

UNIT 191 BRIGHT LEAF ALERT

Official Publication of Unit 191

September 2014

LBIAD

LEARN BRIDGE IN A DAY COMING OCTOBER 12TH AT A LOCATION NEAR YOU

Yeah, yeah, I know. I hear your skepticism, but I didn't say learn it *well*. The intention is to introduce this intriguing game to a wider audience who don't play or who played many years ago and quit. I've been trying to get the kids and **Hugon** has focused on the college age group but what about their parents' generation? We want to include them. This is an event created and conducted by **Patty Tucker** from Atlanta. It has been successfully run with great results and attendance in many locations and is supported by ACBL.

We need everyone's help in reaching these people. All ages 10 years old and up are encouraged to participate, including families. **Please think about where you can put up posters, places such as country clubs, health clubs, centers of all sorts, as well as meeting places and coffee shops. Think about your social networks and your family members (and their social networks) as well as your friends and neighbors.** Our goal is to get about 150 people out for a Sunday afternoon 1:00-6:00 to be introduced to our game. They will be given a list of opportunities to continue learning and playing so don't worry about the follow up but we need to get them there in the first place.

We also need volunteers to help on that day. Each table will have "mentors" to answer questions (but not overload them with too much information too soon) and help them to play. Volunteers will also be needed to man the registration desk, serve on a publicity committee and to help prepare handouts for the participants. **Jeff Boak** and The NC Game Spot, supported by Unit 191, are spearheading this effort. Stay tuned for further information.

Maggie Linquist, Board Liaison

DOUBLE SESSION EVENT

If you have already not marked your calendars for the double session event, please save the date:

Wednesday, October 15, 2014
"An October Bridgefest"

Plan to spend the day playing bridge, enjoying good food, and visiting with your bridge friends.
Complete details will be in next month's Alert.

UNC Takes Second in Collegiate National Championship

The UNC bridge team traveled to Las Vegas to compete in the Collegiate National Championship. The first day was a round robin phase which saw UNC qualify for the KO phase in third place by a comfortable margin. Below are two deals from the round robin.

Vul: E/W S - 4
 H - Q874
 D - 83
 C - K98542

S - JT8753 S - A9
 H - JT H - K96532
 D - QJ74 D - 96
 C - 6 C - QJT

S - KQ62
 H - A
 D - AKT52
 C - A73

We chose the first deal because it represents some of the lows, and highs, of junior bridge. You (North, **Robert Thorstad**) are declaring 3NT after LHO preempts 2H. LHO leads the queen of clubs, and, after a very long day, you win the king of clubs. Yes, the king. Plan the play.

A cold contract has just become very dicey. It looks like your best chance to make this hand is to get some help from LHO. Specifically, LHO seems to need the heart king for his bid. If his hand can be stripped of spades and diamonds, he can be end-played with a club to put you in hand. You lead a spade towards the king, holding, and get out a low spade, LHO winning the ace., LHO exits a diamond, won in dummy, and the ace of clubs confirms that the club suit splits 3-1. Now things are looking up. It looks like LHO is 2-6-2-3; the ace of diamonds confirms this. Now you cash the ace of hearts and exit a club. LHO has no choice but to put you back in hand; at the table he leads a low heart to the jack and queen, making three.

S - Jx
 H - AKxxx
 D - Axx
 C - Axx

S -
 H - QJx
 D - Kxxx
 C - KJxxxxx

S—Txxxx
 H - xxx
 D - Qxx
 C - Qx

S - AKQ9xx
 H - x
 D - xxx
 C - xxx

The second deal represents strong declarer technique by our South player, **Ben Kompa**. You are declaring 4 Spades on a queen of hearts lead, won in dummy with the ace. When you lay down the jack of spades, East chortles, "Bad split, huh?" as West shows out of spades.

Undeterred, Ben proceeds to make the contract by elopement; king of hearts, heart ruff, diamond to dummy, and a low heart. East is powerless, if he ruffs, Ben simply over-ruffs; at the table East discards, and Ben ruffs low. A club to the ace and a low heart puts back East in the same predicament; when East discards, Ben scores his last low trump and has three top trump to come, making 4.

