

UNIT 191 BRIGHT LEAF ALERT!

Official Publication of ACBL Unit 191

September 2012

Unit 191 Future Life Master Tournament Six Weeks Away

There is a role for all Unit members to play in the upcoming Future Life Masters Sectional. For those who aren't Life Masters there is the opportunity to win Silver Points and to play in a tournament atmosphere with their peers. For Life Masters there's the opportunity to support less experienced players and to encourage the growth of our favorite game by volunteering to help in the kitchen, by providing the snacks our Unit's events are famous for, or by donating funds to assist in the purchase of beverages and snacks.

The event will be held October 19th through 21st at the Triangle Bridge Club. A knock-out event begins on Friday and will be conducted alongside regular pairs competitions that morning and afternoon. After two more sessions of pairs games on Saturday, the Sectional will conclude with a Swiss Teams match on Sunday. Many non-Life Masters have learned to enjoy the excitement of Swiss Teams by participating in this year's Betty Whyte Tournament, so organizers are hopeful for a large turnout.

Friday and Saturday games will begin at 9:30 AM and 2:00 PM, while the Sunday Swiss starts at 10:00 AM. All non-Life Masters holding less than 500 points are eligible to compete.

A detailed flyer with schedules is available at all Unit Clubs. If you have questions about any of this, contact one of the tournament's co-chairs, Paul Morrisette (919-403-3484) and Dave Schreiber (919-357-1452). Need a partner? Call Leonard Beghley (919-475-4337).

Unit 191 Board News

Marty Demko, President

Unit Board members work hard and put in many hours to support the Unit membership and promote the game of bridge (and it is a game!) through tournaments, competitions, education and social events. As might be expected, we sometimes differ on the direction or format that support might take, but the intentions of each board member is sincere and focused on the needs of the players.

This year has been particularly difficult for the Board. In June, three board members resigned. Fortunately for us, they have agreed to continue to serve the Unit. Paul Morrisette and Dave Schreiber are the co-chairs of the October Future Life Master Sectional. Doris Elkin is the co-chair of the December Holiday Gala. We appreciate their help in ensuring that these events will be exciting and pleasurable.

To fill these vacancies, a committee of past Unit presidents nominated three new members to the Board, who were approved at the July meeting. Pat Bodoh is a past Unit board member and served as Secretary of the Unit Board for several years. Harrison Brooke has been on the Unit Board and was, and is, Membership Chairman. He coordinated the development of the unit address book and supports the website address book. Phil Erlenbach is a past President and Board Member of our Unit. In Connecticut he was a bridge director and owner of a bridge club.

We are extremely pleased to have such experienced members join us and expect that their presence will help the Board continue the tradition of working together for the good of the Unit that has been enjoyed for many, many years.

We turn our focus back to the many activities which the Unit sponsors- the fall Future Life Master Sectional and next March's Carolina Dreamin' Sectional, the Holiday Gala, the final months of the Betty Whyte event, the 2012-2013 mentor/mentee program, youth bridge programs, . We hope we can make them enjoyable for all of you.

www.unit191bridge.org

**All Club Results
Game Schedules
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Membership Report

Harrison Brooke, Membership Chair

Both July and August were good to us, our record membership of 552 established in March having been repeated for May, June and July, and a new record of 555 (what a nice figure!) set during August. That 555 is an increase of 20 (3.7%) over this time last year and a 41.7 (8.1%) increase over our average for 2009 through 2011.

In his column in the August **Bridge Bulletin**, ACBL CEO Robert Hartman reported that as of 30 June, ACBL membership stood at 166,637 at which time our 552 made up only 1/3 of 1% . He added that for the first six months of 2012, ACBL membership increased by 1,219 so our gain of 12 as of that same date represents a **full** 1%. I think we've done well.

Strangely in July we had but 4 new ACBL members join our ranks and in August we had none. In July 3 of the 4 came from the Summer Camp program so ably handled by Darleen Bates and Maggie Lindquist at the Triangle Bridge Club the weeks of 25 June and 2 July. They are **Catherine Fay**, the 14-year-old daughter of Unit member Lida Fay, and sibling grandsons of Unit member Eric Larson, and **Daniel** (16) and **Kevin** (13) **Johnston**, all 3 of Chapel Hill. A warm welcome goes to new member **Lucas Michaels** of Durham as well.

During July we were joined by **Wayne Ohlrich** who transferred from Unit 446 in Seattle and now resides in Carrboro, and in August both **Theresa Singer** from Unit 139 in Piedmont Virginia and now living in Chapel Hill and **Charlotte Wheatley** from Unit 190 in Delaware who has enjoyed our games for a number of months and now with her husband will be splitting time between Chapel Hill and their home in Bethany Beach DE. We're delighted to have all of you with us.

Let me remind everyone that our Holiday Gala and Annual Meeting will be held on 2 December, again at beautiful Meadowmont and again under the excellent guidance of co-chairs **Robin Marin** and **Doris Elkin**. A Unit member active as of 1 December 2012 (that is, dues paid up) will pay a reduced rate so please make certain that your dues are current as of that date.

