

Editor: Arlene Port 220 N Dithridge #404
Pgh.PA. 15213
Tel: 412-521-3637 aport220@comcast.net

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

Unit 142

Pittsburgh, PA

SEPTEMBER 2019

POST MORTEM

WEBSITE AT www.pittsburghbridge.org
President: Chris Wang
Vice President: Craig Biddle
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

Well I never!! When I took on this job of the Post Mortem, I thought this would be my path to publishing stardom. I had visions of Hollywood begging me to write a movie based on my superior writing skills. I had no idea all of the space would be taken up by information about the PBA and the super events they would be hosting..

Oh well, my dreams of fame and fortune may have vanished, but not my enthusiasm for telling everyone how wonderful those events are, and that September is clearly the busiest time of the year to have fun and success at the bridge table.

We have the RONI Regional starting Sept. 3-8, closely followed by the Pro-Am game on Thursday, September 19. As they say in the movies (which I will never write) "Who could ask for anything more". Well, just wait until October comes our way. We have the Fall Sectional, October 25-27, followed closely on October 31 by the Instant Matchpoint Game, a gold point event.. All of the information about these events is on pages 3,4,5 and 6. And, please don't forget every Friday night at the unit game and their Swiss team game once a month. Seriously, the truth is that I am so busy attending all the super games, I don't even have enough time to write my world class novel.

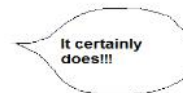
Just follow my lead and spend happy days collecting points and good times with the Pittsburgh Bridge Association. We love spending time with you. Just so you know, I haven't given up on my dream of literary success. I am going to start writing as soon as I think of another opening line instead of "Once upon a time".

WORDS OF WISDOM TO LIVE BY

**ALWAYS READ STUFF THAT WILL MAKE YOU LOOK
GOOD IF YOU DIE IN THE MIDDLE OF IT**

BRIDGE BYTES

.....By Ernie Retetagos



OVERCALLS

An overcall shows at least a 5 card suit with about 8-16 high card points. We overcall in order to possibly buy the contract, make a lead director, or just to interfere with the opponent's auction. The fewer HCPs that you have, the better the suit quality should be. There are higher standards for an overcall at the 2 level. As in all competitive auctions, vulnerability should be taken into consideration.

At the 1 level, an overcall can be made with as little as a good 5 card suit and nothing on the outside if you are not vulnerable. Vulnerable overcalls should be a little better. With poor suit quality, you need close to an opener to bid. In the finals of the Spingold this week, both sides overcalled on 10 9 x x x and A Q, A on the outside. Years ago, I don't think that this hand would have qualified as an overcall. Modern bidding theory is to make an effort to get into bidding even when it's not your hand. .

You should never overcall at the 2 level without a real suit. Suit quality is more important than than high card strength. Ideally it is a 6 card suit or a very good 5 card suit. Suits like A J x x x or K Q x x x are not good 2 level overcalls, even with opening count. When your suit is missing length and intermediate cards like J, 10, or 9, the danger is that you could be doubled for penalty. The danger is increased when you are vulnerable. The easiest way to go minus 200 or more is to make a 2 level overcall with a weak suit. When an overcall is passed around back to opener, they are expected to reopen with a double with most hands.

There are some math formulas regarding suit length, HCPs, and honor cards in your suit to determine whether or not to overcall. Although this kind of numeric gadgetry can be helpful, it is not a substitute for good bidding judgement. Keep in mind that a 2 level overcall shows a good suit and a decent hand, and that a 1 level bid can be made with much less.

Pittsburgh Fall Sectional

Hospitality All Sessions!

Partnerships:
 Jane Marshall 412-371-4067
 Partners@pittsburghbridge.org
Newcomers & 499ers:
 Darlene Mannheimer
 412-913-5944
 499er@pittsburghbridge.org
Tournament Chair:
 Craig Biddle 303-720-4164
 Fall19@pittsburghbridge.org

Double, Double,
 Toil and...
 Who am I gonna
 DOUBLE !!

