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Chris Wang.....First At The Post

Unit 142 Pittsburgh, PA DECEMBER 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

For someone who knows very well which side her good snacks are “battered” on, I was more than a little upset when I realized I forgot to mention how wonderful the hospitality was at the Pro-Am game. Ruthie Neafach and June Threlkeld were the two that were responsible for the feast of delicious snacks and desserts we were treated to on that very special evening. Even more impressive was the fact that we have such respect for Ruthie and June, so many of our members were honored to participate in their endeavor by bring snacks. It was a great evening. It was great hospitality. I make it a point never to speak for other people, but in this case it’s easy to do: Thank you from us all.

I won’t make the same mistake again. If you were at the Fall Sectional, I don’t have to tell you how much we enjoyed - well, we enjoyed everything. Actually, I always thought Ron Franck, chairman of the event, was a star at bringing soda and setting up tables. I’ve been wrong before, but never this much. Ron ran a perfect Sectional. It went without a hitch. However, no one could do such a big job alone, and Ron was up to the task of choosing the best. As usual, Jane Marshall was there throughout the tournament making partnerships as perfectly as she always does. Darlene Mannheimer was there, as well, to take care of partnerships in her area of expertise. When it came to hospitality, Ron chose the best., Loreen Shafer and Karen McIwein. Those two really know how to throw a party. They certainly made one for us. To you all, we can never thank you enough for your hard work. Let’s not forget the other helpers who could still bend, carry, and straighten up. Thanks for being young enough and willing to help.

Lucky for us, the year isn’t quite over yet. There is still more to come. The STaC Games are about to begin January 3 - 9. In case any o you don’t know what STaC means, it is: Sectional Tournament at the Club Level. In other words, this is an event that awards silver points, which you are going to need to become a Life Master. Whenever possible, you can play in any of the games in Pittsburgh and win silver. Look at the game schedule and check it out. There are two special team games next week; one on Thursday and one on Sunday.

Well, we’re at the end of 2018 and looking forward to 2019. That’s hard to believe. There are some I would like to thank for all of their efforts in making the Post Mortem interesting, informative and relevant.

BILL HOLT- For sending me all of those professional-looking flyers that both inform and entertain our bridge community. Bill also posts the newsletter on our website each month, just in case our hard copies are sold out.

PHYLLIS GEINZER - Who is in charge of our “IN MEMORY” column. When times are slow, I try to encourage her to make some news, but so far she has refused. Oh well!!

CHRIS WANG- Without Chris, none of us would ever know who the brilliant players are each month. His computer skills are amazing and we all benefit from them.

Finally, I want to thank the 8 people who actually read the Post Mortem.

TO YOU ALL: Have a very happy and healthy new year and I look forward to seeing you at the bridge table.....arlene

THIS IS A GOOD THING TO DO.

GET SOMEONE INVOLVED. I never Told any this before, but the more you Teach someone how to do something the more expert you become at the Activity (I didn’t make that up)

Happy New Year!

MENTORS: KEEP THE GAME GROWING!  MENTEES: KEEP GROWING YOUR GAME!

PBA MENTORING PROGRAM

 

Here is the launch of our Mentoring program to help advancing players polish their game.

MENTORS: Love the game? Want to ensure its survival in the area? GET INVOLVED!!! Mentors will be able to select from the list of interested Mentees. Register at the website.

MENTEES: Desire to improve? Learn from the expertise of a more experienced player. Currently limited to those with <200 mps.

You don't have to be an expert to be a MENTOR. Not just beginners can be a MENTEE.

Register / Details at
www.pittsburghbridge.org/mentor

Fine Print: Play 5x in a 6-month period. Mentors succeeding in this will get one free play at a PBA Sectional (per Mentee). Mentor earns at most one free play per partnership. Renewable by mutual agreement. More details on the website.

