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Unit 142

Pittsburgh, PA

August 2020

# POST MORTEM

**WEBSITE AT [www.pittsburghbridge.org](http://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@diegoon.com](mailto:judi@diegoon.com))

## All the news that fits in print

.....by arlene port

Well, can you believe it's August and I am still chained up in my apartment? And, probably, so are you. No matter, we are all doing the best we can and keeping our spirits up. Things will be better.

In the meantime, our bridge community has found a way to keep playing bridge. Not only are so many of us playing online, but at least two of our unit games have resumed playing on site. And, as usual, Chris Wang, who accumulates the winning stats for us, forwarded winners from the Pittsburgh virtual online games and any winners from the local games and they are in the current Post Mortem. Also, we have some of our players achieve a higher rank and we published their names as well. Nothing can stop us.....I hope.

The very good news is that I have no one to report as having the virus. I think there was one person, but since then I have not heard of any other. I hope it continues.

Richard Finberg is continuing his free online lessons with new topics. In your spare time (that's a joke) go to his website and join in. He might be able to turn you into a genius. Oh wait! You already are. I mean's a bridge genius.

Please let me know of any bridge questions or personal news you would like me to put in the Post Mortem. If I run out of legitimate information I promise you, it will hurt you. I will be forced to write poetry, and we all know what that means.

Please continue to be careful; wear masks and practice social distancing.

## WORDS OF WISDOM TO LIVE BY

*Some mistakes are too much fun to make only once.*

## BRIDGE BYTES

.....By Ernie Retetagos

It certainly does!!!

### KOKISH RELAY OVER STRONG 2C OPENING BIDS

An opening bid of 2 NT typically shows 20-21 High Card Points, and 2C-2D-2NT shows 22-23 HCPs. In standard methods, 2C-2D-3NT shows a balanced hand of 24+ HCPs. The space consuming jump to 3 NT eliminates the room needed for a scientific auction. The Kokish Relay convention provides a solution.

2C-2D-2H is a relay to 2 S. The 2 heart bid by opener is either a strong 2 bid in hearts, or a balanced hand of at least 24 HCPs. So, 2C-2D-2H-2S-2NT shows a strong balanced hand. The bid is forcing, and all of the conventions that would be used after a 2 NT opener are now available. Transfer bids and all of the Stayman variations are in play.

After the relay to 2 spades, if opener rebids 3 hearts, it shows a strong one suiter in hearts. If opener rebids a new suit after the relay, it shows a 2nd suit in addition to a heart suit. The sequence 2C-2D-2H-2S-3C, would show at least a 4 card club suit in addition to the hearts. In a variation of this convention, the heart and club rebids by opener are reversed. So this last sequence would show a one suiter in hearts, and give responder a chance to bid 3 diamonds as a 2nd negative, showing no controls. Opener could then sign off in 3 hearts with only a 9 trick hand. In this variation, after the relay, a 3 heart rebid by opener would show a secondary club suit.

The high card requirements for this convention could vary by a point or two depending on your agreements. Without this convention, it is risky for responder to look for a major suit fit after partner jumps to 3 NT. The Kokish relay is a helpful convention with little downside.

## FREE LESSONS FROM RICHARD FINBERG

Expert, Richard Finberg, is offering free Advanced Lessons each Monday at 3:30. All levels welcome. Here's the flyer. (Eliminated Wednesday and Friday)

<http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/FinbergFlyer0729.pdf>

Our Expert, Richard Finberg is offering free Hand Critiques on Tuesdays at 3:15 following the 0-750 point game. You qualify if you play in the game that day. Here's the flyer <http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/BBOZOOMAnalysis.pdf>

I noticed there are some Hand Analysis through the Common Game on some of Alex's games. Found on the Club Result page of our website. In addition to the 0-750 point games..there is 0-299...

<http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/clubresults.htm>

## CURRENT BRIDGE NEWS..... By Lorraine Hanna

BBO, Bridge Base OnLine, has given us an opportunity to play the game we love online. Please consider playing in Pittsburgh's Virtual Games. This helps our area Club games financially. The games are Directed by Alex Bealles. Check our website with the link to BBO games. You can also help support our local games by playing in "Support Your Club" games on BBO.....Lorraine Hanna

On the Club Results page, you will note the Export Moose game is being played on Monday afternoons. At this time, this is the only face to face game.

Bill Holt keeps our website current. Tons of information and links <http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/>

Arlene Port continues the Post Mortem. Stay in touch with our bridge community with informative, instructive and witty commentaries. Go to our website (link above paragraph) and click link on Post Mortem for current and back issues.

## PANDEMIC POST HUMOR

Why do they call it the novel coronavirus? It's a long story....

You know what they're saying about 2020. It went viral faster than anyone thought it would.

What's the best way to avoid touching your face? A glass of wine in each hand.

If coronavirus isn't about beer, why do I keep seeing cases of it?

What's the difference between COVID-19 and Romeo and Juliet? One's the coronavirus and the other is a Verona crisis.