S - JT964
 H - JT6
 D - J96
 C - J8

S - 3
 H - 84
 D - AT87
 C - KQT432

S - A85
 H - AK87
 D - KQ43
 C - A9

S - KQ72
 H - Q532
 D - 52
 C - 765

UNC began the knockout phase with a semifinal victory over the University of Illinois. The above deal represented excellent trick counting during the auction by our EW pair. West, **Xiyuan Ge**, opened 2 clubs, ostensibly showing 11-15 HCP with either 5 clubs and a 4 card major, or 6 or more clubs. *(continued)*

Visualizing 6 possible tricks in clubs, three sure major suit tricks, and a potential source of tricks in diamonds, East (**Parker Xie**) does well to probe for slam. After an asking sequence clarifies that West started with 6 clubs and a non-maximum hand, East launched into Roman Keycard Blackwood. When West turned up with the king and queen of clubs and ace of diamonds, and no kings outside of clubs, East bid a cold 6 NT for a pickup of 11 IMPs when the opponents stopped in game.

Our run came to the end in the finals, as we lost to the University of California, Berkeley, by 9 IMPs, 70-61. Our congratulations go to Berkeley, who defeated top-seeded University of Chicago to reach the finals, and were one of the nicest teams in the event.

We would also like to extend a deep thanks to the unit for their support of our team. Special thanks go to **Josef Blass**, **Hugon Karwowski**, **Erlinda Wehrman**, **Arthur Moore**, and **Jacek Pszczola**, for their tireless mentoring of our team.

Next year will see two members of our team leave for graduate school; **Xiyuan Ge** leaves for New York University, and **Robert Thorstad** leaves for Emory University. We will have incoming members to replace them and look forward to a strong showing at the Collegiate event next year.

(I had asked **Robert Thorstad** to put together some thoughts about the team's experiences in Las Vegas and while I believe it was a collaborative effort by the team, thanks to Robert for submitting the article.)

Congratulations to the team—you represented our unit and UNC in fine style!



WANTED

Mentors

For the 2014-2015

Unit 191

**Mentoring
Program**

**Please complete the form
and place it in the folder
provided on the table near
the entrance at the Trian-
gle Bridge Club (TBC).**

Co-Chairs: Sharon Crane

**scbridge@earthlink.net
919-489-4903**

**Linda Harris
lharris166@nc.rr.com
919-414-6716**

Everybody Wants to Play Keycard

“A Better Mousetrap”

“If you write a better book or preach a better sermon, or build a better mousetrap than your neighbor, the world will make a beaten path to your door.”
Ralph Waldo Emerson

Certainly most bridge players agree that Keycard Blackwood is an improvement over regular Blackwood. Most club players have learned the rudiments of answering “keycards” over 4NT, but they have little knowledge of the subsequent bids, which are indeed just as beneficial.

The Joyces are working on a short course (3 sessions of 1.5-2 hours each). We will be teaching Keycard (which is often called Roman Keycard or 1430), exactly as we play it. In case you are reading your August ACBL bulletin, our “system” is much simpler, although not simple, than the “spiral scan” detailed in Barry Rigal’s article.

Many times people tell us, “I would have liked to take that, but I have a conflict.” So, we are announcing the dates, well in advance, so that you can plan your schedule, if you want to take the classes!

10:00a.m. to 12:00 noon each day at Triangle Bridge Club

1. Monday, Nov. 17

[Setting trumps, Is/Isn’t Keycard, 1430](#)

[Responses](#)

2. Wednesday, Nov. 19

[Asking for the Queen](#)

3. Thursday, Nov. 20

[Asking for Kings](#)

The classes will have information explanation, handouts, and practice time bidding with another participant, followed by discussion.

To register for the class series, just email or tell Kay that you want to do it:

randkjoyce@gmail.com

The price will be \$66.00. We collect no money until the first class, but we like to collect the full \$66.00 then so that we don’t have to use class time collecting later.

HOW TO HELP YOUR LOCAL CLUBS AND YOURSELF!

Being a standby partner is a great way to help your local club director and also give you access to playing up and/or playing with different partners.

Each club has its own policies regarding how standby players work so please ask the owner/director of each club, but in general offering to be a standby partner helps the club director to guarantee partners for drop-in players and allows the director to do his/her job in running the game. It also enables the standby partner to broaden his/her playing experience with other players and of course, an opportunity to play an additional game for free. So please offer to be a standby player, it helps you, your game, and your bridge clubs.

