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Unit 142

Pittsburgh, PA

May 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

It's finally May and, surprisingly, this month, the Post Mortem is loaded with articles submitted by some of our best players. These articles not only give you the opportunity to learn something, but also to challenge yourself by planning how you would bid and play these hands. Gaining insight is a good thing, even if you disagree with the "insighter". (sorry, Lou)

As usual, we have a very special event coming up May 12. That is the party we throw for all of those high achievers who have earned their Life Master card or beat up everyone else in their race category. We also honor some special people who have given so much to our organization. Please don't forget to make a date and cheer on all of our award winners.

The snowbirds have, for the most part, flown back to Pittsburgh and we are happy to see them all. The best part of it all is that they got here just in time to make arrangements to attend the Awards Party and the Unit Championship Swiss in June.

My best advice for May is: Take advantage of all of our special games; (see PBA calendar) enjoy playing our favorite game and make certain you win your share of master points. It would be OK if you saved some for me. (just saying)

Spring is finally here and summer will be coming next. We all love "warm", so enjoy the weather and the bridge.



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2017 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 11, 2017
Edgewood Country Club

Coffee, Bagels & Pastries 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

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A hand to remember.....by PJ Prabhu

Playing IMPs, you hold as dealer 4, KT73, AQ973, AJ5 with both sides vulnerable. You open 1D and the following auction occurs.

<u>South</u>	<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>
1D	1S	2S	Pass
3H	Pass	3NT	Pass
4NT	Pass	5H	Pass
6D	Pass	Pass	Pass

You may not bid as above, but that was the actual auction at my table.

West leads the D2 and the following dummy appears. 4

S - AQ9	S	H - KT73	N
H - 95	O	D - AQ973	O
D - KJT4	U	C - AJ5	R
C - KQ62	T		T
	H		H

You pull three rounds of trumps as East follows with D5 and then discards S2 and S5 on the second and third tricks. You then play four rounds of clubs throwing H3 from your hand on the last C. West throws S3 and S7 on the last two tricks. The following cards are left. How do you proceed?

	4	
	KT7	
	Q9	
AQ9	—	
95		
J		
-		

It appears that West has the SK. If so, you have 11 tricks with the S finesse succeeding. You need another trick to make the contract. If East has the HA, you could play a H through him and make the HK. However, West made a vulnerable 1S overcall. Hence, it is more likely that he has the HA. Can you make the contract if West holds the HA? Can you see how?

East having discarded two spades, you can make the contract by squeezing West in S and H. For most squeezes to succeed, you need to come down to one loser. Here, you cannot duck a trick since if you duck a H, the opponents will cash a second H to defeat the contract. This is one of the few cases where a squeeze can be effected with two losers. In the diagrammed position, you play a D to your hand. West can discard a H (or S) on this trick, coming down to three S and two H. When you lead the last D from hand West is squeezed. If he discards a H coming down to the now stiff HA, you discard S9 from dummy and lead a small H. West is forced to win the HA and lead a S. You could finesse the SQ, cash the SA and lead the H9 to your HK for the 12th trick. If West discards a S on the last D in ~~hand~~, you discard a H from dummy and take the S finesse. After cashing the SQ and SA, the S9 becomes a winner for your 12th trick. Here is the full deal.

K J 8 7 3	KJT4	T 8 6 2
A Q 8	KQ62	J 6 4 2
8 6 2		5
8 4	4	T 9 7 3
	K T 7 3	
	AQ973	
	AJ5	

On this deal, played at Bridge Base Online, I could not test/display my technique since I was dummy. Declarer played a H to his K at the 6-card ending showed above, whereupon West cashed the HA and HQ to

Craig Biddle's guide to bidding, playing and problem solving at the bridge table.

When you come to each question, answer it before you go on.

Matchpoints, none vul RHO deals You hold S-Qx H-AKxxx D-QJxx C-xx

RHO You LHO Partner
1H Pass 1S 2S
Pass ?

WHAT DO YOU BID?

