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Unit 142

Pittsburgh, PA

April 2016

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 arlene port

Little by little, step by step, and airplane by airplane, our missing players who have been sunning themselves down south and other warm parts, are slowly trickling back to our little piece of heaven. They are just in time because all of the good times are coming up in the near future. Seriously, we are all really happy you are back in Pittsburgh.

If you roll your eyes over to page 2, you can see that our Spring Sectional is coming up on April 8-10. I know you have already made your arrangements, but if not, hurry up. You certainly don't want to miss all the fun and get to feast on the great food served by tournament chairs, Ken and Barbara Bergman.

The we have the Fossik-Goodman Unit Championship Swiss on June 5th. That event is always a good time. Check out the ad on page 3 and get your team together.....NOW! We also have STaC week coming up in June. Then, of course, there's all of the neighboring sectionals and in May, Cleveland beckons us to the Regional. We are, indeed, fortunate.

Please don't forget to remind your friends that want to start playing bridge and those that want to improve their game, to come to classes at the Rodef Shalom Congregation for a 7-week course, beginning May 2.

Finally, if you have any information you need to put into the Post Mortem, please e-mail me at aport220@comcast.net. Bruce Stephen was unable to continue as Co-Editor and is no longer associated with the newsletter. The great news is, Chris Wang is furnishing us with multiple winners and 70%+ scores which I will put in the Post Mortem. He has a great system and I am delighted he is helping make this a better publication. Now, if directors would just send me their monthly special game schedule, it would be great. See you at the Sectional.

Partnerships:

Jane Marshall 412-371-4067
1604pards@d5bridge.com

Newcomers & 499ers:

Darlene Mannheimer
412-343-0419
499pards@d5bridge.com

Tournament Chairs:

Barb Bergman
Ken Bergman
724-935-4591
Spring16@d5bridge.com

Director in Charge: Alex Bealles
Sanction # S 1604053

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:

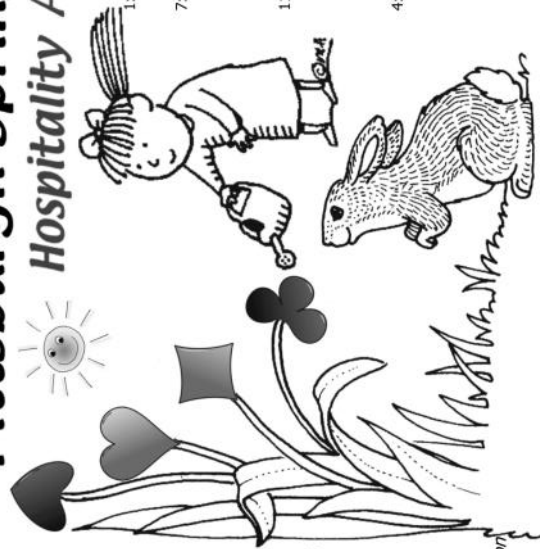
Newcomer / 499er Pairs -
Both Sessions Friday & Saturday
PLUS Special Swiss on Sunday!

Play ONLY against other New Players

Contact Darlene for
Partners & Team-building!

Full Schedule & Directions at
www.pittsburghbridge.org

Pittsburgh Spring Sectional Hospitality All Sessions!



Friday, April 8

1:00 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)
7:00 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)
Single Session Swiss Teams

Saturday, April 9

11:00 AM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er 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 499er Pairs (1 session)
Compact Handicapped KO Teams
(2nd of 2 sessions)
Single Session Swiss Teams

Sunday, April 10

Super Brunch & Lunch Included

11:00 AM Stratified Open Swiss Teams
(7 rounds of 7 boards)
Stratified 499er Swiss Teams
(6 rounds of 6 boards)
Separate Play-through Events/
30 point VP scale

April 8 - 10, 2016

Masonic Center North
3579 Masonic Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Lesson from an Expert

Friday @ 6:15 PM
Saturday @ 3:15 PM



Pittsburgh Bridge
Association



American Contract
Bridge League

Open	499er
A: 2000+	D: 300-500
B: 750-2000	E: 100-300
C: 0-750	F: 0-100
Stratifications in All Events by Avg. MPs	
Director's Discretion	

2016 Audrey Fossick & Gloria Goodman

UNIT CHAMPIONSHIP SWISS

Join us again for great food, fun, and fellowship!

