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Unit 142 Pittsburgh, PA April 2013

POST MORTEM

WEBSITE AT www.pittsburghbridge.org

President: Barbara Bergman
 Vice President: Ron Franck
 Secretary: Mary Paulone Carns
 Treasurer: Jane Marshall
 Club Manager: Mary Carns

All the news that fits in print

.....by arlene port

In case you were wondering where March went, April came and sent it packing. That's what it gets for giving us snow at the end of the month. It's a cautionary tale: If you don't behave yourself, you're OUT!! So April, take note. We want warm days, new flowers and lots of sunshine or else. You only have 30 days to prove you're worth keeping for next year.

And since I am in my threatening mode, don't tell Lou, but he is in trouble. If he doesn't stop picking on poor innocent me, I am really going to hurt him. I will promote him to be the chief editor of the post mortem. I really know how to hurt a guy. It's a drastic step, but tough situations require tough solutions.

On the other hand, the PBA has nothing to fear. It is doing just great!! The April Spring Sectional is almost upon us (see page 2) You have my word that it will be every bit as great as all our sectionals usually are; particularly with Ken and Barbara Bergman running the show. I can hardly wait to see you all there. If you need help making a partnership, call either Jane Marshall or Darlene Mannheimer, our fixer-uppers deluxe. I am going to call myself. I have been trying to get partners, but everyone I ask is going to be busy feeding their dog. Who knew there were so many dogs in our unit?

Don't forget the unit team game April 5th. It is getting larger and more exciting each month. And, the 19th & 26th are both championship games. (lots of points). In May, of course, we have our Awards Party to look forward to. PBA, you are doing just great!!

Please stay well (and I mean it.). We are running out of room in our Get Well Post. That is the only column I would like to be able to get rid of for lack of information. Take care and enjoy the Post Mortem.

Hospitality All Sessions!

Friday, April 12

1:30 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
 Stratified 299er Pairs (1 session)
 7:30 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
 Stratified 299er Pairs (1 session)
 Single Session Swiss Teams

Saturday, April 13

11:00 AM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
 Stratified 299er Pairs (1 session)
 Compact Handicapped KO Teams
 (1st of 2 sessions)

4:00 PM Lunch on Us between Sessions!
 Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
 Stratified 299er Pairs (1 session)
 Compact Handicapped KO Teams
 (2nd of 2 sessions)
 Single Session Swiss Teams

Sunday, April 14

11:00 AM Super Brunch & Lunch Included
 Stratified Open Swiss Teams
 (7 rounds of 7 boards)
 Stratified 299er Swiss Teams
 (6 rounds of 6 boards)
 Separate Play-through Events/
 30 point VP scale

Open		299er	
A: 2000+	D: 200-300	E: 50-200	F: 0-50
B: 750-2000	Stratifications in All 299er Strats at Director's Discretion		
C: 0-750	Events by Avg. Mps		

Pittsburgh

Flower Power

Spring Sectional

April 12 - 14, 2013

Masonic Center North
 3579 Masonic Way
 Pittsburgh, PA 15237



Lesson from an Expert

Friday @ 6:45 PM

Cubic Zirconia
 Life Master Theater
 Saturday @ 3:15 PM

Partnership:

Jane Marshall 412-371-4067
j304parts@5bridge.com

Newcomer & 999er:

Darlene Mannheimer
 412-343-0419
299parts@5bridge.com

Tournament Chair:

Barb Bergman
 Ken Bergman
 724-935-4591
spring3@5bridge.com

Director in Charge: Mike Roberts
 Sanction # S1304068

Pairs Entries \$12 pp.
 Open Swiss Teams \$100/team
 299er Swiss \$ 80/team
 Non & Unpaid ACBL Members
 \$1 additional per session
 Student Discount: \$5 per Session

Full Newcomer / NLM Schedule:

Newcomer / 299er Pairs -
 Both Sessions Friday & Saturday
 PLUS Special Swiss on Sunday!

Play ONLY against other New Players

Contact Darlene for
 Partners & Team-building!

