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Unit 142 Pittsburgh, PA March 2014

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

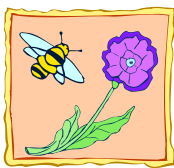
All the news that fits in print by arlene port

OK, I'm ready and waiting. I have been waiting for 3 months and the lamb hasn't shown up as yet. If that lamb doesn't show up in March, it will have to answer to me. You may be asking yourself, "What lamb?" You know, the one that arrives after March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. That's the lamb I am waiting for. I am really cold!

Enough whining. Let's reprise the February bridge happenings. Well now, let me see. Several games were cancelled due to below freezing temperatures and freezing snow. All the very smart people had escaped to Florida or other warm destinations so the games that we did have were low in attendance. (Wait!! I'm about to get more positive.) HOWEVER, the games that we did play in were simply wonderful and made us forget about the "Ice Age" that came upon us with a vengeance.

Looking ahead to better weather and the future, the Spring Sectional is almost upon us. What a wonderful way to end the dreary winter. Looking for a good time? Longing for something great to eat? Need a partner to play with you? No Problem. Our tournament chairs and their committees are on top of things and can take care of all of your tournament needs. And don't forget about seeing all of your friends that deserted you for warmer climate who are returning.

SO.....Happy Days are Here Again. Enjoy them.



Hospitality All Sessions!

Friday, March 28

1:00 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
 Stratified 299er Pairs (1 session)
 7:00 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
 Stratified 299er Pairs (1 session)
 Single Session Swiss Teams

Saturday, March 29

11:00 AM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
 Stratified 299er Pairs (1 session)
 Compact Handicapped KO Teams
 (1st of 2 sessions)
 (2nd of 2 sessions)
 Single Session Swiss Teams
 Lunch on Us between Sessions!!
 4:00 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
 Stratified 299er Pairs (1 session)
 Compact Handicapped KO Teams
 (2nd of 2 sessions)
 Single Session Swiss Teams

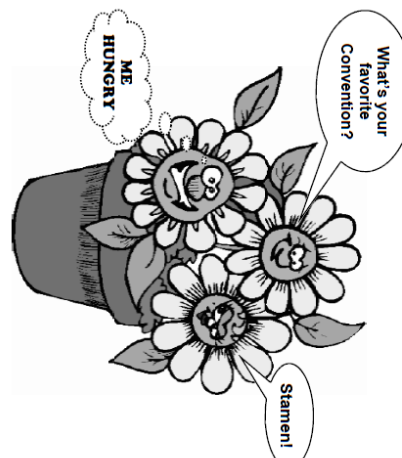
Sunday, March 30

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
B: 750-2000	E: 50-200
C: 0-750	F: 0-50

Stratifications in All 299er Straits at
 Events by Avg. MPs Director's Discretion

Pittsburgh Spring Sectional



What's your favorite Convention?

Stamen!

March 28 - 30, 2014

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



Partnerships!
 Jane Marshall 412-371-4067
1403pards@sbbridge.com

Newcomers & 299ers!
 Darlene Mannheimler
 412-343-0419
299pards@sbbridge.com

Tournament Chairs!
 Barb Bergman
 Ken Bergman
 724-935-4591
Spring14@sbbridge.com

Director in Charge: Mike Roberts
 Sanction # S1403059
 Pairs Entries \$12 pp.
 Open Swiss Teams \$100/team
 299er Swiss \$ 80/team
 Non & Unpaid ACBL Members
 \$3 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

**BRIDGE PLAYERS DO THE
DUMBEST THINGS POST**

Well, at least ONE of my friends took a little pity on me and admitted to one of their own fiascos. Thanks Barb!!...Lou

Playing at the Masonic Center with Ken one Tuesday, I had high hopes for a good game. The very first hand I picked up a minimum opener and bid 1♦. My LHO bid 1♠ and Ken bid 2♥. Not being a passed hand, his bid should have been forcing. However, in the span of the 30 seconds it took to get the bidding to back to me, I **FORGOT** I had opened 1♦ and thought I opened 1♥ and so, of course with my bare minimum, I passed.

Have you ever actually SEEN someone have a conniption? If you haven't you were not at the Masonic Center that day. The result? 2♥ making **6**.