★ **Earlier** ★
Playtimes!!!
Fri - Sat - Sun

Friday, October 25

★ **10:30 AM** Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
 Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)

★ **3:00 PM** **Continental Breakfast and Lunch Included!**
 Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
 Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)
 Single Session Swiss Teams

Saturday, October 26

★ **10:00 AM** Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
 Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)
 Compact Handicapped KO Teams
 (1st of 2 sessions)

★ **2:30 PM** **Continental Breakfast and Lunch Included!**
 Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
 Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)
 Compact Handicapped KO Teams
 (2nd of 2 sessions)
 Single Session Swiss Teams

Sunday, October 27

★ **10:00 AM** **Continental Breakfast and Lunch Included!**
 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



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

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



Thursday, October 31, 2019
Gametime 12 Noon! Win Gold Points!

Morning Munchies!
Reservations Required! *
Please Carpool!



Wilkins Twp. Municipal Bldg.
110 Peffer Road
Turtle Creek, PA 15145

Everyone's Favorite ACBL-wide Game!!!
 Here's your chance to compete against Bridge
 Players from across North America -
 playing the same hands with Expert Analysis...

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 Game. Know your score & where you stand the
INSTANT the hand is over!
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 Author of "The Law of Total Tricks".

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ATTENDANCE IS LIMITED - RESERVE NOW!

*Call or Email Annette Suher for Reservations:
 412-334-5197 or 19IMP@pittsburghbridge.org

Such a Deal! See You There!

Directions on the Website:
www.pittsburghbridge.org



UP THE LADDER POST

JUNIOR MASTER

*Alan Eichler
Deborah Mihalov
Mary Ann Pentrack
Jane Polick
Beverly Reding*

CLUB MASTER

*Jeannie Desmone
Mary Ellen Ulicny
Cynthis Wanchek*

SECTIONAL MASTER

*Ann Plunkett
Debbie Roth
Max Rubin
Linda Silberman
Kathy Surma*

CONGRATULATIONS WE MAY JUST
HAVE A FEW HIGH ACHIEVERS
THIS MONTH BUT WE FEEL LUCKY
THEY HAVE DONE SO MUCH TO
SHARPEN THEIR BRIDGE SKILLS

CONGRATULATIONS
THINK YOU'RE GOOD HUH?
WELL, YOU ARE

YOU DID IT!

PITTSBURGH BRIDGE ASSOC. ELECTION

The following members are at the end of their two-year term and will need to resubmit a petition to serve again.

June Threlkeld	Craig Biddle	Mary Carnes
John Alioto	Pat Anders	Jane Marshall
		Ruthie Neafach

Any ACBL member of Unit #142 who wish to serve a 2 year term on the Board of Directors (2020-2021), should contact Ken Bergman at either Barken670@Gmail.com or call 724-935-4591. You may also submit your petition to any current board member.

PBA EVENTS 3-MONTH CALENDAR 2019

September

6 PITTSBURGH REGIONAL (runs Sept. 3 through Sept. 8)
INFO
13 Unit Championship
19 (Thursday) Pro Am Game (Rodef Shalom) INFO
20 Club Championship
27 Unit Championship Swiss Teams

October

4 Club Appreciation Pairs
11 Club Appreciation Swiss Teams & PBA Board Meeting
18 Club Championship
25 PITTSBURGH SECTIONAL @ MASONIC
31 ACBL-Wide Instant Matchpoint Game (Thurs. daytime)

November

1 Open Pairs
8 Unit Championship Swiss Teams
15 Unit Championship & Annual Membership Meeting
22 Unit Championship
29 Open Pairs

Internet Post Mortem (Cont.)

Bob Zimmermann: 4 spades. Somebody at the table is having a bit of fun, and I suspect it's East. Partner's 4 clubs has to show both length and values. We could belong in 7 clubs on as little as [xx kx xxx KQxxxx]. So, I need to start with something forcing. I'll bid 5 hearts over the inevitable 5 clubs. Then make a decision over partner's next bid. As a side note, it would be nice to know if we are playing lebensohl - I assume we are not.

Ernie Retetagos: 6 Clubs. East is just clowning around with 3 or 4 card spade support and a King or two. As long as partner has long strong clubs, slam is laydown if they also have the King of hearts. If not, slam might require a heart finesse. If partner is 7-2-2-2 with no high cards on the side, a heart slam has no chance and a club slam is on a finesse.

Steve Nolan: 4NT. The plan is to let partner show the (presumed) king of clubs, then ask about the queen (if he does, it will elicit a bid which also shows an outside king, if any). If partner shows up with the king and queen of clubs and the king of hearts, bid 7NT. Otherwise, bid 6H.

