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Unit 142

Pittsburgh, PA

January 2012

WEBSITE AT www.pittsburghbridge.org

POST MORTEM

President: Asim Ulke
Vice President: Barbara Bergman
Secretary: Mary Paulone Carns
Treasurer: Jane Marshall
Club Manager: Mary Carns

All the news that fits in print

..... arlene port

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE.

GOODBYE 2011: As I reflect on this past year I have decided that the best thing that happened in 2011 was that I got through it. Trust me, it wasn't easy. And, if you are reading this, you did the same. Nice going!!

HELLO 2012: Once again, everyone's goal for this year is to get to 2013. (especially my 104 yr old mother) It is also my most fervent wish that we all do the same with good health and much happiness. I don't want to appear greedy, but I also hope we all have some fun along the way.

Having said that, we have much to look forward to, bridge-wise, in the coming year. We have tournaments, parties and wonderful club games to fill up our time. If you check with the Post Mortem, we will have the tournament results, latest high achievers, great and near great winners and much gossip (some of it even legitimate) to spread around. If you want to find out who gave us the outrageous information we disperse, unfortunately, we never divulge our sources. Let's hear it for the First Amendment. You will also have the joy of reading about Lou and his quest to spread the AKN word. (poor Arlene)

Although January may be a slow month for bridge events, you may want to go down the road to Cleveland for the Rock and Roll Regional. That should keep you until we find something to do in February!! Or March!

Having dispensed with 2011, I should mention the PBA Holiday Party hosted by Patty Katz. It was a great party and a terrific turnout - two sections! We haven't had two sections on a Friday night for quite a long time - even with the amazing job that Jane Marshall is doing. If you enjoyed the Party, why not try to make a habit of coming on a regular basis? And let's not forget to thank the Bergman's for hosting the STaC team game at the Glenshaw Moose. This was so successful it sold out due to space limitations!! Both events were absolutely first rate! Thanks again!!!

IF ANOTHER YEAR IS HERE, IT MUST BE TIME FOR A POEM POST

MY NIGHTMARE.....by arlene port

At 4 in the morning, I awoke with a start.
My temples were throbbing and so was my heart.
For I had a nightmare 'bout bridge I recall.
Since I love to share I will now tell you all.

The game that I played in was simply a fright.
I dreamed that I couldn't do anything right.
The first hand I picked up had 23 highs.
And visions of grand slam passed right through my eyes.

I quickly bid two clubs, without much concern.
Except when I realized it wasn't my turn.
So I settled for 3 -no but lo and behold.
Six no on this hand was amazingly cold.

The next 4 I had were, I thought, very good.
It turned out that I bid one more than I should.
When I finally played, why those hands were a mess.
Who knew that I didn't know how to finesse.

My defense was no better and I'd had enough.
When I gave opponents three ruffs and one sluff.
This nightmare is over I thought with a sigh.
But I still was disturbed and I didn't know why.

Just then my eyes widened - reality hit.
And I wasn't happy, not even one bit.
I realized my nightmare was no dream you see.
It was yesterday's game that I played : WOE IS ME!

DECEMBER 2011 STaC

Top 25 Unit 142 winners

142 D5

- 1 1 Judy Haffner**
 2 3 Dorothy Murray
 3 5 Gail Carns
 4 6 Barbara Bergman
 5 8 Harold Haffner
 6 9 Jean Prior
 7 14 Patricia Cunkelman
 8 16 Arlene Port
 9 17 Lessa Finegold
 10 19 James Quigley
 11 22 Barbara Abraham
 12 23 Robert Park
 13 24 Jane Marshall
 14 25 Asim Ulke
 15 32 Mary Paulone Carns
 16 33 Steven Schwarzwaelder
 17 36 Judit Bardi
 18 38 Jacqueline Cavalier
 19 41 Frances Prus
 20 44 Bradley Craig
 21 47 Kenneth Bergman
 22 48 Judi Sonon
 23 50 Louis Joseph
 24 52 Margery Tamres
 25 56 C Ned Pfeifer

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL!!!**

POST-IT NOTES

Joanne Zambroski is recovering nicely from a nasty bout with the surgeon. (She was the top seed). In fact, she was back at the table, winning, on January 2! It just goes to show that you can't keep a good woman down. Although what that has to do with Joanne I have no idea...