Help us celebrate the memory of Audrey and Gloria, two friends whose presence graced our bridge tables together for more than 45 years.

Sunday, June 5, 2016
Edgewood Country Club

Coffee & Bagels at 9:45 – Game Time 10:30
Edgewood Signature Buffet Dinner Served Late Afternoon
Entry: \$150 per team of four, Extra Player \$37.50*

Team Stratifications

A: 2000+ B: 750 - 2000 C: 0 - 750

Stratifications by Team Average MPs

7 session play-through with dinner break!

For additional information:

Richard Zack at 724-895-3364 - rszack@gmail.com
or Patsy Evans at 412-563-2807- chevans2@verizon.net

RSVP: Kindly have one member of your team phone Patsy so we can plan accordingly.

Casual Country Club Attire, please.



Food! Fun! Fellowship!

****All Proceeds Benefit
Local Bridge Education!***

See you there!

**Directions on the website:
www.pittsburghbridge.org**

BRIDGE BYTES

.....By Ernie Retetagos



SLAM BIDDING

At a club game, the field had difficulty with the following hand. The opponents were silent, and West was first to act.

West	East
S- A K 4	S- 10 9 7 2
H- K 9 4	H- A
D- K J 8 7 2	D- A 9 6 5 3
C- 6 4	C- A K 8

Some might upgrade and open 1 NT, but most would open 1 diamond and hear a 1 spade response. Although a case could be made for suppressing the spade suit and making a forcing diamond raise, most East players would respond 1 spade. Since a 2 diamond rebid shows a 6 card suit, the choice is between 1 NT and 2 spades. Some players have an aversion to giving a 3 card raise, and they would rebid 1 NT. I don't like that bid because half of the HCPs are in spades. With 2 honors in spades, this is a good time to raise on 3. Regardless of the rebid, all roads should lead to 6 diamonds. It's worth looking at the first few rounds of bidding on a few possible auctions.

1D---1S	1D---1S	1D---1S
1NT--2C	2S--2NT	2S---3D
3S	3D	4D

In the first auction, the 2 C bid is new minor forcing, and 3 spades shows a maximum with 3 spades. In the 2nd auction, 2NT is the Q/Q gadget, asking for HCPs and trump length. 3 D shows a 3 card maximum. The 3D bid in the last auction is forcing, ostensibly showing at least a game try in spades. 4 diamonds is natural with extras.

In all of these possible auctions, East has essentially the same information. Any opening hand that includes as little as the K of diamonds and a high spade should give a good play for slam. Whether East cue bids or bids Blackwood or jumps to slam, they should bid 6 diamonds on the next round. HCPs are a good tool for evaluating balanced hands in NT. Suit slams are bid with trump fits, distribution, and controls. East should be thinking about a diamond slam as soon as partner opens 1 diamond

IN MEMORY

Jim Hastings, one of our most beloved and respected members passed away last Saturday. He was the husband of Gail Hastings and the father of Jim and Dan and five grandchildren. A bright, multi-talented man, Jim was a Civil Engineer for US Steel for 35 years. He was a Life Master, a member, along with Gail, in the choir of his church and he was a 7th degree black belt in Isshinryu Karate. He was a two-time marathon finisher when he was in his 50's. Jim was a veteran of WWII. He also loved sailing and competed in races during each summer in his boat. He really enjoyed that boat. It was clear that Jim loved his family and everything he accomplished in his life, but I think high on his list of favorites, was people.

Jim was remarkably friendly. He always had a smile on his face, and a friendly comment for everyone at the game. When he saw the women players he knew, he always kidded that he was glad they came to play with him that day. And, he never forgot to give his regards to my husband and ask how he was getting along. Jim was truly a kind and caring man and so much fun. What will we do without him? We can only express our deepest sympathy to Gail and her family and friends, be grateful we were so lucky to have known Jim and save a special place in our hearts for him.

