

Editors: Arlene Port 220 N Dithridge #404  
Pgh.PA. 152113  
Tel: 412-521-3637 aport220@comcast.net  
Lou Joseph 6215 5th Ave. #7,  
Pgh., PA 15232  
Tel: 412-363-8159 louismjoseph@comcast.net

Unit 142

Pittsburgh, PA

January, 2014

WEBSITE AT [www.pittsburghbridge.org](http://www.pittsburghbridge.org)

# POST MORTEM

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

A NOD TO THE BRIDGE GODí í í í í ..by arlene port

Happy New Year to you all. They say õtime flies when you're having funö. That holds true in our little bridge world. I really think even when we don't do well at the table, we still have a good time. Bridge is just kind of game and we are fortunate to be able to enjoy õThe Sport of Kingsöí í ..and queens and aces and jacks and even tens. Lou and I wish you all good health, good fortune and good bridge in 2014.

As you know, every year the PBA has a holiday party. This years event was truly a special evening. Ruthie Neafach and Jeannie Baseman saw to that!!

What a feast!!! These two really outdid themselves. They continue to delight us with their extraordinary efforts on behalf of our organization. The food was not just plentiful, it was absolutely delicious. Their efforts were appreciated by us all. Thank you Ruthie and Jeannie. You gave us a night to remember. Could you both possibly do that once a month? Once a year is simply not enough. Think about it.

And, of course, the STaC Sunday team game, with 31 tables, was really a smashing success, thanks in great part to Ken and Barbara Bergman who always do their best to serve the most delicious food at many of our events. This was certainly no exception. Everyone is still talking about the wonderful spread. As usual, you made the day special. Thank you both for everything you do for us.

Dear Bridge God, take heed to each wish that I pray for  
And make them come true , all those kudos I play for  
First - whether sitting south east west or north  
Bring me in first, cause I hate being fourth.

Then - make all the contracts I bid be the best  
And guide me to gather more tricks than the rest.  
If a king or a queen is what I need to see.  
Be certain they're right where I want them to be.

May all of my leads be the best ones in town  
So the few tricks they take, means that they're going down  
And then while you're at it, I won't be too troubled  
If all of their contracts will go down two, doubled.

On a personal note, now that you know me  
There ø a couple of things that I wish you would show me.  
Send me instructions, by e-mail or letter  
I really must learn to make poems much better

And give all of my bridge friends good health in the year  
Bring joy and success to all they hold dear.  
And please don't forget that if I'm to survive  
You're main job this year is to keep me alive.



## 2014 PBA CALENDAR

### JANUARY

- 3 GNT Fundraiser game
- 10 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 17 PBA cancelled - Cleveland Regional
- 24 Club Championship
- 31 Unit Championship

### FEBRUARY

- 7 Unit Championship
- 14 Junior Fund Game SWISS TEAM and PBA Board Meeting
- 21 Membership Game
- 28 Unit Championship

### MARCH

- 7 Unit Championship
- 14 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 21 Open Pairs
- 28 SPRING SECTIONAL at Masonic Ctr

### APRIL

- 4 Unit Championship
- 11 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 18 Open Pairs
- 25 Club Championship

### MAY

- 2 Open Pairs
- 9 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 16 Unit ACBL Championship and Annual Awards Night
- 23 PBA cancelled - Cleveland Regional
- 30 Unit Championship

### JUNE

- 1 Fossick-Goodman SWISS TEAM (tentative)
- 8 NAOP Qualifier
- 12 STaC Pairs (Thursday eve)
- 13 STaC Pairs and PBA Bd Meeting
- 20 Open Pairs
- 27 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM

### JULY

- 4 PBA cancelled - Holiday
- 11 SUMMER SECTIONAL at Masonic Ctr
- 18 NAOP Qualifier
- 25 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM

### AUGUST

- 1 New Partnership Night
- 8 NAOP Qualified & PBA Bd Meeting
- 15 Unit Championship
- 22 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 29 PGH ðRONIö REGIONAL

### SEPTEMBER

- 5 Club Championship
- 12 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 19 Unit Championship
- 26 Open Pairs