Partner's 2S bid is natural (unless you have agreed otherwise). And, if partner just had weak two-bid strength, they would pass and bid spades at their next turn if the opponents didn't show strength. So partner has 6 or more spade and a good hand. Your choices are 3S, 4S, and 3H.

Whenever a single raise and a jump to game are both worth considering, an invitational bid must be right. You bid 3H and partner ends the auction with a jump to 4S. (When I was given this problem, I just bid 4S. I feel very strongly that this overall should show a good suit and a sound opening bid, for the reason I gave above. But bidding 3H is the right call.)

OK, partner is taken ill, and you must take over as declarer.

Your hand Dummy (formerly your hand)

S- AK107xxx Qx
H-void AKxxx
D-Kxx QJxx
C-xxx xx

LHO kicks off the play with the C-AKQ as RHO follows up the line, playing the J on the 3rd round. You of course ruffed this small in dummy since you are off a cashing ace. What do you know about the defenders' hands? LHO apparently has C-AKQxx in addition to his 5 (or more) hearts. He is also, obviously, void in spades. **WHAT IS YOUR PLAN?**

Since you must lose a diamond, you are going to have to neutralize RHO's S-J98x. The only way to do this is by a trump coup. In order to do that, you need to be in dummy 4 times. The first 3 times, you will ruff hearts in hand. (Who needs aces and kings? A great player like you can survive with spot cards!) The 4th time, you will lead winners until E ruffs and you will overruff.

What are your 4 entries? Well, the first one was dummy's spade spot. The other 3 must be the S-Q and D-QJ. So you had better ruff something in hand now. Lead a small heart and ruff it.

NOW WHAT?

You need to make sure that the D-QJ are both dummy entries. In order to do that you must lead the DK now. **WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF LHO WINS THIS WITH THE A?**

LHO will see that if he leads a heart or a club he will be helping you set up the trump position you need. So they will lead a diamond and you can proceed according to plan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF LHO WINS THIS WITH THE A?

RHO has the same problems with leading clubs (if, indeed, they have one) or hearts. So they, too, will have to lead something you can win in dummy and you can proceed according to plan.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THE DK WINS THIS TRICK?

You no longer have enough entries to dummy to run your trump coup. Fortunately, you have a reserve plan. You can lead a spade to the Q and cash the H-AK, pitching the rest of your diamonds. This is why leading a spade to dummy for a 2nd ruff before dealing with the D-A is wrong - had you done that you would have no way to succeed if they now let your D-K win a trick, since you couldn't get to dummy without leading a diamond.

My friend who gave this to me as a problem was declarer. His partner on this board passed his 2S call. His LHO led the HQ, and my friend quickly pitched two clubs, picked up trumps, and claimed 5. Dummy said, "Good thing I didn't invite game. You would have accepted, and three rounds of clubs would beat you." 4

BRIDGE BYTES

.....By Ernie Retetagos



PREEMPTIVE TWO BIDS

A reader asked if a hand could be too strong for a preemptive two bid, but not strong enough for a one bid. I would say that it depends on the definition of a one bid and a two bid. (I should run for office). A 4th seat preempt is a good hand that expects to go plus, and a 3rd seat two bid could be anything. So for purposes of this discussion, we'll just consider opening bids in the 1st and 2nd seats.

Some of the pairs that play a big club system open balanced 11 point hands. Most other players consider any flat hand with 12 high card points as an opening bid. A hand with 10-11 HCPs and a 5 or 6 card suit is frequently opened at the one level. Since most convention cards indicate that an opening two bid shows 6-11 points, an 11 point hand seemingly could qualify as a one bid or a two bid.

A few players employ the Ogust convention when responding to an opening two bid. The 2 NT response ask for hand strength and suit quality. I guess that these pairs can open a two bid with a suit headed by the Jack, and a couple of Kings on the side. They can tell partner that they have a weak hand and a bad suit. Even without that convention, many other players like to open a two bid anytime they have a 6 card suit and less than opening count. These players will open a one bid if they are too strong for a two bid.

