



BARBARA & ALEX'S NEWSLETTER FALL 2012

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FUNDRAISING UPDATES

Patti Lee, Barbara Seagram & Enid Roitman would like to thank the whole bridge community of Toronto, surrounding areas and beyond, for their extreme generosity in our fundraising efforts for our **Cambodia projects** this year and last year. Last year, we raised over \$40,000.00 and were able to build a school & a library. We have since furnished three schools, financed electricity for one school, supplied clothing and school supplies and toothbrushes and toothpaste to many children. We are now working on sustaining programmes for all three schools and this year, to date, we have raised over \$32,000.00.

Recently, Enid Roitman ran a Cambodia fundraiser at Partners Bridge Club and that raised over \$5,000.00. It was a huge success. A special thank you to Enid who always goes the extra mile to help us in our endeavours. The Gravenhurst bridge community recently held a fundraiser also and that brought in over \$4,000.00. They also did an outstanding job.

In October, we held a fundraiser at Habonim for Laos. This was with the express purpose of collecting up some money to buy some water filters for the villages in outlying areas in Laos. We asked for \$2.00 per person which was optional. There were 23 tables present. Alex and Barbara promised to match the first \$2.00 per person so we expected to be able to purchase 4 or 5 water filters if we were lucky (They cost \$65.00 each and last 20 years at least.) When we tallied up at the end of the day, we had received donations totalling \$ 2,369.00, enough for 36 water filters!! We were thrilled with the response and with everyone's caring and empathy for the people of Laos. In total, we have raised \$3429.00 since March for Laos.

Steve Rutledge & Mike Yap (from Port Hope) are the volunteers who spend many months per year on the ground in Laos, building schools, putting clean water into villages and hospitals and providing latrines; educating the people about hygiene and sanitation all the while. Steve & Mike spoke at the fundraiser & taught us about Laos. It was most interesting.

For more information about Cambodia or Laos fundraising, please contact Barbara at bseagram@uniserve.com

SIGN ON BRIDGE CLUB BULLETIN BOARD

in Gravenhurst

Do for others with no desire of returned favours

We should plant trees we'll never sit under and plant flowers for others to enjoy.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

November, 2012

Please join us at this time and meet Lee Daugharty who will be taking over the bridge club from us at the end of November. He will work with Alex for the month of November to see how we do things. Lee is a terrific guy and we know you will really like him. He has the pre-requisite for all bridge club directors: a good sense of humour and a wonderful way with people. We hope you will show him your continued support as you have with us.



Alex will be running the game at Habonim on Tuesday and Wednesday 4th and 5th December to fill in for Lee and we plan to come back as often as possible to visit. Alex will give occasional pre-game tips & will sometimes run some of the games.

In the weeks leading up to this party, we will be taking up a collection for Emilie and Mary Ann, our wonderful Filipino gals who work on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons at our bridge club. Emilie and Mary Ann both used to work at the Sweet Gallery, where our school was situated, before it closed. They are excellent at Habonim in helping us.

Please note that the **Barbara Seagram School of Bridge is NOT closing**. It will continue on with classes & seminars on a regular basis. Josee Hammill and Barbara Seagram will be teaching there.

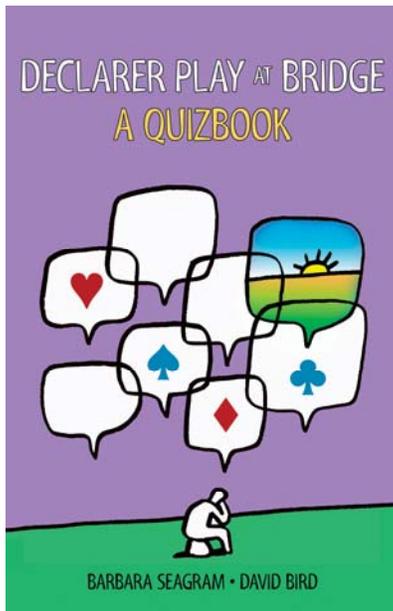
BARBARA'S NEW BOOK

Co-authored with David Bird

COMES OUT ON NOV 1st.

This book is very gentle and is written for less experienced players.