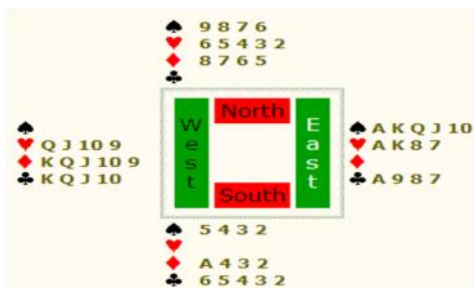
It was great to see Betty Noble back at the tables in December after a conspicuous absence!

Sally Levin –Please come back soon. We all miss you so much.

Here it is, the New Year, but we still have the old get well list. We would love to see some of these people up and about in 2012 - but we can only hope and pray:

Edie Weiser
 Mary Anne McNeirney
 Norman Williams
 Marian Smith

If there's anyone we missed, please let us know!!



POST HOLIDAY JOLLIES COMPLIMENTS OF BERNIE BONESSA

The Night Before Christmas...
 'Twas the night before Christmas
 Two guests in our house
 Were playing some bridge
 With me and my spouse
 "Please tell me" she shouted
 "Why you didn't double?"
 'Twas plain from the start
 We had them in trouble
 "'Tis futile, my Dear -
 I am taking no stand.
 So please stop your nagging
 Let's play the next hand."
 "Remember next time"
 She said with a frown
 "To double a contract
 That's sure to go down!"
 So I picked up my cards
 In a downtrodden state
 Then I opened "One Spade"
 And awaited my fate
 The guy sitting South
 Was like many I've known
 He bid and he played
 In a world all his own
 "Two Diamonds" he countered
 With scarcely a care
 The Ace in his hand
 Gave him courage to spare
 My wife, smiling faintly
 And tossing her head
 Leaned over the table
 "Double" she said
 And North, for some reason
 I cannot determine
 Bid Two Hearts, as if
 She were preaching a Sermon

I grinned as I doubled
 Enjoying the fun
 And turned to face South
 Just to see where he'd run
 But South, undistressed,
 Not at loss for a word
 Came forth with "Two Spades"
 Did I hear what I'd heard?
 The other two passed
 And in sheer disbelief
 I said "Double, my friend
 That'll bring you to grief"
 South passed with a nod
 His composure serene
 My wife with a flourish
 Led out the heart Queen
 I sat there and chuckled
 Inside o'er their fix
 But South, very calmly,
 Ran off his eight tricks!
 He ruffed the first heart
 In his hand right away
 And then trumped a club
 On the very next play
 He crossruffed the hand
 At a breathtaking pace
 'Til I was left holding
 Five spades to the Ace
 In anguish my wife cried
 "Your mind's getting old
 Can't you see that for us
 Six No-Trump is ice cold!"
 By doubling this time
 I'd committed a sin.
 It just goes to prove
 That you never can win!!

(hand shown two columns to left)

INTERNET POST

You are South, IMP's, both vul and you hold:

S A K 10 8
H K Q J 9 6 2
D 6 2
C A

The bidding is:

SOUTH WEST NORTH EAST
1H 3D 3NT PASS
?

What do you bid?

Stan Ruskin Pass. I have no idea what partner has other than he doesn't have four spades. If we have A slam, he should have been bidding something other than three no trump. He might have QJx of diamonds etc. If he has diamonds stopped but not the A, there can be a rough. This isimps and unless there is a slam, I think three no Trump is the best place.

Trudy Cohn: pass. Partner would make a negative double with 4 spades or support my hearts with three so he has a lot of minor suit cards

Warren Oberfield: 4S I must lack imagination because I can't think of anything close to ten bids to make with these cards. Barring some obscure partnership agreement (i.e. kickback), I can't imagine how partner could construe me bidding four spades here as showing anything other than natural spades, longer hearts, and a hand strong enough to suggest slam. That is what I have, so that is what I bid

Bob Zimmermann: 4H. There might be a slam lurking, but I can't see where I've got the tools to find it.

Steve Nolan: 4S. It's the best I can do to show shape, and it sends the message that I have extra strength. Partner can take charge thereafter with Blackwood or a cue bid.

