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

Unit 142

Pittsburgh, PA

August, 2021

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 Soon (judi@dieonsan.com)

All the news that fits in print

.....by arlene port

WE'RE BACK IN BUSINESS!!

More and more clubs are opening up, more and more events are happening and more and more players are participating in our newest event:: PLAY BRIDGE AT YOUR LOCAL CLUB..

All of the players who have attended the games have been vaccinated and so far, there is no reason to not come to your local game. We miss you and we need you to share the good times with us.

Everything is getting back to "normal". Even the Post Mortem has come home from the website. Fresh copies of the newsletter will be delivered to each open game. Because the PBA has yet to update their calendar, I have listed all of the open games in our community on the calendar on page 12. Chris Wang is also back to his mighty fine job of sending me the outstanding winners. The ones we have posted this month are for games played in July and carry the names of Post Covid Overachievers. My poor Phyllis Geinzer is still saddled with the sad task of reporting those we have lost.

Only for the month of August the Tuesday game is being held at Glenshaw. It will move back to Ohara in a few weeks. Sue will notify you when this is happening. Hopefully, classes will be held at different sites as soon as possible. How can you become a bridge genius unless you take a few lessons?

Aside from our regular monthly articles, read about Richard Katz who has just become a Grand Life Master. It details his awesome climb to bridge royalty. (Page 2)

Also, check out the article on Page 6 which gives insight to the good works of our unit board and our need for continued participation.

BRIDGE BYTES

.....By Ernie Retetagos

It certainly does!!!

NEW MINOR FORCING

New Minor Forcing is a convention used by responder to ask opener for a further description. It is an artificial one round force that shows at least game invitational values. In an auction that begins 1D-1S-1NT, 2C is new minor. In this auction, opener's priority is to rebid a four card heart suit if they have one, and show 3 card spade support if not. If there are two eight card major suit fits, the 4-4 trump fit often plays better than a 5-3 fit, because of discards that can come from a five card side suit. If responder bids 3NT after hearing a 2 heart rebid, opener can correct to 4 spades. After responder uses new minor, if opener rebids 2 spades, it shows a minimum with 3 spades. This bid can be passed. If opener has 3 card spade support with a maximum, they rebid 3 spades.

If opener does not have a major suit rebid, they can show a stopper in clubs by bidding 2 NT with a minimum and 3 NT with a maximum. A raise of the new minor bid of 2 clubs to 3 clubs shows 4 clubs. If opener can't bid a major, and doesn't have a stopper, a rebid of opener's suit is the default bid. A bid of 2 NT by either opener or responder can be passed.

The most frequent purpose of using new minor is to locate an eight card major fit. It can also be used to show game forcing values with a fit in opener's suit. After opener's 1 NT rebid, a jump raise in opener's first bid suit or a jump rebid in responder's suit only shows invitational values. To show game forcing and possible slam interest, responder uses new minor followed by supporting opener.

In the auction 1C-1S-2C, 2 D is new minor forcing, with a similar rebid structure. Also known as 3rd suit forcing, this convention occurs frequently in almost all bridge sessions. Like all conventions, there can be some variations. NMF is used in virtually all standard bidding systems, and it's worth adding to your card if you don't already use it.

RICHARD KATZ—ACBL GRAND LIFE MASTER

The July issue of the ACBL Bulletin, printed the announcement that Richard Katz achieved the rank of Grand Life Master by winning 15,000 masterpoints. Earning 15,000 masterpoints is quite a feat, but, more importantly, how he won that many points is even more impressive.

Richard won those masterpoints by playing championship bridge. During his amazing career at the bridge table, he has won 12 national championships and in addition, placed 2nd in 3 more. His range of skill becomes even more obvious, knowing that these national championships were won with seven different partners.