### OCTOBER

- 3 Club Championship
- 10 Club Appreciation SWISS TEAM & PBA Bd Meeting
- 16 Instant Matchpoint Game - special Thursday Afternoon
- 17 Club Appreciation Pairs
- 23 PRO-AM @ Rodef Shalom (Thursday)
- 24 Open Pairs
- 31 Open Pairs

### NOVEMBER

- 7 Unit Champ & Annual Member Meeting
- 14 FALL SECTIONAL at Masonic Ctr
- 21 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 28 Open Pairs

### DECEMBER

- 5 Unit Championship & PBA Bd Mtg
- 11 STaC Pairs (Thursday-tentative)
- 12 STaC Pairs
- 14 Sunday STaC SWISS (tentative)
- 19 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 26 Open Pairs

## DISTRICT 5 WINTER STaC Monday 12-9-2013 thru Sunday 12-15-2013

### MASTERPOINT RACE WINNERS

Unit 142 Rank	District 5 Rank	MPø earned	
1	2	28.59	Robert Quinlan
2	3	25.40	Jean Prior
3	5	25.16	Judy Haffner
4	6	24.76	Mrs. Ivan Port( he is so mean)
5	9	22.16	Gail Carns
6	10	19.75	Bernard Fudor
7	13	17.80	Ronald Franck
8	15	17.51	Ronald Sain
9	16	16.93	Jane Marshall
10	17	16.81	Sandra McCall
11	18	16.50	Harold Haffner
12	19	15.91	Wayne Obitz
13	24	14.17	Ami Elis
14	25	13.58	Nurit Elis
15	26	12.96	Judi Sonon
16	27	12.90	Paul Caplan
17	30	12.35	Joanne Zambroski
18	31	11.87	Barbara Klein
19	33	11.85	Catherine Caplan
20	34	11.79	Deborah Shoup
21	35	11.75	Barbara Belardi
22	37	11.38	Patricia Katz
23	38	11.35	Barbara Bergman
24	39	10.83	Charlotte Ludwig
25	41	10.50	Richard Katz

## IN MEMORIAM POST

We regret to mention the passing of Ed Belle. Ed and his wife Betty were long time South Hills bridge players. We extend our condolences to Betty and all their friends and families.

## UP THE LADDER POST

### JUNIOR MASTER

Paul Merlino

### CLUB MASTER

Virginia Crawford

Christopher Lambie-Hanson

Bruce Stephen

### SECTIONAL MASTER

Elizabeth Gaul

Donald Park II

### REGIONAL MASTER

Carol Henderson

Dustin Hoover

### NABC MASTER

Susan Israelson

## HIP-HIP-HOORAY!

*To Bill Holt, Barb Bergman and all my friends(or otherwise) in the Duplicate Bridge World: Thank you so much for attending the dinner at Bravo and for your gift. It's comforting to know I still have friends left in this field. If you are looking for a partner in 2014, please call.*

*And Thanks for your patronage at my games thru the years; please continue to support the games at the Masonic Center next year to be run by Sandy.*

*Lois Kort*

## GET WELL POST

Please keep the following players in your thoughts and prayers:

Ginny Headrick

Herky Block

Mary Anne McNeirney

Norman Docö Williams

Bill and Norma Spicher

Sylvia Williams

Lou Woolf

Ok, you've been faking for too long now. Just get your butts out of bed and join us. At least you could write us a letter to let us know how you feel.

In any case, take care and have a happy and a healthy new year. Love from us all.

## BRIDGE PLAYERS DO THE DUMBEST THINGS POST

In honor of the New Year, we are inaugurating a new post devoted to humbling ourselves. Anyone is welcome to write in and tell us what they did. I'm starting the ball rolling with this bonehead maneuver I managed to pull playing with, God help me, Arlene!

I opened the bidding 1♦ with a modest 13 count and three diamonds to the Q. The rest of the hand is immaterial. My LHO did the hokey-pokey with the bidding box for about 5 minutes (she put her right hand in, she pulled her right hand out, etcí ) and finally bid 1NT. By this time I had completely forgotten I had opened the bidding! Arlene doubled (for penalty, of course).

