

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 Octoberr 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@diegooson.com](mailto:judi@diegooson.com))

## All the news that fits in print

.....by arlene port

Welcome to the fall version of the Post Mortem. I am amazed that I have been self quarantined since March. I have been out, but I can count the times on one hand - okay, maybe one and one half hand.. Just like the rest of us, I am getting along the best way I know. However, I have this fear that if anyone from a mental health organization casually asks me what day it is, the Post Mortem will end because they will put me away when they find out I don't know.....Oh well.

Since they haven't come for me yet, I can tell you all how proud I am of our members who have advanced their bridge rank by playing online. Several of our members have graduated to a higher level, which serves two purposes: The first is to sharpen their skill and the other is that playing online makes the days go faster. Make certain you try to attend the online games which benefit our local directors when you have a chance.

If you have a few minutes, read the Post Mortem. There is a lot of news this month. Unfortunately, some of it is not good. We have lost members and members of their family. We also have one of our members Recovering in the hospital from Covid. We all pray for a speedy recovery.

Please take care of yourselves and practice safe pandemic protocol. We want you back at the bridge brimming with vigor when the pandemic ends.

## WORDS OF WISDOM TO LIVE BY

*Accept the fact that some days you're the pigeon and some days you're the statue!*

## BRIDGE BYTES

.....By Ernie Retetagos

It certainly does!!!

### THE BEER CARD

Once upon a time in a far away land, someone designated the seven of diamonds as the beer card. Nobody knows for sure when or where, but most likely it was in a tavern or bar. Under certain conditions, if a player wins the final trick with the seven of diamonds, partner has to buy them a beer. One condition is that diamonds can not be the trump suit. If a declarer takes the final trick, they have to make their contract. A defender has to beat the contract in order to qualify for the beer card. Here's a hand from a matchpoint game on BBO.

North S- A 9 8 H- A 8 7 D- J 10 7 6 5 2 C- 5

South S- K Q J 10 4 H- J 5 3 D- A 9 8 C- 5 4

South played in 3 spades after opening 1 spade and West sticking in a club overcall. West started with a top club followed by the King of hearts, won by the Ace. Declarer came to hand in a spade and ruffed a club with the Ace. The Jack of diamonds was covered by the King and won by the Ace. South pulled trump and exited with a diamond to West's Queen. West cashed the Queen of hearts and tried to cash a club, but South ruffed and played their last spade. In the two card end position declarer claimed. What they could have done would have been to overtake the diamond, and win the final trick with the seven of diamonds.

I'm not sure that declarer could claim that they won with the beer card, since it was actually partner's card. Maybe declarer should buy partner a beer.

CURRENT UNIT BRIDGE NEWS.....By Lorraine Hanna

The only face to face game is the Export Moose Game. Check it out on our website.  
<http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/clubresults.htm>

**Ask Ernie.**

Ernie Retetagos writes interesting articles every month in our Post Mortem. Send him a question...I'm sure he'll be delighted to hear from you.  
<http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/Ernie.htm>

**Post Mortem**

Arlene Port publishes the Post Mortem each month, keeping us connected to our bridge family. Current and past articles are on our website.  
<http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/pm.htm>

**Richard Finberg** continues his Monday free lesson at 3:30

Tuesday analysis has been suspended for now  
Richard is in the process of setting up an online blog. Will keep you posted  
<http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/FinbergFlyer0729.pdf>

**Website**

Bill Holt keeps us current with up to the date info

**Biddle Bits**

Craig Biddle continues to critique interesting hands  
<http://www.pittsburghbridge.org/BiddleBits.htm>

**BBO Virtual Clubs**

Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Youngstown have teamed up to create a bigger game. Please support our local games by playing in this game.

**Name of our new Virtual venue is "Rust Belt Bridge Club".** Thanks to Bill Holt for his winning entry in naming our site.