PITTSBURGH FALL SECTIONAL

Fri. AM Strat. Open Pairs

A	B	C	Names
1			Gloria Moser - Mary Lou Naughton,
2	1		Dennis Pittman, Nancy Chak
3			Mary Paulone Carns - Gail Carns
	2		Joseph Secka Sr, Joseph Bernot
	3		Estill Duggins, Sidney Metzger
		1	Joann Szymecki - Rosanne Patterson
		2	Elaine Zweig - Neal Zweig
		3	Madeleine Frizzi - Karl Sokalski

Fri. AM. 499r Pairs

A	B	C	Names
1	1		Kenneth Stiger, Judy Lorigan
2	2		John Lesjack - Catherine Lesjack,
3/4			Arthur Henry - Marie Henry
3/4	3	1	Mary Kirsch - Kathleen Wycoff
		2	Dennis Kriek, Phyllis Mellor

Fri PM Swiss -

A	B	C	Names
1			Catherine Caplan - Paul Caplan, Ronald Franck - Jane Marshall,
2	1		Joseph Secka Sr - Bud McElhaney, Sandra McCall, Joseph Bernot
3	2	1	David Legal, Wilbur Moore Susan Israelson, Martin Kumer
		3	Donald Averbach - Ethel Levine Mahendra Patel Vin Mehta

Fri. Aft Open Pairs

A	B	C	Names
1	1		Estill Duggins, Sidney Metzger
2			Arlene Port - Judy Haffner
3			Jack Goodykoontz - Vicki Goodykoontz
	2/3		David Collura, James Gump
	2/3	1	Denise Dufour - Suzanne Morgan
		2	Russell Orkin, Istvan Bardi
		3	John Alioto, Jeanne Baseman

Fri. Aft. 499r Pairs

A	B	C	Names
1	1	1	Kathleen Wycoff - Mary Kirsch
2	2	2	David Niedfeldt, James Lauf
3	3	3	Bryan Dematt, Phyllis Mellor

Sat. Morn. Strat. Pairs

A	B	C	Names
1			Patricia Katz - Arlene Port
2			Reanette Frobouck - Trudy Cohn,
3			Craig Biddle, Barry Goulding
	1		Philip Goulding, Alan Leaver
	2		Gloria Moser, Robert Greco
	3	1	June Threlkeld, Mahendra Patel
		2/3	Karen McIlwain - Jeanne Baseman
		2/3	Russell Orkin, Istvan Bardi

Sat. Morn. 499r Pairs

A	B	C	Names
1	1	1	Cindy Lucas - Mary Anne Fenstermaker
2/3	2/3	2/3	John Spear - Errol Miller
2/3	2/3	2/3	Irv Liberman - Loreen Schafer

Sat. Aft. Open Pairs

A	B	C	Names
1			Robert Park, Patricia Anders
2/3	1	1	Leida Milazzo, Clyde Bruce Baldwin
2/3			Philip Goulding, Barry Goulding
	2	2	Martin Cohen - Bharat Shah
	3	3	Karl Sokalski - Arthur Henry

Saturday Aft 499 Pairs

A	B	C	Names
1	1		Allen Young - Ruth Ann Boyd
2			Nicholas Rescher - Richard Kotler
3	2	1	Marcia Taylor - John Burton
	3	2	Virginia Volponi Phyllis Mellor
		3	Celine O'Neill - Paul O'Neill

Sat Compact KO 1

Rank	Names
1	Mary Paulone Carns, Fred Schenker Asim Ulke, Bernard Fudor
2	Lorraine Hanna, Bob Heasley Dorothy Mehok, Marilyn Burke
3	Jack Goodykoontz - Vicki Goodykoontz, Robert Quinlan, Constance Hoehstetter

(Cont. On page 7.)

