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Unit 142 Pittsburgh, PA February 2018

POST MORTEM

WEBSITE AT www.pittsburghbridge.org

President: Lorraine Hanna
Vice President: Chris Wang
Secretary: Mary Paulone Carns
Treasurer: John Alioto
Club Manager: Mary Carns
Unit Recorder: Judi Sonon (judi@diegosan.com)

All the news that fits in print

.....by arlene port

“February’s Bustin’ Out All Over”. Oh wait, that song doesn’t “bust out” until June, so we still have a few months to wait before the warmth comes back. But who cares?

Certainly not me because I have so much to look forward to this month. Well, in truth, I will be spending the month of February thinking about all of the great events in March and April and being grateful that, above all, January has left.

Once a month the PBA hosts a championship team game on Friday night. Attendance is always good and we have many teams of different skill levels. You should try it!! If you don’t have a team, call Jane Marshall and she will get one for you. It’s really a lot of fun and loaded with masterpoints. As a matter of fact, if you are looking for points, you should attend the game every Friday evening. Just look at the schedule and you can see which ones are extra point games.

The bright news for February is Congregation Rodef Shalom is having two bridge classes; one is a beginning/intermediate class and the other is a 2/1 class. The details are on page 3. By the time the snowbirds come back from the warm places you can be an expert Check it out.

Finally, make certain you start planning now for the April Sectional Tournament at the Masonic Temple. (Details on page 7) Our tournaments are always very special and partners are always

THIS AND THAT POST

While the median age of the Pittsburgh bridge player is probably 75+, a group of “young’un’s have gotten together and are playing both an old and a new version of Precision. I am not certain if this is the wave of the future for bridge, but it certainly is a notice that we’re getting new players who are not likely to fade away in the near future. The really good new is that Bob Zimmermann finally has a group of players that play the same thing he does.

Phil Goulding has now joined our rather small cadre of directors and is directing a game at the Allegheny Country Club in Sewickley, on Friday at 12:30. From what I understand, the game is wonderful and Phil is a very good director.

Gus’s game is back in the comfortable quarters of old and don’t forget that the Wednesday game, directed by Gary Goetz moved from the JCC to Rodef Shalom.



Roses were red, but I never did guess
That Valentine’s Day, was not my success
My guy said he loved me, right at the start
Then he shot that arrow, right into my heart!!



As I lay there whining, “so sorry” said he
I swear I was aiming to hit that big tree
Then he lay on the sofa, and had a nice drink.
I tried to believe him, but what do you think?



.....arlene



CONGREGATION RODEF SHALOM WINTER BRIDGE LESSONS

Two Separate Classes

#1 2/1: *THE BRIDGE TO GOOD BRIDGE*™.

Bridge is an ever-growing , ever-changing game. 2/1 is the system that has virtually replaced Standard American. Once you have mastered this bidding system, you will find that you have a deeper understanding of the game and a greater ability to reach the best contract with your partner.

Teacher: Arlene Port Tuition: \$70 for seven week session

Classes will be held for seven (7) consecutive Wednesdays at 9:30AM – 11:30

February 21 - April 4, 2108

@ Congregation Rodef Shalom 905 Fifth Ave., Pgh PA 15213

#2 **CROSSING A NEW BRIDGE**

We have designed this class as follows:

Two (2) weeks bidding techniques and agreement

Two (2) weeks devoted to play of the hand

Two (2) weeks to defense

Each class will be comprised of the following:

A one hour period for presentation of the weekly material

A one-half hour period for questions of students' choice

A one hour period for play of prepared hands.

Six Consecutive Mondays, 9:00 AM -11:30

February 19 - March 26

Congregation Rodef Shalom 4905 Fifth Ave., Pgh PA 15213

Teacher: Arlene Port Tuition: \$60 for six week session

Advance Registration for both classes : www.pittsburghbridge.org/classreg.htm

Or Call Arlene @ 412-521-3637 or Email: aport220@comcast.net

Please accept this reservation for the Congregation Rodef Shalom Bridge Class, Winter 2018
NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP _____ PHONE (_____) _____

POST CARDS

Sis Brown fell and broke a hip and is now at Fair Oaks 2200 Liberty Ave in Dormont. (Pittsburgh 15226). The main number at Fair Oaks is 412 344-9915,,

Talk about the family that plays together stays together, we have two couples who just can't be parted:

Jimmy and Barbara Klein both went to the same rehabilitation facility at the same time. They are home right now and doing well. I know they went there to make certain that one of them didn't pick up a different bridge partner. (you think?) Thank goodness they're home. We can't wait until they come back to the table.

