9  
♥ T9632  
♦ 9763  
♣ 973

W Disa Eythorsdottir

Open Room  
Bramley/Ge

♠ Q872  
♥ QJ7  
♦ Q542  
♣ KT

E Xin Ge

♠ KJ63  
♥ 85  
♦ KT8  
♣ J842

S Joanna Stansby

BOARD: 38  
 DEALER: EAST  
 VULNERABLE: E-W

♠ JT52  
 ♥ AT6  
 ♦ 86  
 ♣ AKQ3

♠ 94  
 ♥ 42  
 ♦ AKT43  
 ♣ 9764

♠ KQ87  
 ♥ 875  
 ♦ Q975  
 ♣ 82

Par: 420

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
NS	10	5	10	8	8
EW	3	8	3	5	3

♠ A63  
 ♥ KQJ93  
 ♦ J2  
 ♣ JT5

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	=	★	IMP
						NS EW Home Visiting
Bramley	Kaplan	▶ Open	4♥ S	♦A +1	450	- -
		▶ Closed	4♥ S	♦K +1	450	- -
Compton	Millens	▶ Open	4♥ S	♦A =	420	- -
		▶ Closed	4♥ S	♦A =	420	- -
Ding	Rosenthal	▶ Open	4♥ S	♦A =	420	- -
		▶ Closed	4♥ S	♦K =	420	- -
Dinkin	Hamman	▶ Open	4♥ S	♦A =	420	- -
		▶ Closed	4♥ S	♦A =	420	- -
Ge	Henner	▶ Open	4♥ S	♦A =	420	- -
		▶ Closed	4♥ S	♦A =	420	- -
Lewis	Zhang	▶ Open	4♥ S	♦A =	420	- -
		▶ Closed	4♥ S	♦K =	420	- -
Li	Smid_Sarnow	▶ Open	4♥ S	♦A =	420	- -
		▶ Closed	4♥ S	♦A =	420	- -

Board 38 is not a FLAT board... though the contract was universally 4H from South. Every opening leader led a high diamond. Though not FLAT, this board produced NO swings!! That is rare. Two pairs took 11 tricks while everyone else took 10 and ironically, the two pairs who made five were opponents.

Very interesting!

**BOARD:** 39  
**DEALER:** SOUTH  
**VULNERABLE:** ALL

♠ AQ  
♥ QJT972  
♦ 8  
♣ KT54

♠ J8743  
♥ 4  
♦ A976  
♣ Q83

♠ KT965  
♥ A63  
♦ KQJ5  
♣ 9

♠ 2  
♥ K85  
♦ T432  
♣ AJ762

Par: -200

	♣	♦	♥	♠	N
N	9	4	10	2	6
S	:	3	:	:	:
EW	2	9	2	10	5

On Board 39, there were 3 17 IMP swings. Contracts were doubled five times and succeeded every time... doubled or not!

Contracts ranged from 4S or 5S East/West to 5H North/South.

According to the flow chart, both 4S E/W and 4H N/S are cold for 10 tricks...

So how did these 11 trick contracts come home?

Home team	Visiting team	Room	By	=	IMP
					NS EW Home Visiting

Bramley	Kaplan	Open	4♠x	E ♥5 +1	990	4	
		Closed	5♠x	E ♥5 =	850		
Compton	Millens	Open	4♠	E ♥5 +1	650	-	-
		Closed	4♠	E ♥5 +1	650		
Ding	Rosenthal	Open	4♠	E ♥5 +1	650	-	-
		Closed	5♠	E ♥5 =	650		
Dinkin	Hamman	Open	4♠	E ♥5 +1	650	17	
		Closed	5♥x	N ♣9 +1	1050		
Ge	Henner	Open	5♥x	N ♦K =	850	17	
		Closed	4♠	E ♥5 +1	650		
Lewis	Zhang	Open	4♠	E ♥5 +1	650	-	-
		Closed	4♠	E ♥5 +1	650		
Li	Smid_Sarnow	Open	5♥x	N ♦K =	850	17	
		Closed	4♠	E ♥5 +1	650		

In Hamman/Dinkin, Hamman/Meyers, North/South respectively, bid to 5H doubled from North.

Emma Kolesnik, East, made the best lead of her singleton C9. Hamman played the deuce from dummy and Adam Grossack carefully played the THREE ... a signal for diamonds??

Hamman won the ten in hand and played the HT. Emma took her ace. She has one shot to defeat the game! She must play a diamond NOW to her husband to score her club ruff. This might have been an easy play if during the auction, Adam hadn't raised Emma's 1S overcall to 4S!

