

The Bright Leaf *ALERT!*

Official publication of Unit 191 of the American Contract Bridge League May, 2009

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

It's a pleasure to welcome back several of our "Snowbirders" who retreat to warmer climates during the winter. **Laura Lind** has returned from Stuart, Florida, **Kay Murray** is back from Fort Pierce, Florida, and **Opal** and **Harry Quinter** have made an even longer trip from Palm Springs, California. We're glad to have you back and look forward to seeing you at the table.

A dozen of our members moved up in rank during April -- **John Kay, Laura Preston, Michael Schlessinger** and **Adair Wiess** to Junior Master, **Maria (Ietje) Dugard** and **Barbara Schmidt** to Club Master, **Barbara Haskell** to Sectional Master, **Stanca Ciupe** to Regional Master, **Rosa Lin** to Life Master, **Donna Walther** to Bronze Life Master, **Jim Cunningham** to Silver Life Master, and **Josef Blass** to Gold Life Master. We're very proud of your accomplishments.

Our current active Unit membership is 491, down 3 from last month and down 4 from this time last year.

I've had several questions about what appears to be a delay in reporting rank changes. There usually is a two-month delay in my getting notification from ACBL. Some part of this has to do with the schedule for our clubs reporting master points earnings to ACBL -- their deadline for reporting points for a given month is the 10th of the next month. Let's say you're a Club Master (20 to under 50 master points) and ar-

rive at the Bridge Center on Tuesday afternoon, 5 May for the 199er game. You have to your credit and on ACBL's records 49.81 master points of which at least 5 are silver points which qualify you to move to Sectional Master when you reach the 50-point mark. That afternoon in a 12-table game you place and earn an award of 0.59. That bumps your master point total up to 50.40 but that award and any others won in club games for the month of May won't be reported to ACBL until 10 June and won't appear in my ACBL report until 1 July. I'm certain there's a similar delay in recording points for tournaments and other special events.

Harrison Brooke
Membership Chair

PROMOTING SECTIONAL

If any members will be attending the following tournaments in May and June, please bring along a handful of fliers to help advertise our unit sectional. The following sites are hosting events:

Morganton, NC May 1-3
Highlands, NC May 8-10
Greensboro, NC May 15-17
Charlotte, NC May 28-31
Raleigh, NC June 4-7
Greenville, SC June 8-14
Asheville, NC June 26-28

Ron Adams

NEW UNIT WEBSITE

The Board is hoping to improve its means of communication to all members via the Internet. Our current website has become cumbersome to maintain and expensive to operate. The proposed new site will position Unit 191 to be able to take advantage of future changes in technology, allow us to communicate with members on a more timely basis, continue to provide timely results for all games, and will be cheaper to operate.

Over the next several weeks we will begin testing the website. The testing is focused on three areas:

1. ensuring that game results can be posted by all directors
2. allowing all members to become familiar with the new design and navigation
3. allowing suggestions for change prior to implementation

The test site can be found using this URL:

<http://unit191.tomkins.net/> The site now contains test results for a Monday 1PM game. As the directors begin posting test results, you will notice additional game result categories appearing in the list. We will advise you when we are ready to cut over to the new site. In the meantime, feel free to explore the site and offer suggestions for improvement.

Ron Adams

SPECIAL GAMES IN MAY

Sunday	5/17	2:00	OPEN PAIRS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	Bridge Center
Monday	5/11	1:00	OPEN PAIRS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	Bridge Center
Tuesday	5/26	7:00	EASYBRIDGE! POT LUCK	Bridge Center
Wednesday	5/6	10:30	CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	@Bridge Center
Wednesday	5/13	10:30	CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	@Bridge Center
Wednesday	5/20	10:30	CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	@Bridge Center
Wednesday	5/27	10:30	CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	@Bridge Center
Wednesday	5/6	7:00	OPEN PAIRS JUNIOR FUND	Bridge Center*
Wednesday	5/13	7:00	SWISS TEAMS CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	Bridge Center*
Wednesday	5/20	7:00	OPEN PAIRS EDUCATION FUND	Bridge Center*
Wednesday	5/27	7:00	OPEN PAIRS JUNIOR FUND	Bridge Center*
Thursday	5/7	9:30	NLM CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	Thurs. NLM*
Thursday	5/21	9:30	NLM CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	Thurs. NLM*
Thursday	5/7	7:00	OPEN PAIRS JUNIOR FUND \$5	Bridge Center
Thursday	5/14	7:00	OPEN PAIRS CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	Bridge Center
Thursday	5/21	7:00	OPEN PAIRS JUNIOR FUND \$5	Bridge Center
Thursday	5/28	7:00	OPEN PAIRS JUNIOR FUND \$5	Bridge Center
Friday	5/1	1:00	BOTTOMLESS PAIRS JUNIOR FUND \$5	Bridge Center
Friday	5/8	1:00	BOTTOMLESS PAIRS JUNIOR FUND \$5	Bridge Center
Friday	5/15	1:00	BOTTOMLESS PAIRS JUNIOR FUND \$5	Bridge Center
Friday	5/22	1:00	BOTTOMLESS PAIRS JUNIOR FUND \$5	Bridge Center
Friday	5/29	1:00	BOTTOMLESS PAIRS JUNIOR FUND \$5	Bridge Center
Friday	5/1	1:15	CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	CH Senior Center
Friday	5/8	1:15	CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	CH Senior Center
Friday	5/15	1:15	CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	CH Senior Center
Friday	5/22	1:15	CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	CH Senior Center
Friday	5/29	1:15	CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	CH Senior Center
Saturday	5/9	9:30	0-1000 CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	Weekenders*
Saturday	5/23	9:30	0-1000 CHARITY CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP	Weekenders*

