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Chris Wang.....First At The Post

Unit 142 Pittsburgh, PA March 2018

POST MORTEM

WEBSITE AT www.pittsburghbridge.org
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Vice President: Chris Wang
Secretary: Mary Paulone Carns
Treasurer: John Alioto
Club Manager: Mary Carns
Unit Recorder: Judi Sonon (judi@diegosan.com)

BARBARA BERGMAN

Sometimes we are fortunate enough to meet and spend time together with a very special person, who shares our interest, works hard to ensure our success and brings a sense of community to our group, the Pittsburgh Bridge Association.

Barbara Bergman, who passed away in February, was indeed that very special person.. She did virtually everything there was to do in order to make our Unit and our District the very best. Her many years of activity included serving on our board as a member, as Vice President and two years as our President. Together, Barbara and her husband, Ken not only were Co-Chairmen of several of our Sectionals, but were famous for giving great hospitality a new meaning of excellence at many of our events. They also served as Hospitality Chairmen for the Roni Regional. We never went home hungry. She and Lou Joseph always made our Awards night a great success and who could ever forget her leading roles in the between-session productions she starred in with Lou, Bill Holt, and Brad Craig.. Luckily, we would never let Hollywood steal her away.

Barbara was an accomplished bridge player, with the rank of Diamond Life Master. She would have reached the next level if only given the time. She also taught bridge both for our Unit and privately as well. It's too bad that she wasn't a carpenter who could build a room to house all of the awards and honors she was given by our Unit and District 5. In addition to the Fred Sorensen Award, given for service, the ACBL Goodwill Pin, and Lou Joseph's famous Donkey Award for doing the most work with the fewest rewards for Unit 142, in 2016 Barbara was given the Ann McGilvrey Award which honors a District 5 player, who demonstrates ethical behavior and good sportsmanship at the bridge table.

With all her ducks always in a row, Barb. never forgot to do anything - except - not to leave us at such a young age. What we will never forget is how hard she worked for the PBA, how much our organization prospered under her watch, how gracious and welcoming she was and how sorely we will miss her. Our condolences to Ken and her family and hope they find comfort knowing how much Barbara was loved and respected.

.....arlene port

All the news that fits in print

.....by arlene port

It's difficult to believe, but what surprises me most about publishing the Post Mortem is when I put the month on the calendar. I'm just blown away by the fact that March is already here and I keep thinking it's still December.

The only thing that brings me back to earth is the good stuff that happens at the PBA during the year. Just in case you don't remember, here's the good news for March: The weather seems to be shifting into the flood stage and that signals warmer weather is just around the corner. Soon there will be no more slipping and sliding to the games.

If your looking for extra points, try the PBA Unit games March 9, 16 and 23. All of these are Unit Championships, which come with extra points. If you're looking to get t9o the next level in a hurry, drop in and pick some up. If you are partial to team games, give me a "heads up" and I will put you in touch with the best team arranger in the country, let alone the city. And, if you don't have a partner for a pair game, Jane Marshall, the one who makes our pairings will be happy to make it happen.

To honor Barbara & Lou for all they have given to us, the yearly Unit Swiss Championship at the Edgewood Country is being held in their honor. (see the ad on page 3). It is a wonderful tribute to two wonderful people. Hope you all can be there.

Check out the ad on Page 7 for the April Spring Sectional. Better get your partner's lined up before they're all gone.

Don't look now, but spring will be here March 21. Trust me. Have a great month.

BARB BERGMAN & Lou JOSEPH

UNIT CHAMPIONSHIP SWISS

Help us celebrate the memory of Barb & Lou, two remarkable friends whose presence graced our bridge tables - and whose dedication and hard work on behalf of Pittsburgh Bridge was legendary.

Sunday, June 3, 2018

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, Call:

Richard Zack at 724-895-3364 or

Patsy Evans at 412-563-2807 or

Jeanne Baseman 412-889-2538

Or Email: BarbLou@pittsburghbridge.org

Please RSVP: via email, or call Patsy Evans

- Limited to 28 teams!

Casual Country Club Attire, please.

Food! Fun! Fellowship!

****All Proceeds Benefit***

Local Bridge Education!

See you there!



**Directions on the website:
www.pittsburghbridge.org**

POST CARDS

After a brief separation, Jimmy and Barbara Klein are now home and pretty much alone. . So, if you have a chance, give them a call. . I know it would make them both feel good to hear from you. Their number is in the Unit Directory.

