





Dear Friends and Bridge Family,

Happy Holidays! During this time of thanksgiving and giving, I am again asking everyone to consider donating to PALSS - Palmetto AIDS Life Support Services. The Columbia Bridge Club members and Unit 160 have been supporting this organization for the past six years now and we are continuing the tradition.

PALSS serves all of South Carolina and provides services and support to individuals, families, children, and caregivers affected by HIV and AIDS. With December not only being the time for giving but also HIV/AIDS Awareness and Prevention month, it is the perfect time to donate to this wonderful cause.

Services that PALSS provides includes:

- Affordable medical treatment for individuals (free up to \$15)
- HIV and STI testing, treatment, prevention, and education
- Transportation for individuals in need
- Rent and Housing assistance
- Support groups for individuals and families



affected by HIV/AIDS

- A men's clinic
- A women's clinic
- A Food Pantry for individuals in need
- Community outreach homeless shelters, colleges and universities, community events, etc.
- And so much more! See www.palss.org for more info.

I have been volunteering with them for the past two years, and I cannot tell you the positive impact they have on the community. I've personally worked with sexual assault victims from Charleston, Orangeburg, and Florence that drove here for the \$15 treatment and testing because everything in their area would cost \$500+ dollars. They've helped people from other states that have moved here find housing and treatment options that they can afford. They've worked with veterans, enlisted members, community members, and so many others. I cannot express how much good they do.

Unit 160 has again pledged a matching donation of up to \$500. I know that we can reach that and hopefully so much more.

Last year our donations went to subsidize the cost of testing and treatment for sexaul assualt victims. Due to the generosity of our bridge family, not one sexaul assault vicitm had to pay anything for testing or treatment. This includes any mental health as well as physical health treatment that they received at PALSS.

As for the details, you can donate however you want. I am collecting the donations through DECEMBER 31. You can drop your donation off to the Columbia Bridge Club and give it to the director, mail a check to me, or send a donation electronically. Please let me know if you need a receipt for tax purposes, and I will get that to you early in January. Checks can be made out to me or to PALSS directly - whatever works best for you. I will give them the donation on January 5th and all tax receipts will be dated for December 2021.

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Thank you for your support!



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HOLIDAY PARTY!

What a wonderful sight to welcome some of our players we have not seen since Covid! We hope you will come back and see us. A special thank you to Janet Sheridan who worked so hard to make our party such a festive and delicious affair. Also, Thanks to all who brought food, Sally McCardle, Fran Potter, Ellis and Laura, Shelby King, Melissa Meadows, Ginny Chinelli, Melinda, Judy Rockwell, Lee Webb and anyone else I have failed to mention.

All you birthday babies that came to the party, if you have not already, may collect a free play this month at one of our games!



A FEW WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT:

I am happy to report...we had a fantastic Holiday/Birthday Party on Friday, December 9. We had 16 tables (64 players) in addition to a few members who came early to socialize and enjoy the amazing food that abounded! I have heard so many wonderful comments—I had a great time; and it seems that everyone else did, too! Thanks to all who helped...together, we can move mountains! Have you heard??? Beginning in January we are planning for a Team Game on the 3rd Thursday of each month...5:30 pm potluck supper/6:30 game start. How deliciously exciting is that! Start working on forming a team now...January 19 will be here soon!

Supervised play will be taking a break—please check the schedule on CBC's website...resuming in the New Year. Share this info with a friend; encourage them to attend these Saturday morning sessions. Live play with someone there to help players who have a question during play—great way to learn! I want to send each and every one of you warm holiday greetings. Regardless of the specific holiday that you celebrate, I wish you a joyous season! For me, it's "Merry Christmas"! To all of us... Happy New Year! Best wishes for a happy, healthy prosperous 2023. I hope I see you soon and often at the Columbia Bridge Club!











Future Life Master at CBC: February 3 and 4, 2023! GNT Qualifier February 2!



Have a safe and glorious holiday with friends and family. See you in 2023 at CBC.