Full Schedule & Directions at
www.pittsburghbridge.org

POSTAGE DUE

This month we continue our new column which we hope all players will take advantage of. There are many players who are no longer able to get about, and would love to hear from their old friends, even if it's just a card to say they remember.

EDIE WEISER
c/o Charles Morris Rehab Center
200 JHF Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15217

If you know someone who is confined and would like to hear from their old friends, please e-mail Arlene at aport220@comcast.net or Lou at louismjoseph@comcast.net along with the name and address, and we will be happy to publish the information. Thanks!

AWARDS NOTICE POST

The prestigious MILT FRAZIER AWARD will be presented at the ANNUAL AWARDS PARTY IN MAY to the PBA member who has given the most effort for the good of the Unit. Contact Jane Marshall to nominate your choice (include a few words explaining your reason). Previous winners include Bill Holt, Barb and Ken Bergman, Mary Carns, Sandy Schuchert, Arlene Jacobelli, Marcella and Ernie Retetagos and, surprise, surprise, STILL not Arlene Port.

Really, if you have someone deserving in mind, pass it along. Silence may be golden, but those who hide their lamp under a bushel better have bushel insurance for the fire!

GET WELL POST

We continue to offer get well wishes to Ginny Headrick, Edie Weiser, Betty Noble, Ada Nye, Doc Williams, Mary Anne McNeirney, Delores Kelly, Dee Braddock, Bill and Norma Spicher, and anyone else who is ailing. If you know of someone we missed, or have a suggestion for someone for the Postage Due column, please do not hesitate in letting us know. We try not to miss anyone, and I certainly don't want to offend anyone. (Can't speak for Arlene, though...)

IN MEMORIAM POST

Another terrible month for loss of PBA members. We mourn the loss of the following players and friends:

Mitch Namy. A regular at the North Hills duplicate games, Mitch continued to play until his late 90's. A proud member of the Armed Forces in WWII, he then worked for the Department of Defense. He will be remembered for his kindness and generosity, including his donation of card tables to the Masonic Center where he played.

Max Gomberg. A regular at the South Hills duplicate games. He will be missed by all his friends and partners, especially Anne Freeman.

Aubrey George. A well known and respected fixture of the PBA for decades. Among his many talents and qualities as a fine player, he also taught bridge in Greensburg and for many, many years, chaired the hospitality at the Labor Day Regional. When he retired, it took two (2) people (Ken and Barb Bergman) to replace him. He also served as treasurer for the 2005 Pittsburgh Nationals.

Ethel Farrell. A regular player with her regular partner, Gigi Davis, Ethel could always be seen on most Thursday and Friday mornings at the Wilkins Township Games. She was a lovely lady with a fine sense of humour. Her passing leaves the bridge world just a little colder.

Marge Tamres' brother Larry, at the age of 91 1/2. Larry and Marge had a very special relationship. They were not only sister and brother, they were best friends, they shared the duplex that had belonged to their parents and most of all, they took care of each other. Larry, who was a WWII veteran, taught electronics and worked in that field. He was a kind and generous man. Marge's loss is great and we extend our deepest sympathy to all of her family.

UP THE LADDER POST

JUNIOR MASTER

Stephen Eisner
Judith Kenney
Jim Reynolds
Marilyn Swimmer

CLUB MASTER

Marybeth Cannon
Arlene Cullen
Diane Fields
Jim Fields

SECTIONAL MASTER

Madeleine Frizzi
Karl Sokalski

REGIONAL MASTER

Jeanne Baseman

BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Donald Turacy, Sr.

SILVER LIFE MASTER

Marlene Mc Connell
Russell Sheldon

EMERALD LIFE MASTER

Bernard Fudor



WELL DONE, ALL!!

