



# Bloomington-Normal Bridge Newsletter

Volume 19 Number 7 – July, 2017

14 pages



## July Events



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

July 3 – open pairs      July 10 – NAP qualifier open pairs

July 17 – open pairs      July 24 – ACBL charity open pairs      July 31 – NAP qualifier open pairs

Contact Betty Capodice at 309-827-3318 for information or to arrange for a partner.

### Mike's Bridge Club schedule:

Saturday, July 1, 11:45AM – open pairs - Centennial Christian

Monday, July 3, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, July 5, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, July 6, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, July 8, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs – First Christian – SPECIAL LOCATION

Monday, July 10, 6:15PM – 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Tuesday, July 11, 12:30PM – invitation only pairs – Clinton Country Club

Wednesday, July 12, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, July 13, 11:45AM – open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, July 15, NO GAME – TOURNAMENT in TOWANDA

Monday, July 17, 6:15PM - 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Wednesday, July 19, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, July 20, 11:45AM – ACBL charity open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, July 22, 11:45AM – ACBL charity open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, July 24, 6:15PM - 99ers only pairs – First Christian

Tuesday, July 25, 12:30PM – invitation only pairs – Clinton Country Club

Wednesday, July 26, 1:15PM – 499ers only pairs – Centennial Christian

Thursday, July 27, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Centennial Christian

Saturday, July 29, 11:45AM – NAP qualifier open pairs – Centennial Christian

Monday, July 31, 6:15PM - 99ers only pairs – First Christian

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

All games sanctioned by the American Contract Bridge League.

Announcement: Effective 4/1/2012, all ACBL-sanctioned bridge games held in Bloomington-Normal are fragrance free. Please be respectful of those who are fragrance intolerant. Thank you!





## The Bloomington-Normal "Top 25" Masterpoint holders

As of 5/6/2017 – residents of Bloomington-Normal only  
paid up ACBL members only



1	3,725.07	Betty Capodice
2	3,611.69	Steve Babin
3	2,803.01	Zack Freehill
4	2,637.65	Eunice Patton
***	2,557.18	Laura Addison
5	2,128.31	Mike Tomlianovich
6	2,017.70	Cindy Moore
7	2,013.16	JoAnn Schroeder
8	1,813.75	Ann Schuyler
***	1,735.61	Steve Hawthorne
9	1,650.12	Dewey Gronau
10	1,479.64	Lori Moore
11	1,424.14	Ron Emmett
***	1,398.35	Sharad Chitgopekar
12	1,357.64	Charlie Morton
***	1,320.43	Ed Lombard
13	1,263.31	Stan Gutzman
14	1,220.74	Jeanne Strand
15	1,155.50	Ivey Weaver
***	1,091.94	Marian Edmunds
16	1,045.75	Jean Barnett
17	990.03	Randall Motchan
18	980.90	Jeff Furler
***	835.37	Glen Beaman
19	826.75	Steve Wulfers
20	797.02	Henrietta Crain
***	792.95	Don Strand
21	790.44	Joyce Clay
***	780.34	Jack Kessler
22	766.07	Dennis Moll
***	741.06	Pearl Harris
23	733.48	Dave Freehill
***	699.99	Peg Deutsch
24	629.83	Stevie Joslin
***	611.73	Martin Compton
***	570.80	Ann Farnsworth
***	567.22	Ruth Wettaw
25	494.77	Lane O'Connor

