

# March 2021

## Akron Unit 107 Bridge

### New Member (*Welcome*) and Up the Ladder (*Congratulations*)

- ♣ New Member – Donna Joseph
- ♣ Junior Master – Peggy Koblenzer
- ♣ Club Master – Tim Frosell



### Hand of the Month (*by Dick Early*)

On the January 21, 2021 evening game, hand # 6 was a problem for North. The auction was: **P - P - 2S - ?** Many North players merely bid 4H since they have 10 tricks themselves. If partner (South) has some "values", there may be more. Rather than bidding 4H, North should make a takeout double. So, the auction would go:

**P - P - 2S - X**  
**P - 4C - P - 4NT**  
**P - 5H - P - 7H (or 7NT)**

Dir: E	♠ A 3
Vul: E-W	♥ A K Q 8 6 5 4 2
19	♦ ----
8 3	♣ A Q 10
10	
♠ K J 9 8 4 2	♠ Q 10 6
♥ 10	♥ J 3
♦ Q J 9 6	♦ 10 8 7 5 3
♣ J 2	♣ 9 8 3
	♠ 7 5
	♥ 9 7
	♦ A K 4 2
	♣ K 7 6 5 4

When South jumps, they have a good hand responding to the double. 4NT is Key Card Blackwood for Clubs, and 5H by South says I have 2 Key Cards. That is all North needed for 13 tricks. The grand slam was bid only once. When you have a hand as good as North, do not give up.

### Get to Know Your Directors (*highlighting Cathy Taylor - in her own words*)

My mother, Mary, moved in with me from South Texas in 2006 following a stroke. She loved to play bridge! I quit work to take care of her and took some bridge lessons. I fell in love with the mechanics and learning of the game. Previously, I had been a math teacher while living in Louisiana. Combined with my love of teaching and new found love of bridge, I became certified through ACBL and Audrey Grant to teach bridge.

I remember my mom saying, "you should become a director". I told her never, ever! Don't ever say never! 😊 I took the director's test in 2016. Susan Manne and I began directing the Unit game on Fridays together that year. Don and Katie Moyer who owned Firestone on Monday nights were moving, so I purchased their games and began directing on Monday nights as well.



Since learning this game in 2006, I have become a Silver Life Master and am 40 colored points away from Ruby. I am still teaching and directing. The love of learning and the love of this game have brought me many new friends and great times!

### Tidbits

- ♣ Did you take advantage of the "**Educational Foundation Week**" which ran from Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup>? All the virtual games benefited the 'ACBL Educational Foundation', a nonprofit organization that supports and promotes bridge education and collaborates on programs with ACBL and ABTA. Receiving double black points was an added perk. (*Editor's note: ABTA is the American Bridge Teachers Assoc. I had never heard of it, but assume C. Taylor is a proud member.*)
- ♣ And now two silly Covid jokes; they made me giggle!
  - *My husband purchased a world map and then gave me a dart and said, "Throw this and wherever it lands—that's where I'm taking you when this pandemic ends." Turns out, we're spending two weeks behind the fridge.*
  - *This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house, told my dog—we laughed a lot.*

## From the Director's Desk



It's 2021 and online bridge is here to stay! Things are going really well, and I hope that we can only improve the experience for everyone! If you know someone who has not joined us and would like to, please try to help them or give them my number. I am always happy to help!

\*\*\* As in any game a director needs to respond to a table when there is a concern. Our method of communication is the chat. **Please, please** make sure you are watching the chat box and respond to the director. When playing in a live game, if a director was called to your table to help with a concern you would respond to the questions. It's the same here. If you do not respond and a ruling has to be made, the director has no choice but to err on the side of the pairs that will respond. You need to protect yourself by responding to the director! If you do not know where the chat box is or you are having trouble, please call me or any director! \*\*\*

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## From the President's Podium

### Good News about Saturday evening Bridge

Last month we inquired of our members to find if there was interest in playing a Single Session Swiss Team event; and I'm happy to tell you there is in fact interest. The good news is that starting on March 6, 2021 there will be a new time slot for our Saturday Bridge – 6:30 pm. We will change up the format a bit, by playing our regular pairs, open or limited, on each Saturday except the second one, and on March 13<sup>th</sup> and every second Saturday thereafter, we will host a Single Session Swiss Team event.



The game will be open to all in our group, and signing up is relatively easy as per the attached instructions. Just sign on to BBO as you do normally and invite your partner to play. Then you may invite another pair to play as your teammates or the system will match you and your teammate with another pair.

We decided that there is higher demand to play in our Club games at 6:30 pm and attendance at evening games supports that notion. Swiss Team Bridge is a fun variation and BBO now allows us to stay at home and play. We hope this offers you a greater opportunity to enjoy Bridge with your friends and frenemies.

Bob Ryan