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Joseph P Wergin

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Joseph P Wergin : Wergin on Skat and Sheepshead before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Wergin on Skat and Sheepshead:

Skat and Sheepshead are card games popular in Germany but not as well known in the United States. They are trick-taking games, bearing some similarities to bridge. Bridge players sometimes play these games as a pass-time. Both games are much older than bridge, with longer traditions. A great advantage to Skat is that it is played with only three players. Bridge players are often looking for a fourth, much as Diogenes was always searching for an honest man. Skat can be played until the fourth is finally found. Skat has its own cards. There are many different styles and varieties in the design of the cards, depending on where they are played. German cards are different from Italian or Swiss cards, for example. There are also many different rules, with changes and innovations frequently. Skat was first played with Tarot cards. It can also be played just as well with a regular deck of cards, but with all the cards from two-through-six removed, leaving a deck of only 32 cards. The cards are dealt with each player receiving 10 cards and the remaining two cards left in the middle. Then the players bid, with the winning bidder claiming the two cards in the middle. Tricks are played with two players teaming up to try to defeat the winning bidder.