There are many, many practice hands within. The first page always has the problem hand and the second page has the solution.



**WATCH FOR THE
BOOK AT THE
BRIDGE CLUB & AT
OUR SCHOOL**

\$15.95 + tax = \$16.00

♠ A 8 2
♥ K 6 4
♦ Q 9 7 2
♣ 8 4 3

♠ Q J 10 6
♥ 10
♦ J 8 5 4
♣ A 10 9 6

♠ K 7 5 3
♥ J 9 2
♦ 10 6 3
♣ Q J 2

♠ 9 4
♥ A Q 8 7 5 3
♦ A K
♣ K 7 5

**SAMPLE
HAND FROM
BOOK**

West leads the ♠Q against your heart game and this is the loser position:

Losers: ♠ 1 ♥ 0 ♦ 0 ♣ 3 Total: 4

Leading towards the ♣K in the hope of avoiding a club loser will rely on luck. When the cards lie as in the diagram, West will win with the ♣A and you will go down. A better idea is to discard a black-suit loser on dummy's surplus diamond winner. How should the play go?

Suppose you win the spade lead and draw trumps in three rounds. You will not be able to score three diamond tricks. The diamond suit is 'blocked'. After playing the ♦A and ♦K, you would have no entry to dummy to reach the ♦Q. You should therefore look for a way of crossing to dummy after you have played the two diamond winners in your hand.

You must use the ♥K as an entry to the ♦Q. After winning the spade lead, you draw two rounds of trumps with the ace and queen (retaining dummy's king as an entry for later). Even though the trumps break 3-1 and there is still a trump out, you must then play the ♦A and ♦K.

Next you cross to dummy with the ♥K, drawing the last trump. You then play the ♦Q and discard a spade (or a club). With ten tricks assured, you can lead towards the ♣K to seek an overtrick. The king loses to the ace, but this is good news in a way. It means that your play of using the ♥K as an entry to take a discard was the only way to make the contract.

PLAN: I will win the spade lead and play the ace and queen of trumps. After playing the ♦A and ♦K, I will cross to the king of trumps to discard a loser on the ♦Q.

THE WRITER

A college class was told they had to write a short story in as few words as possible. The instructions were:

The short story had to contain the following three things:

1. Religion
2. Sexuality
3. Mystery

Below is the only A + short story in the entire class.

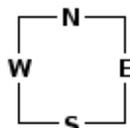
"Good God, I'm pregnant; I wonder who did it."

BRIDGE DETECTIVE – WHO’S GOT THE QUEEN? BY BARBARA SEAGRAM

Another hand to practise

North

♠ A42
♥ AKQ
♦ 765
♣ AJ42



South

♠ KQJ
♥ J42
♦ AJ
♣ KT753

South	West	North	East
1NT	3♦	6NT	Pass
Pass	Pass		

Opening lead: K♦

Here we are in 6NT. After the king of diamonds is led, declarer, with only one diamond stopper, is feeling somewhat nervous. She counts her sure winners and finds three spades, three hearts, one diamond and two sure club winners. She needs three more to make twelve tricks. She recognizes instantly that everything depends on locating the Q Clubs and getting three extra tricks in the club suit.

Short of peeking at the opponents' hands, what are her options? Does she simply finesse, praying and guessing all the while? Does she recite the nursery rhyme "Eight ever, nine never!" in the hope that the Q C will drop? Nursery rhymes work for children, but not always at the bridge table! Alternatively, since West preempted 3 D, he probably has a shortage in clubs. Should declarer therefore expect East to have C Qxx?

Perhaps there is something we can do to make guessing unnecessary. When faced with the possibility of a finesse, try to postpone that action until you have more information about the deal. After all, finesses work only 50% of the time... unless you live right!

You should plan to play the problem suit, clubs, last, and extract as much information as possible along the way.

After the lead of the K D, declarer should not win the first trick. There is absolutely no hope of scoring thirteen tricks on this hand (if you don't believe me, count again!). So South ducks Trick one (This is to enable her to get a better picture of the distribution of the hand. West continues with the Q D. East shows out and South wins the second trick.