In the South Hills, mention the name **Stella Kausler** and some people know who you are talking about; mention Ducky and everyone knows. Ducky got her name as a little girl because of her delight watching the ducklings on her family's property. Ducky was not a Life Master. She played in the Future Life Master games in the South Hills as well as the open games. You knew Ducky was at the game by her absolute joy being at the game, her delightful laugh, and her stylish appearance. And Ducky made everyone coming to her table, as well as her partner, as welcome as a long and dear friend. She and several of her friends would play an afternoon game, adjourn for dinner (and the occasional cocktail), and return for an evening game. Ducky could be compared to Pearl Mesta, but I think that would be shortchanging Ducky. We shall miss her and her *joie de vivre* dearlyPhyllis Geinzer

UP THE LADDER POST

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JUNIOR MASTER

Brenda S Donald
Nancy J Kosmala
Linda S Wright

CLUB MASTER

Ann J Fleming
Max E Rubin

SECTIONAL MASTER

Ann Bridges

REGIONAL MASTER

Robert H Flynn
Dina J Fulmer
Linda K Smith

SAPPHIRE MASTER

Catherine S Caplan

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IN MEMORY (Cont)

After a brief illness, Regis Hovan died in March. Rege was a standard fixture at the local bridge games with his favorite partner, Nell Burney. He was the father of 5 children, nine grandchildren, four great grandchildren and stepfather of three. And, to addition to all of those accomplishments, he was a very good bridge player. Nell will certainly attest to that. He was such a nice man. Although he was 85 when he passed away, I thought he looked like he was in his early 70's. That's how young he looked. Our condolences to his family and friends. He will be sorely missed\

We would like to send our condolences to Rose Kunkel on the death of her husband, Joe Roarty. Rose always spoke of him as a very kind and wonderful man. I know the years they had together were filled with happiness. We wish Rose continued good health and happiness in the future.

LESSONS - RODEF SHALOM SISTERHOOD
Seven Consecutive Mondays, Starting May 2
LEARN HOW TO BECOME THE BEST
BRIDGE PLAYER YOU CAN BE

Classes will be taught by Arlene Port & Paul Kaplan

Beginning Bridge—: Bridge Basics #1.

A class for those who wish to learn how to play bridge or reacquaint themselves with the game and achieve a solid foundation. This course will use *Bridge Basics #1* by Audrey Grant
 Cost for Textbook \$12.00.

Taught by Paul Kaplan

BRIDGE BASICS #2

Bridge Basics #2: Competitive Bidding Plus.

This course will reinforce and improve skills you learned in the beginning series. Focus on bidding strategies; doubles, overcalls, etc. with some conventions and introduction to play of the hand. Taught by Arlene Port
 Bridge Basics #2 by Audrey Grant
 Available if needed...Cost \$12.00

Taught by Arlene Port

New Time

Tuition \$70 for the 7-week classes,

plus textbook for the *Bridge Basics #1* if needed;

Advance Registration Requested—Complete & Mail this Form or

Go to pittsburghbridge.org and sign up online.

For Details, Call Arlene at 412-521-3637; or Email aport220@comcast.net

2 Separate Concurrent Classes:

Seven Consecutive Mondays, Starting May 2 (no class May 30)

@ Congregation Rodef Shalom 9:30 AM -11:30 AM

Rodef Shalom, 4905 Fifth Ave., Pgh PA 15213

If you know anyone who would like to take beginning bridge, please tell them about our classes.....arlene

Marilyn Painter discovered this wonderful site for bridge lessons and a vacation . Check it out. 1-877-426-8056 or [Road Scholar: Educational Travel and Learning Vacations for Adults from Alaska to Italy](#)

Or—ask Marilyn what’s it all about.