PITTSBURGH FALL SECTIONAL

(cont. from pg.3

Saturday Aft Swiss Team -

A	B	C	Names
1	1		Joseph Secka Sr, Bud McElhaney Joseph Bernot, Sandra McCall
2/3			Catherine Caplan, Paul Caplan Jack Hawthorne, Randy Pearson
2/3			Judy Haffner, Harold Haffner Arlene Port - Patricia Katz
	2		Leroy Hackenberg II, Angela Agnello David Livingston, Jenny Janitor
	3		Bruce Brennan - Kathleen Brennan Patricia Evans - Darlene Mannheimier
		1	Todd Hertzberg - Linda Fried Ildiko Baxter, Martin Greenberg

Sunday 499er Swiss Teams

A	B	C	Names	Score
1			Betty Weightman, Dustin Hoover Madeline Frizzi, Dianne Franjione	
2	1	1	Denise Dufour, Bunny Hoffman Suzanne Morgan, Steven Thomas	
3	2		Kenneth Stiger, Kathryn Rector David Allison, Juanita Allison	
	3	2	Annette Suher, Dev Meyers Jean Tuthill, Shyamali Mandiga	

Sunday Open Swiss Teams

A	B	C	Names
1			Mary Paulone Carns - Gail Carns Bernard Fudor, Ernie Retetagos
2			Fred Schenker, Dan Roseberry, Asim Ulke, Richard Katz
3			Harold Haffner - Judy Haffner Trudy Cohn Pat Katz, Arlene Port Christopher Wang - Russell Shel-
1			Ami Elis, John Doyal
2			Ernest Collins, Sarah Wozniak Kenneth Eichler, Arlene Jacobelli
3/4			Joseph Secka Sr - Bud McElhaney, Joseph Bernot, Sandra McCall
3/4			Donald Averbach - Ethel Levine Martin Cohen - Bharat Shah
	1		John Alioto, Jeanne Baseman Carol Stuart, Ruthie Neafach
	2		Bob Heasley - Hugh McMaster Rosanne Patterson - Gloria Hetzer
	3		Lois Porter, Gary Marcus

Sunday 499er Swiss Teams -

A	B	C	Names	Score
1	1		Sheila Brotherton, Margaret Ball Cindy Lucas - Mary Fenstermaker	
2	2	1	Denise Dufour - Paul O'Neill Steven Thomas - Bunny Hoffman	
	3		Nicholas Rescher - Richard Kotler, Carol and Richard Nathenson	
		3	Marian Smith, Inez Heal Susan Querin, Dianne Martin	

TOP 15 MASTERPOINT WINNERS

1.	30.27	Mary Paulone Carns,
2.	24.28	Asim Ulke,
3.	23.54	Bernard Fudor,
4.	22.48	Arlene Port,
5.	20.85	Fred Schenker
6.	19.12	Gail Carns
7.	19.05	Patricia Katz
8.	18.69	Judy Haffner
9.	15.97	Joseph Secka Sr
10.	15.97	Joseph Bernot
11.	15.50	Ernie Retetagos
12.	14.42	Gloria Moser
13.	13.72	Paul Caplan
14.	13.72	Catherine Caplan,
15.	13.36	Philip Goulding,

There were 232 payers who earned masterpoints at the sectional.

Above are the top 15 . So.....

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THOSE WHO PLAYED SO WELL AT OUR TOURNAMENT. YOU ALL DID A GREAT JOB.

UP THE LADDER POST

JUNIOR MASTER

*Josie Gibson
Alice Schmidt
Marcia Wolk*

CLUB MASTER

*Mary Anne Fenstemaker
James D Lauf
Lois A Singleton
Steven C Thomas*

SECTIONAL MASTER

Brenda S Donald

REGIONAL MASTER

Kathleen A Glassford

LIFE MASTER

Dustin M Hoover



BRONZE LIFE MASTER

*Randy Pearson
Karen Shipkovitz*

RUBY LIFE MASTER

James J Fox

RUBY LIFE MASTER

Ernie Retetagos

CONGRATULATIONS!!

I KNOW HOW DIFFICULT BRIDGE CAN BE AND HOW YOU WORKED SO HARD TO ACHIEVE YOUR SUCCESS.

JUST ONE QUESTION:

HOW IN THE WORLD DID YOU GET TO BE SO GOOD - WITHOUT ME? NEVERMIND - I KNOW - PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRACTICE!