Our thoughts and best wishes to both **Alice and Norman Williams** . If anyone knows where Alice is, please let us know.

Welcome back to all of you brave souls who have recovered from the “plague” that befell us this year. It was really mean. Thank goodness the ones that I know of, Paula Rubin ,Marian Cohen and Madeline Kramer are back at bridgework. It seems as if almost everyone I have seen lately has some “I was sick” story.

Lois Kort who played and Directed games at Masonic and Rodef has moved to Sunrise of McCandless, an assisted and independent living facility. Address 900 Lincoln Club Drive; Pittsburgh 15237. Give her a call to say hello and let her know how much we miss her.

IN MEMORY

Corinne (Corky) Krause died in February. The sister of Felice Brody, Corky was a regular at the Rodef Shalom bridge game for many years until she became ill. She was an extremely bright woman who ran a company that wrote histories for big companies. She was extremely articulate and a wonderful writer. Incidentally, she was a very nice bridge player as well. Our condolences to Felice and her family. I feel fortunate I got to know her.....arlene

BRIDGE BYTES

.....By Ernie Retetagos

It certainly
does!!!

CARD COMBINATIONS

Playing a card combination correctly maximizes the chance of picking up the suit successfully. Here are a few combinations that are sometimes misplayed.

1) x x x -- A J 10 x x x 2) x x x -- A Q 10 x x 3) x x x -- A Q 10 x x x

The best chance of picking up hand # 1 for one loser is to finesse the 10, and then finesse the Jack.

In hand # 2, with your 8 card holding, the best chance of picking up the suit for 4 or 5 tricks is to finesse the 10, and then finesse the Queen.

The odds change when you have a 9 card combined holding as in hand #3. The best chance of making 6 tricks is to finesse the Queen, then lay down the Ace. This would be the usual play in a match point event. If you are playing bridge with total point type scoring such as rubber bridge or imps, and needed just 5 tricks to make your contract, you could make a safety play. By playing the Ace first, you have the chance of dropping a stiff King, before leading towards the Queen.

When the opponents have entered the bidding, that can sometimes help guide you to the winning line.

1) K 10 x x --- A 9 x x x 2) K 10 x x --- A J x x x

Hand #1 is another example of playing a suit differently depending on whether it's matchpoints or imps. If you can afford to lose a trick at imps, leading to the 9 or 10 on the first round will limit you to only one loser in the suit. At match-points, you would lead to the Ace or King on the first round. If an opponent has shown length in another suit, their partner is more likely to have length in your suit. If South has shown a long suit, lead the King in case North has all 4 trumps. If South plays an honor under the King, based on restricted choice, the percentage play is to finesse North for the other honor.

In a vacuum, in hand #2, you would cash the two top cards trying to drop the Queen. If South has showed up with a 6 card suit and North has 2, South has 7 unknown cards to North's 11. I would usually finesse the Queen after cashing the King, and expect to win more often than not.

The play of a suit combination must always be considered in the context of the entire hand. The desired number of tricks, the bidding, and the type of scoring are always factors worth considering in deciding how to play a suit.

UP THE LADDER POST

JUNIOR MASTER

*William Hill
Norma R Uphold*

CLUB MASTER

Norma R Uphold

SILVER LIFE MASTER

*Carol Gibboney
Nancy C Hobert
Susan M Israelson*

RUBY LIFE MASTER

Peter D Howell



ALL IT TOOK WAS A LITTLE HARD WORK AND TALENT

CONGRATULATIONS!!

FOR YOU ALL "PRACTICE MADE PERFECT"

CONGRATULATIONS

PBA EVENTS 3-MONTH CALENDAR 2018

March

- 2 Open Pairs
- 9 Unit Championship
- 16 Unit Championship
- 23 Unit Championship Swiss Teams
- 30 Open Pairs

April

- 6 Unit Championship
- 13 Swiss Teams Unit Charity Championship (for ACBL) & PBA Board Meeting
- 20 Unit Championship
- 27 PITTSBURGH SECTIONAL @ MASONIC - No Game

May

- 4 Club Championship
- 11 Unit Championship Swiss Teams
- 18 Unit Grass Roots Fund Game & Awards Night
- 25 No game—Cleveland Regional

INTERNET POST (cont.)

Arlene Port: Double. I would be afraid to bid anything else in case partner miss pass and leave me with this 8 card suit. However, I guess if my partner can't respond to 1 spade, perhaps I got lucky. Who knows?