Barbara Bergman

*OK - if the President of Unit 142 can come clean, surely there must be lots of stories out there. Send them in!
PLEASE!!!*

IN MEMORIAM POST

Elly Lazar passed away. An excellent nurse by profession, Elly was also a very skillful bridge player who was a Silver Life Master. We extend our condolences to her family and friends.

Our deepest sympathies go to Clem Rosenberger on the loss of his wife Margaret and to Richard Fowkes on the passing of his wife Patricia. We hope that time will ease your loss.

We also want to mention the passing of Marty Lerner. A member of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra for over 40 years, Marty was a rubber bridge player who occasionally ventured out into the duplicate world. We extend our condolences to family and many, many friends.

Ed Note: If you know of anyone in our unit that has passed away, please let use know so we can

UP THE LADDER POST

JUNIOR MASTER

George Yates

CLUB MASTER

Stephen Eisner

REGIONAL MASTER

Isabella Wagner

LIFE MASTER

N J Carbone

BRONZE LIFE MASTER

N J Carbone
Gerrie Littman

SILVER LIFE MASTER

Angela Agnello

SUPER!!!

GET WELL POST

Lou Woolf was in the hospital and just came out of the hospital for rehab. Lou, please take care of yourself and get all well soon. We miss you at the game.

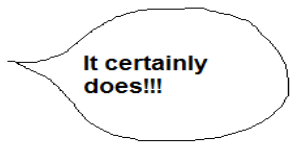
We added Milt Wolfson to our get well list. Milt, who is arguably our oldest player, has been a devoted bridge player for many, many years.

Please keep the following players in your thoughts and prayers:

- Milt Wolfson
- Faye Adelsberg
- Ginny Headrick
- Herky Block
- Mary Anne McNeirney
- Norman "Doc" Williams
- Bill and Norma Spicher
- Sylvia Williams

Please get well soon!!

BRIDGE BYTES



.....By Ernie Retetagos

Hints on Bidding, Playing and Defense for Beginning/Intermediate Bridge Players.

Negative doubles are used in every session of bridge. The meaning of the double varies a little, depending on the suits involved. Over an auction that begins 1♣-1♦, double shows at least 4 cards in each major. A 1♥ or 1♠ bid only promises a 4 card suit. A 1 NT bid shows about 7-10 HCP and a stopper in diamonds. This would be a good time to mention that if your RHO opened 1♦, your 1 NT overcall would also promise a stopper in diamonds.

If an auction begins 1♣-1♥, double shows 4 spades and 6 or more HCPs. Even with good club support, it is important to try to locate a 4-4- major suit fit. The high card strength is unlimited.

For an auction that begins 1♣-1♠, double indicates 4 or more hearts. With any 5 card suit, you need about 10 HCP to bid the suit freely at the 2 level. If you can't double or bid NT, you can always raise partner with 3 or 4 card support.

If partner opens in a major and RHO overcalls at the 2 level, the auction is more crowded. A double implies at least 4 cards in the unbid major and either a 2nd suit or tolerance for partner's suit. Higher level doubles have similar distributional requirements, but more high cards are needed since you are forcing partner to a high level. The meaning of a negative double, like any convention, can be modified based on partnership agreement. *Variation from standard is fine as long as both partners are on the same wave length!*

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT POST

Bridge Book Giveaway at Spring Sectional

Start your Spring cleaning early, dust off those bridge books you never look at and donate them to the Spring Sectional.

Barb and Ken are planning a bridge book giveaway for newcomers and intermediate players.

Defense and declarer play books never get old. Books on bidding should be fairly current. We don't want the newcomers playing 4 card majors!!! Please do NOT give the books to Barb or Ken - Bring them directly to the Masonic Center during the tournament.

ONE WISH

A bridge duffer was polishing a lamp and... poof! Out popped a genie who said, "I will grant you *one* wish."

The duffer unfolded a map of the world and said, "Let all of these countries live in peace and harmony."

"You've got to be kidding! I'm only a genie."

The duffer thought for a while and then suggested, "OK, then make me a winning bridge player."

"Hmm..." the genie pondered. "Let me see that map again."