Emma knew he held spades. She did not know what club spots he could afford to signal suit preference at trick one. She instinctively tried a spade and it was over. Hamman won the spade, pulled trumps and took 11 tricks.

In Ge/Henner where again 11 tricks came home in hearts, Wildavsky led the DK. This was fatal. An opening diamond removes any possibility off an entry to West's hand. Wildavsky shifted to his singleton club but it was too little too late. Michael Rosenberg, North, ran the HJ when Wildavsky ducked. Another heart followed. Wildavsky won his ace and tried another diamond to put Wittes in for the ruff but Rosenberg trumped it claimed 11 tricks!

In Li/Sarnow, the scenario mimicked that of Ge/Henner. Three 17 IMP swings when in the other room of each of the matches, East/West played in the spade game and took 11 tricks.

# Cross IMPs

1.	Kristen Onsgard - Mike Passell	Hamman	1.86	81.69	44
2.	Daniel Korbel - Sylvia Shi	Zhang	1.73	57.08	33
3.	Sandra Rimstedt - Shan Huang	Millens	1.61	35.46	22
4.	Adam Kaplan - Jenni Carmichael	Kaplan	1.45	79.92	55
5.	Dana Berkowitz - Eldad Ginossar	Rosenthal	1.34	44.23	33
6.	Adam Grossack - Emma Kolesnik	Dinkin	1.29	70.69	55
7.	Giorgia Botta - Zach Grossack	Rubenstein	0.90	39.69	44
8.	Anam Tebha - Stewart Rubenstein	Rubenstein	0.85	28.15	33
9.	Ding-Hwa Hsieh - Lin-Huan Chen	Ding	0.82	36.08	44
10.	Finn Kolesnik - Linda Lewis	Lewis	0.81	26.69	33
11.	Geoff Hampson - Janice Molson	Zhang	0.81	17.85	22
12.	Ljudmila Kamenova - Max Rotaru	Lewis	0.73	24.23	33
13.	Debbie Rosenberg - Michael Rosenberg	Ge	0.58	25.62	44
14.	Hong Ding - Ming Sheng	Ding	0.46	20.08	44
15.	Donna Compton - Jeff Meckstroth	Compton	0.45	19.62	44
16.	Chris Willenken - Olivia Schireson	Rosenthal	0.40	13.23	33
17.	Allison Howard - Harrison Luba	Kaplan	0.32	7.08	22
18.	Ariel Smid Sarnow - Julie Arbit	Smid_Sarnow	0.17	9.38	55
19.	Bob Hamman - Jill Meyers	Hamman	0.10	3.31	33
20.	Radu Nistor - Raluca Nistor	Lewis	0.01	0.62	44
21.	Christal Henner - Uday Ivatury	Henner	0.00	0.00	33
22.	Avery Silverstein - Sam Dinkin	Dinkin	-0.07	-2.38	33
23.	Gary Cohler - Gigi Simpson	Compton	-0.16	-5.23	33
24.	Cenk Tunçok - Lynn Baker	Dinkin	-0.17	-3.77	22
25.	Cecilia Dwyer-Rimstedt - Kevin Dwyer-Rimstedt	Millens	-0.25	-14.00	55
26.	Disa Eythorsdottir - Xin Ge	Ge	-0.28	-9.23	33
27.	Amber Lin - Kevin Rosenberg	Ge	-0.36	-4.00	11
28.	Allison Howard - Garth Yettick	Kaplan	-0.42	-14.00	33
29.	Shawn Quinn - Steve Garner	Henner	-0.51	-22.46	44
30.	Kerri Sanborn - Steve Sanborn	Hamman	-0.53	-17.38	33
31.	Nicole Qian - Philip Wang	Smid_Sarnow	-0.53	-29.23	55
32.	Eddie Wold - Susan Zhang	Zhang	-0.63	-20.85	33
33.	JoAnna Stansby - Kit Woolsey	Bramley	-0.74	-40.54	55
34.	Adam Wildavsky - Pam Wittes	Henner	-0.75	-24.62	33
35.	Bart Bramley - Kitty Cooper	Bramley	-0.86	-47.15	55
36.	Music Li - Qinqin Zhang	Li	-1.40	-77.15	55
37.	Joan Millens - Shan Huang	Millens	-1.61	-53.00	33
38.	Candyce Pfluger - Chris Compton	Compton	-1.68	-55.38	33
39.	Andrew Rosenthal - Migry Campanile	Rosenthal	-1.87	-41.15	22
40.	Jenny Wolpert - Joe Grue	Rubenstein	-2.29	-25.15	11
41.	Genie Jiang - Leyi Chen	Li	-2.44	-134.00	55