Not to be outdone, **Alice and Norman Williams** are also sharing a suite at Wightman Manor in Squirrel Hill.. So, Alice, you're been there long enough, recuperating. We miss you terribly. Norman, take care and know that we miss you as well.

Our very best wishes to **Barb Bergman** who is current working on getting better. I understand her friends are spending some quality time playing some bridge and visiting. She's no doubt winning all the time, given her great skill.

Honestly, we simply cannot afford to have anyone in our group feeling poorly. So, to all of you, please be well and know that you are truly missed.

If you know anyone who is under this weather, please let us know so we can cheer them up. Just send me an e-mail and I'll include it in the next issue.

BRIDGE BYTES

.....By Ernie Retetagos



BIDDING OVER OPPONENTS PREEMPTS

When you hold a big hand and the opponents preempt, you have lots to say and very little room to say it. After a vul against not opponent opened 3 clubs, a discussion later ensued regarding the difference between bidding 4 spades and doubling and bidding 4 spades. In an amazing display of record keeping, Lorraine Hanna provided me with an article that was published in the ACBL Bridge Bulletin almost 3 years ago regarding this topic. The gist is that a double is a strong hand that implies distributional trump support for the other suits. A jump to 4 spades is a one suited hand that could be as strong as a 2 club opening bid. At our club game, the following hand came up. S- A K Q J 9 6 H- Q 10 7 4 D- Q C- A 10

I think we'd all agree that this is too strong for a 3 spade bid. Partner could pass with too many hands that give a good play for game. A 3 spade bid is a hand that's worth about one trick more than a minimum opener. Shortness in the opponents suit is a big plus when deciding whether or not to bid with a borderline hand.

A direct 4 spade bid shows a self sufficient spade suit with about a 4-5 loser hand. Some would think that this hand is not appropriate for a double because of the distribution. The advantage of a direct 4 spade bid is that if the opponents bid 5 clubs, your partner has an idea about your playing strength and suit quality.

My idea regarding a double in this situation is that good hands with high cards start with a double. If you double, partner will bid 3 diamonds. When you now bid 3 spades, you are asking partner to bid game if they can supply a trick. A direct 4 spade bid in my opinion is taking a shot at game. A hand such as a solid 8 card suit, or a 7 card suit with a side card would be a candidate for a 4 spade bid. A 4 spade bid would be a two way bid. Maybe it will make, or maybe go down one against the opponents contract. Some would disagree, but I would double first to show high cards that can support a high level contract.

Your partner's hand is S-8 5 4 2 H- 8 D- A J 9 5 3 2 C- K 6. The King of clubs does not look like a working card after the 3 club bid, so partner would not be making a move towards slam. With trumps 2-1, most declarers made 6 by setting up an extra diamond trick by ruffing a few diamonds after pulling trumps.

UP THE LADDER POST

JUNIOR MASTER

*Rita R Difrancesco
Lynn A Gibbs
Lizbeth A Gillette
Marilyn J Sittig
Mary Ellen Ulicny*

CLUB MASTER

*Caryle Glosser
Ashok K Marwah*

SECTIONAL MASTER

*Janice Grier
Robert Grier
Wilbur W Moore
Suzanne P Wagner*

REGIONAL MASTER

Barbara Parker

BRONZE LIFE MASTER

*Jeanne S Baseman
Ruthie Neafach
Tammy C Tjader*

ALL IT TOOK WAS A LITTLE HARD WORK AND TALENT
CONGRATULATIONS!!

CONGRATULATIONS
FOR YOU ALL "PRACTICE MADE PERFECT"

PBA EVENTS 3-MONTH CALENDAR 2018

February

- 2 Unit Championship
- 9 Membership Game & PBA Board Meeting
- 16 Club Championship
- 23 Unit Championship Swiss Teams

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

INTERNET POST (cont.)

Phil Goulding: 2S This hand strains the light openers out there. Two spades is my bid, but with all of my partners we may get too high. 2S's is fourth suit forcing, not a natural responder revers (too bad). I think it is more important to get to the right strain and describe my hand accurately than to try to keep the bidding from going too high with a bid of 2NT and the hearts suit quality disqualifies a 3H bid. If partner responds to 2S with 3 hearts, life is grand, Otherwise I am probably going to bid out my hand with a 3S bid.