My preferred style of two bids is old school. I almost always have a decent suit, not necessarily 2 out of the top 3, but close to it. And I do not have more than one card outside of my suit. I don't think you should preempt with two possible tricks on the side. Partner can more accurately judge an auction if they have an idea what you have. If I had 6 card suit headed by the K,J, and a King on the side, I could open a two bid. If I would add an extra King, I would be too strong(in a sense) for a disciplined two bid, but not strong enough for a one bid. Strength isn't really the best adjective, but if one has additional standards for a two bid, then a hand might not meet the qualifications for an opening bid at any level. Of course, suit quality and vulnerability are always the most important factors in preemptive bidding decisions.

UP THE LADDER POST

WHAT AN ACCOMPLISHMENT!! PLEASE KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK

YOUR OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS ARE PROOF THAT THE GAME IS ALIVE AND WELL.

JUNIOR MASTER

*Susam Beresik
Phyllis Mellor
M Judith Moore*

CLUB MASTER

*Sally B Adkins
Yvonne B Carroll
Marsha Draper
Alice I Hand
Mary D Taylor*

REGIONAL MASTER

Martha H Babbitt

BRONZE LIFE MASTER

Nancy C Chak

POST CARDS

Ward Kelsey was seriously injured in an automobile accident last month while vacationing in Florida. In addition to head injuries and broken ribs,

IN MEMORY

Bob Zwack was one of the most accomplished bridge players in our Unit. Many of you remember with fondness his late wife, Anne. A brilliant chemist who retired from PPG, Bob held a great number of patents during his career. If your car doesn't rust, you can thank Bob. Very quiet and retiring at the bridge table, when it came time to bid and play or defend a hand he was exceptional. He was one of the best players we have ever had the pleasure of competing against. . Bob and Gail Carnes, maintained a close partnership for over forty years, coming in third place in a national event. They played their last time and won the game just a few weeks before Bob succumbed to cancer. Our condolences to his family and friends and to Margie Tiglio, his companion of the last few years.

Art Bonneau was retired from Westinghouse. He started out as an electrical engineer but was soon moved to the new field of nuclear engineering. He was part of the team that worked on the first nuclear submarine and the first nuclear aircraft carrier. He and his wife of 50 years raised 13 children with love and gusto. That love and gusto continued throughout his life. He was in touch with each of them every day. After hi wife, Ella died, Art and his long time bridge partner, Mary Lou D'Altorio developed their relationship. They travelled all seven continents, played bridge, and enjoyed each other's families. Art was a great guy, nice and welcoming to all. An accomplished bridge player, he brought so much to those who knew him. Our deepest sympathy to his family and to Mary Lou D'Altorio. We will all miss him, terribly.

Audrey Sandson passed away suddenly from an infection. She was a most wonderful person who gave her time and energy to so many. Audrey was a mental health therapist at the Allegheny Valley MH MR for 21 years, and she volunteered at Persad, Shadyside Hospital, the Jewish Volunteer Connection and the Charles Morris Rehabilitation Center . She was a lovely lady who always had a smile on her face and a positive attitude, even in the face of adversity. She and her husband, Gerald, played bridge at the JCC and Rodef Shalom. She never thought she was the best player, but she was, in fact,

Beatrice (Bea) Hillner died early in March after several years of poor health. She was my first Women's Pairs and Women's Swiss partner back in the "old days" :Women's Pairs" events at Regionals. I was a newcomer to Pittsburgh duplicate and Bea, graciously, asked me to partner with her a couple of evenings a month to hone my game and then we would play the women's events. . She and her husband, Ed, were together 66 years and had two children. They enjoyed many years with their grandchildren. In addition to her bridge, Bea knit beautiful sweaters and baked scrumptious cookies and other goodies. The South Hills bridge community is diminished by the loss of Bea but our memories are most rich because of her. Our condolences to her family and friendsPhyllis Geinzer

We are all a little bit poorer for having lost these wonderful people.