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
3D	13	1	100
3C	9	3	80
3NT	5	6	60
3S	2	2	40
4C	2	0	40
4S	1	0	40
3H	1	0	30
4D	0	0	20
5C	0	2	

PBA EVENTS 3 MONTHS

April 2016

- 1 Unit Championship Swiss Teams & PBA Board Meeting
- 8-10 PBA Spring Sectional
- 15 Unit Championship
- 22 Unit Championship
- 29 Open Pairs

May 2016

- 1-3 Titusville Sectional
- 8-10 PBA Spring Sectional
- 14 Unit Championship
- 21 Unit Championship
- 28 Open Pairs
- 30— May 1, District 5 GNT 5/1 D

June 2016

- 3 NAOP QUALIFIER
- 5 (Sunday) Fossick Goodman Swiss Teams Info
- 10 Unit Championship & PBA Board Meeting
- 16 STaC Pairs - Special Thursday Game
- 17 STaC Pairs

POST CARDS

SUSAN PODGERS.....Where are you? I miss you! We all miss you. Why did you hurt yourself? Why aren't you better? I have nothing to say except: "GET BETTER THIS VERY MOMENT".. Please?

ROZ SACHS: Roz, you were missing so we searched high and low and , thankfully, finally found you.....recuperating at home from a visit to your local hospital. We have only two things to say to you: 1. Did you really think you get away from us? - and - 2. Please continue to get better every day and come back to the bridge table very soon. You are missed by all.

INTERNET POST

You are South, IMP's and you hold:

S 2
H A K 7 4
D A 8
C A 8 7 6 5 4

The Bidding is:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
1C	PASS	1D	PASS
1H	PASS	2NT*	PASS

? WHAT DO YOU BID

* INVITATIONAL

What do you bid?

Bob Zimmermann: 3NT. I need to make a forward going bid. I'm a King over my minimum, and partner has invited. 3C is not forcing, so that's out. A perfect minimum (KJx xxx KQJxx xx) will get us close, though I expect (hope for?) a bit more for the invite. And they pay bonuses for games.

Trudy Cohn: 3C I bid 3 clubs. I want to confirm real suit and an unbalanced hand. Three NT could be disastrous if we don't have double stoppers in spades. Partner may choose a heart game on a 4 3 fit. If partner chooses to bid 3NT, I will pass. He has been warned,

Bernie Fudor: 3C Good problem. Seems like I have to bid since I have more than minimum. 3clubs seems more descriptive Must be 6/4 and forward going. Let my pd make the last mistake.

Paul Caplan : 5 clubs the safest spot atimps. you can lose 5 spades off the top in 3nt. even with 1 spade stopper clubs would have to run to make 3 nt - Paul

Asim Ulke: I bid **3D**. First it is definitely forcing. Second, it shows shortness in spades. Third it makes my next bid easy. I pass 3NT by partner. I bid 4C over 3H and 5C over 4C and 4D.

Steve Nolan: 3NT. Strong enough to accept the invitation, so I can't make a bid that can be passed below game. Partner knows where my points are and expects to be able to cover the spades and diamonds well enough to allow us to set up nine tricks.

Bill Holt : 5C Assuming the opponents have 9 spades and likely entries, 3NT probably not best. 4c - intended as inviting 5c should actually be Gerber in this sequence - so I am going to take my shot with my quick-tricky 5 loser hand. Hope partner is 3253 or 3244.

Gail Carns : 3NT I hope partner either has spades double stopped or a club fit. 5 clubs could be a better spot.

Fran Prus: 3S. The only forcing bid I can make at this point is 3 Spades. Since there is no suit agreement, it can't be a cue bid, but should ask partner to tell me something useful about his/her hand. My goal is to reach 4 hearts or 5 clubs.

Stan Ruskin 3S :This is difficult since you accepting any invitation but to what contract? Unfortunately 3C shows a weak 5/4 or 6/4 hand that doesn't like NT. 3D and 3H aren't an option, nor is 3NT in my opinion. 4C isn't good because of a bad suit. That leaves 3S which is what I bid. If partner bids 3NT or 4H, I pass and I raise 4C to 5C and 4D to 5D.

Arlene Port : 3C. Although not very definitive, I still think it is forward-going and says something about the missing spade suit. With spades, partner should bid 3NT. My second choice would be 3S, also announcing a shortness in the spade suit. If I had four spades I would simply rebid my 5-card suit or 3NT.

Jane Marshall: 3NT...I'll take my chances that we have 9 tricks between the 2 hands. At least, partner's spade holding is protected from the opening lead. I know this is chancy (but 3C is the alternative.....and wimpy).

