

POST MORTEM

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.pittsburghbridge.org

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All the news that fits in print

.....by lou joseph

A New Year isn't complete without at least one resolution, so here's a suggestion. Why not try to attend the Friday Evening Unit Game at least once a month in 2010? Here's what the PBA Board hopes will be at least two incentives:

1) GAME TIME OFFICIALLY IS CHANGED TO 7:00 PM EFFECTIVE FRIDAY, JANUARY 8, 2010. ***Get started earlier, get home earlier!***

2) THERE WILL BE A MONTHLY SWISS TEAM EVENT (the actual schedule dates appear elsewhere in this issue).

Whether you like to admit it or not, the Friday Evening Unit Game is still the best bridge in town. Come on out and show off your prowess!

Obviously the Board is aware that the change in time will be detrimental to some, but it is their sincere hope that earlier start time will attract more people than it will lose. They hope you will consider supporting the game as often as possible. IT'S OUR UNIT GAME! If we let it fade away, we have no one to blame but ourselves!

On a less sermonizing note, we thank Bill Seran and Carol Shanahan and their committee for hosting the wonderful holiday party/ STaC game. The food was great, the bridge was great, and the attendance was great! Oh, and by the way, Arlene and I wish everyone the healthiest and happiest of New Years. May 2010 be your best ever!



Why is "Swiss Teams" the
most popular form of Bridge?

BECAUSE IT'S THE MOST FUN!!!

Here's your chance to learn about Team Games:
Limited to players with under 299 Masterpoints!

Saturday February 27th

- Masonic Center North

Gametime @ 12:00 Noon ... Orientation Chat @ 11:15

6 ROUNDS OF 5 BOARDS* ... \$32 PER 4-PERSON TEAM

Pizza Lunch and Hospitality included - Such a Deal!

Please RSVP: Darlene 412-343-0419 — also call for help in building a team!

UP THE LADDER POST

JUNIOR MASTER

Nancy Angerman
Karen L. Peters

CLUB MASTER

Janis A O'Brien
Suzanne P Wagner

SECTIONAL MASTER

Jennifer A Divittis
Milton Weiss

REGIONAL MASTER

Betty Belle
Nolly S Chess
Alma H Michael

LIFE MASTER

Patricia C Evans

SILVER LIFE MASTER

James Quigley
Dr. George P Spine Jr.

CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

(rumor has it that Arlene Port is knocking on the Diamond Life Master doorstep of 5000 points. She confided to me that when this happened she was going to start playing less. In anticipation of this, two weeks ago when I played against her I threw two boards. It didn't help - she was there again yesterday- Lou)

IN MEMORIAM POST

Our deepest sympathy to Marcella Apter. Marcella's son, Joey, passed away in December. Our thoughts go to his family and friends and know they will find comfort in the knowledge that Joey was a very special person who enriched the lives of those who knew him.

Also, just as we went to print we learned of the sudden passing of Leona Friedman. A fixture at many games for many years, she will be sorely missed by all her friends.

PBA MONTHLY SWISS TEAMS

Friday, January 22, 2010 - 7 PM
Friday, February 26, 2010 - 7 PM
Friday, March 12, 2010 - 7 PM
Friday, April 30, 2010 - 7 PM
Friday, May 21, 2010 - 7 PM
Friday, June 25, 2010 - 7 PM
Friday, July 23, 2010 - 7 PM
Friday, August 27, 2010 - 7 PM
Friday, September 10, 2010 - 7 PM
Friday, October 22, 2010 - 7 PM
Friday, November 26, 2010 - 7 PM
Friday, December 17, 2010 - 7 PM

**START GETTING YOUR
TEAMS TOGETHER NOW!
A WHOLE YEAR OF FUN!**

(hint - cut this out and stick it on your refrigerator or under your car's sun visor!)

BLUE RIBBON NOMINATION POST

Mary Anne McNeirney has nominated Susan Podgers and Marilyn Siebert for the Blue Ribbon Award. You've really got to hand it to these girls. Relatively new to duplicate bridge, they have been faithfully attending the Friday evening Unit game. I think all the players have taken them under their wings, and the results are evident. They are really coming along! But that's hardly why they've been nominated for this award.