Happy Bridging!

Jim Bean, Unit President

DURHAM BRIDGE CLUB

The **Durham Bridge Club** is again offering a \$5 coupon to the mentor who has the highest percentage playing with his/her mentee in the Wednesday morning game. Even if you are the only mentor/mentee pair playing—you win! Game fee remains at \$7—plus there is always good breakfast snacks provided by board members of the Durham Bridge Club. Plan to join the “Early morning” bridge players in the unit—even make it a double session day by playing in the Tarheel Bridge Club at 1:00 or the game at The Bridge Academy at 1:00.

On the next deal, **Xiyuan** held:

S - K Q 8 5

H - K Q 9 5 2

D - A K

C - 6 4

In second position, he opened one club, showing at least 16 points. Wernis overcalled one spade, and **Zimeng** responded one no-trump, showing 8-plus points and a five-card suit somewhere. Von Mizener raised to two spades, **Xiyuan** passed, Wernis passed, and **Zimeng** rebid three hearts to show his suit. What should **Xiyuan** have done now?

He had a minimum one-club opening, but he had great trumps. Best would have been a four-diamond (or three-spade) control-bid (cue-bid) to express interest in a heart slam. (He could not have long diamonds, because he would have shown them on the second round of the auction.) **Zimeng** would have signed off in four hearts, and the contract would have made.

But **Xiyuan** jumped to four no-trump, Roman Key Card Blackwood. Now they reached five hearts off the spade ace and club ace-king. That gave 12 imps to Berkeley and, when the last board was flat, the title, too, by 70 imps to 61.

Do not use Blackwood with two immediate losers in a side suit unless you are certain partner has a first- or second-round control in that suit.

FUTURE LIFE MASTER TOURNAMENT

Step Right Up! Get your Silver here!

Put the dates of
November 7-9th

on your calendars. These are the dates of our Unit's Future Life Master Tournament and your best chance to earn silver points.

Of special importance is to put together your team to play in the Sunday Swiss Team game. A single win or tie against one team will give your team some silver, what could be easier! If you don't have a team or if you need a partner for any of the sessions, contact our superb partnership chairman, **Linda Harris**. We look forward to seeing you there.

Maggie Lindquist and Katie Wilson

NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS

The Flight C (Non-Life Master to 500 master points) finals of the North American Pairs will be held at the TBC on Saturday, November 8 at 2:30 and 7:30 PM. Qualification at club levels is required. This is a great and convenient opportunity for Flight C players in the area to not only qualify, but participate in the finals held locally.

NOW IS THE TIME...

TO BE THINKING OF FRIENDS, FAMILY, NEIGHBORS, SPORTS' TEAMMATES, ETC. WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING TO PLAY BRIDGE. THIS IS THE PERFECT OPPORTUNITY FOR THEM TO LEARN THE GAME! EVERYONE'S HELP IS NEEDED TO PUT FLYERS IN PLACES THAT WILL ATTRACT NEW PLAYERS AND TO SIMPLY GET THE WORD OUT ABOUT WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR UNIT. FLYERS FOR LBIAD WILL BE AVAILABLE IN MID SEPTEMBER AND IF EVERYONE TAKES A FEW AND PUTS THEM IN COUNTRY CLUBS, RETIREMENT CENTERS, OFFICES, HEALTH CLUBS, ETC., THE GOAL OF GETTING 150 NEW PEOPLE FOR THE OCTOBER 12TH EVENT WILL BE MET. THERE ARE ALSO GOING TO BE MANY LESSONS AVAILABLE FOR BEGINNING PLAYERS, STARTING WITH JOHN TORREY'S LESSONS ON SEPTEMBER 16.

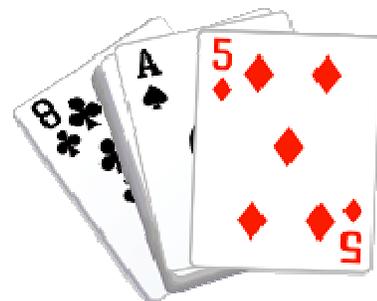
ATTRACTING NEW MEMBERS AND GETTING THEM INTERESTED IN THE GAME IS THE FUTURE OF BRIDGE—LET'S ALL WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE IT HAPPEN!