What do you call panic-buying of sausage and cheese in Germany? The wurst-kase scenario.

Nail salons, hair salons, waxing center and tanning places are closed. It's about to get ugly out there.

Why don't chefs find coronavirus jokes funny? They're in bad taste.

What should you do if you don't understand a coronavirus joke? Be patient.

The grocery stores in France look like tornadoes hit them. All that's left is de brie.

I'll tell you a coronavirus joke now, but you'll have to wait two weeks to see if you got it.

Finland just closed its borders. You know what that means. No one will be crossing the finish line.

What do you tell yourself when you wake up late for work and realize you have a fever? Self, I so late.

What did the man say to the bartender? I'll have a corona, hold the virus.

Why didn't the sick guy get the joke? It flu over his head.

**UP THE LADDER POST**

**REGIONAL MASTER**

*Barbara Lehman*

**NABC MASTER**

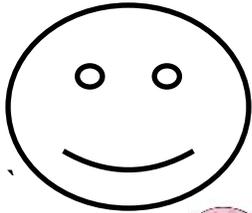
*Margaret Ball*

**LIFE MASTER**

*Hugh McMaster*

**BRONZE LIFE MASTER**

*Linda Fried*



**CONGRATULATIONS**  
 You are all so good that not even a pandemic could stop you from success.

**BRIDGE WINNERS**

**70% GAMES**

Kermit Houser & Charles Weber II	70.63	Pgh Bridge 299er	Fri
Elaine Kirshenbaum & Judy Lorigan	72.73	Pgh Bridge 0-750	Fri
Elaine Kirshenbaum & Judy Lorigan	73.02	Pgh Bridge 0-750	Fri

**THREE IN A ROW**

Dina Fulmer	Pgh Bridge 0-750	Tues	Judy Lorigan	Pgh Bridge 0-750	Tues
Judi Sonon	Pgh Bridge	Mon			

**TWO IN A ROW**

Ronald Sain	Export	Mon	Kenneth Eichler	Greensburg	Wed
Kenneth Eichler	Export	Mon	Arlene Jacobelli	Greensburg	Wed
Barbara Belardi	Pgh Bridge	Mon	Bernadette Swetz	Pgh Bridge 299er	Tues
Roger Reese	Pgh Bridge 299er	Tues			

IF YOU PLAY IN THE VIRTUAL PITTSBURGH OR GUS COSTANZO'S ONLINE GAME, OR ANY OF THE GAMES WHICH RESUMED IN OUR AREA, WE WILL BE PLEASED TO PUBLISH YOUR EXTRAORDINARY ACCOMPLISHMENTS.....arlene

**IN MEMORY**

**BOB DAVIS:** The Pittsburgh Bridge Community has lost a longtime director and player, Bob Davis. He was primarily active with the South Hills games in years past. He and his late wife, Nancy, managed and filled in and directed games at Whitehall, Mt. Lebanon, Beth El, and Temple Emmanuel. If Bob was not directing (or filling in for a director), he was playing...assuming there was no golf to play. Bob retired as full time director and was a full time player and fill in director for a number of years.

Bob married Janis several years ago and they enjoyed playing bridge, golfing, and entertaining. On a cruise to Hawaii with Larry Cohen as host, Bob and Janis teamed with Ray and me for several events. It was a pleasure to enjoy their company both at the tables and away. We will miss Bob and remember him as an important part of the fun and competitiveness of Pittsburgh's bridge. Our condolences go out to Janis as well as Bob's children. ....Phyllis Geinzer

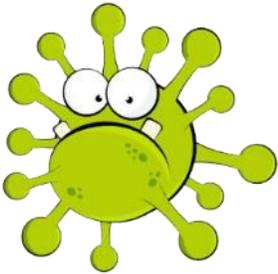
**RALPH POWELL:** Cecilia Powell's husband of over 60 years passed away in July. He was an engineer at Westinghouse, then he led a company which taught power (Energy) courses through Penn State and in coordination with students from Thailand. Our deepest sympathy to Cecilia, her family and friends on her very sad loss. ... Judy Sonon

**SHEILA RABOVSKY:** Sadly, I report the passing of Sheila Rabovsky. She was a kind and soft spoken lady.

Sheila was a friend and bridge partner of mine for many years. She has suffered with heart ailments, having had open heart surgeries, pacemakers and muscular- skeletal problems for a long time. Even when you know that someone has ailed it is still hard to accept a long time friend has passed. I'll definitely miss her and the fun that I had playing in tournaments with her, Gary and Cindy. ....Brina Segal



DON'T TELL  
**ME**  
 I DON'T KNOW  
 ANYTHING  
 ABOUT SOCIAL  
 DISTANCING!



## Internet Post Mortem (Cont.) from page 9

**Trudy Cohn: 2S** I will bid 2 Spades. It is important that my partner knows that I have a 6 card suit. My hand is minimum at this point. If partner starts bidding a minor suit, I will get excited and bid more enthusiastically.