Note: When I was reading the pro's responses, I noticed that beside Al Roth's name was a parenthesis next to his name that said (with Philip Alder). So, he had some help.

Ernie Retetagos: 4 S Although most good hands start with a double, freak hands are an exception. I don't want to give the opponents room to find a big fit to bid at the 5 and/or 6 level. If I start with a double, I think I'm more likely to give them room than I am to gain useful information to bid slam

Pittsburgh Spring Sectional Hospitality All Sessions!



Friday, April 27

1:00 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)

7:00 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)
Single Session Swiss Teams

Saturday, April 28

10:00 AM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)
Compact Handicapped KO Teams
(1st of 2 sessions)
Junior Game - Under 18 with 0-5 mps
See Box* for Details!

Lunch on Us between Sessions!

2:30 PM Stratified Open Pairs (1 session)
Stratified 499er Pairs (1 session)
Compact Handicapped KO Teams
(2nd of 2 sessions)
Single Session Swiss Teams

Sunday, April 29

Super Brunch & Lunch Included

10:00 AM Stratified Open Swiss Teams
(7 rounds of 7 boards)
Stratified 499er Swiss Teams
(6 rounds of 6 boards)

Open 499er

A: 2000+ 5: 300-500
B: 750-2000 3: 100-300
C: 0-750 1: 0-100

Stratifications in All 499er Strats at
Events by Avg. Mps Director's Discretion

***JUNIOR GAME - Saturday @ 10am**
Limited to age 18 and under
For those with 0-5 Masterpoints
Session is FREE, includes lunch!

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



Pittsburgh Bridge
Association

April 27-29, 2018
Masonic Center North
3579 Masonic Way
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

Lesson from an Expert
Friday @ 6:15 PM



American Contract
Bridge League

INTERNET POST

You are South, IMP's; none vul. And you hold:

S A K 10 9 6 5 4 3
 H A Q 8 4
 D 6
 C -----

The bidding is:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
-----	-----	-----	1D

? What call do you make.?

Richard Katz Double, I can correct anything either by cue bidding first, and then bidding game in spades. Maybe partner jumps in hearts, yum. Identifying key cards may be a problem later, but small slam o k. Can't wait to see what Al Roth did. He is always right. Take it to the bank.

PJ Prabhu: 1S. I'm torn between 1S and 4S (nearly 50-50). 4S has the advantage of pre-emption and the ability to buy the contract at 4S, but misses on other possibilities and coping with further bids by opponents. I don't expect 1S to be 7 out and hence, I'll get another chance to bid game. A pre-emptor is expected not to bid again (unless forced by partner). On this deal I don't plan to sell out below 5S and hope to have more information at my disposal from the auction. These considerations lead me to the 1S bid. Since my values lean heavily toward offense than defense, I discounted the double.

Bernie Fudor : 1S Since you are honoring Al Roth this month I'll answer as Al would "I bid one spade if it doesn't go all pass I'll get a feel of what to bid next"

Steve Nolan: Double. Two thoughts (i) I want partner to describe his hand: it's not going to be possible to describe mine well enough to let partner place the contract; and (ii) I don't want to make a spade bid that might get passed. Whatever I do, it's still likely that I'll face a high-level guess in the next round.

Jane Marshall: Double....unless partner passes for penalty, (which I doubt that he can), I bid spades next (unless partner bids a lot of hearts. If partner bids 3 or 4 of a major, I bid 6 of that major. I don't know how to look for enough spades, the K of hearts and Ace of diamonds specifically.

Bill Holt: 2D. I will start with 2d. Can't afford X to be passed, and any number of Spades could miss slam. Let's see what partner says when I offer both majors. I can always play in some # of Spades. Neat problem.

Chris Wang I bid **2D** meaning Michael's, intending to bid 4S on the next bid. I know this is a lie, but it shows both suits, and this hand is too good to bid 4S on the first bid.

Craig Biddle: 2D, then unless partner bids a whole lot of hearts I'm jumping in spades next. An obscure Michaels trick. And if partner bids 4H I'm going slamming.

Trudy Cohn: 2D I will start out with a 2D call and see if my partner has any support for hearts. This is showing equal hearts and spades but since spades is the boss suit, I can always bid them. I certainly don't want to double and have partner pass.