RULES AND ETIQUETTE

PLAY OF THE HAND

- When you are opening lead, detach a card from your hand and lay it face down on the table. This prevents irregularities such as leading out of turn and allows your partner to ask questions about the auction and alerts without influencing your lead.
- A review of the bidding may be requested by each player at his/her turn to play to the first trick. After the first trick, a player, at his/her turn to play, may only ask what the contract is and whether or not it was doubled.
- To save time, make your opening lead before writing down the contract.
- If declarer plays a card from the incorrect hand, either defender or Dummy may point this out.
- A lead from the wrong hand can be accepted by either defender.
- Only play your card when it is your turn not before. Do not detach a card from your hand until it is your turn to play. Do not touch a card until you have decided which one you want to play. Do not touch one card then move your hand to another. Do not pull up one card, push it back and then pull up another card. All of these maneuvers provide unauthorized information to your partner. It shows that you are uncertain as to which card to play and, if you've followed suit, shows that you have more than one card in that suit.
- To prevent a possible revoke, when a defender fails to follow suit, defender's partner may immediately inquire, "No spades?" for example. Similarly, attempting to avoid an irregularity, Dummy may inquire when declarer fails to follow suit.
- Once all the cards played to any trick have been turned face down on the table, you cannot ask to see what cards were played to that trick. You may however ask for confirmation as to which hand won the trick to ensure a lead is made from the correct hand.

- When a player places a card the wrong way down on a completed trick (vertical vs. horizontal showing a trick as won or lost), their partner may advise them of the mistake provided they do so immediately.
- Dummy may only remove and play a card when directed to do so by Declarer. Dummy must not reach towards a card in anticipation of which card will be called for by Declarer. Likewise, when Declarer calls for a card, Dummy must never make a remark, gesture, facial expression or hesitation questioning that call.
- Once a claim has been made, play of the hand may not continue. If the claim is invalid or uncertain, call the Director. If there is trump outstanding and declarer makes no mention of pulling trump, call the Director.
- When the final card has been played and scoring is taking place, do not fold up your cards until all players have agreed on total tricks taken.
- North is responsible for entering the score on the traveler or Bridgemate but must have it checked by an opponent before continuing on to the next board.
- Discussion of hands can often be overheard by players at other tables and is a major contributor to slow play. When North shows you the traveler, it's for you to check the score, not an invitation to discuss the results. Wait until the game is over for post-mortems.
- Bridge is a timed event. The ACBL has suggested that boards be bid and played in an average of 7 minutes. While directors in our unit try to be flexible to accommodate new players, slow play is a major concern. Please endeavor to not keep other tables waiting to change rounds. Likewise, do not ask a table for boards if there is still time on the clock for the round being played. It is disruptive to Declarer and Defenders.



JUST A LITTLE PEEK

Written by Randy Joyce and Sandy McCay

This article is a repeat of one that was published in the Alert in a previous issue. At the request of a member or two who missed it the first time, it is being printed again.

Duke and Caroline both had been looking to the Tuesday game at the TBC. They had secured Jim and Buzz as teammates, and this made them feel like the win would be theirs before a card was even played. The game was a special game with Sectional rating, so there were a lot of master points on the line.

Duke bought the entry and all sat down to await their opponents for the first round. Duke and Caroline were sitting N/S, and who should sit down to oppose them but The McAdoos? Buzz and Jim opposed another competent pair at the other table.

What a bummer to have to play a team that was not only competent but just as interested in winning! The first few hands were uneventful, but Carolina noticed a very funny "tic" in Duke's neck on the fourth hand. He seemed to swivel his head around and really stretch.

"The poor thing" Caroline thought to herself, "Duke must be in a lot of discomfort." Duke was playing the hand and proceeded to drop a singleton King OFFSIDE to make a game contract. Caroline was so proud that her sweetie had made such a good play that she would have to cook his favorite dinner tonight.

The rest of the round was pretty flat, and then Buzz and Jim returned to compare scores. As fate would have it, our heroes won a close match on the strength of Duke's wonderful play to make the game. A small win got them off to a good start against good opponents. Buzz and Jim queried Duke about his rationale behind playing for the drop rather than a finesse, but he just said that he had a hunch.