These two lovely ladies rarely let a week go by when they don't bring some home baked treat to the game. They took it upon themselves to WASH the bidding boxes and the cards! (You'd be amazed, if not disgusted, to find out what ends up in some of those!) They volunteered to host the annual Holiday Party this coming December! Are they for real?

Well, yes they are! I don't think you could find two more gracious or deserving recipients of this nomination, and the PBA should count itself very fortunate that Susan and Marilyn are part of our Unit and our family.

When next you see either one of them, give them a pat on the back. They truly deserve it!

DISTRICT 5 WINTER STaC RESULTS 12/07-12/13

SATURDAY AFT OPEN PAIRS

A B C

- 1 MP Carns - G Carns
3 G Hastings - L Joseph

TOP 10 UNIT 142 MP WINNERS

- 1 J HAFFNER 6 F CORDIER
2 H HAFFNER 7 W HOLT
3 G CARNS 8 A PORT
4 R QUINLAN 9 A ULKE
5 MP CARNS 10 J ZAMBROSKI

WELL DONE EVERYONE!!!

SUNDAY SWISS TEAMS

A B C

- 1 1 F Schenker, J Tscholl,
D Roseberry, J Overcashier
2 F Walters. A Ulke, P & R Katz
3 E Catalfamo, A Williams,
M Tamres, B Klein
2 B Bergman, K Bergman,
G Hastings, L Joseph
3 B Belardi, M Smith, C Powell,
J Sonon
1 D Meyers, J McCormick,
WD Lowery, J Zimmerman

HELP WANTED POST

We are trying to restart the mentoring program for our unit. Anyone interested in either being a mentor or being mentored can contact Bill Seran at bridgeplayerx2@verizon.net or call: 412-952-3582.

DISTRICT 5 WINTER STaC RESULTS 12/07-12/13

MONDAY MORN OPEN PAIRS

A B C

- 1 MP Carns - G Carns
- 2 F Cordier - J Brady
 - 1 E Scalzo - J Scalzo
 - 2 D Hammerschmidt - J Hammerschmidt

MONDAY AFT OPEN PAIRS

A B C

- 1 J Haffner - A Port
 - 2 L Finegold - M Kramer
 - 1 C Gibboney - D Gibboney
 - 2 R Ambrose - B Vint
 - 3 E Diamond - M Weiss

MONDAY AFT 99'er PAIRS

A B C

- 1 1 1 P Miller - R Burrows
- 2 2 I Chernew - N Zweig
- 3 3 2 M Pollock - B Ackerman
 - 3 S Stark - J Wolfe

MONDAY EVE OPEN PAIRS

A B C

- 1 1 T Richards - G Cross

TUESDAY MORN OPEN PAIRS

A B C

- 2 R Ambrose - D Legal

TUESDAY AFT OPEN PAIRS

A B C

- 3 P Katz - R Katz

TUESDAY AFT 299'er PAIRS

A B C

- 1 1 F Rubin - H Klink
- 2 2 1 A Kairys - M Weaver
- 3 3 S Bliman - D Cook
 - 2 B Pugh - T Saverice

TUESDAY EVE OPEN PAIRS

A B C

- 2 2 R Zimmermann - G Gilligan

WEDNESDAY MORN OPEN PRS

A B C

- 1/2 J Zambroski - A Elis
- 3 1 E Catalfamo - H Nelson
 - 2 E Alcoff - D Frohlich
 - 3 M Mazer - C Pfeifer

WEDNESDAY AFT OPEN PAIRS

A B C

- 1 R Quinlan - W Holt
- 2 1 L Evans - L Evans
- 3 B Fudor - G Carns
 - 2 J Janitor - J Bridenbaugh
 - 1 K Blechman - E Diamond
 - 2 A Tam - K Peters