Ernie Retetagos: 3 Hearts. If partner is weak, we might not have a plus score beyond the level of 2 hearts. But even though it's matchpoints, it's still bridge. I owe it to my partner to invite when I hold invitational values. A bid of 2 NT would preclude any chance of playing this hand in hearts. 3 hearts looks funny with six small hearts, but it gives us a chance to play in 4 hearts or 3 NT if partner has extras.

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

Pittsburgh Bridge Association



Lesson from an Expert
Friday @ 6:15 PM

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



American Contract Bridge League

Partnerships:

Jane Marshall 412-371-4067
Partners@pittsburghbridge.org

Newcomers & 499ers:

Darlene Mannheimer
412-343-0419
499er@pittsburghbridge.org

Tournament Chairs:

Ron Franck 412-913-1505
Ken Bergman 724-713-3170
Spring18@pittsburghbridge.org

Director in Charge: Alex Bealles

Sanction # S1811054

Pairs Entries \$25 / pair

Open Swiss Teams \$100/team

499er Swiss \$ 88/team

All paying participants must be current or former ACBL members. 1-100 membership: \$7.99. Unpaid & former ACBL members \$3 additional per session.

*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

INTERNET POST

You are South. Matchpoints and both vulnerable.

You hold

S - A Q J 5 H - 9 8 7 6 4 3 D - 9 C - A 9

THE BIDDING IS:

SOUTH	WEST	NORTH	EAST
-----	-----	1D	PASS
1H	PASS	2C	PASS
?			

2 SPADES = GAME FORCE
WHAT CALL DO YOU MAKE?

Richard Katz : 2H I bid two non forcing hearts! Don't like pass, nor 2 n. t., this remains at low level and is a six card suit. My plan is to lead a trump every time I get in to try to lose only four trump tricks. Also remotely hope after two hearts, pass, pass, righty balances with two spades. Then I will volunteer taking righty on a Viking cruise.

PJ Prabhu: 2H. This should be a two-horse race between 2H and 2NT. Whenever partner has a minimum hand, my bid will likely end the auction. I believe 2H will lead to a plus score almost all the time and a higher plus score than 2NT much of the time. At match points, the frequency of higher plus score being more important than the size of the score, I select the 2H bid. At IMPs, I would bid 2NT which has a higher likelihood of reaching game even though we may go down (in 2NT or 3NT) some of the time. Please note that as little as Kx,Ax,xxxxx,KQxx will make 4H most of the time.

Gail Carns: 2NT I don't see a choice

Bernie Fudor : **2NT** This is a very tough hand and I have no good move. I bid 2NT.

Steve Nolan: 2H. Expecting this to be passed out and hoping it's the optimal spot.

Stan Ruskin 2NT This is a difficult one. If partner has a minimum, I don't think I want to be in game and I need to find out his distribution in D and C – he could be 5/4, 4/5 or 5/5 or even 6/5 which I will if I bid a non-forcing but invitational 2NT. He will probably pass or raise to 3NT if he is 4/5 or 5/4 depending on the strength of his opening bid and 3C of he is 5/5 or 3D if he is 6/4. Of course there are many other bids Also in this sequence but with a misfit, I don't this hand should force a game even if we are vulnerable.

Jane Marshall: 2S. Then my next bid is more hearts. I know that partner does not have 4 spades. Partner will know that I have 6 hearts. I have 11 hcp and 7 losers. Hopefully there is a game somewhere.

Bill Holt: 3H. Torn between that and 2NT but my shape won't play well facing partner's minors, so I will try to invite and hope I don't lose too many H tricks. If partner hates his hand for play in H we will play it there. Partner holding Ax in Hearts – or even Kx with the Ace onside will be helpful. I don't think I have enough to bid 2S if it is GF.

Chris Wang: 2H Seems like a misfit hand. I will underbid and bid 2 hearts, especially since the hearts suit is so bad. I don't think the hand is worth a game force, and don't want to bid 2NT, especially since the hand is so unbalanced and transportation is going to be an issue in a NT contract.