Richard Katz: 3 NT

PJ Prabhu: 3NT. We may go down in 3NT while being cold for 5C or even 6C. I want so much to bid 3C; but alas, it's not forcing. 4C should be Gerber; hence, cannot jump in C. Certainly, don't want to jump to 5C with such a weak suit. In short, I have little to say in support of 3NT other than I'm strong enough to accept the invitation to game.

HOW EXPERTS VOTED

PhilipAlder	3NT
Grant Baze	3C
Steve Beatty	3D
David Berkowitz	3D
Henry Bethé	3D
Bart Bramley	3D
Ira Chorush	3NT
Kitty & Steve Cooper	3NT
Larry Cohen	3D
Billy Eisenberg	3D
Bjorn Fallenius	4C
Brian Glubok	3C
Jim Hall	3H
Fred Hamilton	3D
Carl Hudecek	3NT
Eddie Kantar	3D
Ralph Katz	3S
Sami Kehela	3C
Eric Kokish	3D
Marshall Miles	3NT
Arthur Robinson	3C
Michael Rosenberg	3D
Al Roth	4C
Jeff Rubens	3D
Ira Rubin	3C
Mike Shuman	4S
Joey Silver	3C
Paul Soloway	3C
John Swanson	3D
Robert Wolff	3C
Kit Woolsey	3S
Zia	3D

Results on page 11

Pittsburgh Bridge Assoc. April 2016

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Unit Swiss Tms & Board meeting.	2
3						8 PBA Spring	9
10		11	12	13	14	15 Unit <i>Championship</i>	16
<i>Sectional</i>						22 <i>Championship</i>	23
17		18	19	20	21		
24		25	26	27	28	29 Open <i>Pairs</i>	30

FIRST AT THE POST

70%+ GAMES

Richard and Pat Katz	79.33%	Rodef
Dianne Franjione & Marlene Sienicki	70.31%	Washington DBC
John Killmeyer & Bob Park	73.50%	Moon DBC
Barb & Ken Bergman	71.76 %	Zelienople DBC
Asim Ulke & Judy Haffner	70.51	Wilkins
Jean Brackett Jean Purvis	70.00	Butler

TWO IN A ROW

Esther Sain	Export DBC	Garnet Depner	Export DBC
Bob Park	Moon DBC	John Killmeyer	Moon DBC
Christopher Wang	Glenshaw	Philip Goulding	Glenshaw
Asim Ulke	Wilkins	Judy Haffner	Wilkins
Tilly Flannery	Longue Vue	Teresa Dristas	Longvue
John Killmeyer	Moon Area	Ronald Sain	Greensburg
Louis Dell'aquila	Edgeworth	Kathleen Dell'aquila	Edgeworth
Ami Ellis	Wilkins		

Ed Note: In January, I printed an editorial I wrote discussing my distrust of computer dealt hands. (See Jan Post Mortem online at pittsburghbridge.org). Ernie Retetagos responded with the following:

Arlene, I disagree totally with your editorial re: computer generated random hands. The dealing machines and our director claim that the hands are random. They have no reason to do otherwise. Many of us have never suspected anything unusual with generated hands. The hand records are such a great learning tool. I look at the hands after every session, and I usually learn more from the hand records than from the bridge session. I'm getting spoiled, and I hate it when I can't get a hand record.

Lou Joseph once told me that I have way too much time on my hands, He was right. The odds of getting dealt an 8 card suit is .5%, a 7 card suit is 3.6%, and a 6 card suit is 16.6%. I looked at the South hand for 36 boards at 14 "random" games, or 504 hands. Math odds predicted 2 eight card suits, 18 seven card suits and 84 six card suits. I held 2 eight card suits, 19 seven card suits, and 85 six card suits. This small sampling doesn't prove anything, but I don't understand what makes you think that the hands are not random.

(Ed Note: Although, admittedly,, this doesn't prove anything, it is nevertheless a compelling argument refuting my belief in the "mischief fairy" So, I suggest that you make your own decision based on your experiences and any hard evidence you may have either way.