INTERNET POST: You are South, IMP's, none vul. You hold:

S - A J
H - A Q J 10 8 5
D - A J 3
C - A 2

The bidding is:

South west north east
---- 2S* PASS 2NT
DBL PASS 4C PASS
?

Bill Holt: 6H. Partner's jump to 4c shows a good hand – exposing East's 2NT as an obfuscation. With KH and some useful clubs for discards, partner might bid 7

Bernie Fudor: 6H Good problem I guess this is why God created preempts and psyches, I'm bidding 6 hearts but with no great assurance that this is right. Without doubt I could be so wrong as to be laughable\

Jack Hawthorne: 6H. OK. Partner was not forced to bid on the 4-level, so what is he telling me? Probably six clubs with at least 10 points, probably more. He clearly doesn't have four hearts but he can have two or three. Besides, my heart suit is relatively self-sufficient. At matchpoints I'd give 6NT serious consideration, concerned that we might have 13 tricks off the top. At IMPs, I think I'll just bid 6H in the hope that our teammates presented as much competitive bidding at the other table

Richard Katz: 6H Two spade bidder 7 points, two NT bidder therefore has two points if partner has ten as promised. Therefore two NT bidder must have four spades and is psyching. We May be cold for the seven level, with k hearts kqxxxx clubs? Off six to eight points and heart K should be surprisingly be off side if righty is psyching. Give two bidder K109XXX, KX, XXXX, X. Give two NT bidder QXXX, XX, XXXX,XXX Partner therefore has KQ diamonds, KQ clubs, and a stiff spade, in a difficult world. I bid six hearts, and not surprised to make seven. Counting on right hand opponent to have total nothing, perhaps spade queen,

Herb Sachs: 4NT then after 5clubs? 5spades then ??? settle for 6clubs if possible; partner is not barred from seven clubs over 5nt

Asim Ulke: I bid 5Hearts. It is worth a try. If my partner has at least x xx Qxxx KQJxxx I want to be in a slam.

Chris Wang: 4H I bid 4H. Partner is showing 9 points or more, probably has less than an opening hand. I don't know what suit we belong in, plus I don't know how many kings partner has. If he has 3, and the king he is missing is in spades, 6H might make. But partner might have less than 3 kings and still have nine points. If partner bids 5C over my 4H, I pass.

Paul Caplan 6 clubs partner should have 7clubs in hand and a stiff spade and the K of hearts should be on side.

Jane Marshall 4 hearts. I have a 5-loser hand and my partner did not bid hearts. I hope that partner can provide 2 tricks. I don't think that I should be looking for slam.

Craig Biddle .4H. This was obviously my plan when I doubled. Why should I change horses now? I expect RHO to bid 4S at some point. Why else would he have bid 2NT when I have this moose and partner has some sort of good hand? If he does, I will bid 5C next since partner should have a reasonable club suit for his 4C call.

Stanley Ruskin: 4S It is clear that East's bid of 2NT is based on very few points and a spade fit. 2S bidder presumably has 6+ points and North has 9+ points. That leaves a maximum of 5 points for East. Thus, East may be preparing for a save and is trying to apply maximum pressure to us. Partner most likely has a Singleton spade (maybe a void). If partner has a good club suit, he should have at least one of the other missing Kings – hearts and diamonds. In theory, he could have all 3 missing Kings. If he has a bad club suit, he has to have the other missing Kings. Thus, I have to figure out what slam we should bid – 6H or 7H. Thus, I start by bidding 4S. If he bids 5C for the club Q, I bid 5S and hope he can figure out to bid 7C if he has the other 2 kings and I correct to 7H. If he just bids 6D, I sign off in 6H and if he bids 6H, I pass.
Gail Carns: 4H on this action this bid should be forcing.

