

## Esther "Pop" Quiz #0096: "Asking for Aces Using the Gerber Convention"

Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen<sup>1</sup>

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Board #15

Knoxville 499er 10/03/24

DLR: **SOUTH**

Vul: **N/S**

WEST (19)

**S:** A J 3

**H:** Q T 8 3

**D:** K Q 2

**C:** A K 4

EAST (12)

**S:** K Q 5

**H:** K 2

**D:** J 7 6

**C:** Q J T 6 2

### Bidding

SOUTH

PASS

PASS

PASS

WEST

2**NT**

4**S**

PASS

NORTH

PASS

PASS

PASS

EAST

4**C**

4**NT**

WEST opens 2**NT** 1 HCP "light". This is OK as long as it not done very often. But bidding **NT** "light" is hazardous because "Points are for **NT**", even though "Points Schmoints!" and not HCPs are for Suit contracts.

EAST's 4**C** response bid is the "**Gerber Convention**" asking Partner for a count of Aces where the responses are (1) 2**D** = 0 or 4, (2) 2**H** = 1, (3) 2**S** = 2, (3) 2**NT** = 3. A "jump" to 4**C** when Partner's 1<sup>st</sup> or last bid was a **NT** bid is always "Gerber". Some Partnerships also play 4**C** as Gerber in certain Suit contract bidding sequences.

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<sup>1</sup> As noted in an article in the Winter/Spring, 2024 article in The American Bridge Teachers' Association (ABTA) Journal, [https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/ABTA\\_1\\_24.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/pdf/ABTA_1_24.pdf), Esther Klinktoast-Houstonhousen in fact is a hypothetical, and not a real person! So this article was really, really written by Bruce Thompson.

*Gerber is a contract bridge convention devised by William Konigsberger and Win Nye from Switzerland who published it in 1936; John Gerber of Texas introduced it to North America in 1938 where it was named after him.<sup>2</sup>*

1. Does EAST's Hand meet the **requirements** that make "asking for Aces" using the Gerber Convention appropriate?

To see Esther's **suggested answer**, CLICK:  
[https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0096\\_a1.pdf](https://esther-bridge.com/quiz/q0096_a1.pdf)

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<sup>2</sup> This quotation is from the Wikipedia article, "**Gerber Convention**":  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gerber\\_convention](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gerber_convention)