PBA EVENTS 3 MONTHS 2017

May

- 5 Club Championship
- 12 Unit Grass Roots Fund Game & Awards Night
- 19 Unit Championship Swiss Teams
- 26 No game—Cleveland Regional

June

- 2 NAOP QUALIFIER
- 9 Unit Championship & PBA Board Meeting
- 11 (Sunday) Fossick Goodman Swiss Teams
- 15 STaC Pairs - Special Thursday Game
- 16 STaC Pairs
- 23 Unit Championship Swiss Teams
- 30 Unit Championship

July

- 7 NAOP QUALIFIER
- 14 PITTSBURGH SECTIONAL @ MASONIC Info

Internet Post: Continued from page 9

Fred Schenker: Double It's matchpoints so I'm going to double and take my chances. If pard bids 3C, I'm bidding 3D. Otherwise I'm passing. If for some reason we get to 3N, it's only 50 a trick.

Craig Biddle Double. No second choice. Give the weak 2-bidder 9 points and his partner 10, that still leaves 15 for partner. So why didn't partner bid? Spades!. Lots and lost of spades! This is clear even at IMPs. if for some reason, partner has no spade tricks, they should take it out and unless they pick hearts, I will correct to diamonds. Jay once gave me the business because I failed to reopen with a 5-count. He had 18 and 100 honors in their suit. That's not terribly unlikely here either.

Jane Marshall: Pass. I think that my partner will get us too high if I bid anything. OR...the opponents may find a game that makes.

INTERNET POST

Matchpoints, E/W Vulnerable. You are South.

You hold:

S 4
H K J 9 3
D Q 10 8 7 3 2
C 4 3

THE BIDDING IS:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
-----	-----	-----	PASS
PASS	2S	PASS	PASS

? What do you bid?

Richard Katz: . Pass Imp's, I pass as 670/870 loom. Match points I double as you can only get a zero one time with no match loss implications.

Also if partner bids three clubs, this will prove to be yet another interesting experiment, Richard.

Chris Wang .Pass. Other possible options, are to double and if partner bids 3C, to bid 3D. But there is a chance partner will pass. Bidding 3D may turn a positive into a negative score.

Trudy Cohn: Pass I am going to pass. I'm afraid that if I reopen the auction the opponents will discover their game. It can't be our hand or partner would have bid over the 2spades.

Asim Ulke: I pass. I am not looking for a miracle.

Bernie Fudor: PASS Whether my partner has hesitated or not. This seems like a hand that was sent to a committee.

Steve Nolan: Double. Partner may have a suitable hand for a penalty pass. My opening pass will prevent partner from going badly wrong if the bidding continues in another way.

Bill Holt Pass. Partner does not have a big hand with Hearts. He may be able to convert a Penalty Double with a Pass, but I have only 6 hcp. Just as likely the opps are missing something.

PJ Prabhu: Pass. It is tempting to bid 3D. But my hand and suit are too weak. I'm afraid that when 3D is the right contract for us, we won't get to play there. One possibility is that partner may bid 3NT (expecting more values in my hand) and go down while 2S would have gone down. On the other extreme, LHO who bid 2S in third seat may be stronger than one may expect and the opponents may get to 4S that we cannot beat

Stan Ruskin 3D It certainly looks like partner has at least a solid opening bid with Spades since East passed originally and, if you made a take out double, would probably pass. I don't think this hand is anywhere close to a double so I have eliminated this. Partner probably doesn't have 4 hearts or would probably make a take out double. This leaves me with two choices – pass or 3D. I think that I will bid 3D. What I lack in high cards, I make up with distribution. If they bid 3S and partner doubles, I would Pass since I haven't promised partner anything.

Gail Carns: pass no other bid

Robert Zimmerman: Double. I've got nothing, and neither opponent has an opening bid. So, partner either has a penalty pass of 2 spades or will pull. The real question is whether to pass partner's 3 club bid. Do we play Lebensohl in this situation?

Arlene Port: Pass. Seeing all of the answers has advantages. I would have loved to bid 3D, but in my heart I know that I would have passed; not because of my minimum hand, but because I would have been afraid they would find a better place to be.

Paul Caplan Pass partner has the best hand at the table but had too many spades to dbl for take out you may not have a fit to play in. your best chance for a plus might be in setting 2s. and you are too weak to dbl.

