March 2018 Hand of the Month

Quirk DBC

Board 5
North Deals
N-S Vul

	♠ A ♥ A 9 ♦ Q 3 ♣ A K Q 8 7 6 5 4	
♠ K J 9 6 5 ♥ K Q 10 ♦ J 9 8 ♣ 10 3		♠ Q 10 8 7 4 ♥ J 8 7 6 4 ♦ 6 4 ♣ J
	♠ 3 2 ♥ 5 3 2 ♦ A K 10 7 5 2 ♣ 9 2	

NS 7N; NS 7♦; NS 7♣; EW 2♠; EW 1♥;
Par +2220

At the Quirk Center Open game on March 13 hand # 5 created a problem for all North/South players. The key to the hand is making the the correct response to a 2C opener.

North clearly has a 2C opener. It would be very rare for the North hand not to have 8 tricks in Clubs. However, the key bid is to be made by South.

Positive responses to a 2c opener are not usual but should be made when available. South has a 6 card suit headed by the Ace-King. If South makes this bid of 3D, North can count 13 tricks: 8 clubs,3 diamonds(since North knows this positive response must have 2 of the top 3 honors) and 2 Aces. The auction should go:

2C - P - 3D - P

7C (or 7NT - why not)

Slam was not reached at any table. If you have a positive response, be sure to make it!