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Unit 142 Pittsburgh, PA February 2015

POST MORTEM

WEBSITE AT www.pittsburghbridge.org
 President: Ron Franck
 Vice President: Lorraine Hanna
 Secretary: Mary Paulone Carns
 Treasurer: Jane Marshall
 Club Manager: Mary Carns
 Unit Recorder: Judi Sonon (judi@diegosan.com)

All the news that fits in print

by lou joseph

I knew we should have been suspicious when January tip-toed in with such mild weather. Well, we're paying for it now. Now we're up to our you-know-whats in ice, snow and freezing temperatures. Thank God we have a nice civilized game to play INDOORS!

Spring is just around the corner, and with it will come the PBA Spring Sectional. Check out the flyer on page 2. Jane Marshall and Darlene Mannheimer will be doing the usual superb job at the Partnership desk, and Ken and Barb Bergman are once again chairing the tournament, so you know everything will be TOP DRAWER. I've even heard the rumor that the NOT READY FOR FLIGHT A CUBIC ZIRCONIA LIFE MASTER THEATER GROUP has agreed to reschedule their latest offering to be presented here instead of Broadway!

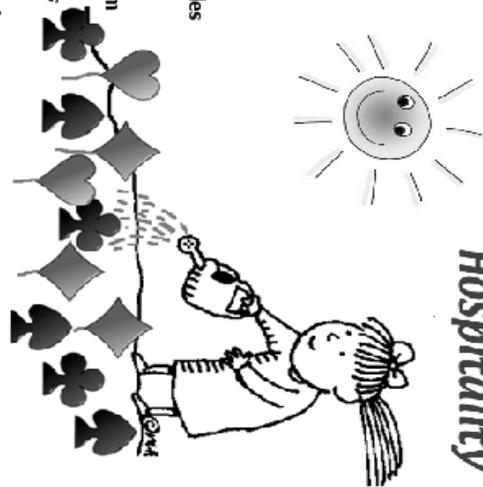
Please make it a point to support not only the Unit Games and special events, but as many local game as possible. We all benefit from better attendance - it makes for better games and better bridge. This announcement is brought to you as a public service by the Pittsburgh Bridge Association Unit 142 and all the local games and their owners/managers/directors.

THANKS!!



VALENTINE'S DAY

 BECAUSE LOVE ISN'T QUITE
 COMPLICATED ENOUGH AS IT IS.



Pittsburgh Spring Sectional

Hospitality All Sessions!

Friday, March 20

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 21

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

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 22

Super Brunch & Lunch Included

11:00 AM 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

299er

A: 2000+ D: 200-300
 B: 750-2000 E: 100-200
 C: 0-750 F: 0-100
 Stratifications in All 299er Events at
 Director's Discretion



Lesson from an Expert

Friday @ 6:45 PM
 Cubic Zirconia
 Life Master Theater
 Saturday @ 3:15 PM

Masonic Center North

3579 Masonic Way
 Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Full Newcomer / NLM Schedule:
 Newcomer / 299er Pairs -
 Both Sessions Friday & Saturday
 PLUS Special Swiss on Sunday!
 Play OMLY against other New Players
 Contact Darlene for
 Partners & Team-building!
 Full Schedule & Directions at
www.pittsburghbridge.org

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

Partnerships:
 Jane Marshall 412-371-4067
1503pards@5shridge.com

Newcomers & 299ers:
 Darlene Mannheimer
 412-343-0419
299pards@dshridge.com

Tournament Chairs:
 Barb Bergman
 Ken Bergman
 724-935-4591
spring15@dshridge.com

Director in Charge: Alex Bealles
 Sanction # S 1503075

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

IN MEMORIAM

In January, the Pittsburgh Bridge Association suffered the loss of three long-time members. Mort Rubin, (Herminie) Herky Block and Gladys Gold, who were all active in our community. All of them were accomplished bridge players who played regularly in our local and tournament games. They were our peers; they were our friends; and they will be sorely missed by us all. We send our heartfelt condolences to all of their families and friends. We will miss them terribly.

MORT RUBIN: Mort was an amazing person. He had his own clothing business in his youth, and when he retired, he had another little part-time business that kept him active, gave him purpose and brought him a lot of enjoyment. But that wasn't enough for Mort. Along with his wife, Paula, he brought many people into the bridge community. He gave lessons and even ran a regular bridge game at Weinberg Terrace. At Rodef Shalom and the JCC games, Mort was always busy helping the director by passing out boards, picking up slips and checking scores. We all owe him our gratitude for everything he did for bridge in our community. Honestly, I never met anyone that was so full of life, even into his nineties. He surely was dynamic. . It was an honor to know him.