BRIDGE BYTES

.....By Ernie Retetagos

It certainly does!!!

HAND EVALUATION

There are numerous methods that can be used to help evaluate a hand's strength. High card points are the best indicator for balanced hands in no trump contracts. The most popular is the 4-3-2-1 method, but there are others. When you add in distributional points for unbalanced hands, there are several ways to count points for long or short suits. Losing trick count is a method that works pretty well when there is a trump fit. The down side is that A x x, K x x, and Q x x are all two loser suits. Another popular method is total tricks, which works best in competition. Players will typically use a combination of these bidding tools to help determine the final contract. Sometimes you don't need these bidding gadgets, because you have enough information that you can just envision partner's hand and count your tricks.

At a club game, the field had trouble with the following hand. S- A x x x x H- --- D- A K x x x C- A x x. With neither side vulnerable, your partner surprises you by opening 2 spades in 1st seat. I would assume that partner has 6 spades headed by the King. Even if your opening 2 bids are undisciplined, card odds of 6 to 2 and the chance of a 1-1 split gives at least a 90 % chance of a no loser suit. Anytime partner has 3 hearts, you can count at least 12 tricks. With fewer than 3 hearts, partner might have 2 diamonds and the suit can probably be established for one or two extra winners. If partner has only one diamond, you would need a 4-3 split to establish an extra trick. If partner has 3 diamonds, the suit will probably provide at least one extra trick. The danger is that if partner has 3 small diamonds, and 2 clubs, and a club is led, you could lose a trick in each minor. When you add in the chance that partner might have a face card in one of the minors, it would take some very unlucky distribution not to have an excellent play for at least 12 tricks.

Once you decide that you are odds on for a slam, what should you bid? I can see a mild argument for a psych bid like 2NT or 3 clubs to give an opponent a chance to bid hearts and hopefully entice a favorable heart lead. I would just bid a strait forward 6 spades and be pretty surprised if it didn't make. Bidding gimmicks and the rule of this and that are numerical estimates to determine the value of your hand. There is no need to guess and play number games when you can envision partner's hand and place the contract accordingly. This time partner held S-K Q J x x x H- x x D- x x C- J 10 x. Even with the troublesome doubleton heart, a 4-2 diamond break held you to 12 tricks

Win Silver Points at your local club!
A STAaC Game is a Sectional Game held at many sites.
Your performance at your local club is compared
with other games - for a larger award

A: 2500+ B: 750 - 2500 C: 0 - 750 All Masterpoint Awards are Silver.

Check to make sure your club is participating at

www.d5bridge.com

STaC Team Game 7PM Snacking at 6:15

Glenshaw Valley Presbyterian Church*

We're at it again!!! Time to Snack Down!!!

Pot Luck! So bring a Favorite Dish!

NO SNACK? IT'S OK! COME ANYWAY! PLENTY FOOD!

Please coordinate snacks with Ron Franck

E-mail: 1812SNS@pittsburghbridge.org

Call or Text: 412-913-1505

Glenshaw Valley Presbyterian Church*

Continental Breakfast & Pizza Lunch!

Steelers play at night, you won't miss a thing!

\$100/team Reservations Requested

Call/Text Barb Belardi - 412-496-5895

or Cecilia Powell - 412-860-4445

E-mail: 1812SW@pittsburghbridge.org

***DIRECTIONS ON THE WEBSITE:**

www.pittsburghbridge.org.

N MEMORY

Our condolences to Toby Wolfe, whose husband, Joe, died in November. Aside from being a really nice person, Joe played bridge, mostly at Rodef Shalom, I believe. We wish Toby and her family happy memories of a wonderful life lived with her husband of 60+ years.

POST CARDS

Jean Picone!! Where are you? We are all wondering why Gus has such a long face. OK, I get it. You just wanted to see if anyone would miss you if you didn't come to the games. Well, You made your point!! Please start feeling better and come back to us soon. The place isn't the same without you. WE aren't the same without you.