And let me add another reminder about dues. Effective 1 January 2010 ACBL increased the master point minimum to achieve the rank of Life Master from 300 to 500 (provided the player has the required color points)

Membership (continued)

but grandfathered those Future Life Masters who were active as of that date to the 300 minimum provided their dues remain paid until such time as they reached the rank of Life Master. Should one's dues lapse for even one day, the grandfathering ceases and the 500 applies. Anyone who joined/joins ACBL 1 January 2010 or after is subject to the 500 minimum.

I occasionally get a report that someone has tried to reach me by e-mail but gotten a message that the address used isn't valid. I changed my e-mail address almost three years ago and that has appeared on the Unit website (Unit191bridge.org) ever since. If you get such a message for another Unit member, please try the website and click on **Directory**. I do my best to update it no later than the 3rd of every of month. I encourage everyone to check the website and make certain what's listed for you is correct. And please let me know if you make a change.

I hate to end this on a sad note but I must report the loss of several members -- **Donna Helms** of Timberlake on 14 July, **Ruth Roskoz** of Chapel Hill on 30 July, and **Marian Feingold** of Galloway Ridge on 18 August. Our thoughts and sincere sympathies go to their families and friends.

And the Unit lost another dear friend on 20 July when **Alice Eakes** of Durham passed away at 97. She and her late husband Alfred were among those who worked so diligently to get our Unit established many decades ago. Alice was the first of our members to be named an ACBL Life Member Master, a special honor for a senior player with more than enough master points to become a Life Master but never the opportunity to go for the pigmented points required. It was my honor to present that award to Alice roughly 10 years ago. I'll never forget that moment!

Upcoming Tournaments

Sept 7-9	Wilmington
Sept 14-16	Carthage
Sept 21-23	Southern Pines Non-Life Master
Sept 27-30	Raleigh
Oct 5-7	Morganton
Oct 12-14	Morehead City
Oct 19-21	Durham Future Life Master
Oct 26-28	High Point
Oct 29-Nov 4	Augusta GA Regional

Director, Please!

John Torrey, Tournament Director

At the Bright Leaf sectional in July, I was called to rule in the following situation. South was dealer and opened 1 spade. West passed, North bid 1NT and East bid 2 diamonds. South did not process the 2 diamond bid and rebid 2 clubs. West said "insufficient" and South corrected to 2 spades. Now West passed and North bid 3 clubs; at this point they players called the Director. I believe that the Laws do not explicitly cover this auction – only parts of it. I think I could very reasonably have ruled that East and West had given up their rights to a ruling on the insufficient bid when they just let the auction continue: Law 11A says, "The right to rectification of an irregularity may be forfeited if either member of the non-offending side takes any action before summoning the Director."

It doesn't really matter how I ruled this time. The point is that both sides should have called the Director as soon as South bid 2 clubs, and nobody should have bid anything further until the Director had ruled. As Law 9Ba(a) says, "The Director should be summoned when attention is drawn to an irregularity." And (Law 9C) "Any premature correction of an irregularity by the offender may subject him to a further rectification." (The new Laws are so cute in using "rectification" instead of the old "penalty.")

Some very unfortunate things can happen when players fail to follow this simple policy. In a game last month, a club was led and a player who had a club trumped with a spade. She is sure that she noticed the error and corrected it by playing the club she should have played. But the situation was not so clear to the Director: when he arrived, the club and spade were both face up on the table. If the player had led the club to the next trick (It's a very common thing for a player to trump a club and then lead a club to the next trick...) then the revoke was established and carried a two-trick pen... excuse me, it would carry a two trick rectification. That was how the Director ruled. The incident resulted in consultations, emails and appeals for adjustment. People were upset.

Now, suppose we accept that the player was not leading to the next trick but was simply trying to correct her misplay. How much distress would have been saved if she – instead of getting another card on the table, had simply called the Director. There would be

no club card on the table for the Director to (mis?) interpret.

Even experienced players make this mistake. But no matter how little or how much you think you know of the rules, all you really need to know is that calling the Director is never wrong and frequently necessary to preserve your rights. Call the Director. At once. And then make no bids or plays; expose no played or hidden cards. Do not try to fix the problem. Let the Director sort it out without complicating it. Call the Director.

Mark The Date!

**Unit 191 Holiday Gala
Sunday, December 2nd**

Rizzo Center, Meadowmont, Chapel Hill

Advancements in Rank

Harrison Brooke, Membership Chair

It's a special pleasure to report that Board member and Unit Recorder **Dorothea Wilson** has reached the rank of Life Master. We're happy for and proud of her. She joins the following who advanced in rank during July and August:

Junior Master	Liz Bonnet Patricia McFeely	Ken Montgomery Jinsheng Zhou
Club Master	Nancy Crow Phylliss Woody	Cathy Somer
Sectional Master	Linda Allen Carole Crotty	Jim Wells
Regional Master	Ginny Cole Jim Forde Gail Jacobs	Bob Little Sally Satterfield
NABC Master	Phyllis Fuller Stirling Haig	Jill Kaufman Carol Schachner
Adv. NABC Master	Charlie Marshall	
Bronze Life Master	Marsha Derynck	

Congratulations one and all !!