The second round of the team brought less

formidable opponents, and Duke and Caroline were having a very good round. On the fifth board, Duke dropped a card on the floor and as he reached to pick it up almost fell out of his chair. Mumbling something about really getting clumsy, Duke proceeded to lead a King from Kx of Clubs against four Hears, got a ruff and duly set the game.

Caroline was ecstatic that her intended had found such a formidable lead. If he had led any other card, the game would have gotten home. It served the opponents right to have announced that their one Club bid might be on a doubleton and had clued Duke into the killing salvo.

Jim and Buzz returned shortly, and it had been a slaughter. They had won a Blitz! Buzz and Jim asked how Duke and Caroline had beaten the four Heart game. Caroline heaped praise on Duke and said that he had led the Club King because the opponents were playing a short club. Jim allowed as how he also had opened one club, and he and Buzz played normal methods. Jim asked Duke how he had found the opening lead that he chose when his Diamond holding was QJTx. Duke was quick to reply that he felt a desperation lead was called for. No more was said.

Duke and Caroline lost the third round and won the fourth. It all came down to the deciding fifth round. They were playing against a not very ferocious squad of 70ish ladies who were about as interested in the eats as they were in the bridge. Caroline felt that the win was theirs. On board #1, the ladies pushed to a hopeless slam and went down a trick. The title was certainly theirs now. On board #2, Caroline's world came crashing down!

One of the ladies passed, Duke opened 1 NT which Caroline boosted to 3 NT. She only had 9 points, but her mentors had told her to bid close Vulnerable games in a team game. Duke got an opening lead of a Heart and proceeded to lose the first four tricks. As the play developed over the next several tricks, it became apparent that Duke would have to guess the Club Queen to make his contract. That is when Caroline saw that the lady on her right was holding her cards so that everyone could see her hand. And she saw Duke take a peek!

(continued)

TUESDAY EVENING PLAY-TO-LEARN LESSONS

I've been writing about, studying, and doing the Play-To-Learn approach to bridge teaching for quite some time now. One problem I have seen is that a "class" has a beginning and an end, and a linear structure that means that students who miss the beginning have trouble jumping into the middle. People who really learn by playing do not have this problem: the hands they play create issues that they can understand—which lead to methods to handle those issues that they also understand. In a class setting a good instructor can explain the virtues and flaws in a variety of methods.

The play-to-learn class I led last year produced some successful approaches to the playing part, but because of its linear structure it shared the problems of structured-lesson classes. I've been thinking about these problems and think I have a workable answer. My new class will feature Mini-Bridge (bridge without bidding) for new students and real bridge for those ready to combine bidding and play. Both groups will play the same hands for the first hour or so of class time. Then we can all discuss the MiniBridge issues: What contract is best, and why? How should the declarer attack this contract? How can the defenders work together to defeat it? When we've gone through these, the MiniBridge students can (optionally) stick around for perspectives on the bidding problems the four players face in each hand.

This approach creates a non-linear structure that is always open to new students. MiniBridge can decide at any point that they are ready to graduate to Real Bridge—and continue in the same class. Most of the issues discussed will be inspired by the hands we play, but there is room for analysis of (say) a particular suit combination and its variations. If the class leader has to take a week off, a fill-in leader need not know just what has been covered and what has not.

The advantages of this structure to the students should be substantial. Real players learn by playing, and that is the foundation of this approach.

And—a big bonus—**playing is fun!** Every experienced bridge player knows the feeling (frightening and liberating at the same time) of opening a new hand, and knowing that it does not come with a manual. Each hand exercises both our knowledge and our ability to figure things out, or to invent a solution to a problem we have never seen. Structured-lesson students rely on memorization—which is why I am not a fan of structured lessons!

This series will be held on:

**Tuesday evenings at 7:00,
at the Triangle Bridge Club,
starting September 16.**

Students pay \$10.00 per session, but the first two lessons for each student are free. New students are welcome at any point; no registration is required. These lessons are not for people who play duplicate bridge now (a wonderful way to learn in itself!) or who want to learn new conventions or methods. People who have never played or who would like a path to get into playing should find it just right for them.

I'll be happy to discuss the play to learn approach with anyone—potential students in particular. My email is **JohnCTorrey@aol.com**, and my phone is **919-933-8760**.

