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Associates: Phyllis Geinzer..... Memoriam
Chris Wang.....First At The Post

Unit 142

Pittsburgh, PA

March 2017

POST MORTEM

WEBSITE AT www.pittsburghbridge.org

President: Lorraine Hanna

Vice President: Chris Wang

Secretary: Mary Paulone Carns

Treasurer: John Alioto

Club Manager: Mary Carns

Unit Recorder: Judi Sonon (judi@diegosan.com)

All the news that fits in print

.....by arlene port

WAKE UP EVERYONE!! MARCH IS HERE!!! And you know what that means. That means that the Pittsburgh Spring Sectional will be upon us before you can say: "Master points, master points, master points".and so much more. Your tournament chairs, Bill Holt, Mary Lou Flach and John Bernhard have made certain you will have a great time. (See ad on page 4) And, of course, if you need partnership help, Jane Marshall and Darlene Mannheimer are always there to help you.

I hate to brag, but there are so many wonderful people who have pitched in to help publish the Post Mortem. We have great new articles, information about upcoming games and, of course, we now publish all of the monthly winners outstanding accomplishments. Next time you pick up the newsletter, take your time and read all about the special people, special events and bridge techniques. Indeed, the Post Mortem isn't just a pretty face, it's a beautiful publication. And, if you have the time, tell us what you think. Don't bother with the bad stuff.

In any case, now that March is here, it means that spring is just around the corner. I'm a little nervous about the fact that February was so warm, but we are thinking spring, so keep that thought.

Have a wonderful month and drop us an e-mail if you have something you need to share with the rest of us.

Have a wonderful month and a wonderful time at the Spring Sectional. See you all there.

BREAKING NEWS POST

ALERT!

GET GAME CANCELLATIONS ON YOUR CELL PHONE!!!

Subscribe now to receive FREE TEXT MESSAGE ALERTS on LAST-MINUTE BRIDGE GAME CANCELLATIONS to your Cell Phone.

To receive alerts from the PBA for last-minute cancellations

SIMPLY TEXT: GAMEOFF to 84483

Texts sent for cancellations within 24 hours of game time.

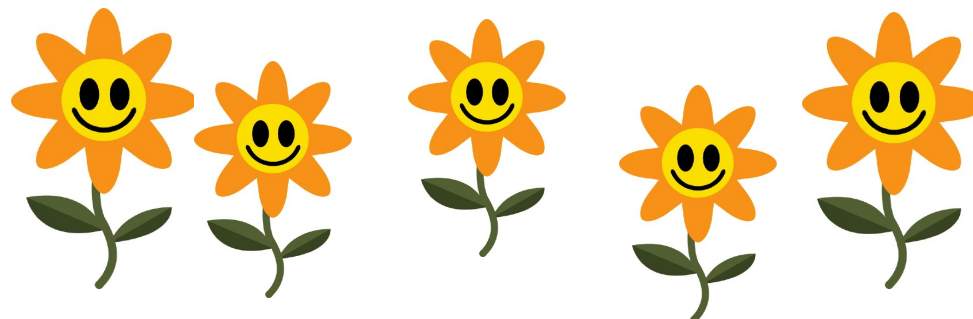
This service is administered by the PBA Board, you will not receive other types of messages. Opt out at any time.

Never miss a cancellation notice!

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Details: www.pittsburghbridge.org/GAMEOFF.htm



Partnerships:
Jane Marshall

412-371-4067

1703pards@dsbridge.com

Newcomers & 499ers:

Darlene Mannheimer

412-343-0419

499pards@dsbridge.com

Tournament Chairs:

Bill Holt

412-860-2794

Mary Lou Flach

John Bernhard

Spring17@dsbridge.com

Pairs Entries \$25 / Pair

1-Session Team Entries \$50 / Team

Open Swiss Teams \$100/team

499er Swiss \$ 88/team

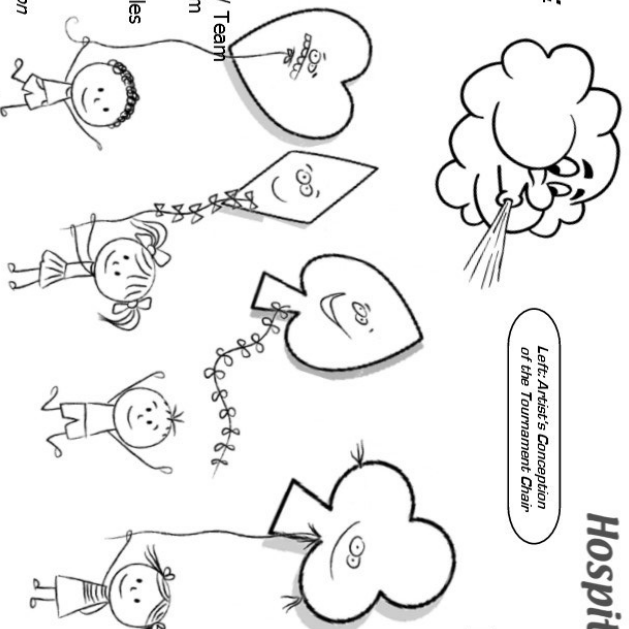
Director in Charge: Alex Beales

Sanction S1703050

Non & Unpaid ACBL Members

\$3 additional / per session

Student Discount: \$5 per Session



Pittsburgh Spring Sectional

Hospitality All Sessions!

March 24-26, 2017

Masonic Center North

3579 Masonic Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Friday, March 24

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, March 25

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!!

3:30 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
New! Compact Handicapped KO Teams
(2nd of 2 sessions)

Single Session Swiss Teams

Sunday, March 26

Continental Breakfast & 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



Pittsburgh Bridge Association



ACBL American Contract Bridge League

Open		499er	
A: 2000+	B: 750-2000	5: 300-500	3: 100-300
C: 0-750		1: 0-100	
Stratifications in All Events by Avg. Mps		Director's Discretion	

Lesson from an Expert
Friday @ 6:15 PM

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

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM POST

.....by Phyllis Geinzer

Jacoby and Texas Transfers

Jacoby Transfers are on the 2 level and guarantee only five – but *could* be made with a longer suit. A Jacoby Transfer can be made with 0 points! Texas Transfers are on the 4 level. A Texas transfer is *always* at least a 6 card suit. A Texas transfer means the responder has enough for at least game. With a five card major, do not use Texas, only Jacoby.

JACORY TRANSFER: Assuming you and your partner are using 15-17 NT openings, and you are holding 5 spades and minimal (under 5) points, a Jacoby Transfer is probably the “safe” and convenient bid. Once partner accepts the transfer, you pass for a partial score. Given the same opening by partner, and holding 5 spades with an intermediate hand (6-9 scattered points), again bid 2 hearts as Jacoby. When partner accepts the transfer, a rebid of 2 NT is forward going or invitational. Given the same opening by partner, and holding 5 spades with a game going hand (10+ points), again bid 2 hearts as Jacoby. When partner accepts the transfer, bid your 4 card suit or jump to 3 NT to give partner the choice of games. A raise of partner’s accepted transfer strongly implies a 6 card suit and should be considered forward going. *If it is a partnership agreement that a raise of the transfer suit does not guarantee 6 cards in the transferred suit, there should be an announcement of this agreement as it is a deviation from the standard Jacoby Transfer Convention.* These same rules apply when partner opens 2NT or 2C and rebids 2NT. Responder reevaluates point count to determine the subsequent bids following partner’s acceptance of the transfer.

TEXAS TRANSFER: Partner has opened a 15-17 point NT, and you are holding 6 spades and 9 points. This is the ideal Texas Transfer hand, so bid 4 hearts knowing that game is probably there. With 6 in a major but with little or no interest in game, just make a Jacoby Transfer bid and pass at your next opportunity.