****Thursday Morn. NLM, Triangle BC, Weekenders and Durham BC games at the Bridge Center.**

HELP WANTED

We need volunteers to help with the set up and removal of the card tables at the July sectional. We also need a pick-up truck for use on Friday morning and Sunday evening. Please contact **Ron Adams** or **Grada Arble**, if you are able to help out with either.

MASTERPOINT WINNERS BY RANK April 2009
(Members Only)
(INCLUDES ONLY CLUB GAMES)

APRIL	ROOKIES 0-5 MASTERPOINTS		YTD	
	Susannah Small	3.46	Mike Schlessinger*	7.68
	Laura Preston*	1.93	Laura Preston*	6.46
	Fay Beth Wedig	1.52	Susannah Small	3.46
	Beth Trimm	1.00	Anne McJilton	3.42
	Adair Wiess	0.64	Fay Beth Wedig	3.19
APRIL	JUNIOR MASTERS 5-20 MASTERPOINTS		YTD	
	Ietje Dugard*	4.74	Ietje Dugard*	14.37
	Pat Spivey*	3.19	Pat Spivey*	9.93
	Deanna Larus*	2.65	Deanna Larus*	9.50
	Deborah Shenk*	2.46	Deborah Shenk*	8.16
	Carole Hamilton*	2.32	Ingrid Parish	6.08
APRIL	CLUB MASTERS 20-50 MASTERPOINTS		YTD	
	Barbara Haskell*	8.52	Barbara Haskell*	28.61
	Doris Elkin*	8.16	Doris Elkin*	20.42
	Fred Hill	4.65	Leonard Beeghley	12.30
	Joan Angevine	4.37	Carol Schachner*	10.96
	Bob Little	3.15	Ray McEntee*	9.83
APRIL	SECTIONAL MASTERS 50-100 MASTERPOINTS		YTD	
	Eliot Cramer	8.10	Eliot Cramer	22.23
	Gary Zadjeika	6.92	Stirling Haig	19.64
	Ian Cloudsdale	6.54	Charles Hesner	16.05
	Bud Koepke	6.30	Bud Koepke	15.14
	Connie Namm	5.90	Annette Levine	13.81
APRIL	REGIONAL MASTERS 100-200 MASTERPOINTS		YTD	
	Joanne Koepke	13.50	Joanne Koepke	34.11
	Ira Vendig	7.40	Pat Catalina	22.63
	Helen Moon	6.67	Ira Vendig	22.04
	Carol Wilcox	6.56	Helen Moon	19.87
	Mary Newman	6.02	Mary Newman	19.41
APRIL	NABC MASTER 200 TO LIFE MASTER		YTD	
	Rosa Lin*	8.81	{Helen Halsey	31.42
	Ron Adams	7.09	{Ruth Stewart	31.42
	Kay Gruninger	6.50	Kay Richardson	25.82
	Audrey Crosby	6.40	Rosa Lin*	23.50
	{Helen Halsey	5.71	Ron Adams	22.55
	{Ruth Stewart	5.71		
APRIL	LIFE MASTERS UNDER 1,000 POINTS		YTD	
	Henry Meguid*	28.00	Henry Meguid*	89.46
	Jim Bean	20.82	Jim Bean	64.07
	Donna Walther*	19.71	Nancy Young	62.07
	Paul Morrisette	16.92	Donna Walther*	57.27
	Betsy Schopler*	14.42	Jim Cunningham*	49.99
APRIL	LIFE MASTERS OVER 1,000 POINTS		YTD	
	Irene Adams	31.87	Irene Adams	75.61
	Ruth Moleski	14.85	Sandy McCay	64.94
	Vanessa O'Callaghan	14.77	Bud Stuart	60.63
	Bud Stuart	11.93	Vanessa O'Callaghan	43.39
	Maggie Lindquist	9.67	Ruth Moleski	40.29

*One Rank Change

** Two Rank Changes

MYSTERY

Ever since I became a bridge director something has mystified me: Why do bridge players of all levels of expertise S_L_O_W D_O_W_N when they realize they might be behind the rest of the game? There seems to be no sense of urgency to catch up and move on.

I once stood behind a Life Master who was two minutes into the next round with the pair following her standing by. As a defender, she had five cards left in her hand—the high card was an eight. By my watch, she took 30 seconds to decide to throw away the 2 or 3 of hearts!

The next time you find yourself still holding cards when the new round is called, please observe carefully to see if your whole table is infected with this syndrome. By that late in the hand, you shouldn't still be trying to figure out whether the queen of trump is to your left or right.

If you can pick up the pace and finish the hand without falling into this mode, you will make this director and the folks waiting to join the table much happier.

Thanks!

Bob Boggs

UNIT 191

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