WEDNESDAY EVE OPEN PAIRS

A B C

- 1 H Sachs - S Ruskin
- 3 MP Carns - G Carns
 - 3 B Brennan - W Seran

WED EVE SMALL GAMES

A B C

- 3/5 H Feldman - P Westreich
- 3/5 J Purvis - F Wilson

THURSDAY AFT OPEN PAIRS

A B C

- 2 R Schneider - R Sheldon

THURSDAY EVE 299'er PAIRS

A B C

- 1 1 C Newman - N Langston
- 2 2 J Blackburn - J Tilton
- 3 3 L Bullions - B Opsal

THURSDAY EVE OPEN PARS

A B C

- 3 J Crowley - H Greenberg
 - 3 C Rosenberger - D Toy

FRIDAY MORN OPEN PAIRS

A B C

- 1 H Haffner - F Cordier
- 3 J Sonon - J Zambroski
 - 1 E Alcoff - D Frohlich
 - 1 W Brownlee - L Stern

FRIDAY AFT OPEN PAIRS

A B C

- 1 C Hoechstetter - R Quinlan

FRIDAY EVE OPEN PAIRS

A B C

- 1 J Haffner - H Haffner
 - 1 K Bock - R Sheldon

Continued on previous page

I INTERNET POST
INTERNET POST

.....by arlene port

#1 You are south, IMP'a both vul.
You hold:

S --
H A K 10 8 3
D K Q 4
C A J 8 7 6

?The bidding is:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1H	PASS	2D	PASS
3C	PASS	3NT	PASS
4D	PASS	4NT	PASS

?

What do you bid?

Warren Oberfield: 6C. Natural.

Presumably, partner's 4N is discouraging based on wasted values in spades & mediocre diamonds (as I hold KQ). Over 6C, partner should know I have a very good 0535 pattern, & should be able to place the contract.

Ernie Retetagos 6 Clubs Partner's 4 NT is natural and shows spade strength. Even with that, there should be very good play for six of a minor

Florine Walters: Pass. Partner should be telling me he has no fit in either suit, a minimum hand and a concentration in spades.

Gail Carns: 5D - 4NT should be to play but I am going to answer Blackwood. I use 5C to show 3 keycards and over 5D bid 6D to show the spade void. If 5D shows 3 keycards I would bid 6D over 4NT to say I have a void and my answer is 5D.

Herb Sachs: Pass I hate to pass but my partner bidding sounds like AQJx x Axxxx xxx. cant afford to chance a minus. i could have club K for my bidding but i dont. i quit.

Bruce Keidan: 6C. Pick a slam, pard.

Steve Nolan : 5C (response to RKC Blackwood with diamonds as trumps). Thereafter, I won't let the bidding die below 6D, but otherwise partner is in command

Stanley Ruskin: 5D I can't believe there isn't a good play for a slam in this hand. I play 4NT as a sign off but I have to take one more bid - 5D. This should describe my hand as well as possible - 0/5/3/5. I certainly wouldn't have bid 3C with a 4 card suit. I will let partner decide the final contract. Partner can place the final contract.

Asim Ulke: I bid 6C. Partner has about 10 to 12 points in Spades, Hearts and Diamonds. I think there is room in his hand for a Club honor. I expect the distribution to be approximately 4-1-5-3. My bid should show a Spade void by inference. Partner will know what to do over 6C.

Richard Katz: 6D I don't know how to get to 7, so I will just settle for 6. I am not going to play 4NT

Pat Katz: 6D I have 3 controls and a void.

Auxilliary Expert

Marvin Rulin: 6D After raising diamonds i would take take north's 4 NT bid as key card for diamonds. i have 3 key cards but cannot show my spade void. is 7D probable if north has the D Ace? possible but i would just jump to 6 Diamonds and partner can decide.

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

	Nat.	Pgh	Award
6D	9	3	100
5S	4	0	90
5C	8	1	80
PASS	9	2	70
6C	2	4	70
5D	1	2	60
5NT	0	0	60
7D	2	0	40
5H	1	0	40

CLUB POSTS

The Rodef Shalom Sisterhood is pleased to announce that the last Monday of every month will now be a charity game. This means lots of extra points!!