Listed below are the event titles and the names of his winning partners:

Year	Place	Event	Category
1994	1	Nail Life Master Pairs	NABC+
1992	1	Mitchell Open Board-a-Match Teams	NABC+
1989	1	von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs	NABC+
1976	1-2	Freeman Mixed Board-a-Match	NABC+
1976	1	Spingold Master Knockout Teams	NABC+
1976	1	Vanderbilt Knockout Teams	NABC+
1975	1	Vanderbilt Knockout Teams	NABC+
1974	1	Grand National Teams Championship Flight	NABC+
1973	1	Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams	NABC+
1973	1	Spingold Master Knockout Teams	NABC+
1968	1	Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs	NABC+
1967	1	Open Pairs (1963-1971)	NABC

Year	Place	Event	Category
1987	2	Lebhar IMP Pairs	NABC+
1973	2	Vanderbilt Knockout Teams	NABC+
1969	2-4	Kaplan Blue Ribbon Pairs	NABC+

Jack Wachter, Larry Cohen, Robert Levin, Marion Weed, Peter Weichsel, Gary Hayden, and Billy Eisenberg.

Once again, congratulations Richard. We are proud and honored to have you as a member of our Unit #142, and as our friend.

UP THE LADDER POST

**TO OUR NEWEST GRAND LIFE MASTER
RICHARD KATZ
15,000 masterpoints - and counting**

CONGRATULATIONS

SILVER LIFE MASTER

John Doyal

GOLD LIFE MASTER

Steven Nolan

GRAND LIFE MASTER

Richard Katz

CONGRATULATIONS

To John Doyal who became a Silver Life Master and Steve Nolan, who is our newest Gold Life Master. GREAT ACHIEVEMENT



IN MEMORY

JOHN PICKETT: There will be a memorial service for John Pickett Saturday, 8/14 at the Fox Chapel Presbyterian church. Lunch will follow at the church.

JOE MISSEDA. How could he have gone and left us? He was the sweetest guy. Joe was a regular bridge player at 2 of our regular games. He was so much fun and so friendly. He had a niece who was a professional musician and he was so proud of her. Well, we were proud of him as well and so lucky to know him. Joe, if you can hear me, we will all miss you.

Here is a copy of his obituary. July 19, 2021, age 96, of Sharpsburg. Loving husband of the late Ralphine (Perrone) Missenda. Beloved father of Joseph P. Missenda (Melissa). Brother of the late Andrew, James, and Daniel Missenda, and Frances Sokolowski. There will be a Memorial Mass announced at a later date. Arrangements entrusted to WORRELL FUNERAL HOME, INC., Sharpsburg

SUGGESTION BOX POST

I writing this only because I have some space. If you have any complaints or suggestions on how to make the PM better, please let me know, (gently) If you want to complain about anything or anyone just let me know. The one thing that would really be neat is if you want to write a monthly column on the behavior of bridge players. We used to have a column call "Miss Bridge Manners". I didn't write it, for sure.

Need to say or know something? I'm here to help.

Just take good care of yourselves and stay well.....arlene

UNIT #142

Did you ever attend a Unit Sectional, Regional, or special celebration ? If you did then you know that all of the special events we have are designed and promoted by our unit board who choose that very select group of members to host these events.. Do you remember all the good food and entertainment our unit provided for us by volunteers who made it happen?

Well, how many years have you been an ACBL member and enjoyed our special games, parties, and events? For years a group of people have accepted the responsibility of hospitality and logistics involved. We have, in fact, worn that group out. They have worked tirelessly to make our events successful. They have done this over and over. So, now it's your turn to be a unit volunteer. Being a volunteer is not a life-long commitment. You can serve as little or as long as you wish. We need people who will do partnership, hospitality and all the other needs events have. When you are done, you can pat yourself on the back and say you gave for a good cause, and you and your good friend who made cookies and ordered sandwiches and pizza can feel good about being a part of something wonderful. Members will love you for it and you will love yourself for volunteering.

The bottom line is: We need your help. We need you to get on the Board of Directors and help out with the many functions we hold for your benefit.. We need you to talk to your friends about joining our bridge community. So what if they don't know how to play bridge. Most of us don't know either. They can take a few lessons and become accomplished players.

Seriously, many of our members are getting older and are unable to keep doing everything for everyone else. Please open the door when one of our unit members asks you to help to continue making our Pittsburgh Unit the best in the district.

The good news is: When you have done this for many many years, when someone comes knocking at your door, you can run and hide under the bed where they can't find you. You won't be alone because I'll be there to keep you company.....arlene

CURRENT BRIDGE NEWS.....By Lorraine Hanna

Our very own Richard Finberg wrote an article for the July Bulletin entitled "Second Hand Lolz". You can find it on page 24. He also offers his time every Monday at 3:30 for a free bridge lesson. Check our website under Classes and Lessons for more information.