Asim Ulke I bid 4C. If partner bids 4D, then I have a good shot at a slam and bid 4NT. If partner bids 4H, I bid 5H to inquire about the DK. Partner has a minimum of 12 points which should contain the HA. Slam may still go down on a diamond ruff

Ernie Retetagos 4 Diamonds. If partner bids 4NT, I'll pass, and If they bid 4 of a major, I will cuebid. Then I'll bid 6 of our suit if partner cuebids 5 diamonds, otherwise signoff in 5.

Bill Holt: 4NT, Quantitative. Partner doesn't have a Spade fit (wudda Neg dumbled), and my extras should give us a play for 6NT provided his d stopper isn't QJx or so. Risk of d ruffs makes 6H less attractive & my H's will provide tricks for NT as well. Neat problem.

Marvin Rulin: 5 Hearts partner does not have 4 spades, he might misinterpret a cue bid of 4 clubs. if I bid 4 H he will likely pass and we could miss a slam that makes if he has the heart ace or 10. so I'll invite slam with a bid of 5 Hearts

Fred Schenker: 4NT I can't pass, although that may be right. Partner's 3NT call must deny 4S and 3H, so I am guessing 3-1-3-6 or 3-2-3-5 shape, with a double stopper in D. I'll bid 4N, which should be quantitative in this sequence. I don't think 6H is right, no matter what, because of the potential for a ruff.

Pat Katz: 4H—I bid what I had—a distributional hand which I feel would play better in hearts.

Herb Sachs 4C Tough for sure; I'm starting with four clubs ;over four diamonds and four hearts i bid four spades; over five clubs i bid five hearts ;this could be a four, five, or seven hand. partner might bid 4nt with great diamonds but with that as the major feature of his hand he might have passed and waited for me to reopen with double. if I could be sure four spades would not be passed that would be my call; partner could have Qxx-Ax-KJx-Kxxxx or worse or better; 6nt or 4nt (which i would pass) should be the final call unless partner is better say Qxx-Ax-Axx-KQxxx which makes 7 hearts odds on. Sorry I'm long winded today.(Insightful, I would say— ed.)

Jane Marshall 4NT. I'll take my chances that partner has the Ace of heart or the Ace and King of diamonds, or that the opponents cannot take 2 tricks before we can take 12. I would not have opened 1H. I play Kokish and would have opened 2C (intending to show longer hearts than spades with at least a 6-cd heart suit. (I am within 1 trick of game.)

Gail Carns: 4NT Blackwood followed by 6H if partner has an Ace

Mary Carns: 4H. I considered 4NT (not Blackwood), but partner probably has a top diamond, and good clubs. We have to consider the possibility that in NT, after the presumed diamond lead, there is no entry to his clubs. Imagine Jxx Tx Ax KQJTxx.

Bernie Fudor: I bid 4 sp should show 5+ hearts and 4 sp and reverse values Seems most descriptive, hard to find 9 different bids

Richard Katz: 4NT If partner had a good hand, they will accept the ace-asking bid. If they stretched to bid, they will pass. I see this bid as cooperative

Arlene Port: 4D After looking at this hand I have decided to use my one option of asking to see my partner's hand before I bid. If forced, I think I would bid 4D. It is a catchall bid that announces a good hand. and asks partner to describe anything exceptional they may have . (like an ace) G-d forbid I should pass.

PJ Prabhu: Pass. We may be cold for a slam. But then again, we may not be; this is especially true if partner's D stopper is QJxx. Although I have an ace more and a better suit and distribution than promised, partner's hand is a mystery. Hence I stay fixed.

Eric Ruben: 4N. Partner may be stretching to bid the vulnerable game, but this hand is worth another call. Slam has good play opposite numerous 12+ counts.

ARE YOU READY?

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
5H	7	1	100
4NT	5	6	80
4D	7	2	70
4S	6	3	70
5C	3	0	60
6NT	1	0	50
5NT	2	0	50
6H	0	0	30
4H	1	3	30
PASS	1	3	20
4C	0	2	20

INTERNET POST
HOW EXPERTS VOTED

Phillip Alder	4S
Michael Becker	4S
David Berah	5H
David Berkowitz	5H
Larry Cohen	5C
Richard Colker	4S
Billy Eisenberg	4D
Russ Ekeblad	4S
Robert Friend	4H
Fred Gitelman	5H
Barbara Haberman	4D
Carl Hudecek	6NT
Eddie Kantar	4S
Sami Kehela	4NT
Eric Kokish	4NT
Michael Lawrence	5H
Sidney Lazard	4NT
Robert Lipsitz	5C
David Liss	4D
Jeff Meckstroth	4NT
M. Miles	5C
Erik Paulsen	P
Barry Rigal	5NT
Arthur Robinson	4D
Andrew Robson	4D
Beverly Rosenberg	4S
Al Roth	5H
Jeff Rubens	5H
Ira Rubin	4D
Joey Silver	4NT
Harry Steiner	5H
Robert Wolff	4D
Kit Woolsey	5NT

NO CONCENSUS HERE!!