BELIEVE IT OR NOT POST

A few weeks ago I was playing with Arlene at the Glenshaw Moose Wednesday game, against Ken and Barb Bergman. Arlene had been ranting the entire day against the new pre-dealt hands, claiming they were not random. Finally I said to her that she should tell Gus (the director) to turn down the “skew” knob on the machine - that would limit the number of freak hands and freakish distributions. (Lou knows nothing. There is definitely a “skew devil” in that machine. Everyone knows that!!)

I think she actually gave this thirty seconds more thought than she should have...



**District 5 Grand National Teams Finals
Represent your District at the Summer NABC
AND Get CASH to Cover Expenses!**

WHO WANTS TO BE FAMOUS ???

2012 GNT Flight B National Champs!

Fred Yellen, Judith Padgug,
John Bacon and Michael Creager
won the Sheinwold Flight B GNT
in Philadelphia.

Buffalo & Cleveland done good!

The team received \$1,000 from
District 5 to help defray costs.



Clearly they practiced with a mirror to look like winners!

Here's your chance to have a fun bridge weekend in the District 5 GNT finals. If you win your flight, head off to the Summer NABC in Atlanta to play in the National GNT Finals, with cash from District 5 to help you with expenses! Many Units sweeten the pot, too! Such a Deal!

Flights & Times:

April 27 & 28, 2013
Flight C: 0-500 NLM
Flight A: 0-5000

May 4 & 5, 2013
Flight B: 0-2000
Champ. Flight: Unlimited

Saturday game times are 1PM & 7 PM, Sunday 10 AM & TBD (to follow). (Point totals are as of Sept. 1, 2012) Play both weekends in your flight or higher! For the top 3 flights overall awards are gold and match awards are red. For flight C overall awards are 25% gold and 75% red. Match awards are red.

No Pre-qualification!
Just show up!
(We'd like an RSVP to Barb)

Erie Bridge Club
1221 Grant Avenue
Erie, Pa. 16505-3118
814-833-1706

Just 95 miles
from Cleveland,
100 from Buffalo &
125 from Pittsburgh

Contact: Barb Bacon - D5 GNT Coordinator (440) 724-6539 or bbacon@cox.net

Full Driving Directions & Maps, Hotel Information at
<http://www.d5bridge.com/GNT-NAP.htm>

WHADDYA GOT TO LOSE? SEE YOU IN ERIE!!!

PBA 3 MONTHS AT A GLANCE

APRIL

- 5 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 12 PBA Spring Sectional at Masonic Center
- 19 Club Championship
- 26 Unit ACBL Charity Championship and PBA Board Meeting

MAY

- 3 Unit Championship
- 10 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 17 Unit Local Charity Championship and AWARDS NIGHT/PARTY
- 24 NO GAME - Cleveland Regional
- 31 Open Pairs

JUNE

- 2 Fossick-Goodman Sunday Swiss Team at Edgewood Country Club
- 7 NAOP Qualifier
- 13 STAC Pairs Thursday Game
- 14 STAC Pairs and PBA Board Meeting

BRAND NEW POST!!! - ASK ERNIE

The Post Mortem is intended to be for ALL players, novices and experts alike. In the interest of hearing from less experienced and advancing players, the PBA has instituted a NEW column - call it advice for the bridgelorn, call it what you want. We are calling it ASK ERNIE.

Ernie Retetagos has agreed to accept bidding and play questions of your choice, which he will review and answer in later issues of the Post Mortem. You may send them to him directly eret@verizon.net Or send them to either of the PM editors (e-mail addresses on the mast-head.) Forget about "discussing" (fighting) with partner and just send it to Ernie at the Post Mortem. For sure, Ernie will stick up for you.

INTERNET POST

You are South, IMP's, both sides vul.

You Hold:

S	K 7 2
H	8 7 6 4
D	A 10 4 2
C	A 3

The bidding is:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
---	---	1D	2C
DBL	3C	3S	PASS
?			

Ernie Retetagos: .5 Diamonds. Partner has shown an unbalanced non minimum hand. They are strong enough for me to correct to 4 diamonds if I don't have 4 spades. With three prime cards, I have to bid game.

