

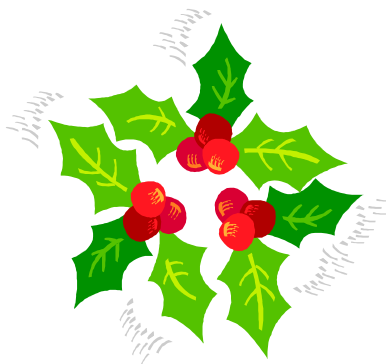
UNIT 191 BRIGHT LEAF ALERT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF UNIT 191

DECEMBER 2014

HOLIDAY GALA AND ANNUAL MEETING

The Holiday Gala is upon us and we hope everyone will join us in one of the unit's premiere events. As always, **Robin Marin** and **Doris Elkin** will be doing their magic to making it another festive celebration. We are sorry to say that the fees for the Gala have had to be raised to adequately reflect the costs, but the unit still subsidizes the event for its members and will hopefully continue do so in the future. The Gala is a wonderful and elegant occasion that gives our membership an opportunity to celebrate another year at the tables together.



A special thank you to **Maggie Lindquist** and **Katie Wilson** for co-chairing the FLM tournament. Appreciation also to the persons who were on the hospitality committee, all volunteers, and those who participated. (See more details about the tournament on page 7).

Happy Holidays!

Unit 191 President
Jim Bean



HOLIDAY PARTIES FOR UNIT 191 GAMES

Mark your calendars and don't miss out on any of the unit's holiday parties.

DECEMBER 7— the annual holiday gala and annual meeting at the Rizzo Center. Make your reservation by Dec. 1—and plan to have a delightful day of festivities, great food, and fun bridge.

DECEMBER 12—the **Tarheel Bridge Club** will have its holiday party. **John** will provide ham and members may bring the dish of their choice for an outstanding lunch.

December 14—**Jay and Darleen** will have the TBC's holiday party at the **8 is Enough Game** beginning at 2:00.

DECEMBER 15—the **BRIDGE ACADEMY** will host a holiday party and a unit-sanctioned game. There will be plenty of delectable goodies, however, if you would like to bring a dish or dessert to share, please contact **Ann Vaughn**.

DECEMBER 17—the **DURHAM BRIDGE CLUB** will have a Christmas party and special game. The game starts at 9:30—plan to enjoy holiday goodies and have a good time. Remember the mentor who has the highest score playing with his/her mentee receives a \$5 coupon.

DECEMBER 19—**Paul and Ruth Ann Schwenke** are hosting their holiday fete at the Senior Center starting at 1:00. If you would like to bring a food dish to share with your friends, please do so. This is also a STAC game.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR LEARNING

Our unit is fortunate to have many terrific teachers who are willing to give lessons to our members. Before the beginning of a class on “Keycard” taught by Randy and Kay Joyce, I took the opportunity to get some photos and comments from the participants.



Professor Randy calls the class to order

Mary Katherine Bolch...“I had been playing what I called 1430 for a few years. I learned when I attended Kay and Randy’s keycard class, I knew very little about the real value it brings to my game. It’s almost like looking at your partner’s hand to find good slams and stay out of bad ones. Far more information than just the first step.”

Lynda McDaniel...“very helpful to have information that can be used consistently to seek slams that might not be found without it.”

Jane Kiernen...“I thought I knew 1430. And I did—sort of. I learned so much more—queen asks and specific king asks. I highly recommend this class.”

Vickie Atwater...“Great course. Liked that it also discussed other conventions. I knew nothing about keycards and learned a lot.”



Melanie Riva and Teddy Lovejoy discuss their notes



Glenna Hurlbert and Kathy Baer await the beginning of class



Mary Katherine and Lynda searching for????

If you missed out on this class, watch for the opportunity to participate the next time it is offered. Please notify a board member if you have a bridge topic or a class you would like to see given in our unit. We have many great teachers who willingly offer their time to give classes and provide instruction on any topic of interest to our members. Check the website under *Education* for a listing of all unit teachers, their level of expertise, and the many possibilities of arranging classes.

♠♥Calling all R☺☺kies♦♣

The newest game at Triangle Bridge Club is held Tuesday afternoons and is meant to serve our rookie population. From 1:15 to 4-ish, new players are asked to bid and play at least 12 boards. Masterpoints are awarded! Players with 0-5 masterpoints are referred to as *rookies*. It may be difficult, but look around the bridge area and imagine what everyone looked like as a rookie because everyone was one once upon a time.