GLADYS GOLD: Gladys lived in McKeesport, but was well known in the Pittsburgh area as well. Every Monday evening at Seran High School, she was a staple at the game run by Dolores Ikach. She also played in the area games and was still playing even in her nineties. When she was unable to get out easily, she still managed to find a bridge game in her building. Gladys was a very sharp bridge player and a lovely lady.

IN MEMORIAM

HERKY BLOCK: Herky ran a successful business in Sq. Hill for many years. However, that's not the only thing she was good at. She was also a fine bridge player who was a regular at our local games. Aside from her bridge days, Herky shared her time with her daughter Kathy and three grandchildren and her very dear friends, Rose Kunkle and Lorraine Murphy. Herky was not tall in stature, but she certainly was a giant when it came to being a very nice lady and a good friend.

PBA 3 MONTHS AT A GLANCE

MARCH 2015

- 6 PBA Unit Championship
- 13 PBA Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 20 **Spring Sectional @ Masonic Center**
- 27 PBA Unit Championship

APRIL 2015

- 3 PBA Open Pairs
- 10 PBA Unit Charity (ACBL) Championship SWISS TEAM & Bd Mtg
- 17 PBA Open Pairs
- 24 PBA Unit Championship

MAY 2015

- 1 PBA Club Championship
- 8 PBA Unit Championship SWISS TEAM
- 15 PBA AWARDS NIGHT & Unit Grass Roots Fund Game
- 17 FOSSICK-GOODMAN SWISS TEAM @ Edgewood CC
- 22 PBA CANCELED - Cleveland All American Regional
- 29 PBA Unit Championship

BRIDGE BYTES

.....By Ernie Retetagos

REOPENING THE BIDDING...

It certainly
does!!!

At a recent club game, I opened 1 diamond, partner responded 1 spade, and I rebid 1 NT. Partner bid 2 diamonds, and it went all pass. A few boards later, I opened 1 diamond, partner bid 2 diamonds, and everyone passed. Not surprisingly, we received 75% of the matchpoints on these 2 boards. On each hand, if the opponents had reopened with a double, they would be plus 110.

It's worth looking at the pros and cons of reopening. Since nothing works all of the time in bridge, there are a few bad things that could happen. There is a small chance of balancing the opponents into a better contract or game. Occasionally you will get doubled, and set. And you might go down one, when the opponents were going down one. None of these outcomes are very likely.

In the vast majority of hands, reopening will lead to one of several positive scenarios. Frequently, you can make a part score. Sometimes you are minus 50 instead of minus 110. And if the opponents go to the 3 level, you might have a chance for a set.

Whenever the opponents have a fit, you should assume that you also have a fit. You should be reluctant to sell out at the 2 level, especially when that suit is a minor. It is very difficult to get a good score by defending 2 of a minor.

NEWS OF INTEREST POST REPRINT

Starting in 2016, District 5 is pleased to announce that the RONI Labor Day Regional is moving to the Monroeville Convention Center and the DoubleTree Hotel!!!

Effective 2015, PBA Unit 142 has increased the entry fee for the Friday Evening Duplicate Game to \$ 7.00 per person.

PBA UNIT 142 2015 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

02 Junior Fund Game
09 Unit Championship Swiss Team
16 NO GAME - Cleveland Regional
23 Unit Championship
30 Open Pairs

FEBRUARY

06 Club Championship
13 Unit Championship Swiss Team
& PBA Board Meeting
20 Membership Game
27 Unit Championship

MARCH

06 Unit Championship
13 Unit Championship Swiss Team
20 Spring Sectional @ Masonic Ctr
27 Open Pairs

APRIL

03 Open Pairs
10 Unit Charity Championship
Swiss Team & PBA Bd Mtg
17 Open Pairs
24 Unit Championship

MAY

01 Club Championship
08 Unit Championship Swiss Team
15 AWARDS NIGHT
17 Fossick-Goodman Team Game
At Edgewood Country Club
22 NO GAME - CLEVELAND RE-

REGIONAL

29 Unit Championship

JUNE

05 NAOP Qualifier
12 Unit Championship & PBA Bd

JULY

03 NAOP Qualifier
10 Summer Sectional @ Masonic
17 Open Pairs
24 Unit Championship
31 Unit Championship Swiss Team

AUGUST

07 New Partner Night
14 NAOP Qualifier & PBA Bd Mtg
21 Unit Championship
28 Unit Championship Swiss Team

SEPTEMBER

04 RONI Labor Day Regional
11 Unit Championship Swiss Team
18 Unit Championship
25 Club Championship

OCTOBER

02 Club Championship
08 Thursday PRO-AM Game
@ Rodef Shalom
09 Club Appreciation Swiss Team
& PBA Bd Mtg
16 AM Instant Matchpoint Game
16 Open Pairs
23 Club Appreciation Pairs
30 Open Pairs