Craig Biddle: 2S -When in doubt, make the (slight) overbid that gets you to the best strain. Yes, partner has denied 4S. But bidding

Paul Caplan 2 hearts. get out fast in this misfit. you have invitational values but nowhere to play

Herb Sachs 2H; if partner bids two spades my next bid is easy; if partner bids 2N,3C or 3D I will bid 3S; I may have a great dummy for clubs and only time will tell.

Trudy Cohn: 2H Much as I hate to do this, I will rebid 2 hearts. If I bid spades we are committed to game. We would probably end up in NT and I have very bad fits for partner's suits

Asim Ulke I bid 2NT. 2H is an under bid. 2S is an over bid. H suit is not good enough to bid 3H. If partner repeats a minor, I bid 3H.

Bob Zimmermann: 2 hearts What a horrible situation. We have no fit, and no source of tricks. I can't see 9 tricks in no trump, certainly not 11 in a minor. So, I'll pretend I opened a weak 2 and partner passed with his 13 count. I'll pay off to [Kx xx Axxxx KQJx], but I'm guessing the low road will pay off in the long run. At IMPs, it's different story.

Jack Hawthorne: 2H: I realize that this call can be made with a significantly weaker hand, but it is certainly not worth a force to game in light of the probable misfit. And 3H is right on strength but I don't want to be playing at the 3-level in what could easily be a 6-1 "fit". If partner can bid something encouraging - a belated heart raise, perhaps - I will have to consider my wasted spade strength before continuing. If partner passes, we are probably high enough. Who knows? Maybe the opponents will balance with 2S. I know what I'll bid in that event.

HOW EXPERTS VOTED

Marty Bergen	2NT
David Berkowitz	2NT
Bart Bramley	2S
Drew Casen	2NT-
Larry Cohen	2NT
Billy Eisenberg	3H
Bjorn Fallenius	2NT
Fred Gitelman	2NT
Robb Gordon	2NT
Carl Hudecek	2S
Paul Ivaska	2S
Sami Kehiela	2S
Danny Kleinerman	2H
Eric Kokish	2NT
Erik Paulson	2H
Arthur Robinson	2S
Jeff Rubens	2H
Ira Rubin	2S
Barnet Shenkin	2H
Harry Steiner	2S
Frank Stewart	2S
Adam Wildavsky	2NT
Robert Wolff	2NT
Joel Wooldridge	3H
Kit Woolsey	2NT

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
2NT	11	4	100
2S	8	3	80
2H	4	9	60
3H	2	2	50

Pittsburgh Bridge Assoc FEBRUARY 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	1 MARCH	2		

FIRST AT THE POST

.70%+ GAMES

Prakash Shete & Jim Gump	71.67	Temple Emanuel	Wed
August Costanzo & Philip Goulding	71.76	Glenshaw	Wed
Kenneth Bergman & Henry Nelson	70.00	O'Hara	Tues
Don Wyke & Carol Pattison	71.32	South Hills NLM	Tues
Philip Goulding & Alan Leaver	71.43	Zelionople	Tues
Ernie Retetagos & Marcella Retetagos	72.32	Glenshaw	Sat
Glenda Gibb & Lois Marietti	70.83	Natrona Heights	Mon
Syed Ali & Asim Kokan	74.00	Rodef 299er	Mo
James Fox & Philip Goulding	74.40	O'Hara	Tues
Gerald Sandson & Lessa Finegold	73.96	Rodef	Wed

TWO IN A ROW

Arthur Henry	South Hills NLM	Tues	Marie Henry	South Hills NLM	Tues
Donald Averbach	Temple Emanuel	Wed	Carol Conaway	Edgeworth	Wed
Hugh McMaster	Edgeworth	Wed	Donald Averbach	Chartiers-Houston	Fri
Ethel Levine	Chartiers-Houston	Fri	Barbara Starr	Glenshaw 99er	Sat
David Collura	Whitehall	Mon	Barbara Belardi	Export	Mon
Trudy Cohn	O'Hara	Tues	James Quigley	Wilkins	Thurs
Jenny Janitor	Greensburg	Thurs	Martin Cohen	South Hills	Thurs
Sandra McCall	South Hills	Thurs			

CONGRATULATIONS

DIRECTORS: Send me your special game dates and I will advertise them for you.

Note that the list is cause there were so either because of the Please don't let that



small this month be- many games cancelled holidays, or the weather happen again.