One need not have a partner to attend this new game, and anyone may ask for help in the bidding of a hand. Standard American as presented in ACBL's learn bridge series is recommended as the general approach.



Valerie Roberts teaches the Rookies class on Tuesday

More than a dozen new players have participated in the new 0-5 game since it began November 4. So far filling out a convention card, working a Bridgемate, and finding the bathrooms have been popular topics. Limit raises and no-trump responses have also been discussed. Handouts on bidding practices as well as hand records for the games are provided.

If you know someone interested in checking out a duplicate game, this is a great opportunity to do so. This is where the rookie starts the journey to life master.

Submitted by Valerie Roberts



Mentor/Mentee Game

The next Mentor/Mentee game is scheduled for Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at the TBC. Potluck lunch will be served at 12:30PM. Mentors/Mentees please bring one of your dishes to share. Drinks and paper products will be provided.

Please respond to the e-mail invitation you will be receiving soon to let us know if you plan to come. If your mentor/mentee is not available and you would like to play with someone else, please let us know and we will try to pair you with someone. We hope you can join us for this fun event!!!

Please mark your calendars with the following Mentors/Mentees game date:

Tuesday, December 9, 2014

Co-Chairs: Sharon Crane
(scbridge@earthlink.net) 919 489-4903
Linda Harris
(lharris166@nc.rr.com) 919 414-6716



A SPOOKTACULAR EVENT!

On Friday, October 31, The Tarheel Bridge Club, managed by John Torrey had a special Halloween party. Robin Marin and Audrey Crosby provided delicious refreshments and had the kitchen decorated in fine style for the occasion. Costumed players were: (Top row) Susan and Gerald Parker, Linda Harris, Jim and Linda Hansell (Bottom row) Barbara Haskell, Jim Cunningham, and Michael Schlesinger. The Hansells were voted the best male and female individuals.

Special thanks to Robin and Audrey for coordinating the event—and to John for free plays and directing.



It was “**UNDER THE BIG TOP**” at the TBC on Saturday, November 1. The morning 3-ring circus featured opportunities for beginning bridge players, those who needed a refresher on their bidding and a room for an ACBL game. In the first ring for the afternoon session, the second part of LBIAD was held, the second ring was an area for learn and play bridge, and in the third ring, there was a special game sponsored by Units 119 and 191. Special thanks to Ringmaster **Jeff Boak** and daughter **Sarah** for organizing the event, Unit 119 for their cooperation and participation, **Linda Harris** for set-up and registration, designated partner **Frank Hund**, and **Jay and Darleen** for hosting the event at the TBC. Additional thanks to teachers who participated—**John Torrey**, **Henry Meguid**, **Maggie Lindquist**, **Valerie Roberts**, and **Darleen Bates**. **Jeff Boak** conducted the LBIAD class. Other volunteers were **Diane Saulsberry**, **Joyce Jenzano**, **Malcolm Smith**, **John Cannon**, **Murthy Ayyagari** and **Lance Shull**. There were even circus peanuts and animals crackers for snacks!



In Ring #1, **Jeff Boak** presents the “Morning mini-LBIAD”



Darleen Bates directed both games at the event and also the Play and Learn Game. **John Torrey** taught a class in Ring #2 in the morning session



24 people listen to **Henry Meguid** present an intermediate lesson on negative doubles



In the third ring at the circus, **Charlie Marshall** and **Gary Zadjeka** defend a hand against **Valerie Roberts** and **Carol Crotty**. **Gary and Charlie** were first overall and **Valerie and Carol** were second N/S



George Bloomer is hoping that **Mort** makes the contract. **George and Mort Stromberg** finished first overall in Ring #3 in the afternoon session



Diane Bastian is enjoying being declarer as **Laverne Burch** and **Ednelevyn Evans** concentrate on their defense—**Laverne and Ednelevyn** finished third E/W



Betsy Mebane and Ken Dye sport the NC State colors—hoping for a win for their team —and NC State won!



Jim waits for a card to be called as **Linda** declares. The **Hansells** finished 2nd E/W in the morning event.