Ernie Retetagos 3D. Partner may be hoping that I can double, but I can't with only a King and a Queen on defense. We are playing matchpoints, and we're not vulnerable. I am not going to sell out at the two level when I have a 6 card suit.

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
3D	8	2	100
Pass	9	11	90
Double	7	4	80
2NT	1	0	50

HOW EXPERTS VOTED

David Berkowitz	DBL
Bart Bramley	2NT
Gerald Caravelli	3D
John Carruthers	3D
Larry Cohen	DBL
Billy Eisenberg	P
Steve Garner	DBL
Ron Gerard	P
Jim Hall	DBL
Carl Hudecek	3D
Eddie Kantar	DBL
Sami Kahela	P
Danny Kleinman	P
Eric Kokish	DBL
Chip Martel	3D
Marshall Miles	P
Sue Picus	P
Arthur Robinson	P
Eric Rodwell	3D
Michael Rosenberg	P
Jeff Rubens	P
Russell Shoup	3D
Poaul Trent	3D
Robert Wolff	3D
Kit Woolsey	3D

Pittsburgh Bridge Assoc. May 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Zelenople Extra points	3 Edgeworth Extra pts.	4 Longue Vue Extra points	5 PBA Club Ch Sewickly YMCA extra points	6
7	8	9 Zelenople Extra points	10 Edgeworth Extra pts.	11 Longue Vue Extra points	12 PBA Awards night Sewickly YMCA extra points	13
14	15	16 Zelenople Extra points	17 Edgeworth Extra pts.	18 Longue Vue Extra points	19 PBA Swiss Tms Sewickly YMCA extra points	20 Extra points
21	22 Houston Charity game pts.	23 Zelenople Extra points	24 Edgeworth Extra pts.	25 Longue Vue Extra points	26 PBA no game Sewickly YMCA extra points	27
28	29 Houston no game memori- al day.	30 Zelenople Extra points	31 Edgeworth Extra pts.			
30						

FIRST AT THE POST

.70%+ GAMES

Bud McElhaney & Sandra McCall	73.80	Whitehall	Mon
Robert Quinlan & Constance Hoechstetter	70.53	Temple Emanuel	Wed
Arthur Henry & Marie Henry	70.16	South Hills NLM	Tues-
Alan Leaver & Philip Goulding	70.24	Zelionople	Tues
Eleanor Craig & Sara Kostelar	70.31	Glenshaw 99ers	Sat
Nancy Matthews & Judith Perman	72.50	Nancy's Din. Club	Sun
Joan Davis & Joe Sawyer	70.50	Longue Vue	Thurs

FIVE IN A ROW

Patricia Cunkelman Greensburg Fri Bob Quinlan Tmpl Emanuel Wed

FOUR IN A ROW

Constance Hoechstetter Temple Emanuel Wed

TWO IN A ROW

Asim Ulke	Rodef	Mon	Barbara Belardi	Export	Mon
Janice Grier	SH NLM	Tues	Robert Grier	SH NLM	Tue
Arthur Aronson	Butler	Thurs	Robert Quinlan	South Hills	Thurs-
Bradley Craig	Greensburg	Fri	Joanne Ladish	Natrona Hts	Mon.
John Pickett	Natrona Heights	Mon	Patricia Cunkelman	Export	Mon
Kenneth Snyder	Export	Mon	Andrew Makar	Export	Mon
Marcella Retetagos	O'Hara	Tues	Judy Haffner	JCC	Wed
Harold Haffner	JCC	Wed	Deborah Shoup	Greensburg	Wed-
Charlotte Ludwig	Greensburg	Wed	Ronald Sain	Indiana	Tues-
Dorothy Murray	Wilkins	Thurs	Annemarie Gordon	Sewickley	Fri
Arlene Cullen	Glenshaw	Sat	Karen Shipkovitz	Glenshaw	Sat
Arlene Port	Glenshaw	Mon	Judy Haffner	Glenshaw	Mon-
Harold Haffner	Glenshaw	Mon	Judy Pierce	Indiana	Tues
Deborah Shoup	Greensburg	Thurs	Curt Woodhead	South Hills	Thurs-
Estill Duggins	South Hills	Thurs			