**Games for 9/26 & 9/27** under 500 MPs 11:20; Open game 11:30

**Here is the lineup starting 9/28**

**Monday**

10:05 under 500 MPs

10:15 unlimited MPs

**Tuesday through Thursday**

10:05 **Pittsburgh only** 750

10:15 unlimited MPs

**Friday**

10:15 unlimited MPs

**Saturday**

11:30 unlimited MPs

CONVENTIONAL WISDOM POST

For the next few months I will be publishing bridge conventions that help to make your bridge more successful. In order to make these conventions less complex, they will be user-friendly, without a myriad of ifs and whens and alsos. They will be clear and easy for you to start using immediately. It is my suggestion that once you have used them successfully, you Google them to see if there are additional ways to use each convention. **REVERSE DRURY**

REVERSE DRURY: A convention used only when your partners opens the bidding .one of a major suit in 3rd or 4th position.

North East South West  
Pass pass 1H/1S Pass  
2C (you)

WHY USE DRURY? It allows partner to open the bidding without opening values. It gives partner a chance to use the original unbid values your hand probably has.

WHEN DO YOU USE IT? Only when you are a passed hand and partner opens the bidding in 3rd or 4th position, with either 1H or 1S.

WHEN partner opens in third or 4th position, what is your bid? 2C

WHAT does your 2C bid say? You have a limit raise in your partners major suit. At least 3 cards. ? And at least 10-11 points, or a 9 point hand with distributional values—singleton.

WHAT MUST PARTNER HAVE TO OPEN WITHOUT OPENING VALUES IN 3rd OR 4th POSITION? At least 3 cards in each major suit and "Casino Count" which is high card points and one additional point for each spade that will add up to 15/ points. Their hand must be one that can be passed no matter what partner bids, except Drury.

OPENER RESPONSES TO YOUR 2C BID: Any bid other than 2D shows a weak hand with no game values. 2D is the only bid that invites game and is not necessarily a diamond suit. It is forcing to 2 or 3 of the major they opened. Jump bids by opener are always forcing when you bid Drury.

## PBA EVENTS CALENDAR - 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".*

### October

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

### November

6 Club Championship  
13 Unit Championship & Annual Membership Meeting  
20 Unit Championship Swiss Teams  
27 Open Pairs

### December

4 Unit Championship  
10 STaC Pairs - Special Thursday Game  
11 STaC Pairs & PBA Board meeting (if necessary)  
13 Sunday STaC Swiss Teams (not held if there is a daytime Steelers game)  
18 Unit Championship Swiss Teams  
25 No game—Holiday  
1/1/2021 No game—Holiday

### WHO KNOWS? THERE MAY BE A VACCINE

REVERSE DRURY CONVENTION (Cont. from page 4.)

IF PARTNER BIDS 2D—With a minimum limit raise invite. With a good limit raise, bid game. If partner makes any other bid without jumping in another suit, simply bid two of the major.

OPENER: You're 3rd hand less opening is a one-bid hand and if partner simply raises, you must pass for one round of bidding. If you wish to compete you cannot do that until you have passed once.

RESPONDER: Don't fall in love with your hand. If partner does not bid 2D, just settle for 2 of the suit. You may, however, compete if opponents bid again at your own risk.

## IN MEMORY.....by Phyllis Geinzer

**MARGE MAZER** - In a tragic accident, Marge Mazer was killed by an automobile while crossing a street in Oakland. I had seen her name listed on the BBO website as having played bridge the day before.

Marge, the professional was an amazing woman. She was highly educated and worked in the field of science. She was extremely accomplished. She had a wonderful marriage, children and a career to be proud of. And, she was a very talented bridge player.

Marge, the person was extraordinary. She walked! She walked everywhere. She walked up hills, to the downtown area and everywhere she went. Several times, until I got the message, I tried to give her a lift when she was on her way somewhere. She always refused. What's more outstanding was the fact that Marge was 95 years old and in the best shape of any person of her age.

Being brought to her death in that manner was so terrible and sad. However, she leaves a legacy of success, friendliness and accomplishment. Our condolences to her family and her friends and to all of us who admired her strength and her tenacity. ....arlene port

Don Averbach who is one of our most important bridge directors, mourns the death of his wife, Rhonda, who passed away in September. Married for over 60 years, we all know how difficult it is to lose your soulmate. We hope that wonderful memories and family can help to make his loss easier to bear. Our condolences to Don and his family.