INTERNET POST HOW EXPERTS VOTED

Leo Bluhm	6D
Bart Bramley	6D
Jimmy Cayne	6D
Billy Cohen	6D
Mark Cohen	5S
Billy Eisenberg	5C
Bob Ewen	5C
Morris Freier	7D
Carl Hudecek	6D
Eli Jaye	5C
Ralph Katz	Pass
Edwin Kantar	5C
Edgar Kaplan	5C
Eric Kokish	5S
Sami Kehela	Pass
Ed Manfield	5S
Marshall Miles	6C
Eli Patashnik	P
Richard Pavlicek	6D
Arthur Robinson	5C
Bruce Rogoff	5C
Al Roth	6D
Ira Rubin	Pass
Jeff Rubens	5D
Tom & Carol Sanders	3C
Bee Schenken	6C
Bill Sides	5C
John Simon	5H
Allan Stauber	6D
John Swanson	5S
Robert Wolff	7D



*PARTNERS
FOREVER*



BRIDGE IN THE BURG

Ernie Retetagos squeezes another one from his collection!

	N	VUL: EW
	♠92	
	♥A	
	♦K7432	
	♣AQ987	
W		E (D)
♠KJT75		♠63
♥J32		♥T98754
♦J		♦T8
♣KT54		♣J32
	S	
	♠AQ84	
	♥KQ6	
	♦AQ965	
	♣6	

The auction:	S	W	N	E	
				P	Lead: J♦
	1♦	1♠	2♠	P	
	3NT	P	4♦	P	
	4♠	P	6♦	P	
	6NT	ALL PASS			

In a regional pairs event, South tried for the matchpoints by bidding slam in no trump. An easier way for matchpoints would be able to land in the biddable grand slam in diamonds, but hey, no one is perfect. After the opening diamond lead, there were eleven top tricks with the aid of the club finesse. Declarer cashed top red suit winners ending in hand:

	N	
	♠92	
	♥-	
	♦-	
	♣AQ98	
W		E
♠KJT		♠63
♥-	♥9	
♦-		♦-
♣KT5		♣J32

S (D) On the last diamond, W pitched a club
 ♠AQ84 and declarer finessed the club, cashed the
 ♥- A♣, and ran the 9♠. If W had pitched a
 ♦9 spade instead, declarer would exit with
 ♣9 the Q♠ establishing the spade suit!

MY YEAR IN REVIEW

Or

Poetry For Slow Months

.....by arlene port

The year Two thousand nine is officially past
I can hardly believe that each month went so fast.
But I clearly recall each important event
My achievements supreme in the year that I spent

January my friends was a little bit slow
I played bridge 30 times. This much I know
And I managed to earn 7 points, so you see
I thought that this month was successful for me.

February and March went a little bit better
Yes I hoped my success would become a trend setter
Thirty five games netted points . There were 8.
I then knew that this year was just gonna be great!

April, then May and then June simply flew
Had 5 different partners. One of them new
And discovered that IF I played morning and night
My goal of 10 points became clearly in sight

By the time that July came , a moment I took
To think that perhaps I should read a good book
Then I said to myself “Don’t be silly my friend
There are too many bridge games that you must attend

When September arrived, I must admit
That month cramped my style and I faltered a bit.
Those holidays, wow, they just got in my way
How could I play bridge if I had to go pray?

Sectionals, regionals, I went to them all
I played every session and just had a ball
At years end I thought “HEY”, with my points close at hand
My life is too narrow, I have to expand”

I’ll take classes, try dancing or cooking or art
Yet I knew that those things just weren’t close to my heart
So I did what I wanted, and feeling no shame
I went looking to find a three session bridge game.

GREENSBURG OUTPOST *by Mary Jo Johnson*

All the Christmas parties were delightful..... with good food, frivolity, friends, and of course, great bridge. To all of those, whose hard work and efforts made the parties "happen", please accept our kudos and thanks for a job well done.