NOVEMBER

06 Unit Championship and
Annual Membership Meeting
13 Fall Sectional @ Masonic
20 Unit Championship Swiss Team
27 Open Pairs

DECEMBER

04 HOLIDAY PARTY
10 Thursday STaC Pairs

.01% TOLERANCE

Let's face it. No one is perfect. No matter how hard you try not to say anything nasty, insulting, sarcastic, snarky, snotty, mean,, etc., at some point it just leaps out of your throat before you can stop it. This is a human trait. If Mother Theresa had Arlene as a partner, do you really think she'd have been canonized?

I don't advocate boorish behaviour at the table, although I'm as guilty (if not more so) as anyone else. So, given that, the following is a list of politically correct responses to your partner's or opponent's less than friendly comments. In parenthesis are the non-correct, but devastatingly witty responses you are allowed to keep to yourself...

Accusation	PC Response	(The Truth)
What were you thinking?	Sorry	(I was thinking you're a moron)
Why didn't you give me a ruff?	Sorry	(Because I hate you)
How could that possibly be right?	Sorry	(How could you possibly be a life master?)
Must you overbid every hand?	Sorry	(Yes. Must you underplay each one?)
Why do I even bother?	Sorry	(I didn't think you did...)

Ok, ok, the list is endless. I'm sure you could add you own favorites to the list. Anyways, take my advice and keep it internal, even if it means biting your tongue in half. Medical Science can do wonders nowadays, but partners are hard to replace...

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS POST

Ed note: If you are listed in the Unit directory, we received notice from the ACBL of this information with regards to privacy. If you wish to make any changes in your listing, please contact Jim Klein, who is the publisher.

Dear District, Unit and Club Officials,

We have received some inquiries about member directories as they relate to the privacy policy. We would like to provide you an update.

If your unit, district or club has released an annual directory of members with their contact information, you may continue to do so. However, we ask that you meet the following conditions:

- Include a statement in the directory and other bridge publications that if a member wishes for his or her contact information to be excluded from the directory, he or she may contact someone to do so.
- Provide clear steps in place that allow members to withdraw their contact information from the directory.
- You must get permission from new members before they are added to any directory. You must get permission from members if you plan to include new fields (such as email addresses) in the directory or begin to post their information online.

Please keep in mind that the privacy policy exists to protect use of member data for activities not related to the ACBL. Clubs, units and districts are authorized to use member information for ACBL-approved bridge activities and communications within their designated areas. These include newsletters, tournament emails, posting results, Mini-McKinney/Ace of Clubs races, etc. Should you have any questions about the policy or other uses, please reach out to us at privacy@acbl.org.

Thank you for your continued efforts.

UP THE LADDER POST

JUNIOR MASTER

James J Dillon
Shirley A Dillon
William J Gunther
Harry S Muckle
Lucy A Muckle
Betty S Schaughency

CLUB MASTER

Trudi W Friedman
Asim Kokan
Janet Metcalfe

SECTIONAL MASTER

Annette R Blum
Carol L Moyer
Linton L Moyer
Ann R Urban

REGIONAL MASTER

David Allison
Juanita Allison
Nancy Duppstadt
Bruce Stephen

GOLD LIFE MASTER

Janice E. Phillips



INTERNET POST

You are South, IMP's, East/West vul. You hold:

S 10 3
 H A
 D A Q J 10 6 5
 C A Q 10 5

The bidding is:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1D	4H	4S	5H
?			

Stan Ruskin DBL Pass (forcing)

This really is a difficult one. Partner may have a H void – at most a singleton. I have no idea what his hand is. He might even have QJ or KJxxxx of S as well and 3/2 in the minors with as little as a K in one of the minors. If he had a great hand he might have made a neg. X (most pairs play them through 4H) and then bid on after I bid a minor. I play that double in this situation means a minimum hand and that a pass is forcing to at least double. Thus, I make a forcing pass. I don't know what we can make – 4S, 5S, 6S or even 6C or 6D. Partner must double with a relatively weak hand and he knows that I have an interest in a possible slam and that I don't have much in spades. As I said this is difficult. I am pretty sure that we will beat it at least two tricks and maybe more.