Now for the tricky part of Texas Transfers: game or slam? The safest and best way to treat a 6 card major and excellent (more than just game going) points opposite a 1 or 2 NT opening is to make the transfer at the lowest possible level and work your way up the bidding ladder gradually (aka slow arrival). With a 6 card major and average (enough for game but nothing else) points, hop quick like a bunny right to the game.

You and your partner should have an agreement about what 4NT means after a Texas Transfer; what is ace asking. You should also have agreement as to the usage of splinters over Jacoby Transfers as well as what 4NT means and what is ace

BRIDGE BYTES

.....By Ernie Retetagos

It certainly
does!!!

LOSING TRICK COUNT

Losing trick count is a method of evaluating hand strength by counting the number of losing tricks, instead of counting high card points. It is a useful tool when the hands are unbalanced and there is a trump fit. For any suit with length, the 4th card or longer of any suit is not considered a loser. For the remainder of the hand, count the number of specific Aces, Kings, and Queens needed to make the hand solid.

A typical opening bid usually has 6 or 7 losers. As a responder, a single raise is a 9 loser hand. A limit raise shows 8 losers, and you force to game with a trump fit and 7 losers. You add your losers to your partner's losers and subtract from 24. The result is the number of tricks that you can take. The result usually coincides with that arrived at by a more traditional means, although by a more circuitous route.

As an example, suppose that you open a hand 1 spade and partner raises to 2. If you only have 5 possible losers, most players would figure that probably 2 of them will be covered, so they bid game. Loser count logic would say $5+9=14$, and $24-14=10$. It reminds me of an old Bazooka Joe comic strip. You used to be able to spend a penny and get a piece of bubblegum wrapped in a short comic. Bazooka Joe was counting the sheep that were running through a gate in a fence, and his friend asked how he was able to do it. He said that he just counted the horns and divided by two.

My point is that loser count should be used as a helpful tool and used in conjunction with other methods of hand evaluation. It should be a tiebreaker in toss up situations, because it does have a high degree of accuracy. At matchpoints you hold, S- Q J 10 x x H- x D- K x x C- K x x x. Your partner opens 1 diamond and raises your 1 spade response to 2 spades. With only 9 HCPs, most players passed. Using loser count you have 7 losers and so does partner, so you bid game. 10 tricks were assured on this hand, all players made 11 when a card was onside.

Loser count is a helpful indicator, but bidding involves more than doing a little arithmetic. Factors such as location of honor cards and controls should always be considered as well.

UP THE LADDER POST

JUNIOR MASTER

Celine C O'Neill

Paul H O'Neill

SECTIONAL MASTER

Judith Pierce

REGIONAL MASTER

Carol A Conaway

NABC MASTER

*Jennifer A Divittis
Fran Steger*

LIFE MASTER

Jeanne S Baseman

RUBY LIFE MASTER

Dorothy H Mehok

YOU ARE THE FIRST APPOINTEES TO THE "BSOP"
BRIDGE STARS OF PITTSBURGH

CONGRATULATIONS ! NOW YOU CAN
CHARGE FOR AUTOGRAPHS.

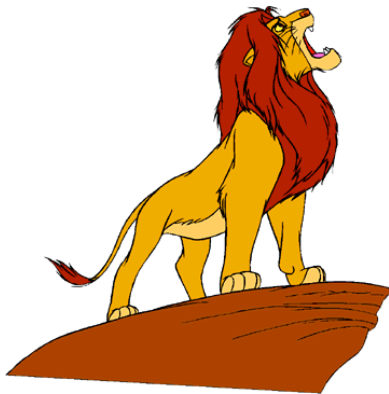
IN MEMORY

Lois Sloane: This is a very sad duty for me. As long as I can remember, Lois was a part of my life, beginning when she and my sister were friends in Davis School. K-3) I don't ever remember a time when Lois wasn't here. I will never forget her, for she was a very special person to remember.