**Stanley Ruskin 3H** There are many choices here. Assuming partner really has at least 4 D, we have a great playing hand. I think the best choice is 3H in this case as a start and we will see where it goes from there. I think we will probably wind up in 5-6 D. Partner can have a very good hand for is Dbl but could also just have a mediocre hand with great distribution. Either way, game looks like a good bet and maybe even a slam.

### **PBA EVENTS CALENDAR 2019 - 2020**

*WISH LIST - WHO KNOWS WHEN WE WILL ACTUALLY BE ABLE TO DO SOME OF THESE THINGS. Put this article on your review of "History That Isn't Going to Happen".*

#### *August*

- 7 *New Partner Night*
- 14 *NAOP QUALIFIER & PBA Board Meeting*
- 21 *Unit Championship*
- 28 *Unit Championship Swiss Teams*

#### *September*

- 4 *PITTSBURGH REGIONAL*  
*(runs Sept. 1 through Sept. 7) Canceled*
- 11 *Unit Championship*
- 18 *Club Championship*
- 25 *Unit Championship Swiss Teams*

#### *October*

- 2 *Club Appreciation Pairs*
- Canceled Pro Am Game Canceled*
- 9 *Club Appreciation Swiss Teams & Board Meeting*
- 16 *PITTSBURGH SECTIONAL @ MASONIC Canceled*
- 23 *Unit Championship*
- 28 *ACBL-Wide Instant Matchpoint Game (Wed. daytime)*
- 30 *Open Pairs*

**INTERNET POST: \**

You are South; both vulnerable; and you hold the following: Imp's

S A Q 106 4 3  
H A 7 4  
D Q J 9 2  
C -----

The bidding is:

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST  
----- PAS 1S 2H  
DOUBLE PASS ?

**Jack Hawthorne: 3D.** Partner's double implies both minors. I have a good diamond fit, but I don't want to commit to anything that shuts out my spade suit. If we have a game or slam, unlikely given that partner is a passed hand, I expect partner will bid again. I hope he can show secondary spade support.

**Ernie Retetagos : 3 Hearts.** A 3 heart bid gives partner a chance to show a doubleton spade, which I'll raise. If they bid clubs, I'll correct to diamonds.

**Bernie Fudor: 3D** Good problem. torn between 2sp and 3 d Both bids have drawbacks but 3d might lead to a to a game or slam not biddable with a 2sp call. Since East not raise have suspicion that wining call might be pass but im too old for that action.

**Richard Katz 4D** Imps, bid four diamonds Match points bid three diamonds That way if it goes three hearts you can bid three spades Nothings perfect

**Asim Ulke** I bid **3D**. I don't know what partner has yet. If it is a simple take out he/she will pass and my bid may be an underbid.

**Paul Caplan 4d.** Partner should have no more than 2 spades. A bid of 3 d can be passed. 4d shows some extra values but not forcing.

**Steve Nolan: 3H.** I can't describe everything at once, so I'll start by telling partner that I have a great hand. I'll bid diamonds in the next round if partner bids no trumps or clubs.

**Chris Wang: 3D** I bid 3 diamonds. I want to show the sure fit. If I bid 2 spades, I may not be able to show the diamond fit.

**Jane Marshall: 3 diamonds.** I have a 5 loser hand and 6 spades, but 3 spades is too much and 2 spades is too little.

**Craig Biddle 2S** - I smell a misfit. No heart raise on my right. My club void suggests that partner has more than 4 clubs. It would be unlucky if partner had S-Kx H-xx D-A10xx C-Jxxxx and elected to not raise spades when I rebid them. But if partner has more of his stuff in clubs, and less in the suits I have, then we have no game. And if he just has more stuff, he will bid again over my 2S rebid.

**Gail Carns 3H** anything could be right so I make a bid partner can not pass

**Herb 4D:** I Hope partner bids 4S or 5 diamonds.....not 5C.\

**Bob Zimmermann: .2 spades** I'll show my 6 card suit for now. I have more than a minimum, but a lot depends on how we play our negative doubles. If partner's next call is forcing, I'll need to catch up somehow. If partner's next call is not forcing, I will correct

**INTERNET POST RESULTS:**

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
3H	8	4	100
4D	7	3	90
4S	2	2	80
3D	7	4	70
2S	1	2	50
5D	0	0	30
PASS	0	0	10

**HOW EXPERTS VOTED**

David Berkowitz	4D
Henry Bethe	4D
Bart Bramley	4D
Ira Chorush	4D
Kitty & Steve Cooper	3H
Billy Eisenberg	2H
Carl Hudecek	4S
Eddie Kantar	3H
Ralph Katz	3D
Sammy Kehela	3S
Danny Kleinman	3D
Eric Kokish	4D
John Kranyak	3S
Ed Lewis	3H
Jill Meyers	3D
Marshall Miles	3H
Arthur Robinson	3H
Michael Rosenberg	3H
Jeff Rubens	4D
Ira Rubin	3D
Mike Shuman	4D
Joey Silver	3D
John Swanson	3D
Robert Wolff	3H
Kit Woolsey	3D

Cont. on page 8)