Amy Lowenstein : Amy, you said you were just going into the hospital for a little surgery. Well, the surgery was a while ago and you're still not back yet. So, all I can say is: Please get better soon. We need you for our apartment bridge group game.

PBA EVENTS 3-MONTH CALENDAR 2018/2019

December

6 STaC Pairs - Special Thursday Game

7 STaC Pairs

9 Sunday STaC Swiss Teams (not held if there is a Steelers daytime game)

14 Unit Championship Swiss Teams

21 Unit Championship

28 Open Pairs

2019 Event Details

January

4 Unit Championship

11 No game—Cleveland Regional

18 Junior Fund Game

25 Unit Championship Swiss Teams

February

1 Unit Championship

8 Membership Game & PBA Board Meeting

15 Club Championship

22 Unit Championship Swiss Teams

INTERNET POST, CONT. from page 9

Trudy Cohn, I will **pass** in both situations. Surely I will have the opportunity to make a two suited bid at some point

Arlene Port: After looking at the answers by the "experts" in the book, the only thing I can offer in the way of a bid is that I will bid when it is my turn. What I will bid is a mystery to everyone reading this column and to me as well. I hope that half an answer is better than none?

Jack Hawthorne: A. **PASS.** I will probably have another chance to show my suits. B. Probably **PASS.** I might consider 2S, but it would be a "state of the match" decision.

INTERNET POST

You are South, Vul

S - Q J 10 8 7
 H - Q 2
 D - K J 10 9 6 5
 C - -----

THE BIDDING IS:

NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
 PASS PASS ? * What do you bid?

- A. WHAT DO YOU BID AT IMP'S? -
- B. WHAT DO YOU BID AT MATCHPOINTS?

Richard Katz 1D Losing count six. Two decent suits. I open one diamond imps/mp's. Not a surprise to make four spades opposite a passed hand. Why preempt ourselves?

Asim Ulke: I pass. If I open, I have to grossly overbid to get both suits in. I believe that West will open. I expect that the auction will go; club by West, pass by partner and 1 heart by east. Now I can bid 2 hearts to show spades and diamonds

Bernie Fudor: 2D)Tough problem. At Imps I bid 2 diamonds if no other reason than the lead. At mps I pass and take my chances that I can catch up later Happy Holidays

Paul Caplan: I would **pass** in both situations An opening bid promises some defensive values and this hand has none plus you can not show the distribution without showing more values than you have. It may be easier to bid your distribution on your next bid. opening this hand can lead to minus 800 fairly fast.

Steve Nolan .. IMPS: 2S. The more effective pre-empt. If the hand belongs to the opponents, they will already be in a game forcing sequence by the time I bid again, and my bid of 5D will make finding their best spot a guess. I prefer a weak two bid to a one bid because if I start at the one-level, I won't know what to do if partner later makes a penalty double. There's little chance of the bidding continuing all pass, so I'm not worried that we will miss a game of our own.

Bill Holt: Pass at either form. I have shape, but not Quick Tricks. On an opponent's 1c-1H sequence I can show this hand easily, letting partner have some input based upon our fit.

Bob Zimmerman, 2 spades. Nice problem. There is a slight chance I can steal the hand here, but far more likely the opponents will bid - and most likely they'll bid clubs. If I start with 2 diamonds, it will be harder to show my spades. So, I'll slightly mis-describe my shape to keep things a bit lower. I'll bid 3 diamonds over 2nt or 3 clubs. I'll pass any number of hearts.

Ernie Retetagos: One Diamond. I would bid one diamond at imps or matchpoints. Partner needs a spade fit and a red card to give us a shot at game. I don't want to take the chance that it might get passed out. The meaty spot cards make this look like a real opening bid.

Jane Marshall:. 1 Spade at IMPS and Matchpoints. 1 spade is more preemptive than 1diamond and makes it more difficult for the opponents to enter the auction. Partner can use Drury if he has a limit raise in spades.

Herb Sachs: 3D I have to bid something and this bid doesn't promise anything. It's a great playing hand and no defense. If I get a chance I will bid the spades If opponent bids 4H over my bid, I think I will continue bidding the spades.

