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 [GO!](#)
[Index](#)


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News Archive

[<< Go back to previous page](#)

Cronier, Willard Win Lazard Sportsmanship Award

Benedicte Cronier and Sylvie Willard, both of Paris, France, have been named co-recipients of the 2013 Sidney H. Lazard Jr. Sportsmanship award.

“These women are the epitome of grace, good manners, cheerfulness and sportsmanship, making the bridge experience more pleasurable for everyone,” says Sportsmanship Committee Chairman Sidney Lazard.

In memory of his late son, Lazard initiated the honor in 2001 to recognize and promote high standards of conduct among top-level players.

Cronier and Willard have won several NABC team titles, numerous European titles, and have twice brought the gold medal in women’s world team championship play home to France.

“This is the first time a partnership has been honored with the sportsmanship award,” Lazard explains.

“Given this international pair’s high level of conduct, the committee feels the selection is justified and appropriate.”

The trophy presentation will take place at the Summer NABC in Atlanta.