John Torrey



Membership Report

Submitted by Linda Harris

During the month of July the following occurred:

Total Membership for July 2014	547
New	4
Transfer In	3
Transfer Out	(1)
Deceased	
Snowbird In	
Future Life Master inactive	(9)
Future Life Master reinstated	2
Life Master Unpaid	

I am pleased that we gained four (4) new ACBL members **Eugene Bauer** and **Kimberly Bauer** of Chapel Hill, **Patrick Deegan** of Pittsboro, and **Ben Whitney** of Rougemont. In addition, three (3) players transferred in **Gale Rohrs** and **Lynn Rohrs** from Unit 155, and **John Sommer** from Unit 119.

Welcome one and all!!!

Advancing in rank 9 (nine) during the month of July were:

Junior Master **Shirley Mathis**
 Gayle Streifford
Club Master **Caroline Dixon**
Sectional Master **David Crow**
 Bill McCartney
 Page Thomas
Life Master **Allan Carlson**
 Deborah Carlson

Bronze Life Master **Melanie Riva**

CONGRATULATIONS ONE AND ALL!!!

It is with regret that I report the 28 May 2014 death of **Eloise Rimmer White**, 87, Roxboro. Eloise's late husband, David Lawrence White was a direct descendant of Cyrus Clifton White who with George D. Brooks more than a hundred years ago founded the Brooks & White Funeral Home of which Eloise served as vice president in recent years. She was an active member of the Long Memorial United Methodist Church and Roxboro Bridge Club.

She is survived by daughters Shirley (Johnny Bradsher) and Laurie (Robert Wrenn), granddaughters Mary Kelsey Wrenn and Anna Mackenzie Wrenn, all of Roxboro, and sister Marjorie Lewis Rimmer of Durham.



**BRIGHT LEAF UNIT 191
MENTORING PROGRAM**

Sharon Crane: scbridge@earthlink.com (919) 489-4903

Linda Harris: lharris166@nc.rr.com (919) 414-6716

August 27, 2014

Greetings Mentors and Mentees,

It is with the greatest pleasure that we welcome you and thank you for your willingness to participate in the 2014-2015 Mentoring Program.

We are excited about your participation and we look forward to working with every one of you to make this a successful program. Please understand that the Mentoring Program is designed to help you improve your bridge game. This includes playing with your mentor once a month or 12 times during the mentoring year, working on your partnership agreements with your mentor, respecting your mentor's time and last, we expect this process to be rewarding and enjoyable.

A copy of the Mentoring Program guidelines is posted on the unit website. Please print and read. (www.unit191bridge.org)

Mark your calendar with the following Mentor/Mentee game dates:

September 16, 2014

October 21, 2014

November 11, 2014

December 9, 2014

WHAT: Mentor/Mentee Game

PLACE: Triangle Bridge Center

DATE: Tuesday, September 16, 2014

TIME: 12:30PM *RSVP by Sunday, September 13*
Lunch will be served at 12:30 PM

Please e-mail **Sharon Crane** at scbridge@earthlink.net or call (919) 489-4903 to confirm your attendance.

If we can be of any help to any of you, please let us know.

We look forward to seeing you at the bridge table real soon. Welcome to the Mentor/Mentee family!

Co-chairs Sharon Crane and Linda Harris

NEWEST LIFE MASTERS

The newest Unit 191 life masters are the husband-wife team—**Al and Debbie Carlson**. They reached their goal in Saratoga Springs in June—earning more than the last elusive one-third gold point they needed.

Al and Debbie met in fifth grade, dated as college seniors, and married the next year. They have lived up and down the East coast, spent 17 winters in the Wilmington, NC area (Hampstead) after Allen retired, and moved to Cary in 2008 to be nearer two sons and five grandchildren in Raleigh and Greensboro. Another son lives in Miami, FL.

Their hometown is Whitinsville, a small town in central Massachusetts. They now consider both Cary, NC, and coastal Maine their homes. Deb retired as an executive secretary and Allan from management positions, educated as a mechanical engineer. They both played bridge in college (in the 50's) and played their first duplicate game while Allan served in the US Army after college. They then only played social bridge until 2002 but couldn't play often enough to think of Life Master until they had moved to northwest Cary and the Triangle Bridge Club opened in Durham. Then they decided to go for it. (Thank you, **Darleen and Jay Bates**).

Their hobby the past few years has been travelling to regionals to get their gold!! Allan plays tennis, Deb likes to sew, they both enjoy walking, golf, and working around their home in Maine where they spend their summers.