Asim Ulke DBL I see 3 options. 1-Bid 1S 2- Bid 4S 3- Double and bid 4S at next turn unless partner bids 2H or shows values. I double and hope that I get another chance to bid. Double would allow reaching a slam in in hearts or spades.

Bob Zimmermann: 4 spades. If I start with a double and hear 2 hearts by partner on [Qxx Jxxx KJxx Kx] we'll never find the right contract. If I'm lucky, the opponents will bid 5 of a minor (or 4NT) and I can trot out my hearts.

Jack Hawthorne: I'll overcall **4S**, planning to bid 5H over any 5-level action by the opponents. Partner has to know there is a large disparity in length between my Major suits, since I didn't use Michaels.

Stan Ruskin 2D This is the story of the A, K and Q as well as how many hearts and spades does partner have. Thus, I have to make bids that will give me the best way of finding out. Thus, I think I would bid 2D and listen to what happens. While one would think that 4S should make, We could make 5,6 or 7 S or H also or not. Depending on the bidding after this simple 2D call will guide me what I do next.

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
1S	15	2	100
DBL	8	5	70
2D	7	5	70
4S	3	3	50

HOW EXPERTS VOTED

Phillip Alder	1S
Grant Baze	1S
Steve Beatty	D
Henry Bethe	1S
Bart Bramley	D
David Berkowitz	D
Ira Chorush	4S
Steve Clark	4S
Larry Cohen	2D
Kitty & Steve Cooper	2D
Billy Eisenberg	2D
Bjorn Fallenius	D
Brian Glubok	1S
Jimm Hall	D
Fred Hamilton	1S
Carl Hudecek	D
Eddie Kantor	1S
Ralph Katz	1S
Sami Kehiela	1S
Eric Kokish	2D
Marshall Miles	2D
Arthur Robinson	1S
Michael Rosenberg	1S
Al Roth	1S
Jeff Rubens	1S
Ira Rubin	4S
Mike Shuman	1S
Joey Silver	1S
Paul Soloway	D
John Swanson	2D
Robert Wolff	D
Kit Woolsey	1S\
Zia	2D

Pittsburgh Bridge Assoc MARCH 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 2 PBA UNIT OPEN PAIRS	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 PBA UNIT CHAMPIONSHIP-	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Unit Championship	17
18	19	20	21	22	23 PBA UNIT CHMP SWISS TEAM	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 UNIT CHMP SWISS TEAMS OPEN PAIRS	31

FIRST AT THE POST

.70%+ GAMES

Ernie Retetagos & Arlene Port	72.52	Glenshaw	Wed
Robert Quinlan & Constance Hoechstetter	71.43	Temple Emanuel	Wed
Ronald Sain & Arlene Jacobelli	70.00	Greensburg	Wed
James Mendelson & Harry Edgos	70.14	Rodef	Mon
Vincetina Simak & Felice Brody	70.41	Wilkins	Thurs
Trudy Cohn & Asim Ulke	71.06	Rodef	Mon
Anne Kohlbecker & Caryle Glosser	71.43	Rodef 299er	Mon\

FIVE IN A ROW

John Killmeyer New Brighton Sat

THREE IN A ROW

Don Averbach	Char-Hou	Fri	Ethel Levine	Char-Hou	Fri
David Collura	Whitehall	Mon	Barbara Belardi	Export	Mon
Robert Park	New Brighton	Sat	Rita Difrancesco	Rodef 299er	Mon
Joan Davis	Rodef 299er	Mon	William Holt	Allegheny CC	Fri
Gloria Moser	Glenshaw	Sat			

TWO IN A ROW

Ronald Sain	Greensburg	Fri	James Fox	Glenshaw	Mon
Pat Cunkelman	Export	Mon	Dustin Hoover	South Hills NLM	Thurs
Madeleine Frizzi	South Hills NLM	Thurs	Robert Heasley	Allegheny CC	Fri
Arthur Henry	South Hills NLM	Tues	Marie Henry	South Hills NLM	Tues
Richard Krauland	Glenshaw	Sat	Barbara Belardi	O'Hara	Tues
Robert Park	Glenshaw	Wed	Arlene Jacobelli	Greensburg	Wed
Ronald Sain	Greensburg	Wed	Patricia Cunkelman	Greensburg	Fri-
Ronald Sain	Greensburg	Fri	Cecilia Powell	Greensburg	Fri
Asim Ulke	Rodef	Mon	Arlene Port	O'Hara	Tues
Barbara Belardi	Mon	Wed			