UNIT NEWS POST (kinda)

By arlene port

For those of our members who are loyal attendees at the Friday night Unit game, you are used to having many championships during each month. For those of you who aren't there often, you have no idea how many master points you are missing.

Well, one of our regulars wrote and wanted to know why we had so many championship games. He wanted to know the difference between Unit, Club and Open Pair championships.

I suspect the reason for that is because the ACBL allocates so many categories of championship games and any club that qualifies, is permitted to have them. Lucky for us, we qualify for all three of these categories. Then, of course, there are other special masterpoint games, such as charity, membership, NAOP Qualifier, new partner night, club appreciation and Junior Fund Game. There is also a Unit Swiss Championship game. Halleluiah! Given the number of masterpoint games we are permitted to have, the Friday night winners are swimming in extra points. Want some? COME ON DOWN.

If you are interested in the fine points of special game allotments, go to: <http://www.acbl.org/abouthandbook.html#4>

UNIT 142 2014 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 "RONI" 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)

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

INTERNET POST (cont.) from Page 9

Barbara Bergman: Double and lead a club - A diamond void seems likely in partner's hand as well as a running club suit. 6S is my second choice but the opponents points have to be somewhere (other than a spade void) and I'm leery of two quick heart losers. If I was sure they'd lead a diamond, I'd bid it. But my opponents are always too smart to do that!! I can envision my partner's hand as

AQxx...xx...void...AKQJ10x.

Gail Carns: 6S anything can be right but I don't want to bid something to stop the diamond lead

Paul Caplan 6D The grand is possible. I want to be in 6 this is a try for seven.

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
Pass	8	2	100
6S	6	6	90
5S	2	1	60
Dbl	3	3	40
6D	3	3	40
5D	2	0	20
7S	0	1	N/A
5H	0	1	N/A



INTERNET POST

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

S KJ9653
H Q52
D AQ4
C 6

The bidding is:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1C	1D	1S	2D
4D*	5D	?	

*Presumably a strong spade raise with at most one diamond. ? What do you bid?

Richard Katz 6S: Six spades might miss seven...Richard / Pat

Jim Bachelder: 6S, I don't think I can expect partner to have SA, HA, HK and CA, after all, have the opponents bid all the way to 5D on just the DK and DJ? The level is too high to find out everything I need to know so I'm not going to guess to bid the grand. I'm hoping partner has at least 3/4 of the cards that need. Besides, my DQ is worthless.

Jane Marshall . 7 spades. Since I have the Ace of Diamonds. Partner probably has the ace and queen of spades 4th and a singleton diamond. To jump to 4 diamonds he should have a 5-loser hand. That gives him some really good cards in hearts and clubs. (My 1st thought was to bid 6 diamonds, but I'm going to 7 spades anyway.)

Herb Sachs: Pass: Double should bring 800 probably but many hands will make 6spades; I PASS hoping partner will bid five hearts in which case I will bid six spades; rho might be 0/1/7/5 and is bidding like it; partner may be 4-4-0-5 with something close to A10xx/AJ10x/void/kqxxx.

Asim Ulke: I bid 6D. Partner will know what to do with a hand like ATxx Axx x AKQxx. or ATxx Ax x AKxxxx both of which are reasonable holdings for the previous auction.

Steve Nolan: Double. Half my points are in the opponents' suit. They are also offside (from East's viewpoint) and dividing badly. Partner still gets the final word, but it should be 'pass' unless he has a freak

Bill Holt . 6S. The more I have in their suits, the more they probably have in mine. But partner's 4d Q-bid facing my could-be-minimal 1S call shows a big hand. So he rates to have Ac, AS, and a H holding keeping me to one loser there. Let them lead their diamonds!

Marvin Rulin: 5 Spades. I'm torn between 5 spades and double. The big question is the heart holdings. If my partner has Ace or King we probably have slam but I don't know how to find out at this level. Double looks like a possible bonanza but the opponents probably have a very unbalanced distribution and may go down only two. I'll take the sure 650 and if partner has the Ace of hearts he can still bid six spades.

Trudy Cohn: Double Since I have no assurance that we can make six spades, I am doubling for penalties and presuming that we can set this for 800 with a club lead. Since I have no assurance that we can make six spades, I am doubling for penalties and presuming that we can set this for 800 with a club lead.