John Killmeyer's father, Don, also died this month. Although his passing was the natural path, it doesn't make it any easier to deal with. Our sympathy to John and his family for their great loss and wish them an easy period of mourning.

## POST CARDS

**TO RAY GEINZER who is Mercy Hospital with Covid.** I have only one thing to say to you: Get better—or else.. I'll make a deal with you. I'll worry about you getting well soon and you work on making me stop worrying by getting well....deal? We are all thinking of you.....arlene

**UP THE LADDER POST**

**JUNIOR MASTER**

*Sherri Davis*

**CLUB MASTER**

*Susan Gibson*

*Jerome Kiger*

*Mary Mackey*

*Carolyn McMullen*

*K Sidney Neuman*

**REGIONAL MASTER**

*Carol Nathenson*

**LIFE MASTER**

*Philippe Westreich*

**BRONZE LIFE MASTER**

*(Oct) Sandra Metosky*

*(Sept.) Stewart Metosky*

**SILVER LIFE MASTER**

*(Sept.) Joseph Bernot*

*(Sept.) Doug Stark*

*( Oct.) Vin Mehta*

*(Oct.) Gary Wire*

CONGRATULATIONS  
THERE ISN'T A PANDEMIC THAT CAN STOP US  
FROM BEING THE WONDERFUL BRIDGE PLAYERS  
THAT WE ARE

THANK HEAVENS FOR BBO



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

**Trudy Cohn:** I will bid **2Hearts**. The alternative is a pass hoping to come in with a Michaels bid later. If my hand was 6/4 it wouldn't be close.

**Stanley Ruskin: 3H** This is very difficult. Here is a 5 loser hand with no points and no defense., so before you make any bid, you need to decide what you will do if they get to 4S or even higher. While technically you could open 2H, it will be difficult for partner to gauge his hand but it will be difficult to gauge your hand if you open 1H. Also, if you open 2H, you are putting a little pressure on the bidding space for the opponents. Another interesting bid would be 3H. For me I tend to be aggressive so I think I would bid 3H and if they get to 4S, then bid 5C. I know that I could be going for 1100 but that happens sometimes  
In match points.

**Bob Zimmermann: . 1 heart** A perfect Rule of 20 hand. What more is there to say?

**Arlene Port: 1H.** I don't usually answer these questions because I usually just guess. Most of these problems are educated guesses. However, this time I have something to contribute. I have a feeling that the bidding on this hand will never end. It is my belief that there are more distributional hands at the table. By opening this hand at the one level, I get to compete—or—if I need to, show my partner my distribution . I know it is short on high card point values, but long on distributional ones, and by the time I would pass the first time, it will probably be too late.



**INTERNET POST: \**

You Are South; matchpoints; both vul.

You hold:

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

The bidding is:

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST

..... ?

What call do you make – and why?

**Jack Hawthorne .1H.** I don't like weak 2 bids with a 65 pattern. And I don't want to incite spade bidding by the opposition, and a 2H bid can incite spade bidding. Meanwhile, I only have 9 HCP, but the distribution leads to a 5 loser hand. I hope I get a chance to show my diamonds later to help partner make the inevitable 5-level decision.

**Ernie Retetagos : 1 Heart,** I have two suits, and I intend to bid both. Regardless of my opening call, I think there is a high likelihood that the opponents will be 4 spades by the time the bidding gets back to me. Maybe a 4 heart opening bid would shut out the opponents. In any case I'll probably bid 5 clubs over their 4 spades.

**Bernie Fudor: 2H** -Torn between 2h and pass and i know some players will make case for opening 1 or 4. I think I'd bid 2h at the table and hope that somehow I can get my diamonds in

**Richard Katz: Open one heart**  
Two good suits, 6/5, no singleton honors . Seems like full opening hand. Balancing way to difficult First strike action.

**Paul Caplan Pass.** My partner would expect a little more defences for an opening one bid and the 5 card side suit makes it not suitable for a weak 2. If you open with a 1 bid the continuing bid may show a much stronger hand. So I pass and hope for a better way to describe this hand.  
Paul

**Chris Wang: I pass.** I am afraid the opponents have a spade contract. I don't want to give the opponents to have a chance to overcall.