I alerted the double! When my RHO asked what it was, I, priding myself on knowing what was going on, announced that we were playing DONOT, and she was showing a one suited hand. If my RHO passed, I was expected to bid 2♣. My RHO passed, rather quickly, I thought, and I dutifully bid 2♣. LHO now passed and Arlene bid 2♦, which I, of course, alerted. When RHO asked what 2♦ was, I naturally said that diamonds was her long suit. RHO passed again, and I looked at my opening hand with 3 card diamond support, and began to think that maybe I owed her a raise, because she had no idea I had an opening hand with great support!

After a long debate, I opted to pass, and was getting ready to dummy my hand when LHO made the opening lead, and Arlene began to dummy her hand. Imagine my indignation as I began to scream for the director until I happened to glance down and see the bidding in front of me, showing that I had clearly opened 1♦, albeit what seemed like days earlier!

Arlene was very understandingí sort of. We ended up below average on the board, because 1NTX vulnerable would have gone down at least 1 for 200, and I managed to squeak 2♦ in for 90. So my New Year's resolution is to pay better attention to the auction!!

Sorrowfully submitted by Lou Joseph

***Got a good story? Send it to us and we'll tell everybody!!!***

## ASK ERNIE

### You ask!! Ernie has the answer!!

Nobody asked me about this hand, but my opponent did not know the SOS redouble, and they went for 1100. Thought it might be some helpful info to pass on

Question: At match points with only the opponents vulnerable, your LHO opens 1 No Trump in 4<sup>th</sup> seat. Your partner overcalls 2 hearts (natural) and RHO doubles. What is your call holding

♠ 10 7 4 3 ♥----- ♦ K 10 7 4 ♣ K 8 4 5 2 ?

Answer: You should redouble. This is known as the SOS redouble. It asks partner to bid another suit. Whenever your partner is doubled for penalty, a redouble is a rescue attempt. It is only done when you feel that you are headed for a disaster in the doubled contract. Partner should bid their next longest suit, or the cheapest bid with two suits of equal length. If partner opens a one bid and is doubled, a redouble in this situation shows values. That is because the double was for takeout and not penalty.

On this hand, partner did not open either 1 or 2 hearts, so their suit can not be that robust. Partner will bid 2 spades on K x x, and will only go down 300 against the opponents vulnerable game. Ironically, if your partner stays out of the auction, the opponents will bid and make 4 hearts.

PJ's Comments on ASK ERNIE (December 2013). Ernie suggested taking a club finesse to make 4. PJ Prabhu responded with a different way to make 4. (see December Post Mortem online or find an extra copy at a club game for the entire hand.)

PJ: I will have no opportunity to take the C finesse. After ruffing the SA, I will play a H to the A and ruff another S, cash the HK, and play HT throwing a D from dummy. Assuming both follow, I will play a C to the K, and ruff the 4<sup>th</sup> S from dummy. Now, I'll cash the CA, and discard a second D from dummy on the HQ. If clubs divide 2-2, I make 5 losing a S and a D. If clubs divide 1-3, I make 4, losing a C as well.

Ernie's reply to PJ Prabhu comment on December ASK ERNIE COLUMN: Nice dummy reversal, making 1-2 overtricks as long as hearts are 4-3. I am very surprised, not that you can make more tricks, but that somebody actually reads Ask Ernie. (I left the last sentence in because it is so wrong. Everyone loves this column. It is very good and everyone learns something from Ernie.)

## GAMES ON THE MOVE!!

The following South Hills games have moved their locations and/or starting times effective 1-1-2014.

These games will now be held at Beth-El Synagogue; 1900 Cochran Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15220

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Game</i>	<i>Director</i>
Tuesday	12:00 Noon	Future Life Masters	D Mannheimer
Tuesday	6:30 PM	SH JCC (formerly)	D Averbach
Thursday	12:00 Noon	JCC SH (formerly)	D Averbach
Thursday	6:00 PM	Future Life Masters	D Mannheimer

The following game is now being held at the Whitehall Borough Building, 100 Borough Park Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15236

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Game</i>	<i>Director</i>
Friday (1st & 3rd only)	6:30 PM	Mt Lebo DBC	D Mannheimer

### INTERNET POST (cont.) from Page 8.

**Lou Joseph:** 4C Well... partner has passed originally and now balanced with 2NT, indicating he has no desire to double and have me sit, and pointedly saying he's not interested in hearts. Since he passed originally, I'm not venturing 3NT with only 1 heart stopper; if partner had the cards needed to make that, he would have opened. However, I do have a fabulous hand for clubs, so I'm jumping to 4C. If that excites him, let him bid game.

