

Bright Leaf **ALERT!**

Official publication of Unit 191 of the American Contract Bridge League, January 2010

Happy New Year Everyone!

At the last Board Meeting of the old year, we welcomed newly elected Board members Marty Demko and Maggie Lindquist, as well as re-elected Board member Paul Kobrin. Retiring Board members were Kay Gruninger and M.J. Weeks. We thank both of them for their years of service and the great work they did for our Unit.

2010 Officers of the Board are:

Sigrid Olin, President; Harrison Brooke, Vice President and Membership Chair; Patsy Whitehurst, Secretary; Paul Kobrin, Treasurer.

Returning Board members are: Ron Adams, Grada Arble, Bob Boggs, Edy Bulthuis, Ken Dye, and Stirling Haig. You can find a complete listing of all Board members on the Unit 191 website www.unit191bridge.org/ under "Governance", along with their contact information and their functions for this year.

One further item discussed was the Holiday Gala. The Board thanked Grada for her great job organizing our annual event at the Sheraton, and voted to continue holding it there next December. Grada will again chair this event, and is presently negotiating with the Sheraton to reserve the date.

The other exciting news for our Unit in the new year is the impending opening of Jay and Darleen's Triangle Bridge Club in Parkwood. Expected to open in

February, the new facility will give members of our growing and active Unit another venue to play the game we all love. Please look elsewhere in this newsletter for more information on what will be offered. We plan to post all available information on the website. We also hope to hold our annual tournaments – both the July Sectional and the October NLM tournament, at the large new facility. Ron Adams will chair the Sectional again; Paul Morrissette will chair the NLM. In terms of tournament starting times (a problem at both the Senior Center and the High School), this will make things much easier for the organizers, since we will be able to set up and start in a timely fashion.

For many years now, our Unit has been able to enjoy the luxury of a readily available and comfortable Bridge Center. Thanks to Bob Boggs, local Directors always had a venue to direct games, teachers a place to teach, and players could enjoy the game. Board members' nagging fear over the years always was: what would happen if for some reason that facility is no longer available. We have over 480 members, and the primary objective of our Unit Board is to "stimulate interest in duplicate bridge". That is much easier to do if multiple venues are available. We are delighted that an additional facility will now be available to our members, and we wish Jay and Darleen success with the new venture.

Sigrid Olin, President

Durham Bridge Club News

The Durham Bridge Club has been in existence for over 45 years. The latest local Wednesday games have been directed by John Torrey, who also served as the Club Manager. At the December 2 annual meeting John announced that he would be directing at the Triangle Bridge Center on Wednesdays when the new center opened. He agreed to continue directing the current 10:30 game until the opening.

The Durham Bridge Club voted to remain at the current Bridge Center on Wednesdays after the Triangle Bridge Center opens and play would commence at 9:30. This would allow those that wished to play in the afternoon game adequate time to play in both games. Bob Boggs will be directing the 9:30 game.

The Board held elections and Jim Hansell was elected President; Sarah Jones-Chambers, Vice-President; and Peggy Barbee Treasurer and Club Manager.

Honoring Members Who Died in 2009

Kathy Aldridge

Jeff Cartier

John Earnhardt

Mark Estill

Anne McJilton

Dorothy Minsley

Joan Sickmond

Peggy Stokes

Membership Hits 500 Mark!

Santa Claus blessed our Unit with a number of new members during the last two months of calendar 2009 bringing the total to 505. In November we were joined by **Gee Barger, David Bartholomew, Janelle Werner and Charles Yu**, all Durham residents. The first three of them came up through the fall Easy-Bridge! program now handled so ably by **Maggie Lindquist**. We bid welcome to that group as well as to **Betty Adams** who transferred from Little Rock AR and now resides in Hillsborough. She has the distinction of moving into the #1 spot on our membership aloha list, ending the long reign of **Fred Adams**, Irene's husband.

December brought us 14 (**yes 14**!) new members which I think must be a record. Looking back over the past three years, the previous high was 6 reached in August 2007 and again in March last year. Of the 14, 6 came via the EasyBridge! program - **Karen Curtin, Nora and Paul Rohde** of Chapel Hill, and **Pat Canada, Gayle Davis and Bogdon Romanescu** of Durham. Also in the 14 are **Jim Wells** of Carrboro, **Lida Fay** of Chapel Hill, **Phyllis Fuller** and **Ann McCaffrey** of Durham, **Dick Cashwell** and **Pearl-Ann** and **Donald Matt** of Pittsboro, and **Barbara Tuck** of Roxboro. We're delighted to have all of you with us in our bridge family.