**Jane Marshall: 1H.** This hand is too good for a preempt. With 2 suits I hate to open preemptively. It is a 5-loser hand. I will pull doubles because of my lack of defense.

**Herb Sachs:** Committing myself to a "Number" **three hearts** and five clubs later if possible

**Asim Ulke:** I open 1H. I sometimes count losers. I think it is silly to preempt with a 5 loser hand.

**Craig Biddle**

**Gail Carns 4H** if it goes 4S P P I will bid 5D

**Steve Nolan:1H.** Way too much distributional power to be preempting. With the right 10 points from partner, slam could be cold.

**Bill Holt 1H.** Fun hand. Options as I see them are A) Pass. You don't have 12 or 13 points. Fails the smell test, as it has plenty of playing strength and will be hard to describe over EW in 4S. B) 2H. Not best, you have way too much playing strength for a weak 2 open. C) 4H. Might have a play if partner has a smidgen but might also goad the opps into 4S. I prefer D) 1H. If partner has strength and a fit, this 5-loser Round hand won't disappoint. And over EW's 4S, 5c completes the picture. One of them might have a good play if not a good save. Give Partner two Aces and Qc and 6 Round should be gin. 2H was a rejected option.

**INTERNET POST RESULTS:**

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
1H	10	9	100
2H	9	2	90
4H	6	1	90
3H	9	2	60
PASS	3	2	50

Cont. on page 9

**HOW EXPERTS VOTED**

Phillip Alder	1H
Michael Becker	2H
David Berah	2H
David Berkowitz	3H
Larry Cohen	1H
Rich Colker	1H
Billy Eisenberg	3H
Russ Ekeblad	2H
Lt.Col Robert Friend	1H
Fred Gitelman	4H
Barbara Haberman	2H
Carl Hudecek	4H
Eddie Kantar	P
Sami Kehela	1H
Eric Kokish	1H
Michael Lawrence	2H
Sidney Lazard	1H
Bob Lipsitz	1H
Richard Margolis	4H
Jeff Meckstroth	1H
Marshall Miles	4H
Eric Paulson	4H
Barry Rigal	4 H
Arthur Robinson	2H
Andrew Robson	4H
Beverly Rosenberg	P
Al Roth	2H
Jeff Rubens	4H
Ira Rubin	2H
Joey Silver	P
Neil Silverman	2H
Robert Wolff	1H
Kit Woolsey	4H

I received this let from Jim Overcashier. If you would like to nominate someone in District#5, send your nomination to Jim , at the address below. If you would like to see previous winners, contact Jim and he will direct you to the sight.

Dear Arlene,

Its time to nominate possible recipients of the Ann McGilvrey Award and the District 5 Exemplary Service Award!

The Ann McGilvrey award honors a District 5 player, or in some cases a pair, who epitomize ethical behavior and good sportsmanship at the bridge table. On December 8, 1973, the District 5 bridge community suffered the loss of Ann Lytle McGilvrey, Ralph Vichill and Lee Caito in a tragic boating accident. In honor of Ann's memory, and her reputation as one who exemplified the highest standards of sportsmanship and ethical behavior at the bridge table, the Board of Directors of District 5 instituted the Ann McGilvrey Award. It is presented each year to a player or partnership who reflects those same positive qualities. These recipients are not chosen on the basis of service or bridge ability. Only past winners are invited to participate in the selection process. Typically, the selection committee will look for someone who has established a district-wide reputation for active ethics and good manners.

The Exemplary Service award honors a living District 5 player who has provided outstanding service to District 5. Service which is limited to individual units or clubs does not qualify. The inaugural award was presented to Barbara Bacon in 2019. Nominations remain active for 3 years, so if you made a nomination after May 2018, there is no need to nominate again.

Submit nominations to [Jovercashier@yahoo](mailto:Jovercashier@yahoo).

TO BE CONSIDERED IN 2020, SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY October 20,2020.

Jim Overcashier  
Vice President District 5  
330-933-6034  
[jovercashier@yahoo.com](mailto:jovercashier@yahoo.com)