



Hand of the Month Aunt Lucy

By Ken Monzingo
San Diego, Calif.

I hear stories about somebody's "Aunt Lucy" who plays bridge and knows every card before the play begins. Of course, nobody – Aunt Lucy included – knows every card. But she can show you how to discover most of declarer's 13 cards even before the opening lead is made. And maybe all 13 – declarer's complete hand pattern – even before you play.

Example:

Aunt Lucy, sitting East, in fourth seat holds:

♠Qxx ♥10xxx ♦Axxx ♣Kx

The bidding:

South	Partner	North	Aunt Lucy
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
1NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

A pretty simple auction, huh? Now's the time to ask yourself what you know. Those bored or asleep know nothing. But Aunt Lucy, using her mental blackboard, is thinking: "Since South rebid notrump, he probably has some length in all four suits – no singletons or voids (or long suit of six or more)."

Begin the Questions

It's time to use some simple arithmetic:

- How many total cards does South hold?
- Thirteen? - yes, very good.
- What are they?
- You don't know? I think Aunt Lucy does.

She about to use simple logic to count his hidden hand, assuming declarer is reasonable and owns a balanced hand to rebid notrump – probably no short suits (0-1), or long suits (6+).

Here's what we think Aunt Lucy already knows about Declarer's Hand Pattern:

Begin the Count

Reflection: How many of each suit does declarer have?

- How many spades does South have, 0-1? No. Does he have 2? Yes, for sure, a truth! Does he have 3? Maybe. Does he have 4? No, he'd bid 1♠ over 1♥, if he's a good partner.
- How many hearts, 0-1? No. Does he have 2? Yes. 3? Maybe. 4? No, he would have raised partner.
- How many diamonds? Well, he must have a four-card suit somewhere. And since he opened the bidding with 1♦, and we've learned he shouldn't have four hearts or four spades, he must have four diamonds - a truth. Can he have five? Maybe, but not six; he would rebid 2♦.

How many clubs? 0-1? No. 2? Maybe (3-3-5-2). Does he have 3? Maybe. 4? Maybe. Does he have 5? No, he probably would have rebid 2♣ if he was ♠2-♥2-♦4-♣5 (or opened 1♣).

So, here is what Aunt Lucy knows about Declarer's hand:

	Truths (10)	.....	Maybe (3)
Spades	2	.....	3
Hearts	2	.....	3
Diamonds	4	.....	5
Clubs	2	.....	3 or 4

Before the first card is led, she already "sees" 10 of declarer's 13 cards (the "truths:" ♠-2, ♥-2, ♦-4, ♣-2). She also knows the three missing cards can only be one each of all suits except clubs, which could be two if declarer is 2-2-4-5 and opened 1♦.

Now, if you pay closer attention to the opening lead from your partner, while thinking in both suit patterns and hand patterns, you should be able to locate one, two or even all three missing cards. At trick one partner leads the ♠2 (playing fourth-best opening leads). You see the dummy which has, 3-4-3-3 distribution.

♠Kxx ♥Jxxx ♦Kxx ♣Qxx

Now look at Lucy's hand (at the top) which is 3-4-4-2. If, from the ♠2 lead, partner has exactly four spades, dummy has three, and you have three – then declarer also has three! Spades are 4-3-3-3. Now you know 11 of 13 hidden declarer cards before the first play is made from dummy (he's 3-2-4-2 and 2 unknown).

Dummy
♠Kxx
♥Jxxx
♦Kxx
♣Qxx

Aunt Lucy
♠Qxx
♥10xxx
♦Axxx
♣Kx

Opening Lead ♠2

The Final Count

The last clue: Now look at the club suit – three in dummy and you have two – eight missing. Declarer probably does not have five or would have bid them. Partner doesn't have five or he would have led one. The missing 8 clubs must be 4-4. Declarer's hand pattern is 3-2-4-4 – you now know all 13 cards!

Maybe Aunt Lucy was clairvoyant. Or maybe she learned to count in hand patterns and suit patterns. The true way to play.

California Capital Regional

May 29 - June 4, 2017

Tournament Highlights

- California Capital Open Swiss
Two qualifying sessions Saturday
Two final sessions Sunday
- New Knockouts Daily
- Four Days of 0-750 Gold Pairs
Tuesday Daylight Gold Pairs
- Three Stratified Side Game Series
- Daylight Pairs
Tuesday - Saturday at 10 & 3
- 10 & 3 Gold Rush Swiss Teams Sat.
- 0-2000 Round Robin Teams Sunday
*Top 3 Places in each bracket get Gold Points!
- Celebrity Speaker Program
6:15 - 6:45 Tuesday -Saturday

ENTRIES \$12
UNPAID & NON-MEMBERS \$16

District 21 website is your first resource
For our Regionals:
Make early partnership arrangements
Make hotel reservations
Plan your tournament events
Gather general information/directions
www.d21acbl.com

For information contact:
Pam Hughes: email: jmom380@yahoo.com
Partnership: Doug Hong dougkhong@msn.com
District 21 website: www.d21acbl.com
On site tournament info: 408-810-2273 (CARD)
Please comply with D21's Pet Policy. See website for details.
Schedule subject to change.