Advancing in rank during November were **Jay Cooper, Clay Hamner, Dave Streifford** and **Lila Wolff** who moved to Junior Master, **Ingrid Parish** now a Club Master, **Donna** and **Earl Helms** moving together to Sectional Master, **Elliot Crame** now a Regional Master, **Frank Hund** our newst Life Master, **Sigrid Olin** up to Bronze Life Master, and **Steve Barsby** rising to Silver Life Master. In December **Edna Mason** and **Charles Yu** (who joined us in November) moved up to Junior Master, **Gordon Barg** and **Pattie Macon** climbed to Club Master, and **Tim Kinnamon** advanced to Regional Master. Congratulations to all !!

As of 1 December our total membe

rship stood at 489 and rose to 505 by year end. Previous highs were 502 in September 2007 and November 2008, 503 in December 2007 and 509 in November 2007.

Harrison Brooke

REPORT TO ANNUAL MEETING

December 6, 2009

This will be the first full year reported on a November 30 year end which, as reported last year, enables us to show Gala income and expense all in one period. Accordingly the Gala figures shown in this report are for the 2008 event.

For the 12 months ended November 30, our income exceeded expenditures by \$2,394. This is an improvement over the previous comparable period largely due to a Sectional gain of \$1,864 versus the prior period loss of \$2,742. Change of venue created this turnaround.

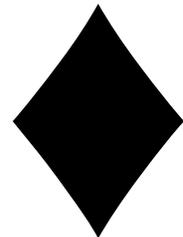
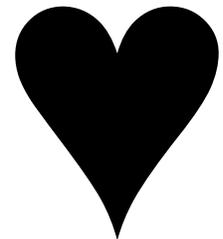
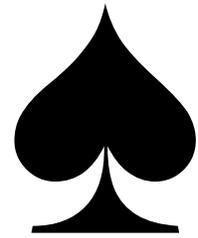
For the 12 month period our income from interest, events and reimbursements was \$3,659 so when operating expenses (awards & plaques, directory, Alert, website, mentoring program, etc.) of \$1,266 is deducted the result is the increase of \$2,394.

Adjusting for Gala deposits our cash at November 30, was \$15,385 versus \$13,393 at the same time last year.

Thanks are due to Joanna Pagano who reviewed the books for the prior accounting period.

Accompanying this report are a Balance Sheet and an Income and Expense Statement. Copies are available for those of you who are interested.

Paul Kobrin, Treasurer Unit 191
12-06-09



Triangle Bridge Club Has New Venue

The Triangle Bridge Club would like to announce the opening of our full-time facility on February 1, 2010.

We have room for a large game and up to two smaller events, whether lessons or a limited masterpoint game. Based on feed-back from our players, we have decided to make all games extra point games, use pre-duplicated boards with hand records and provide many snacks. We will be moving our Wednesday evening, Thursday morning and

Saturday morning games to the new location and offer the schedule shown below.

Partners are guaranteed for Tuesday and Wednesday night games, all daytime open games, and Thursday and Saturday limited games (but if you end up playing with the director, you can't get masterpoints BUT we will not charge you to play.

The Monday Beginner lessons will start on 2/1/10 and the Wednesday EasyBridge! will start a little later - probably March, maybe after Gatlin

burg Regional.

We are located at 5110 Revere Rd, Durham, NC 27713

Phone is not running, yet, so for now call Jay or Darleen on their cell phones with questions: 815-2085 Jay; 924-1187 Darleen

We hope to expand with more lessons and games as the game we all love grows in the Triangle.

Darleen and Jay Bates
Triangle Bridge Club
Durham, NC

Directions

Google maps:

[:http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=5110+Revere+Rd,+Durham,+NC+27713](http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&source=s_q&hl=en&geocode=&q=5110+Revere+Rd,+Durham,+NC+27713)

Mapquest: http://www.mapquest.com/mq/1-mfWvDZDDqA2T_WHblNmb

From Chapel Hill and points west: From I-40, take Fayetteville Rd exit, go left (N) on Fayetteville Rd. to NC 54, turn right. At the second light, turn right into Parkwood. >From Raleigh and most points east: From I-40, take NC 55 exit, turn right on 55. At the next light, turn right on 54. At the first light, turn left into Parkwood.