BRIDGE ETIQUETTE POST

.....by Phyllis Silver

(ed. Note: It is my pleasure to welcome Phyllis as the newest member of the Pittsburgh Board of Directors. I spoke with Phyllis today and she asked me to convey her concerns about the following breeches of conduct at the bridge table.)

1. PLACING DUMMY CARDS ON THE TABLE BEFORE WRITING IN YOUR CONVENTION CARD:

When you are playing dummy cards and opponent makes the opening lead, it is your responsibility to place the dummy cards on the table before writing the contract, or the score on the previous hand in your private score card. Failure to do so slows down the play and disrupts the tempo of the game.

Doing this is really not your choice. It has been an ACBL regulation for many, many years. So remember.....Show dummy first - Write like a dummy second..

2. DISPLAYING A FILLED OUT CONVENTION CARD.

This is also not only a requirement of ACBL protocol, it is extremely helpful for your partnership. If you discuss what you are playing and write it down, you are always permitted to look at your card before or after a hand is bid. It helps you to remember what your agreements are. And who among us is not remembering challenged?

If you conduct yourself properly at the table, others will follow.

Excerpts from the trial transcripts of Louis Joseph vs. Arlene Port...

Prosecuting Attorney (PA): Mr. Joseph, you are familiar with the list of complaints the plaintiff has brought against you?

Lou Joseph(LJ): I'm familiar with her complaining, if that's what you mean.

PA: Not exactly, but we'll let that pass. I want to specifically address the charges one by one. Firstly, she claims that every time she leaves her blackboard unattended in her classes, the letters AKN mysteriously appear. Are you aware of this?

LJ: It's been known to happen.

PA: And AKN stands for?

LJ: Arlene Knows Nothing.

PA: Wouldn't you say that was libelous?

LJ: How can the truth be considered libelous?

PA: She also claims that each of your students came up to her after your last class and said that they may no have learned anything else but they now knew that AKN. What do you have to say to that?

LJ: If everyone else says it, it must be true!

PA: This is not getting us anywhere. Let's address her next complaint. Mrs. Port claims that every time her name is listed in the FIRST AT THE POST column, the print is so small you need a magnifying glass to read it. Any comment?

LJ: Considering the number of people who complain that their achievement never make into the column at all, she should be grateful for any recognition she receives!

PA: Hmmm. And have you referred to her as "what's her name?"

LJ: That's certainly nicer than some of the things she calls me!

PA: Hmmm.

LJ: And I strenuously object to her saying that I refer to her as "the old hag"!

PA: YOU object! Why?

LJ: Because I have NEVER referred to her as "the old hag". EVERYONE in the PBA KNOWS that when I talk about "the old hag" I'm referring to Joanne Zambroski! (really just kidding)

At this point the Judge interrupted the proceedings and asked for a three day recess as he had a headache...

TO BE CONTINUED...

((ed note) I have a meeting with Joanne to discuss our class action suit against Lou.

2012 PBA CALENDAR

JANUARY

- 6 GNT Fundraiser Game
- 13 Cleveland Regional
Unit game cancelled
- 20 Unit Championship SWISS
- 27 Special "AM" Game and
Unit Championship

FEBRUARY

- 3 Unit Championship
- 10 Membership Game
- 17 Jr Fund Game & Board Meeting
- 24 Jr Fund SWISS Team

MARCH

- 2 Club Championship
- 4 Fossick-Goodman Swiss
Team (pending site availability)
- 9 Unit Championship SWISS
- 16 Open Pairs
- 23 Unit Championship
- 30 Open Pairs

APRIL

- 6 Club Championship
- 13 Unit Championship SWISS
and Board Meeting
- 20 Unit ACBL Charity
Championship
- 27 Spring Sectional @ Masonic Ctr
Unit game cancelled