### Other players:

***	12,741.55	Dick Benson-LeRoy
	12,361.30	Chris Benson-LeRoy
	4,928.57	John Seng-Champaign
	4,795.55	Larry Matheny-Colorado
	4,223.37	Ron Sholes-Springfield
***	4,073.45	Alan Wienman-Morton
	4,025.08	Phyllis Rahn-Dunlap
	4,028.05	Christine Carroll-Champaign
	3,856.59	Kish Devaraj-Georgia
	3,865.07	Jim Carbaugh-Metamora
	3,037.31	Paul Lindauer-Varna
	2,713.38	Carole Sholes-Springfield
	2,689.49	Mary Allen-Peoria
	2,567.07	Ray Russ-Henry
	2,553.64	Pat Carrington-Champaign
	2,539.55	Georgia Heth-Morton
	2,448.48	Gail Moon-Tennessee
	2,432.34	Terry Goodykoontz-Champaign
	2,422.62	Margaret Hansell-Champaign
	2,017.96	Hank Hoffman-East Peoria
	1,882.70	John Maloney-Champaign
	1,849.69	Tim Cull-Arizona
***	1,776.22	John Burdon
	1,754.38	Marilyn Stickel-Lacon
	1,542.61	Bobbie Straker-Pekin
***	1,525.29	John La Rue-Pontiac
	1,281.51	Jim Moon-Tennessee
	1,135.45	Chuck Langley-Mechanicsburg
***	1,089.79	Phil Kenney-Eureka
	1,087.52	Bill Bulfer-East Peoria
***	916.41	Floyd Sherry-Eureka
	673.49	Wes Seitz-Champaign

\*\*\* deceased



## IMPROVE YOUR PLAY

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#1 –

While it's impossible to know how the auction will proceed, you should make the bid that best describes your hand. This seems obvious but some get sidetracked by a good suit and fail to anticipate the auction.

Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#16-47	♠ K9762	West	North	East	South
Vul N/S	♥ A102	-	-	Pass	1♥
	♦ 86	Pass	1♠	Pass	2♦
	♣ J63	Pass	2♥	Pass	Pass
♠ 543		Pass			
♥ 86		Pass			
♦ K1072					
♣ KQ109					
	♠ A108				
	♥ J54				
	♦ QJ4				
	♣ 8742				
	♠ QJ				
	♥ KQ973				
	♦ A953				
	♣ A5				

**BIDDING:** North erred by responding one spade instead of raising to two hearts. After his partner's two diamond rebid, North had a choice of three hearts which would show 10-12 invitational values, or two hearts which is a mere preference showing 6-9 with only two-card support. North should have realized his hand was worth only one bid and that was a raise of his partner's suit. Rather than overbid, North next chose to rebid two hearts and hope game was not missed.

**Play:** West led the king of clubs to declarer's ace. Declarer cashed the king of hearts and then led the queen of spades. East won the ace and shifted to diamonds. Declarer won the ace, cashed the queen of hearts, and then played the jack of spades. Now he led a third trump to dummy and had 11 tricks: 4 spades, 5 hearts, 1 diamond, and 1 club.

This was a very bad result for this N/S pair because most pairs reached the heart game.

## #2 –

The Bath Coup has been around since the days of whist. It occurs when declarer holding AJX in a suit ducks left-hand opponent's lead of a king (or a queen). The purpose of the Bath coup is to either gain a trick by means of a free finesse if the suit is continued, or to gain a tempo, because the suit may not be continued by opponents without the loss of a trick.

### Scoring: Matchpoints (Pairs)

#16-48	♠ 743	West	North	East	South
Vul N/S	♥ 875	Pass	Pass	Pass	2NT
	♦ A54	Pass	3NT	Pass	Pass
	♣ K432	Pass			
♠ 1092					
♥ 1032					
♦ KQ1097					
♣ 106					
	♠ AJ65				
	♥ J964				
	♦ 62				
	♣ J87				
	♠ KQ8				
	♥ AKQ				
	♦ J83				
	♣ AQ95				

**BIDDING:** South's 2NT bid showed 20-21 high card points and North raised to game.

**Play:** West led the queen of diamonds which asked his partner to unblock an honor. East followed with the deuce and declarer false carded with the eight. Hoping declarer held the doubleton J8, West continued with the king of diamonds. Declarer won the ace and led toward his spade honors twice to win 11 tricks: 2 spades, 3 hearts, 2 diamonds, and 4 clubs. This was a bad result for EW because most declarers won only 10 tricks.

A better agreement is to ask partner to unblock an honor or show count. With this agreement the play of the 6 would have to be from 6x or a singleton 6. Either case would make it clear a diamond continuation would be wrong.