Arlene Port : 6S The more I analyze this hand the less I know what to do. So, to simplify my decision, I am going to turn this problem into two answers. The first is 6S and the second is "I'm sorry", when it doesn't make.

Stanley Ruskin: Pass Do you have a slam? How many can you beat 5D? The most number of trips you could take would be 7 in the best of all worlds – 1S, 2H, 1D, 1C and 2C ruffs – which would yield 1,400. If you could do all of this, which I doubt, you would probably be able to make at least 6S And maybe 7. This doesn't seem likely to occur. It is more likely that you would be it a maximum of 800. How do I find out what key cards my partner holds to see if I can bid six. I think the best way is to pass. This way he has a full range to show key cards. If he bids 5H – the Ace – I will bid 6C and hope that he can bid 7 with the AC, AH and !Q of S. Or we can sign off in 6S or even 5S. Thus, I pass and await developments.


Ernie Retetagos: 5 Hearts. I think that the technically correct bid might be to make a forcing pass. Pass would be forcing since partner voluntarily bid a vulnerable game. If partner can cue bid 5 hearts, showing the A (or K?), I can go to slam, otherwise play 5 spades. We can probably take 13 tricks if they don't take the first 2 heart tricks.

The best way to avoid a heart lead is to cue bid before bidding slam. West would be hard pressed to find a heart lead with either the Ace or King. This would be a much easier bid to make at matchpoints where every hand counts equally. I'm sure that we'll make slam more than half the time with or without a heart control, which is the criteria at matchpoints. Atimps, I hate to blow the match and disappoint 3 teammates. But I think it is correct to bid 5 hearts on my way to 6 spades.

Robert Zimmermann: double. There are likely 19 total tricks on this deal. If we make 5S, they're going down 3. I suppose partner might have something magic like [Axxx Kxx x AKxxx] where 6S is in the picture., but there's no room to investigate

HOW EXPERTS VOTED

Marty Bergen	p
David Berkowitz	p
Bart Bramley	6S
Larry Cohen	P
Billy Eisenberg	D
Richard Freeman	P
Rob Gordon	P
Pam & Matt Granovetter	6S
Carl Hudecek	D
Paul Ivaska	6D
Danny Kleinman	6S
Eric Kokish	6D
Randi Montin	P
Erik Paulsen	6S
Arthur Robinson	5S
Jeff Rubens	P
Ira Rubin	P
Ron Smith	D
Don Stack	5S
Frank Stewart	6S
Adam Wildavsky	6S
Robert Wolff	5H
Joel Wooldridge	5H
Kit Woolsey	6D

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 PBA Unit Championship	8
9	10 Club Champ Rodef	11	12 Club Champ JCC	13 14	14 PBA Unit Championship SWISS TEAM	15
16	17 	18	19	20	21 PBA Open Pairs	22
23/30	24	25	26	27	28 PBA SPRING SECTIONAL @ MASONIC CENTER SEE FLYER ON PAGE 2	

FIRST AT THE POST

70% GAMES

Barbara and Ken Bergman	Pgh North	72.75%
Gary Marcus and John Lesjack	Pgh North	70.00%
Lessa Finegold & Madeline Kramer	JCC	73.81%
Harold & Judy Haffner	JCC	71.13%

3 IN A ROW

Arlene Port	Rodef	Judy Haffner	Rodef
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2 IN A ROW

Edie Diamond	Rodef 199'er	Seth Spaulding	Rodef 199'er
Beverly Cassidy	Export DBC	Arlene Port	JCC
Judy Haffner	JCC	Harold Haffner	Rodef
Harold Haffner	JCC		

PBA 3 MONTHS AT A GLANCE

MARCH

- 7 Unit Championship
- 14 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 21 Open Pairs
- 28 SPRING SECTIONAL at Masonic Ctr (see flyer on page 2)

APRIL

- 4 Unit Championship & PBA Board Meeting
- 11 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 18 Open Pairs
- 25 Club Championship

MAY

- 2 Open Pairs
- 9 Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 16 Unit ACBL Charity Championship & AWARDS PARTY
- 23 NO GAME -Cleveland All American Regional
- 30 Unit Championship