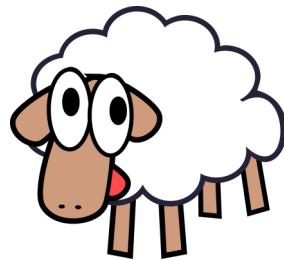
Lois loved everything she did. She loved selling clothes, buying clothes and helping others buy theirs. I also was told that QVC was her online dream channel. She loved her many friends and being with them was always a good time. So many of her closest friends were with her from her kindergarten years. I really think that Maj Jong was her game of choice, but she was also a very enthusiastic bridge player and loyal to the Monday game at the Rodef Shalom.

Lois' husband, Dick, was the husband we all dream about; the one that thinks everything we want to do is OK. Lois had 3 children, and Randi, her daughter, was her mother's gift of wonder to the world. Just ask Norma Sigal, one, of our regular bridge players who happens to be her mother-in-law. Lois was, indeed a very lucky person for she lived the life she loved and she had so many friends and family who loved her. I only hope they play cards up there and make time for her to shop.arlene

MARCH - COMING IN



MARCH - GOING OUT



PBA EVENTS 3 MONTHS 2017

March

- 3 Unit Championship
- 10 Unit Championship
- 17 Unit Championship Swiss Teams
- 24 PITTSBURGH SECTIONAL @ MASONIC
- 31 Open Pairs

April

- 7 Unit Championship & PBA Board Meeting
- 14 Open Pairs
- 21 Unit Championship
- 28 Swiss Team Unit Charity Championship (for ACBL)

May

- 5 Club Championship
- 12 Unit Grass Roots Fund Game & Awards Night
- 19 Unit Championship Swiss Teams

POST CARDS

Hi Norman Williams. We just want to make certain you are getting along famously. We know you are. Stay well.

Welcome back to Jane Marshall. Sometimes you don't know how much you miss somebody until they aren't around. In Jane's case. That wasn't true. We missed you very much. Welcome back.

Sis Brown has moved to Brookdale 1050 McNeilly Rd. Pittsburgh, Pa. 15226 Apt.#406 Phone 412 207-9394 She would love to hear from her bridge friends.

Note: If you know someone who is not feeling well, please let us know and

INTERNET POST

you are South IMP's E/W Vul, You hold:

S 10 7
H K J 9 6
D K 7 4 2
C K Q 10

The bidding is:

NORTH	EAST	SOUTH	WEST
1S	PASS	1NT*	PASS
3C	PASS?	No special agree-	

ments.

*SEMI FORCING

Jane Marshall 4NT. If we don't have at least 3 aces, I will bid 5 spades (to play). Maybe partner has really good spades and we won't go down

Richard Katz: 3NT underbid three n.t. Partners 17-18 opposite my 12 may make slam. I need one more ootz to go further. If I missed slam, oh well.

Chris Wang I bid 3NT. If partner bids 4C, I then bid 5C. If partner bids 4S, I pass.

Bernie Fudor bid 3H and over 3S bid aw never mind **I bid 6NT** next hand

Trudy Cohn: I will bid 3 hearts and see what happens. If partner bids 3nt, I will be content

Craig Biddle 4NT - this is NOT asking! (1) What is trump? I could bid 3S or 4C to tell partner that, then ask. (2) I need to have a way to say that I was going to invite with 2NT at my next turn. This is it!

Steve Nolan: 3S. And if partner doesn't ask for aces in the next round, I do. .

Bill Holt 4NT, Quantitative. I have a nice hand facing the game-forcing Jump Shift and want to guard my red Kings. I do have 2 fast Spade losers but I don't fear the S suit on this auction.

Paul Caplan 3NT impossible to tell partner your hand is this good when you denied it with a 1nt response. I would force to game after partners 1st bid. I hope there is no slam.

Ernie Retetagos 3 Hearts. If partner bids 3 NT, I'll bid 4 NT

Asim Ulke: I bid 3NT. Can't find any excuse to change my mind.

PJ Prabhu: 4NT. This should be Roman Keycard Blackwood for clubs. I'm headed to 6NT (to protect my red kings on opening lead) unless partner makes an unexpected response to this bid. If partner shows two key cards, I will rebid 5S.