(Cont. on page 8)

HOW EXPERTS VOTED

Phillip Alder	6H
David Berkowitz	4NT
Augie Boehm	6H
Gera;d Caravelli	4NT
John Carruthers	6H
Larry Cohen	5NT
Billy Eisenberg	4S
Richard Freeman	4S
Ron Gerard	5H
Mary & Max Hardy	4S
Carl Hudecek	6C
Eddie Kantar	4S
Sami Kehela	5NT
Danny Kleinman	4S
Eric Kokish	5H
Richard Margolis	4S
Chip Martel	4S
John R. Mayne	6H
Marshall Miles	6H
Sue Picus	4S
Arthur Robinson	4S
Eric Rodwell	4S
Michael Rosenberg	4S
Al Roth	5S
Jeff Rubens	6H
Ira Rubin	4H
Ron Smith	4NT
Robert Wolff	4S
Kit Woolsey	5H

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
4S	12	2	100
6H	6	4	80
5H	3	1	60
4NT	3	2	50
6C	1	2	30
5NT	2	0	20
4H	1	4	20
5S	1	0	10

Pittsburgh Bridge Assoc SEPTEMBER 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		PITTSBU	RGH R	EGIONAL	Pittsburgh Regional	Pgh regional
8 PGH REG	9	10	11	12	13 <i>PBA- NAOP qualifer</i>	14 <i>Lorraine Hanna mini Slam briddnb 10:30</i>
15	16	17	18	19	20 <i>PBA unit championship</i>	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 <i>PBA Swiss Tm Wilkins</i>	28 <i>Lorraine Hanna mini new minor forcing</i>
29 AL	30	OCT 1	2	3	4 <i>PBA club gp- pred. prs</i>	5

FIRST AT THE POST

Richard Katz & Patricia Katz	70.34	Wilkins	Fri
Donald Turacy, Sr & Robert Quinlan	72.47	Chartiers-Houston	Fri
Dennis Pittman & Donald Turacy, Sr	71.88	Lebo	Fri
Harold Haffner & Judy Haffner	71.43	Rodef	Wed
Asim Kokan & Syed Ali	70.27	Rodef 299er	Mon
Judy Haffner & Harold Haffner	70.37	O'Hara	Tues
Ami Elis & Richard Krauland	70.14	Glenshaw	Wed
Kenneth Bergman & Philip Goulding	70.53	Sewickley	Fri

FIVE IN A ROW

Asim Kokan	Rodef 299er	Mon	Syed Ali	Rodef 299er	Mon
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THREE IN A ROW

George Kury	Indiana	Tues	John Doyal	Glenshaw	Mon-
Barbara Anderson	Woodridge	Mon	Grant Anderson	Woodridge	Mon-
Ernie Retetagos	Glenshaw	Wed			

TWO IN A ROW

Ronald Sain	Greensburg	Fri	Marybeth Cannon	Rodef 299er	Mon
Peter Cannon	Rodef 299er	Mon	Constance Hoechstetter	O'Har	Tues
Patricia Rambasek	Edgeworth	Wed	Richard Laird	Edgeworth	Wed
Andrew Makar	Greensburg	Wed	Mary Fenstemaker	Longue Vue	Thur
Cindy Lucas	Longue Vue	Thur	Robert Flynn	Chartiers-Houston	Fri
June Threlkeld	Chartiers-Houston	Fri	Philip Goulding	Sewickley	Fri
Sue Israelson	Export	Mon	Terry Barker	Woodridge	Mon
August Costanzo	O'Hara	Tues	Ellen Tobin	O'Hara	Tue-
sHoward Hillyer	South Hills NLM	Tues	Trudy Friedman	South Hills NLM	Tues
Rodney Lipman	Edgeworth	Wed	Hugh McMaster	Edgeworth	Wed-
Dennis Gibboney	Greensburg	Thurs	Ernest Collins	Greensburg	Thurs
Dennis Jacobs	Sewickley	Fri	Darlene Mannheimer	Lebo	Fri
Patricia Evans	Lebo	Fri	Arlene Port	Rodef	Mon
Judy Haffner	Rodef	Mon	Trudy Cohn	O'Hara	Tues
Joanne Zambroski	Glenshaw	Sat	Anoo Verghis	Rodef 299er	Mon-
Peggy Shivetts	Export	Mon	Patricia Katz	O'Hara	Tues
Constance Hoechstetter	Tem Em	Wed	Richard Finberg	Tem Emanuel	Wed
Beverly Ann Spine	Edgeworth	Wed	George Spine Jr	Edgeworth	Wed-
Mary Anne Fenstemaker	LgVue	Thurs	William Stewart	Butler	Thurs-
Raymond Kramer	Butler	Thurs	Leroy Hackenberg	Greensburg	Fri
Kenneth Bergman	Sewickley	Fri	Philip Goulding	Sewickley	Fri