Herb Sachs: 5NT pass the buck; I don't know what to bid; I think 6D unilateral; partner could be all black; double might be right on this freak as partner might have QJxxxx and out but also might have Axxxxx void Kxxxx xx!!!

[J Prabhu Double. We may not beat this, but but I have to double. From the bidding, partner must realize that the double shows extra values rather than trump length.

Paul Caplan: Dbl you will likely get it more than game and slam is unknown. timps take the plus.

Trudy Cohn: double for penalty. They are vulnerable and I have no reason to think that we can make 4S

Jim Bachelder: 6H, partner bid 4S, all by himself! To make this bid, I MUST have all the lower suit controls. Partner should know to bid seven with: AKQXXXX, XX, KX, XX

Lou Joseph: 5NT Well, assuming partner is not a complete lunatic, 7 is a possibility. Since Arlene is fond of telling me how much of an over bidder I am, I think I'll try 5NT and see where that gets me. I could easily bid 6H but I'm not sure how that will get me to 7S, as partner's only controls other than one of the minor suit kings rate to be in the spade suit. Of course, partner may well bid 7S with the AQ or (God help me) the KQ. If that happens, I will quickly move the club Ace in with my spades and will simply look shocked when I table my hand and someone has the bad taste to point this out.

Jane Marshall Double. I reallly would like to bid 6 diamonds, but, since they are vulnerable and I have 3 Aces, I'll take what I hope is a good plus score.

Bill Holt 5NT, 'Pick a slam'. Shouldn't be construed as an offer to play. I can play in d, c, or S and will let partner pick. Alternatives are 5S, 6c, and 6d but I think I'm too good to bid 5S and want to involve partner in the decision.

Asim Ulke 6C. If partner responds 6D, I pass. If partner bids 6S I pass. I would miss 7D or 7S. To investigate a 7 level contract one should bid 6H over 5H.

Ernie Retetagos: 5 No Trump. I'll guess to bid 5 no trump, asking partner to pick a suit. My opponents can see the colors, so there is lots of distribution. If one of them has a void, they might make 11 tricks, while we have a slam.

Marvin Rulin: 6 spades. The question for me is do we have a slam? If not it's best to double for at least 500pts..Partner's entry at the 4 level indicates a long self sustaining suit, which I can tolerate. I've got no more than one loser and possibly no losers in the other suits so we should not let our opponents preempt us out of a slam.

Steve Nolan: 5NT. We have a slam somewhere, but how do I find out where it is when the bidding has eliminated so much bidding room and any bid I make is undiscussed. I'm bidding 5NT which I'm pretty sure is not passable and lets partner say something else about his hand. It's still going to be something of a guess in the next round and I'll have to take into account that it's likely that (i) no side suit will split evenly and (ii) one of the opponents will have a void.

Richard Katz 5S I bid 5 spades and hope to make it.

Gail Carns: Dbl. nothing makes sense

HOW EXPERTS VOTED

Alan Bell	DBL
David Berkowitz	5NT
Mark Blumenthal	P
Bart Bramley	DBL
Larry Cohen	5NT
Billy Eisenberg	6D
Carl Hudecek	DBL
Michael Kamil	DBL
Sammy Kehela	5NT
Danny Kleinman	5NT
Eric Kokish	DBL
Marshall Miles	DBL
Rozanne & Bill Pollack	DBL
Larry Robbins	5NT
Arthur Robinson	6C
Steve Robinson	6D
Jeff Rubens	5S
Ira Rubin	5NT
Russell Shoup	DBL
Fred Stewart	6D
Howard Weinstein	DBL
Robert Wolff	5S
Kit Woolsey	5NT

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
5NT	7	4	100
6D	6	0	80
DBL	9	7	70
5S	2	2	60
PASS	1	1	50
6C	1	1	50
6H	0	1	N/A
6S	0	1	N/A

Robert Zimmermann 5S
 Anything could be right here, and anything could lead to a disaster.

Bernie Fudor: I double; to do anything else is playing poker.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6 PBA Club Championship	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 PBA Unit Champ Swiss Team/Bd Mtg	14 
15	16	17	18	19	20 PBA Membership Game	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 PBA Unit Championship	28

FIRST AT THE POST

70% games

George Retos & Ellie Bushkerick 77.8% Houston DBC

THREE IN A ROW

Betty McElhaney Houston DBC John Killmeyer Houston DBC

CONGRATULATIONS!!



GOOD WISHES POST

We continue to offer our hopes and prayers for the speedy recovery of the following players:

Mary Anne McNeirney
 Norman "Doc" Williams
 Bill and Norma Spicher
 Betty Noble
 Arnie Roberts
 Phil Miller
 George Cross