It is instructive to look at the imp odds for bidding close vulnerable games. If the contract is 4 diamonds at the other table, we will pick up 10imps when game makes. We will lose 6imps when we go down one

Jim Bachelder: 3NT! What else? I can make three notrump opposite an 11 count such as AQXX, XX, KQXXX, XX and partners three spade bid opposite my negative double, which could be less than I hold, should show more than a minimum. I'm not worried about hearts, no one has bid them.

Florine Walters: 3NT From the bidding, partner probably has at least six diamonds and four spades. All partner needs is Axxx in spades and KQxxx in diamonds and we would be cold for 3NT, which is what I am bidding.

Jane Marshall 4D. We may be too high, but I don't want partner to play a 4-3 fit. Surely he has at least 4 diamonds...he probably has 5 diamonds based on the opponents' bidding. He may have both 4-card majors and, if he does, he will correct to 4 hearts.

Robert Zimmermann: 3NT.

Hamman's Law applies. Besides, I need as little as AQxx xxx KQxxx x to take 9 tricks. Red in first seat, that's not unreasonable.

Bill Holt : 4S, but I don't like it. 3NT will wrong-side the contract if partner has Qx(x). At least we can take the club taps in the hand with short trumps. My diamond fit, prime honors, and the 'Don't miss a game when Red at IMPS' doctrine leads me to bid it. Partner's 3S bid, vulnerable, should suggest a little extra - which he'll need. I hope he is 4=2=5=2 on this hand.

PJ Prabhu 5D. This is more aggressive than the value of my hand; but there is a fair chance of game. AQJx, xx, KQxxx, xx in partner's hand would be sufficient for game, whereas AJTx, Kx, KQxx, xxx yields a probability of much less than 50%. If match points or non-vulnerable, I'd bid only 4D.

Marvin Rulin: 3 NT, I'm tempted to bid 4 D but hate to go past 3NT. partner's bid is not a reverse but rather a response to my negative double. i have a balanced hand with a club stopper. we might be able to cash nine tricks before opponents get their club tricks. If partner's hand is unbalanced he can rebid diamonds or spades, in which case i will explore slam possibilities since we would have a great double fit.

Herb Sachs: 3NT Vulnerable at imps not the devil made me do it; I bid 3NT; I will find out quickly who is lying! Hope it's not me.

Steve Nolan .3NT. It's IMPs, we're vulnerable and partner made a free bid. 3NT is our likeliest game, and it's now or never.

Stan Ruskin: 3NT Very interesting. I agree with the double of 2C even though I don't have Four spades. Do we have a game and, if so, is it 3NT, 4S or 5D? If partner has AQS and KQD, it is probably 3NT. Maybe the 4/3 spade fit works. For 5D to work, we need to hold the major suit losers to one since we probably have a club loser. For me, it comes down to passing 3S or bidding 3NT. I think I would try 3NT since I am vulnerable. If partner has a very unbalanced hand, he could bid again. He knows that we have only one club stopper so we have to be able to take 9 quick tricks including the AC.

Richard Katz: I bid 4 diamonds. Should show a good hand with 3 spades as 3 spades by partner was not forcing. At match points, bidding 4 spades is certainly reasonable

Paul Caplan 3 NT 9 tricks might be easier than 102

Arlene Port: 4S I either wanted to bid 4 diamonds or 4 spades and spades won out because if there are clubs to be trumped, the hand with 3 spades can do this without penalty. My third bid was: I don't have a clue!!

Asim Ulke: 4S First of all partner has some extra values based on his free bid of 3S. Second, he/she does not have 4-4-3-2 distribution since he/she did not bid the cheaper major. He/she probably does not have 4-3-4-2 or 4-2-4-3, with which and extra values partner might have opened 1NT. Thus, partners most likely distributions are 4-3-5-1 or 4-2-5-2. The options are to bid 4S, 3NT or 5D. Opposite a hand like AQxx-Ax-KQxxx-xx 3NT or 5D or 4S will all make but that haand is an absolute maximum for partner to hold. Opposite hand like AJxx-Axx-KJxxx-x 4S has the best chance and 1down will not be a disaster.