Gail Carns: 3NT This should be positive

Stan Ruskin 3H This is a difficult one. While 3NT might be the correct contract, it might not be and 6C could be if partner is 5/5. Since I can't raise 3C to 4C for a number of reasons, I am going to bid 3H and see what partner does to complete the picture of his hand. his response will determine my next bid.

Robert Zimmermann: 4 Clubs

Partner could have anything in clubs - possibly as few as four on this auction. My next bid will be 4 no trump (not ace asking). Similarly, I will pass partner's 4 no trump.

Arlene Port: 4C Surely this is forcing and will give me a better idea of the distribution of this hand . I expect partner to Q-bid a control. If partner bids 5C I will bid 6 because they would not bid 5 without a 5-card suit and I am not going to worry about the missing aces we might not have. I they Bid a control, 4NT is it.

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
4NT	9	4	100
3S	7	1	90
4C	6	2	80
3NT	2	5	50
3H	1	3	50
3D	0	0	20
5C	0	0	10
6C	0	0	10

HOW EXPERTS VOTED

David Berkowitz	3S
Bart Bramley	4C
Gerald Caravelli	3S
John Carruthers	3S
Larry Cohen	4NT
Billy Eisenberg	4NT
Steve Garner	4C
Ron Gerard	4C
Jimm Hall	4NT
Carl Hudecek	3NT
Eddie Kantar	4NT
Sami Kahela	4C
Danny Kleinman	4NT
Eric Kokish	3S
Chip Martel	4NT
Marshall Miles	4NT
Sue Picus	4NT
Arthur Robinson	3NT
Eric Rodwell	3S
Michael Rosenberg	3S
Jeff Rubens	3S
Russell Shoup	3H
Paul Trent	4NT
Robert Wolff	4C
Kit Woolsey	4C

Pittsburgh Bridge Assoc. March 2017

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1		3 PBA Unit Chmp.	4
5		6	7	8	9	10 Unit Chmp.	11
12		13	14	15	16	17 PBA Unit Champion- ship Swiss	18
19		20	21	22	23	24 PITTS- BURGH SECTIONAL	25 PGH SEC- TIONAL
26 PITTS- BURGH SEC- TIONAL		27 Export Charity game ACBL Fd.Expt	28	29	30	31 Unit Open Pairs.	

FIRST AT THE POST

70%+ GAMES

Jane Blackburn * No partner	72.92%	South Hills NLM	Thurs
Barbara & Kenneth Bergman	70.83%	Zelienople	Tues
Madeleine Frizzi & Karl Sokalski	72.92%	Whitehall	

*Wow!! Now THAT'S a good bridge player.

THREE IN A ROW

Joe Sawyer	Edgeworth	Wed	Patricia Cunkelman	Greensburg	Fri
Paul Rosenberg	Houston	Mon	Cecilia Powell	Greensburg	Thurs
Mahendra Patel	South Hills	Thurs			

TWO IN A ROW

Arlene Port	Houston	Mon	Ernest Collins	Export	Mon
Catherine Caplan	O'Hara	Tues	Arlene Port	JCC	Wed
Trudy Cohn	JCC	Wed			
John Killmeyer	Moon	Wed	Rita DiFrancesca	Rodef 299ers	Mon
Joan Davis	Rodef 299ers	Mon	Sandra McCall	Whitehall	Mon
Bud McElhanev	Whitehall	Mon	Jim Gump	South Hills	Thurs
Linda Fried	Shuffler's	Tues	Constance Hoechstetter	Glenshaw	Wed
Ben Weschler	Edgeworth	Wed	Rod Lipman	Edgeworth	Wed
Steven Nolan	PBA Unit	Fri	Daniel McKinley	PBA Unit	Fri
Joanne Zambroski	Glenshaw	Sat	Joanne Ladish	Natrona Heights	Mon
Joanne Zambroski	Wilkins	Fri	Arlene Port	Wilkins	Fri
Carol Conaway	Sewickley	Fri			

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ALL.
YOU DID GREAT