**The Grand Slam Force convention was developed in 1936 by Ely Culbertson. It employs a jump to 5NT requesting partner to bid a grand slam if he holds two of the top three honors in his suit.**

#16-49	♠ AKQ76	West	North	East	South
Vul N/S	♥ Q7654	-	-	Pass	1 ♥
	♦ AK7	Pass	5NT	Pass	7 ♥
	♣	Pass	Pass	Pass	
♠ 9432					
♥					
♦ QJ86					
♣ A9832					
	♠ J105				
	♥ 932				
	♦ 10954				
	♣ Q64				
	♠ 8				
	♥ AKJ108				
	♦ 32				
	♣ KJ1075				

**Play:** A hopeful West led the ace of clubs and declarer soon had his thirteen tricks. After drawing trumps it was easy to establish dummy's spade suit.

**I was surprised how many N/S pairs failed to reach seven hearts. Most stopped in six so those who bid and made seven hearts won 24 of 27 matchpoints. Perhaps too few were aware of this old convention.**





**Bloomington-Normal Bridge Sectional**  
Sponsored by Central IL Bridge Association Unit 208

**When: July 14-16, 2017**

**Where: NEW LOCATION: Towanda Community Building, 103 S  
Jefferson Street, Towanda, Illinois Exit 171 off of I55**

**Schedule of Events**

**Friday, July 14 – Stratified Pairs\***

10:30 AM - Stratified Pairs-Charity Game  
3:30 PM - Stratified Pairs

\*If table count allows, a concurrent stratified team event may be added to the pairs' event.  
Teams may be formed in advance or randomly by the DIC.

**Saturday, July 15 – Stratified Pairs\***

10:30 AM - Stratified Pairs-Charity Game  
3:30 PM - Stratified Pairs

**Sunday, July 16 – Swiss teams**

10:30 AM – Double session with lunch provided.  
Break determined by Director

**Stratification**

A–Open; B–Under 1500; C: Under 500

NOTE: All stratifications will be determined by the team or partnership's *average* points.

**Entry Fees**

Friday and Saturday - \$10 per session  
Sunday - \$25 per person (\$100 per team) Lunch provided  
Note: \$3 extra for non-ACBL or unpaid members

**General Comments**

Complimentary Coffee and Snacks during the tournament.

ALL GAMES WELCOME NEW PLAYERS.

IF ATTENDANCE WARRANTS, WE WILL HAVE 199ers only pairs.

Thank you for not wearing fragrances! No perfume, cologne or scented products please!

*Please note Zero Tolerance Policy is enforced*

**Tournament Chair:** Eunice Patton, 309-660-2380; Email eunis54@me.com

**Tournament Co-Chair:** Lori Moore, 309-838-8085; Email whisperpines@comcast.net

**Partnerships:** Mike Tomlianovich, 309-825-5823; Email mjtomla@gmail.com

**Director:** Diane Martin

**Announcement: Effective 4/1/2012, all ACBL-sanctioned bridge games held in Bloomington-Normal are fragrance free. Please be respectful of those who are fragrance intolerant. Thank you!**



**Remember: All Bloomington-Normal duplicate events adhere to the ACBL's zero tolerance for unacceptable behavior. Do NOT let this person's conduct rub off on you!!**