So I bid 4S.

Lou Joseph: 4S I'm not particularly crazy about this problem, because I'm sure no matter what I do, partner will not like it. However, I'm going to bid 4S on the theory that: Partner must have a good hand or he would have passed; he does not have club strength which would probably have induced a double; since I do not guarantee both majors with my double (although I will have either 4-3 or a tolerance for his opening minor) he is probably short in hearts - if he had both majors and a good hand he would bid 4C. Most of my partners are old enough to play 4-3 - fits, so good luck to them.

SPRING HAS SPRUNG →



Warren Oberfield: 3NT Why did South make a negative double at their first turn? With frequent partners, we play by an uph, the auction 1D-2C (overcall)-2D shows 4+D, at least invitational values, and specifically one four card major. This is exactly what I have. If I were not playing with a frequent partner so this bid was not available to me, at my first turn I would bid whatever is a limit raise of D, rather than negative double. The negative double suggests S & H and creates a wild guess for South at their second turn. Any of 3N, 4D, or 4S could work. If I had to guess one of these, I would guess 3N, hoping partner considers this cooperative with the inference that my club holding is limited by my failure to bid some number of NT at my first turn holding only 3S with 2 club stoppers. But I wouldn't have that problem.

Fred Schenker: I'm bidding 4D. Pd's free bid over 3C should be promising something extra, but I don't think I'm going to be able to run 9 off the top in 3N. I don't play that Ax is a stopper in this auction. I don't think I can pass, as I have extras as well. 4D should deny 4S, so I think the likely contracts are 4S or 5D or 4D. Pd could be 6-5 in D and S, and we could be cold for 6D.

INTERNET POST
HOW EXPERTS VOTED

Grant Baze	3NT
David Berkowitz	4D
Henry Bethe	3NT
Bart Bramley	5D
Ira Chorush	4C
Larry Cohen	5D
Kitty & Steve Cooper	4C
Billy Eisenberg	5D
Carl Hudecek	3NT
Eddie Kantar	5D
Sami Kahela	3NT
Danny Kleinman	4C
Eric Kokish	4D
John Kranyak	4S
Jill Meyers	4S
Marshal Miles	3NT
Arthur Robinson	4C
Michael Rosenberg	4C
Jeff Rubens	4D
Ira Rubin	4D
Mike Shuman	4C
Joey Silver	4D
Harry Steiner	5D
John Swanson	4S
Robert Wolff	2NT
Kit Woolsey	3H

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
4C	7	0	100
5D	6	2	90
3NT	5	9	80
4S	5	3	70
4D	6	3	60
PASS	0	0	20

APRIL 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5 PBA Unit Champ Swiss Team	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 At Masonic Center See page 2	15	16	17	18	19 PBA Club Champion- ship	20 SECTIONAL
21	22	23	24	25	26 PBA Unit ACBL Char- ity Champ & Bd Meeting	27
28	29	30				

FIRST AT THE POST 70% GAMES

Marianne Goldstein and Joanne Lebovitz Rodef 199ers 70.53%
Richard Katz & Bill Holt Monday Moose 77.47%

3 IN A ROW

Asim Ulke Wed. Moose Herb Sachs Wed. Moose
Asim Ulke Friday Wilkens Judy Haffner Friday Wilkins

2 IN A ROW

Jim Klein Thurs. Moose

A NOTE OF THANKS

Dear Members of the Bridge Community,

Thank you for all of your notes of sympathy, for your support, and for your gifts in memory of my brother, Larry.

Larry was terribly injured in our house fire, but he survived for over three years because of a strong will to live. He was kind and good and generous and he always kept his sense of humor.

I am lucky that because I play bridge, I know so many remarkable people.

All my love, Marge Tamres

Effective immediately, there is a new PBA hotline number: Call 412-219-CLUB (2582). Many Thanks to Maryanne McNeirney, who maintained the old number for 25 years!