Stanley Ruskin: 3D This is very difficult and I'm guessing that the bids will be all over the board. My bid in either imps or match points is 3D. My next bid will be 3S or 4S depending on where the opponents are. Of course there is a slight chance that I could be playing in 3D and that is OK too. I have no idea where this hand is going but by bidding 3D and then some number of spades, my partner should know that I'm probably 6/5 (maybe 7/5) with no defense so he can take whatever action he wants, depending on the opponents bids.

INTERNET POST RESULTS:

BID	Nat.	Pgh	Award
2D	8	1	100
1D	7	2	90
3D	4	2	80
1S	5	1	70
PASS	4	5	70
2S	0	2	20
ELSE	0	1	N/A

HOW EXPERTS VOTED

Michael Becker	1S
David Berkowitz	3D
Bart Bramley	1D
Richard Colker	1D
Phillippe Cronier	1S
Billy Eisenberg	2D
Dan Gerstman	1D
Carl Hudecek	3D
George Jacobs	2D
Sami Kehela	1D
Danny Kleinman	P
Eric Kokish	2D
Steve Landon	2D
Sidney Lazzard	2D
Robert Lipsitz	1S
Marshall Miles	3D
Barry Rigal	2D
Arthur Robinson	P
Andrew Robson	1D
Jeff Rubens	P
Joey Silver	P
Brad Theurer	1S
Chris Willenken	1D
Robert Wolff	3D
Kit Woolsey	1S
Zia	2D

Pittsburgh Bridge Assoc DECEMBER 2018

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						NOV 30 PBS HOLIDAY PARTY	<i>1</i>
2		3	4	5	6 STaC SP PAIRS GAME	7 PBA STaC PAIRS	8
9 SUNDAY AFT. STaC SWISS TEAMS -		<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14 PBA Unit Chmp Swiss Teams</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>16</i>		<i>17</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>21 PBA Open Pairs Chmp</i>	<i>22</i>
<i>23 30</i>		24 31 NEW 31 YEARS EVE	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28 PBA OPEN PRS</i>	<i>29</i>

FIRST AT THE POST

70 % Games

Madeleine Frizzi & Donald Averbach	77.50	South Hills	Thurs
Ronald Sain & Carol Stanick	73.81	Indiana	Tues
Estill Duggins & Donald Averbach	71.00	Whitehall	Mon
Leena Shete & Prakash Shete	70.83	Lebo	Fri

FIVE IN A ROW

Ernie Retetagos Glenshaw

Wed

THREE IN A ROW

Robert Quinlan	Temple Emanuel	Wed	Cecilia Powell	Greensburg	Thurs
Ronald Sain	Indiana	Tues	Marcella Retetagos	Glenshaw	Wed
Barbara Anderson	Woodridge	Mon	Grant Anderson	Woodridge	Mon

TWO IN A ROW

Raymond Kramer	Butler	Thurs	Harold Haffner	Wilkins	Fri-
Arlene Jacobelli	Greensburg	Fri	Barbara Belardi	O'Hara	Tues-
Bud McElhaney	Temple Emanuel	Wed	Sandra McCall	Temple Emanuel	Wed
Kenneth Eichler	Greensburg	Wed	Patricia Cunkelman	Greensburg	Thurs
Steve Eisner	South Hills NLM	Tues	Allen Harper	South Hills NLM	Tues
Martin Cohen	South Hills	Tues	Bharat Shah	South Hills	Tues
Judy Lorigan	Lebo	Fri	Betty Weightman	Lebo	Fri-
Mary Lou Flach	Glenshaw	Mon	Diane Franjione	Houston	Mon
Marlene Sienicki	Houston	Mon	Cleman Rosenberger Jr	O'Hara	Tues
Arlene Port	Rodef	Wed	Trudy Cohn	Rodef	Wed-
Lorraine Murphy	Wilkins	Fri	Arlene Port	Rodef	Mon
Judy Haffner	Rodef	Mon			

CONGRATULATIONS!!!