**Bloomington-Normal 70% club**  
**Years 2016-2017 only**  
**Sponsored by: TBA**

<b>2017/6/19</b>	<b>73.33%</b>	<b>Gary Kemp &amp; Larry Ziegler(99ers)</b>
<b>2017/6/3</b>	<b>71.43%</b>	<b>Eunice Patton &amp; Steve Babin</b>
<b>2017/5/15</b>	<b>74.31%</b>	<b>Lynn Steffen &amp; Mary Houska(99ers)</b>
<b>2017/5/15</b>	<b>73.61%</b>	<b>Gaye Hoselton &amp; Larry Ziegler(99ers)</b>
<b>2017/5/9</b>	<b>70.83%</b>	<b>Nancy Lamkin &amp; Connie Finney(Clinton invitational)</b>
<b>2017/5/8</b>	<b>70.56%</b>	<b>Ron Calabrese &amp; Bob Bye(99ers)</b>
<b>2017/5/4</b>	<b>71.48%</b>	<b>Ann Schuyler &amp; Mike Tomlianovich</b>
<b>2017/4/25</b>	<b>73.61%</b>	<b>Marilyn &amp; Darryl Bremner(Clinton invitational)</b>
<b>2017/3/27</b>	<b>75.69%</b>	<b>Lynn Steffen &amp; Mary Houska(99ers)</b>
<b>2017/3/22</b>	<b>70.24%</b>	<b>Bob Clay &amp; Kirk Kimmel(499ers)</b>
<b>2017/2/8</b>	<b>73.81%</b>	<b>Kay Marvin &amp; Linda Odette(499ers)</b>
<b>2017/2/1</b>	<b>70.24%</b>	<b>Kay Marvin &amp; Linda Odette(499ers)</b>
<b>2016/11/2</b>	<b>71.53%</b>	<b>Tom Teeters &amp; Steve Wulfers</b>
<b>2016/9/12</b>	<b>72.22%</b>	<b>JoAnn Schroeder &amp; Ray Dostal</b>
<b>2016/9/1</b>	<b>70.83%</b>	<b>Jerry Oswald &amp; Steve Babin</b>
<b>2016/8/31</b>	<b>70.63%</b>	<b>Sallie Boge &amp; Bob Ragland(499ers)</b>
<b>2016/8/29</b>	<b>72.92%</b>	<b>Mary Lou Gold &amp; Gaye Hoselton(99ers)</b>
<b>2016/8/23</b>	<b>73.33%</b>	<b>Joni Newburg &amp; Valerie Crutchfield(Clinton invitational)</b>
<b>2016/8/15</b>	<b>71.35%</b>	<b>Tom Teeters &amp; Steve Wulfers</b>
<b>2016/8/6</b>	<b>71.33%</b>	<b>Christine Carroll &amp; Wes Seitz</b>
<b>2016/8/4</b>	<b>70.14%</b>	<b>Dennis Moll &amp; Zach Freehill</b>
<b>2016/7/27</b>	<b>70.95%</b>	<b>Kay Marvin &amp; Linda Odette(499ers)</b>
<b>2016/6/28</b>	<b>73.33%</b>	<b>Joni Newburg &amp; Lois Johnson(Clinton invitational)</b>
<b>2016/3/16</b>	<b>70.00%</b>	<b>Bev Branning &amp; John Ford(499ers)</b>
<b>2016/3/14</b>	<b>71.11%</b>	<b>Larry Ziegler &amp; Rick Kern(99ers)</b>
<b>2016/3/14</b>	<b>70.56%</b>	<b>Mike Gross &amp; Carroll Kinnaman(99ers)</b>
<b>2016/2/10</b>	<b>72.02%</b>	<b>Kay Marvin &amp; Linda Odette(499ers)</b>
<b>2016/2/3</b>	<b>71.67%</b>	<b>Lynn Steffen &amp; Mary Houska(499ers)</b>
<b>2016/1/12</b>	<b>70.14%</b>	<b>Marilyn &amp; Darryl Bremner(Clinton invitational)</b>

## BRIDGE BITES

from: The American Contract Bridge League

By: Brian Gunnell



### #153 – DETECTIVE WORK

	♠ AJ7 ♥ 8542 ♦ 876 ♣ A93	
♠ Q42 ♥ QJ963 ♦ K92 ♣ Q7	<i>North</i>  <i>West</i> <i>East</i>  <i>Declarer</i>	♠ 6 ♥ K7 ♦ AQJ543 ♣ 6542
	♠ KT9853 ♥ AT ♦ T ♣ KJT8	

*E-W Vulnerable*

**South West North East**

		Pass	2♦
2♠	3♦	3♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

East's 2♦ was a Weak Two, showing six Diamonds and less than opening values. N-S push on to 4♠, a contract which is in danger of losing a trick in each suit. On the other hand, with a bit of sleuthing, you might even make an overtrick.

West leads a low Diamond to East's Ace, and you ruff the ♦Q continuation. Do you know who has the ♠Q? Not exactly, but

you do know who is more likely to hold that card. East started with six Diamonds and West with only three. That leaves more space in the West hand for Spades, and he is therefore more likely to hold the Queen. So, you cash the ♠K, finesse the ♠J successfully, and draw the last trump with the ♠A. Now the contract is assured, but can you make an overtrick?