The greatest influence on their game, other than independent study, has been lessons before sessions, notably those of **Harrison Brooke** a few years ago.

Their favorite bridge activity is playing duplicate in any setting, as they have met so many enjoyable and helpful people. They are each their favorite partner, most of the time (!), and play mostly in pairs. They play exclusively as a partnership. Their next and likely only bridge goal is Bronze Life Master. They look forward to returning to NC in October, as there are not many games in Maine and most are too far away.

CONGRATULATIONS!

MISCELLANEOUS

- Please call the director for anything that occurs at the table which could be considered an infraction of the rules. Even if one of the players is a director, it isn't correct to allow that person to make the ruling. The Director is everyone's friend and should always be called in this situation.
- When making a skip bid and using the STOP card, the next bidder should take a full 10 seconds before bidding.
- Happy Birthday to **Phyllis Fuller**! August 21 was a special day and milestone for her.
- Log On For Bridge—The ACBL has released a new, web-based version of Fred Gitelman's Learn to Play Bridge. Users can access the application at no cost by going to www.acbl.org and clicking on "Learn To Play Bridge."
- Mark your calendars for the upcoming regionals in the Mid-Atlantic:

**AUGUSTA, GA—OCTOBER 27-
NOVEMBER 2**

**VIRGINIA BEACH/NORFOLK, VA
NOVEMBER 10-16**

**CHARLESTON, SC
DECEMBER 29— JANUARY 4**

**CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA
JANUARY 12-18, 2015**

DOUBLE DUMMY POSER

Submitted by Ed Fuller

This hand was given to me long ago on a scrap of paper as the best double dummy hand even. I don't know about that, but it took me many months to figure out the solution. If you want to figure out the solution on your own, *don't read on!* (This hand was in last month's Alert and I hope you have had time to study it and try and make the hand).

Make 5 of the last 6 against *ANY* defense with Spades as trumps and South on lead.

North		East	
♠: AJ4		♠: —	
♥: J64		♥: Q87	
♦: —		♦: Q87	
♣: —		♣: —	
West		South	
♠: Q87		♠: K965	
♥: —		♥: —	
♦: —		♦: J6	
♣: Q87		♣: —	

SOLUTION:

- 1. Lead the 5 of spades to the Ace!*
- 2. Ruff the 4 of hearts in South's hand with the 9 of spades.*
- 3. If West does not over-ruff, make the rest by cross-ruffing diamonds and hearts. This requires over-ruffing West in dummy, or discarding a heart if necessary, and ruffing high in your hand the first time.*
- 4. If West over-ruffs, a club return allows you to sluff in dummy, ruff in your hand and then cross-ruff the rest. So, the best return is West's remaining trump. Cover in dummy with the Jack! If East, who is now down to the Q And 8 of both hearts and diamonds, throws a heart, let the jack hold and ruff out the Queen of hearts to establish dummy's Jack. If East throws a diamond, overtake the Jack with the King and ruff out the Queen of diamonds to establish South's Jack.*

End Position: West on lead. Best return is the 8 of Spades

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STAC WINNERS

The following pairs placed in the overalls of STAC week:

Mon. afternoon—**Phil Erlenbach/Diane Bastian**

64.03% and 16th overall

Jim Wells/Bea Prosnitz

62.55% and 25th overall

Wed. morning—**Joyce Jenzano/Dave Schreiber**

64.06% and 7th overall

Thur. afternoon—**Jeff Boak/Paul Kobrin**

Third overall with a 67.86%

Alan Senzel/George Bloomer

12/13 place with 64.58%

Fri. afternoon—**Sally Foushee/Anne Hennessey**

Fifth overall at 66.10%

Claire Sobel/Harrison Brooke

24th overall at 61.74%

Bunny Wheeler/Mason Page Thomas III

26th overall with 60.98%

Phil Erlenbach/Diane Bastian

29/30th overall with a 60.58%

Sat. morning—**Randy and Kay Joyce**

Second overall with a score of 65.70%

WELL DONE!!

P.S. Hopefully, all winners who placed in the overalls have been listed, if not please let me know.

The Alert is published monthly and is the official publication of Unit 191. Please let me know if you have ideas or suggestions.

Deadline for the next alert is September 27.

Barbara Martin, Editor