Counting is arduous at any level. When counting out a hand, it is much easier to focus on one opponent, generally the one that has the known long suit. When East shows out in diamonds, declarer knows that West started life with seven diamonds. Declarer can focus all her attention on West from now on.

Declarer continues by playing three rounds of spades, a non-problem suit, noting that **West shows out on the third round**. Next she plays three rounds of hearts. **West shows out yet again on the third round**. Let's tally up the known cards to date: West started with seven diamonds, two spades and two hearts; ergo, he is marked with only two clubs. Since declarer and dummy have a total of nine clubs, we now know that Clubs are breaking 2-2. We can play the club suit with impunity, certain that the Q Clubs will fall under the ace-king. That ensures twelve tricks and the contract!

The whole deal:

	♠ A42	
	♥ AKQ	
	♦ 765	
	♣ AJ42	
♠ 108		♠ 87653
♥ 108		♥ 97653
♦ KQ109842		♦ 3
♣ Q6		♣ 98
	♠ KQJ	

♥ J42
♦ AJ
♣ K10753

BARBARA'S NEW CHEAT SHEET on DEFENCE

Available by Nov 1st at the club & at our School of Bridge



EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DEFENDING A
BRIDGE HAND.

"If you aren't in the proper contract, no matter how well you play, very often it won't help. I believe that in expert competition, you will find more excellent card players than excellent bidders."

Norman Kay

CAN YOU MAKE A TRIP TO THE DOLLAR STORE?

If you are able to bring us some toothbrushes and toothpaste (ask your dentist to donate these?), we would be so grateful. Also exercise books, kids' small books, stickers, pens, pencils, **GOOD** used children's clothes, educational materials, inflatable globes of the world. Patti & Barbara would be thrilled to receive these. Barbara is going to Cambodia & Laos in March 2013 & will take these. We also have other volunteers going in January who can transport these much needed items. Liquids are more of a challenge to carry so those are not preferred.

Lice combs are needed as are flash drives (memory sticks as some call them). Used digital cameras would be extremely welcome. If you have an old laptop or notebook computer, in working order, that would be put to very good use in our schools.

MEET LINDA TYNDALL

Linda Tyndal has been one of my students for a few years. She is an inspiration. In 2008, she climbed Mount Kilimanjaro for her 65th birthday. In 2010, she trekked the Inca Trail to Machu Picchu and now at age 69, she is climbing to Mount Everest Base Camp. She is the second oldest in the group. Her friend, Nicole Mills is 71 years old. We asked her to tell us more about her upcoming trip. If you want more information about her efforts, contact her at lindatyndal@gmail.com

"On October 19th. I leave as part of a group of twelve Canadian women, dubbed "Everest Eves" to trek to Mount Everest Base Camp in Nepal. Sherpas are leading us there for 16 days in the Khumbu Valley, close to the Tibetan border. We decided to turn this challenge into a worthwhile endeavour, and, to date, have raised about \$22,000 (surpassing our goal) for girls' washroom facilities for the new (and only) high school within the Sherpa community to be opened around September 2013.

Even though Everest Base Camp was not on my bucket list, my interest in other cultures is. I feel fortunate to have this opportunity to experience the beauty of the Himalayas & the Sherpa community in the companionship of exceptional women."

Linda

PS. "I will be taking cards as I've found 3 other women who play bridge. Imagine, bridge at 18,000 + feet. Not so sure how well the bidding will be at that altitude! " (Ed. note: *Probably too high!*)

HOW SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE START THEIR MORNINGS

"A successful man is one who can lay a firm foundation with the bricks others have thrown at him." -David Brinkley

The day may have 24 hours of equivalent length but every hour is not created equal. Beginning the day with a purpose and a plan increases your chances of success. *...(just like making a plan at the beginning of a bridge hand!)*

In her book "What the Most Successful People Do Before Breakfast", Laura Vanderkam writes, "Seizing your mornings is the equivalent of that sound financial advice to pay yourself first. If you wait until the end of the month to save what you have left, there will be nothing left over. Likewise, if you wait until the end of the day to do meaningful but not urgent things like exercise, pray, read, ponder how to advance your career or grow your organization, or truly give your family your best, it probably won't happen."