DISTRICT 21: Upbeat Bridge....Low Key Atmosphere!

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Monday May 29

- 1:00 Folsom Mon-Wed Side Pairs, 1st of 6
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+
AMERICAN RIVER GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750
- 7:00 AUBURN BRACKETED KOs
Continues Tuesday 9, 1 & 7
Folsom Mon-Wed Side Pairs, 2nd of 6
99/299ers Stratified Pairs

Tuesday May 30

- 9:00 AUBURN KOs – round 2
River Cats Morning Side Pairs 1st of 5
99er/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+
TUESDAY DAYLIGHT GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750
- 1:00 Folsom Mon-Wed Side Pairs, 3rd of 6
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
EL DORADO BRACKETED KOs
rounds 1&2 Continues Wednesday 1 & 7
AUBURN KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
Folsom Mon-Wed Side Pairs 4th of 6

Wednesday May 31

- 9:00 EUREKA SWISS TEAMS 1st of 2
River Cats Morning Side Pairs 2nd of 5
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 WEDNESDAY DAYLIGHT PAIRS
- 1:00 Folsom Mon-Wed Side Pairs, 5th of 6
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+
STRATIFIED MID-FLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000
PLACER GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750
SIERRA BRACKETED KOs 1 & 2
Continues Thursday 1 & 7
EL DORADO KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
Folsom Mon-Wed Side Pairs 6th of 6

Thursday June 1 GOODWILL DAY

- 9:00 EUREKA SWISS TEAMS – 2nd of 2
River Cats Morning Side Pairs 3rd of 5
99er/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 THURSDAY DAYLIGHT PAIRS
- 1:00 Capital Thu-Sat Side Pairs, 1st of 6
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+
STRATIFIED MID-FLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000
PLACER GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750
KINGS BRACKETED KOs rounds 1 & 2,
Continues Friday 1 & 7
SIERRA KOs – rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
99er/299ers Stratified Pairs
Capital Thu-Sat Side Pairs 2nd of 6



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Intermediate/Newcomer Events

99er/299er Pairs Every Day

Bridge Concepts Lectures

with Scott Campbell

Tues-Sat at Noon

Free Student Game

(0-5mp's) Sat. 1:00

Nancy Boyd, Director in Charge
ACBL Sanction R1706053 Conventions on the General Chart allowed
in all events. Mid-chart allowed in top bracket of two day KOs and any
bracket which contains no team with an average master point holding
of less than 1500 points, as well as four-session Open Pairs/Swiss &
Flight AX Events.

Friday June 2

- 9:00 JOHN SUTTER SWISS TEAMS 1st of 2
River Cats Morning Side Pairs 4th of 5
99er/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 JACKIE MATTHEWS DAYLIGHT PAIRS
- 1:00 Capital Thu-Sat Side Pairs, 3rd of 6
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS 0-5000/5000+
STRATIFIED MID-FLIGHT PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000
PLACER GOLD PAIRS 0-300/750
DELTA COMPACT KOs
KINGS KOs - rounds 3 & 4
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
99er/299ers Stratified Pairs
Capital Thu-Sat Side Pairs 4th of 6

Saturday June 3

- 9:00 JOHN SUTTER SWISS TEAMS – 2nd of 2
River Cats Morning Side Pairs 5th of 5
99er/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 10 & 3 SATURDAY OPEN PAIRS 0-1500/1500-3000/3000+
GOLD RUSH SWISS 0-300/750
- 1:00 FREE STUDENT GAME 0-5 mps
- 1:00 Capital Thu-Sat Side Pairs 5th of 6
99/299ers Stratified Pairs
- 1 & 7 CALIFORNIA CAPITAL OPEN SWISS TEAMS
Two qualifying sessions Saturday
Two final sessions Sunday
STRATIFIED OPEN PAIRS
OPEN BRACKETED TEAMS
- 7:00 Stratified Swiss Teams
Capital Thu-Sat Side Pairs 6th of 6
99er/299ers Stratified Pairs

Sunday June 4

- EARLY START - 10am - PLAY THRU
with a short break
CALIFORNIA SWISS CHAMPIONSHIP finals
STRATIFIED AX SWISS TEAMS
Strat A 3000+ Strat X -0-3000
0-2000 mp ROUND ROBIN TEAMS
•No individual player over 2000 mp
•Typically brackets of eight, three gold overall
places per bracket.
•Teams may not withdraw after one session.
- SENIOR SWISS TEAMS(60 years+)
STRATIFIED OPEN FAST PAIRS, 1st and 2nd
10am and tba - two single sessions:
299ers Swiss Teams & 299ers Stratified Pairs

Events in BOLD FACE are two or more sessions and award
gold points. Single session events award red points.

Stratified Events Key Unless otherwise posted.
A 2000+ B 750 - 2000 C 0 - 750
Eligibility is based on masterpoint total of top player.
Stratification is determined by average of pair/team

KO Events with only one Bracket may be Handicapped