MAY

- 4 Unit Championship
- 11 Unit Championship SWISS
- 18 Club ACBL Charity Champi-
onship & AWARDS PARTY
- 25 Cleveland Regional
Unit game cancelled

JUNE

- 1 NAOP Qualifier
- 8 Unit Championship SWISS
- 14 STaC Pairs - THURSDAY
- 15 STac Pairs & Board Meeting
- 22 Open Pairs
- 29 Summer Sectional @ Masonic
Unit game cancelled

JULY

- 6 Open Pairs
- 13 Open Pairs
- 20 NAOP Qualifier
- 27 Unit Championship SWISS

AUGUST

- 3 New Partnership Night!!
- 10 NAOP Qualifier & Bd Meeting
- 17 Unit Championship
- 24 Unit Championship SWISS
- 31 Pittsburgh RONI Regional
Unit game cancelled

SEPTEMBER

- 7 Open Pairs
- 14 Club Championship
- 21 Unit Championship SWISS
- 28 International Fund Game

OCTOBER

- 4 Instant Matchpoint Game -
Thursday - Glenshaw Moose
- 5 Club Appreciation Pairs
- 11 PRO-AM Charity Game
Thursday - Rodef Shalom
(pending site availability)
- 12 Club Appreciation SWISS
& Board Meeting
- 19 Fall Sectional @ Masonic Ctr
Unit Game Cancelled
- 26 Unit Championship

NOVEMBER

- 2 Club Championship
- 9 Unit Championship SWISS
- 16 Unit Championship &
Annual Membership Meeting
- 23 Open Pairs
- 30 Unit Championship &
Board Meeting (if necessary)

DECEMBER

- 6 STaC PAIRS - Thursday
Glenshaw Moose & Holiday Party
- 7 STac Pairs
- 9 STaC SWISS - Sunday
- 14 Unit Championship SWISS
- 21 Open Pairs
- 28 Open Pairs

SOMETHING NICE POST

From Darlene Mannheimer:

Kudos to Karl Sokalski!! Karl has played bridge for little more than a year. He is a frequent player at both open and future life master games. During this time Karl taught and brought to the games 4 new players. Two have already joined the ACBL and the other 2 are planing to join. Karl also brought back a past player. Thank you Karl!!!!!!

SPECIAL INTEREST POST

Friday night, January 27 at the PBA in Wilkins Township will be a special "AM" Game. If you bought a pro in the 2011 pro-am game, you're entitled to half off your entry on January 27, AND, you are eligible to play in a special section limited to 1000 MP as long as you AND your partner (you can play with anyone you choose) have less than 1000 MP's. If either your or your partner have more than 1000 MP, you are still entitled to half off your entry, but you will only be eligible to play in the regular sections.

JANUARY 2012 hot line 412-436-0125

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
					PBA GNT Fundraiser	Unit 229 game
8	9	10	11	12	13 PBA CANCELLED	14
15	16 Rodef Can- celled. Martin Luther King Day	17	18	19	20 PBA UNIT Championship SWISS TEAM	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 PBA Special "AM: Game & Unit Champ	28
29	30	31				

FIRST AT THE POST 70% GAMES

Mel Snitzer & Gerry Tessler	Rodef 199er's	72.57%
Sis Brown & Ned Pfeifer	Mon. Rodef	72.69%
Madeline Frizzi & Harvey Notarius	SHJCC Future LM	71.88%
Connie Hoehstetter & Paul Caplan	Temple Emanuel	74.44%
Harvey Notarius & Samuel Bliman	SHJCC Future LM	72.50%

FOUR IN A ROW

Arlene Port	Mon Rodef
Judy Haffner	Mon Rodef

3 IN A ROW

Marge Tamres	Temple Sinai DBC
Barbara Bergman	Allegheny North
Ken Bergman	Allegheny North

2 IN A ROW

David Kozloff	Temple Sinai DBC
Harold Haffner	JCC Wechsler
Judy Haffner	JCC Wechsler
Pat Katz	Mon Rodef
Nicholas Rescher	Mon Rodef 99'ers
Richard Kotler	Mon Rodef 99'ers
Manny Kann	Mon Rodef 99'ers
Annette Blum	Mon Rodef 99'ers
Sue Lordi	Allegheny North
Barbara Bergman	Allegheny North
Ken Bergman	Allegheny North
Jean Prior	Allegheny North