Some of you are unaware that there is an Annual Bridge Players College Bowl Pick 'Em Pool, open to bridge players only. Garnet and I became aware of it when we attended the PBA Christmas Party Game. This year there were 45 entries. I will try to remember to remind all of you next year so that you "die-hard" football fans and gamblers, can enter as well.

Once again we are beset with unexpected deaths of our fellow colleagues. I failed to mention that in the fall, Donald Kane, a decorated Vietnam pilot who played at the Tuesday night game, passed away. Then we got word that Jerry Montini, a FL resident who used to play at all the Greensburg games when he came to PA to visit his mother, died from cancer. And of course, we were all shocked beyond belief upon hearing that Dorothy Hauber died in her sleep in the middle of December. Dorothy was just the nicest person, a talented knitter, the ultimate lady, and always a delight to converse with when you went to her table or she came to yours. We extend our deepest sympathy to their families.

Also, keep in your thoughts and prayers Lee DiVittis who underwent total hip replacement right before Christmas. She is at Oakhill for rehabilitation but by the time you are reading this, she will more than likely be back at her home. Cards, calls, and well wishes would be appreciated. Her address is: 725 Main Street Latrobe, PA 15650 and the phone number is: 724-539-1389.

And now for some good news. Erwin Illson became a Bronze Life master at the December 4th Christmas party game in Greensburg. Ironically, he earned his Life Master level at the Greensburg Friday Christmas party game a few years ago. Looks like Friday is his lucky day of the week. Way to go Erwin !

May the joy of all the good times shared during this holiday season, brighten your days in the New Year. And may 2010 be a happy and HEALTHY year for all of us.

REMEMBER: UNIT GAME NOW STARTS @ 7 PM!!

FIRST AT THE POST!!

70% GAMES

Jean Prior & Don Averbach	70.54%	Suburban DBC
Jean Prior & Bob Quinlan	70.00%	Wed Temple Emanuel
Arlene Port & Judy Haffner	71.33%	Mon. Rodef

3 IN A ROW

Ray Schneider	Thu JCC-SH	Joe Brady	Mon. Glenshaw
Mike Swartz	Mon. Rodef		

2 IN A ROW

Sandra Harris	Fri Whitehall	Ivan Port	Tues. Morn Ohara
Arlene Port	Tues Morn Ohara	Myron Swartz	Thurs. Blacfridge
Marion Smith	Thurs. Blkridge	Jim Klein	Thurs. Blackridge
Judy Haffner	Wed. JCC	Harold Haffner	Wed. JCC
Eugene Klawier	Mon. Rodef	Barbara Horowitz	Mon. Rodef
Lila Margolis	Mon. Rodef	James Klein	Mon. Rodef
Arnold Lefine	Mon Rodef	Marion Smith	Mon. Rodef
Ted Sandson	Mon. Rodef	Pat Miller	Rodef 99er's
Ronni Burrows	Rodef 99ers		

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS

PBA 3 MONTHS FORWARD AT A GLANCE

JANUARY 2010

PM!

01/08 Unit Championship
01/15 NO GAME - Cleveland Regional
01/22 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
01/29 GNT Fundraiser Game

REMEMBER: GAME TIMES NOW 7:00

FEBRUARY 2010

02/05 Junior Fund Game
02/12 Membership Game and PBA Board Meeting
02/19 Unit Championship
02/26 Junior Fund SWISS TEAM

MARCH 2010

03/05 Club Championship
03/12 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
03/19 Unit Championship
03/26 Open Pairs

January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 HAPPY NEW YEAR! PBA cancelled	2 Unit 229
3	4	5	6	7	8 PBA Unit Championship NOW AT 7PM	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 PBA cancelled Cleveland Regional	16
17	18 Rodef can. Martin Luther King	19	20	21	22 PBA Unit Championship SWISS TEAM NOW AT 7PM	23
24/31	25 Rodef Shalom Charity Game	26	27	28	29 PBA GNT Fundraiser NOW AT 7PM	30