From Apex and points southerly: From 55, turn left on Sedwick (next light after Alexander). Turn right at the 4-way stop. Straight through the one traffic light on Revere. After you turn on Revere Rd., we are 3/4 of a mile from the turn in the shopping center that currently includes the Parkwood branch of the Durham Library. (On the right from 54 or left from Sedwick.)

TBC's fan page on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/home.php?ref=home#/pages/Durham-NC/Triangle-Bridge-Club/176069193273>

Schedule

<i>Day</i>	<i>Mornings</i>	<i>Afternoons</i>	<i>Evenings</i>
Monday	Beginner	Open	Open
Tuesday	0-759	Open	Open
Wednesday	EasyBridge!	John Torrey's Open	Open
Thursday	Non-LM	Open	Open
Friday	Intermediate Lessons	John Torrey's Open	No Game
Saturday	Open & 0-500 Split	No Game	No Game

Saturday and Sunday afternoons may have special events — either lessons or special formats.

ACBL: Districts, Units, Clubs

The ACBL is divided into 25 districts located throughout the USA and Canada. North Carolina, along with South Carolina, Georgia, Eastern Tennessee, and a small portion of Southwestern Virginia, falls within the jurisdiction of District 7. Each District elects a member to serve on the ACBL Board of Directors. District 7's representative is Robert Heller of Decatur, Georgia, who recently replaced Bruce Reeve of Raleigh. For many years, Heller was been the editor of the *District 7 News*.

Local Unit 191, one of 13 units in District 7, supervises and promotes bridge in Durham, Orange, Chatham, and Person Counties. The unit has the exclusive right to host sectionals in its territory and may conduct other special games such as unit championships. Each unit receives a share of ACBL membership fees that can be used for programs to increase membership and enhance the enjoyment of the game for all members. To remain in good standing a unit must agree to comply with ACBL Bylaws and Rules and Regulations. Unit 191 Board members, who

serve three-year terms, are elected annually.

For more information, see www.acbl.org and click on districts or units. For information about District 7, go to www.mabcbridge.com or www.district7bridge.org. For information about Unit 191, go to www.unit191bridge.org.

Within the unit are clubs that are "owned" and managed by ACLB-sanctioned directors. Clubs are basically private businesses that can be operated in any way that is compliant with ACBL Rules and Regulations. Unit 191 clubs and managers are shown below:

Bridge Center, Bob & Gwen Boggs
Carolina Meadows, Bob Dick
Durham Bridge Club, Peggy Barbee
Farrington, Marty Demko
Roxboro, Keith Starr
Tar Heel Bridge Club, John Torrey
Triangle Bridge Club, Jay & Darleen
Bates

Liz McGuffey

Unit Officers

President: Sigrid Olin
V. President: Harrison Brooke
Secretary: Patsy Whitehurst
Treasurer: Paul Kobrin

ALERT! Staff

Editor: Liz McGuffey

Unit Website

www.unit191bridge.org

See February Alert For Member Profile

Editorial Notes

If you have an interesting bridge hand in terms of bidding and/or play, please submit to me by the 25th of the month for the next month's issue. Please include commentary, but be brief.

Member Profile and Bridge Etiquette will be regular columns when possible. If you would like to be interviewed or know someone who would, please advise.

Liz McGuffey, Editor

Bridge Etiquette

Bid boxes have done much to improve our games by helping with the noise problem, eliminating the need for reviews, and removing intonations and inflections (intended or not) which are inappropriate and annoying.

Bear in mind, however, that using bid boxes is not mandatory. If someone truly has an impairment which makes the use of bid boxes awkward or impossible, he may request that they not be used.

Compiled by Harrison Brooke

Special January Games (i.e., more points)

Triangle Bridge Club (at Bridge Center):

Jan. 21 & 23: ACBL Charities

Jan. 17, 28, 30: Lakewood Charity

Jan. 20: Educational Fund

Farrington:

Jan. 19: NO GAME

Jan. 26: Regular Game

Bridge Center:

Every Friday AM special game

Check with managers in other clubs for special games.