**Barbara Bergman:** 4C..Heaven only knows how partner will interpret this. Hopefully, I know you are a passed hand but how good is this two suiter. I don't like this bid but others are less desirable. First problem is what two suiter does partner have. Whatever it is, I must assume vulnerable the suits should be good. If the suits are the minors then 3C is an underbid. If it turns out the suits are diamonds and hearts then 3C is good because partner will correct to 3D and then my bid is 4H. 3S entered my mind...cuebids are good but not sure how I would interpret partner's answer. Hey it's IMP's why not bite the bullet and jump to 5C? I know partner is a passed hand but I can visualize hands that could make game. Basically, I don't know what I'd do!!!

**Gail Carns:** 4C. 2NT by a passed hand is minors and 4C is invitational.

**Paul Caplan:** 4 C inviting game. I think partner's bid is showing the minors.

INTERNET POST ...by arlene port

You are South, IMP's, both vul. You hold:

S A J 7 5  
H A 8 6 5  
D K  
C J 9 6 5

The Bidding is:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
PASS	2S	PASS	PASS
2NT	PASS	?	

**Jim Bachelder:** 3NT. Passed hand partner just backed into the auction at the three level vulnerable. Is it too much to expect a hand like this:

X, XX, AQXXX, KQTX? On the expected SK lead, win it, cash the DK and play clubs, nine tricks. 3NT. Passed hand partner just backed into the auction at the three level vulnerable. Is it too much to expect a hand like this:

X, XX, AQXXX, KQTX? On the expected SK lead, win it, cash the DK and play clubs, nine tricks.

**Jane Marshall :** 3C. I have 13 hcp and an 8-loser hand. Partner is a passed hand. I think that partner has a 2-suited hand. We have a fit in one of his suits. Do I think that we can make 5 of a minor? NO! If partner pulls from my 3C bid to 3D, I will bid 4H (TO MAKE).

**Trudy Cohn:** 5C I will bid 5C. Partner knows that I have the bulk of the points but since this is IMPS He is not going to stick his neck out with a bad hand. I presume he has two good suits and the score for a vulnerable game is very appealing

**Fred Schenker:** 3NT My pard's bid should be a minor suit takeout (since he is a passed hand). It's imps, we're red, and I like my chances, so 3NT is the bid for me.

**Asim Ulke:** I bid 4C. Odds are against taking 9 tricks in NT, but game is possible if partner has the right cards in his/her suits. We have at least one 9 card fit in clubs or hearts. 4H or 5C would be very reasonable contracts.

**Richard Katz** I bid a practical, 3 NT Can't wait to read what brilliance abounds.

**Bill Holt :** 3C. What is 2NT? Partner didn't make a passed-hand takeout X, and doesn't have an Opener so it cannot be to play NT. So must be -minors or -2 places to play I have a really nice hand for clubs but it's still an 8-loser hand and partner did not open. So let's play 3c and hope to go plus. If partner pulls to d showing d & H I will bid 4H, not wanting to miss a Red game at IMPs

**Steve Nolan:** 3S. I think partner has improvised, trying to show two possible places to play (probably, but not necessarily, the minors). I have excellent support in two of the three suits outside spades and 3S will get us to our fit. When partner shows his lower suit, I will either raise it to game (if it's clubs) or correct (if it's diamonds). If partner surprises me by rebidding no trump, I'll pass. My spade cards won't be a disappointment.

**Robert Zimmermann:** 3 clubs. Partner has a 2 suit takeout - likely both minors - and less than an opening bid. If he corrects to 3 diamonds I will bid 4 hearts. Most 5/5 red hands with 10 points or so will have some play for game.

**Bernie Fudor:** 3C Arlene as usual I am an "easy" person. My partner is a passed and balancing in minors so I bid 3 clubs because it's hard to construct a hand where game can be made. now if it goes 3h or 3sp on my left then I have a problem!