There wasn't much sleuthing in that Spade guess, you just had to remember the implications of the E-W bidding. But to find the ♠Q you will need to do some detective work. Before trying to guess the ♠Q, you can learn more about the hand by playing on Hearts. You cash the ♥A, and exit a Heart. Lo and behold, East plays the King on this trick and exits with the ♦J which you ruff. That's the final clue, the mystery is now solved. East has shown the ♦AQJ and the ♥K, that's 10 HCP. Also, East claims (in the bidding) to have less than opening values. So, he can hardly have the ♠Q, that would take him up to 12 HCP, which, coupled with a good 6-card suit, is an opening one-bid in anyone's book. So, you run the ♠J around, then repeat the finesse, and end up with 11 tricks.

#154 – DECISION AT TRICK ONE

	<div>♠ 32</div> <div>♥ KQ9</div> <div>♦ Q9832</div> <div>♣ A32</div>	
<div>♠ AKT76</div> <div>♥ JT763</div> <div>♦ 4</div> <div>♣ 76</div>	<div>North</div> <div>West</div> <div>East</div> <div>Declarer</div>	<div>♠ 98</div> <div>♥ 82</div> <div>♦ A765</div> <div>♣ QJ985</div>
	<div>♠ QJ54</div> <div>♥ A54</div> <div>♦ KJT</div> <div>♣ KT4</div>	

Both Vulnerable			
South	West	North	East
	Pass	Pass	Pass
1♣	2♣	2♥	Pass
3NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

West’s 2♣ was a Michaels Cue-Bid, showing 5-5 (or better) in the majors. North’s 2♥ said “I have something in Hearts and a decent hand”, and South took a shot at 3NT. What would you lead from the West hand? And how would you declare 3NT?

It would not be a good idea for West to lead a high Spade here. He has no entries outside the Spade suit, and playing Spades from the top would serve only to cut the communications between East and West. The best chance for getting the suit going is for West to lead his fourth-best Spade, hoping that East can profitably lead a Spade through Declarer later in the play. So, West leads the Spade Seven, East plays the Eight, and the key point in the play has already arrived. As Declarer, what would you play on this trick?

If you grab that first Spade trick with your Queen, then you must hope that West has the ♦A, because if East has that card he will fire back a Spade through your inadequate holding. Conversely, if you duck the first Spade, the defense will persist with Spades, knocking out your stopper. In that case, you must hope that East has ♦A, and that West’s last Spade is therefore shut out.

So, to play the Spades correctly at Trick 1, it is necessary to deduce who has the ♦A. And the answer is? Yes, East must have it. West is marked with the ♠AK from the play at Trick 1, and can hardly have the ♦A as well. Remember, he passed originally, and would not have done so with Ace-King, Ace and 5-5 distribution. It’s like they always say: “It pays to think at Trick 1, it may be too late at Trick 2”

#155 – A CLUB FINESSE

	<div>♠ KQ952</div> <div>♥ 965</div> <div>♦ 42</div> <div>♣ AQ9</div>	
<div>♠ --</div> <div>♥ KT832</div> <div>♦ KJ5</div> <div>♣ JT873</div>	<div>North</div> <div>West</div> <div>East</div> <div>Declarer</div>	<div>♠ 4</div> <div>♥ QJ4</div> <div>♦ QT9863</div> <div>♣ K54</div>
	<div>♠ AJT8763</div> <div>♥ A7</div> <div>♦ A7</div> <div>♣ 62</div>	

Both Vulnerable			
South	West	North	East
			2♦
2♠	5♦	5♠	Pass
Pass	Pass		

The inventor of the Weak Two had in mind a better suit than East’s puny specimen. As for West, he anticipated a 4♠ bid from North so he pre-sacrificed in 5♦. Undeterred, North bid 5♠ which is where South played it.

Against 5♠, West decided to lead a Diamond. The standard lead from that holding is a low Diamond, but West chose the

King, expecting it to hold the trick. By retaining the lead and getting a look at Dummy, West hoped to find the best continuation. That was good thinking by West, but it came to naught when Declarer won the ♦A.