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

The Pittsburgh Bridge Association's Mission is "To Serve the bridge related interests of its members and to promote and sustain the game of bridge". To that end, our Board of Directors work to host Sectionals and Special Games throughout the year. Recently we had the following two resignations from our Board. We thank them for serving our Bridge Family.

Jeanne Baseman was our hostess with the mostess. She's largely responsible for all the good eats at various tournaments. Her organizational skills were also a great help during our tournaments helping out at the desk or wherever she was needed. Jeanne is a big part of our Bridge in Schools Program. She received the Distinguished Service Award.

Jane Marshall served as Treasurer for many years. Jane received many awards from our Unit and District, namely Milt Frazier Award, Jane McIntyre Award, Distinguished Service Award, Ann McGilvrey Award, and Goodwill Committee. Jane was the one to call if you were in search of a partner for our special games. She also clocked many phone hours reaching out to players to encourage them to come to the tables.

To see a list of our current Board Members go to our website, Pittsburgh Bridge.org We are Unit 142 in District 5.

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

Description of Awards and recipients can be found on the side panel of the front page of our website.

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

If you have a question or comment for the Board and don't see a Board Member in person, you can send an email from our website on the Board of Director page.

INTERNET POST MORTEM

Craig Biddle: Pass - 4441 hands play horribly in notrump. Often your result comes down to an early blind guess as to which of two suits breaks 3-3. And I have the right sort of hand to play in a 4-3 fit - AKxx of trumps to impede the defense's efforts to draw trumps (the auction 1D-1H, 1S-2D screams for a trump lead), and AKxx of spades to expedite getting a spade ruff or two in dummy. Partner has at least as many diamonds as clubs, or he would have rebid 1NT, so I am going to keep my club length in my back pocket. And if partner has enough stuff for us to make 3NT, he would have bid more strongly. Vulnerable at IMPs I would bid 2NT here for the 500 for game, but 300 for game isn't enough to tempt me to bid again here.

Stanley Ruskin: Pass: Well, partner didn't bid a game forcing 2C and 2D isn't forcing so what is going on. We are playingimps but we aren't Vul. Partner must hold 4D. With a bad hand and 3S, would pass 1S. Partner didn't bid 1NT so he doesn't have anything in C (I would probably bid 1NT with a bad hand and Jxx clubs. So partner is probably 4/4 or 5/4 in the red suits and a bad hand. This is one of those strange hands that, even if you have game going values, you can't make a game. *I'm going pessimistic on this hand and passing 2D.*

Paul Caplan Pass there is not enough potential to take enough tricks to make game



INTERNET POST MORTEM

You are South, IMP's, none vulnerable

You hold:

S A K 7 4

H J

D A K 9 4

C Q 7 5 4

The bidding is:

SOUT WEST NORTH EAST

1D PASS 1H PASS

1S PASS 2D PASS

? What do you bid?

Ernie Retetagos: Pass. If partner has Queen 4th of diamonds, I see six tricks, and almost no chance for three more. Even if partner had a limit raise, game would be iffy.

Asim Ulke: I bid 2NT. The best chance for game is in NT.

Pat Katz I pass pard had a chance to bid fourth suit and didn't. He's weak so I have nothing more to say

Gail Carns: 2NT This should an opening NT and a singleton heart

Richard Katz : 2 NT, gulp Hopefully partner with bad hand retreats to three diamonds as choice.

Steve Nolan 3C. Showing my pattern and enough extras to go to the three level. Partner gets the final call.

Bob Zimmermann 2NT. At IMPs, I need to make a move towards game. I'm not sure what came over me to not bid 2 spades at my last turn and show my values, but here we are. Opposite what I fear is a 3532 8 count, we won't be much worse off in no trump than in diamonds. I have a grudging respect for the passers.

Jack Hawthorne Pass is probably best. I don't think 5D is likely to succeed, and since partner didn't bid 2NT, 3NT is probably out of the question.

Arlene Port: Pass. I know 2NT is a reasonable bid, but I also know that those 2NTers are looking for magic. After many years of depressing minus scores, I now believe there is no such thing in bridge as magic for me.