**PJ Prabhu :** 5C. Though partner is a passed hand, there will be a good play for game. Vulnerable at IMPs, I'm willing to stretch a bit as well. I thought of 3NT, but if partner has x, xx, Axxxx, KQTxx, there will be no play for 3NT especially with a H lead; but 5C looks to be odds on.

**Stanley Ruskin:** 3NT While the bidding will get difficult later on, I don't think there is any problem with My 1<sup>st</sup> bid. Partner doesn't have 4 H or he would have made a take out double so it doesn't appear that we want to play in H. Could partner be 2/3/4/4 and have a strong NT type of hand? Maybe. It also depends on partnership understandings in the balancing seat or even at the two level. Partner could be very distributional in the minors or like 5/5 or more. At any rate, while we could have a slam In C, it is going to be quite difficult to get to slam with any real confidence. Thus, I am going to bid 3NT. If partner bids on in a minor because he is very distributional, I will bid 6C but for now 3NT is my bid.

**Marvin Rulin:** 4 Clubs. North's bid shows at least 5-5 in the minors. His strength is uncertain but limited because he is a passed hand. Although I have two stoppers in spades and one in hearts there is no assurance we can run nine tricks in NT before opponents establish hearts. I may have the best hand at the table and need to let partner know that. a bid of 3 clubs would not describe my strength.

**Ernie Retetagos:** 3 spades seems clear. Partner should have a good hand to compete to the 3 level, vulnerable, without a known fit. I expect partner to be at least 5-5 with about 10 HCP. It is hard to construct a hand that would not give play for 5 clubs. Since I'm going to game, I should cue bid on the way. If partner makes the expected 4 club bid, I will bid 5. If partner bids anything else, I might be looking for more.

## HOW EXPERTS VOTED

Phillip Alder	3C
Alan Bell	4C
Marty Bergen	4C
David Berkowitz	4C
Mark Blumenthal	3C
Larry Cohen	3S
Martin J. Cohn	3C
Chris Compton	4C
Charles Danan	5C
Billy Eisenberg	3NT
Robb Gordon	4C
Mike Graham	5C
Carl Hudecek	3NT
Michael Kamil	3S
Eddie Kantar	5C
Sami Kahela	3NT
Eric Kokish	4C
Boris Koytchou	5C
Marshal Miles	5C
Karen McCullum	3NT
Larry Robbins	5C
Arthur Robinson	3S
Steve Robinson	3C
Al Roth	abstain
Jeff Rubens	3C
Ira Rubin	3S
Fred Stewart	5C
Paul Sugar	3C
Howard Weinstein	4C
Robert Wolff	3C
Kit Woolsey	3C
Ray Zoller	5C
Zia	4C

## INTERNET POST RESULTS: Part I

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
4C	8	6	100
5C	8	2	90
3C	7	4	90
3S	5	2	80
3NT	4	4	70
Abstain	1		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 PBA GNT Fundraiser Game	4
5	6 New Year's Party - Glenshaw	7	8	9	10 PBA Unit Championship Swiss Teams	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 PBA CANCELLED Cleveland Regional	18
19	20 Martin Luther King day—game cancelled	21	22	23	24 PBA Club Championship	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 PBA Unit Championship	

## FIRST AT THE POST

### 70% HIGH PERCENTAGE

Diane and Jim Fields	71.18%	Rodef
Richard Nathenson & Carol Nathenson	71.19%	Rodef 199øer
Jean Prior & Bob Quinlan	71.06%	Mt Lebo DBC
Sandra McCall & Joseph Bernot	70.00%	SH-NLM

### 5 IN A ROW

Pat Cunkleman

### 3 IN A ROW

Harold Haffner	JCC	Judy Haffner	JCC
Pat Cunkleman	Export DBC	Barbara Belardi	Export DBC

### 2 IN A ROW

Arlene Port	Rodef	Judy Haffner	Rodef
Ron Sain	Export DBC		
Bud McElhaney	Sub DBC	Chris Wang	JCC-SH Tue
Richard Kotler	Rodef 199øer	Nicholas Rescher	Rodef 199øer

## CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!!

### PBA 3 MONTHS AT A GLANCE

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