

S A Q J 7
H A J 3
D K Q 8 5
C 5 3

S 8 5 3
H 10 9 6
D A 4
C A K 10 9 2

S K 9 6
H 8 2
D J 9 7 6 3 2
C J 6

S 10 4 2
H K Q 7 5 4
D 10
C Q 8 7 2

West	North	East	South
1 C	Dbl	Pass	1 H
Pass	2 H	Pass	4 H

Opening lead: **CA**

Question often asked: “What do you need to raise partner’s suit after you’ve made a takeout double?” And Steve Phelps (North) had exactly what it takes to raise my forced 1**H** bid even to 2**H**. Knowing he was promising at least 17 support point, 4**H** seemed just right to me.

Peggy Lucke started with 3 clubs, and I trumped the third one high in dummy. Then pulled trump ending in my hand. Counting on the likelihood of West having the **SK**, I led the **S10** to Julie Evans’ **SK** and quickly went down. Only later did I realize how silly that was. I had enough entries to try both the diamond and the spade finesses. All I had to do was first lead a diamond. If West goes high, my two losing spades can go on dummies diamonds. And if the diamond finesse loses, I can easily still do the spade finesse. Two chances are better than one!