The missing trump was drawn, the finesse of the ♠Q lost to East’s King, and now Declarer was saddled with an inescapable Heart loser. That was down one and N-S were left to rue that they had not “taken the money” by doubling 5♦.

Declarer was right to finesse in Clubs, but he took the wrong finesse. He has an extra chance if he finesses the Nine instead. If this loses to the Jack or the Ten, Declarer will later finesse the Queen, making 11 tricks if this works. And if the finesse of the Nine holds, or if it draws the King, then Declarer again has 11 tricks. A first-round finesse of the ♠Q works only when West has the King ... but the deep finesse works when West has the King or when West has both the ♣J and the ♣T. Two chances are better than one.

#156 – DASTARDLY DECEPTION

	<div>♠ Q4 ♥ J93 ♦ AQJ5 ♣ 7643</div>	
<div>♠ K852 ♥ K862 ♦ 9 ♣ A985</div>	<div>North  West East  Declarer</div>	<div>♠ AT973 ♥ T75 ♦ 842 ♣ T2</div>
	<div>♠ J6 ♥ AQ4 ♦ KT763 ♣ KQJ</div>	

N-S Vulnerable  
**South West North East**  
1NT Pass 3NT Pass  
Pass Pass

When this was played in a team game, 3NT was reached at both tables, and both West players failed to find the lethal opening Spade lead. Instead, they led their fourth-best Heart, and we can report that one Declarer made her contract, the other didn't. Here's how.

At Table 1, the opening Heart trick went: Two, Nine, Ten, Queen. Declarer could count just seven top tricks and at

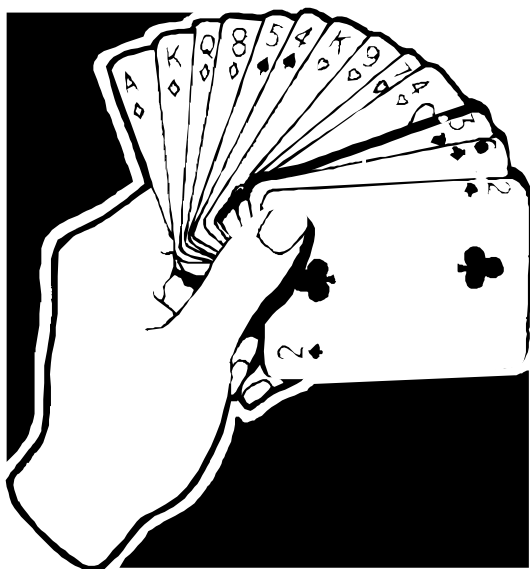
Trick 2 he played the ♣K in an attempt to set up two more. It was a futile effort, of course. West took his Ace and, not wanting to give Declarer a third Heart trick, he shifted to a Spade. Down two.

At Table 2, Declarer was more resourceful. She realized that, if she took that first trick with the ♥Q, the defense would probably find the Spade shift. So, in an attempt to muddy the waters, she squandered the ♥A! Now Declarer played a Club to West's Ace. Picturing East to have started with ♥QTx and Declarer with ♥Axx, West continued with a low Heart to East's supposed Queen. But it was Declarer who produced that card, and who promptly claimed nine tricks.

That was dastardly play by Declarer, but could West have seen through the deception? To West it seemed that Declarer might well have held something like: ♠Axx, ♥Axx, ♦Kxxx, ♣KQJ. Would Declarer not hold up in Hearts with such a hand? Not necessarily, if she did she might fall prey to a deadly Spade shift, allowing West to win his King and revert to Hearts for down one.

Postscript: There is a signaling device that could have saved E-W. It's the Smith Echo, whereby at Trick 2 East gives his attitude to the opening lead ... he plays a high Club to say "I like the opening lead" ... and a low Club to say "I don't" Here the message will be "I don't", so East plays the Two, after which West will presumably shift to a Spade. Or maybe not as, after the play to Trick 1, he might already have lapsed into auto-pilot mode.

## Upcoming tournaments:



### Bloomington Sectional

Jul 14-16, 2017

Towanda Community Building

103 S. Jefferson St., Towanda, IL 61701