Bill Holt 2NT. Showing the extras that I have, and not willing to stop in 2d. If partner has a real dog we could end up in 3d or play 2NT. The other bid I considered was 3d (invitational) but that would withhold the club card info. At IMPs I would like to be in a game contract if at all likely it's gonna make.

Richard Finberg: 3C. 3NT is likely touch-and-go since my suits have poor texture and N could not bid 3D (limit). But, N might have 8-9 HCP or 5 diamonds. I bid 3C (not 2NT) to protect N's C and H. For example, if N's clubs are Kx, 3NT is much better by N.

Jane Marshall: Pass. I do not have enough to look for a better contract.

Bernie Fudor It seems to me that 2 NT describes my hand an opening NT with sshort hearts but not a void otherwise I would bid 3 clubs

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award\
2NT	11	6	100
pass	11	8	90
3C	7	2	70
ELSE	0	0	0

HOW EXPERTS VOTED

Phillp Alder	2NT
David Berkowitz	3C
Bart Bramley	P
John Carruthers	3C
Larry Cohen	3C
Gary Cohler	P
Billy Eisenberg	P
Steve Garner	P
Ron Gerard	3C
Jon Green	P
Carl Hudecek	P
Eddie Kantar	2NT
Sami Kehela	2NT
Danny Kleinman	2NT
Eric Kokish	2NT
Chip Martel	2NT
Sue Picus	2NT
Arthur Robinson	P
Eric Rodwell	2NT
Bruce Rogoff	P
Michael Rosenberg	2NT
Jeff Rubens	P
Kerri & Steve Sanborn	3C
Alan Sontag	P
Paul Trent	P
Eddie Wold	3C
Robert Wolff	2NT
Kit Woolsey	2NT
Zia	3C

Pittsburgh Bridge Assoc AUGUST 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 NOTE: MONDAY Export open ea Monday	2 Rodef— 12:00 Glenshaw 10:30	3 Glenshaw 10:30 thru Aug	4 Rodef— 12:00 Glenshaw 10:30	5	13 Lebo DBC OPEN NEW TIME 11am Greensburg OPEN NO GAME 7/30	7 Glenshaw 11:00
1 8 NOTE: Greensburg open each Wed. New site	9 Rodef— 12:00 Glenshaw 10:30	3 Glenshaw 10:30 thru Aug	11 Rodef— 12:00 Glenshaw 10:30	12	13 13 Lebo DBC OPEN NEW TIME 11am Greensburg OPEN NO GAME 7/30	14 Glenshaw 11:00
15	16 Rodef— 12:00 Glenshaw 10:30	3 Glenshaw 10:30 thru Aug	18 Rodef— 12:00 Glenshaw 10:30	19	20 13 Lebo DBC OPEN NEW TIME 11am Greensburg OPEN NO GAME 7/30	21 Glenshaw 11:00
22	23 Rodef— 12:00 Glenshaw 10:30	3 Glenshaw 10:30 thru Aug	25 Rodef— 12:00 Glenshaw	26	27 .13 Lebo DBC OPEN NEW TIME 11am Greensburg OPEN	28 Glenshaw 11:00
29	30 Rodef/2 GS: 10:30	3 Glenshaw 10:30 thru Aug	Sept Sams as as above	2	3 same as above	4 Glenshaw 11:00

INTERNET POST MORTEM

FIRST AT THE POST

	70 % Games		
Harold Haffner & Asim Ulke	71.42	Rodef	Mon
Wayne Obitz & Ronald Sain	77.50	Indiana	Tues
Marlene Sienicki & Kathleen Dolegowski	70.24	Lebo	Fri

THREE IN A ROW

Paul Caplan	Glenshaw	Wed	
Kenneth Eichler	Greensburg	Wed	
	August Costanzo	O'Hara	Tues

TWO IN A ROW

Dennis Pittman	Concordia	Sat
Donald Turacy, Sr	Concordia	Sat
Patricia Katz	Rodef	Mon
Richard Katz	Rodef	Mon
Asim Ulke	O'Hara	Tues
Ronald Sain	Indiana	Tues
June Threlkeld	Concordia	Sat
Ken Bergman	Concordia	Sat

CONGRATULATIONS!

WE'RE JUST GETTING STARTED FACE TO FACE. COME OUT AND JOIN THE FUN.