Ken and Betsy Schoof discuss their round with **Beverly Stone** and **Tina Naykki**



Bunny Wheeler, partner **Kay Richardson**, and **Debbie** and **Allen Carlson** play Board 18. The Carlsons, new life masters, have returned to the area for the winter months

UNDER THE BIG TOP

FACTS AND FIGURES

RING #1

**“MINI-LBIAD” TAUGHT
BY JEFF BOAK**

13 PARTICIPANTS

**RING #2
INTERMEDIATE LESSONS
TAUGHT BY
JOHN TORREY,
MAGGIE
LINDQUIST AND
HENRY MEGUID**

31 PARTICIPANTS

**RING #3
OPEN GAME
DIRECTED BY
DARLEEN BATES**

15 TABLES

**AFTERNOON RING #2
PLAY AND LEARN
DIRECTED BY
DARLEEN BATES AND
ASSISTED BY
VALERIE
ROBERTS**

26 PARTICIPANTS

**AFTERNOON
RING #1
FOLLOW-UP TO
BASIC LBIAD AND BASIC
CONVENTIONS—TAUGHT
BY JEFF BOAK**

12 PARTICIPANTS

**AFTERNOON RING #3
SPECIAL GAME WITH
UNITS 119 AND 191
DIRECTED BY
DARLEEN BATES**

9 TABLES

FLM Tournament

Once again, our Future Life Master's Tournament was lots of fun with plenty of players winning silver points to add to their totals.

As always, a tournament requires the efforts of many, many people to be successful. We want to especially thank **Linda Harris** for her never faltering cheerfulness and skill in making sure everyone who needed a partner found one.

This year to make the huge job of Hospitality more manageable we divided it into three parts. **Diane Saulsberry, Donna Walther** and **Dave Streifford** jointly took responsibility for this huge job and worked together with admirable success to make sure everything worked well, with food and drinks for everyone. **Betsy Mebane** took charge of the Sunday Swiss meal providing us with a delicious meal. She organized and executed this task beautifully, providing each team with a list of choices at their tables so that they were able to decide in advance what they wanted. That way the line moved faster.

There was an abundance of food and money contributed and many kitchen helpers at each session to make sure the serving tables were kept supplied.

We want to thank all of these people for their efforts, which was much appreciated.

Maggie Lindquist and Katie Wilson
Co-Chairpersons



Friday morning winners:
Edna Tyson and Pat Pouster

Friday afternoon winners:
Nancy Crow and Rita Musante



Friday morning winners:
Phylliss Woody and Carol Crotty



Sunday Swiss Team Winners:
Barbara Veasey, Caroline Dixon, Margaret Cranford, and Barbara Yowell

Check Facebook for a complete list and photos of all the winners

Bridge at the Senior Center

- December 5—Another Local Charity Game and also like November 14, we will donate \$1.00 for every player to the IFC (Interfaith Council of Chapel Hill) for their Holiday Meal Program.
- December 12-Unit Championship Game
- December-19 STAC with BIG BIG Silver Points and our Annual Holiday Party. We will have gobs of food but if you also would like to bring a little something extra to share with your friends, then by all means please do so.
- December 26- No Game as the Senior Center is closed for Christmas and Hanukah. Take another day off and teach your Grandkids how to play Bridge.



Hope to see you on most of the next few Fridays.

Paul and Ruth Ann

CONGRATULATIONS IRA!

Our unit's centenarian, **Ira Vendig**, who celebrated birthday 102 last June, finished first overall in an open game held at the TBC on Thursday, November 6. Partnered with **Evelyn Tuck**, the pair had a 62% game. Well done!



Jeff Meckstroth, Peggy Haigler, Eric Rodwell, and **Andrea Roitman** at the Norfolk Regional. Can you tell who may have won the match by the looks on their faces?????



Jim Bean and Linda Brezin

Congratulations to the winners of the Mentor/Mentee Game held on Tuesday, November 11.

Flight A

- 1st—**Jim Bean and Linda Brezin**
- 2nd—**Jim Cunningham and Nancy Crow**
- 3rd—**Jay Bates and Karen Carpenter**
- 4th—**Katie Wilson and Betsy Mangum**
- 5th—**Anne Boyd and Dwight Smith**

Flight B

- 1st—**Katie Wilson and Betsy Mangum**
- 2nd—**Anne Boyd and Dwight Smith**
- 3rd—**Mary Cole and Ruth Barber**
- 4th—**Kay Gruninger and Phyllis Alexander**
- 5th—**Nancy Coey and Teddy Lovejoy**

Thanks to **Linda Harris and Sharon Crane** for organizing the game, the board for providing pizza, and **Darleen Bates** for directing.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR
THE NEXT SPECIAL
MENTOR/MENTEE GAME**

DECEMBER 9 AT 1:00 PM



Heightening Awareness of Bridge Opportunities in the Triangle

The Unit 191 Ad Campaign



Written by Linda Brezin

I am a relative newcomer to duplicate bridge and, since September 2013, I have played games at the Senior Center, at the Triangle Bridge Club and at the Bridge Academy. In all of that time, I have wondered about the ability of the various clubs to fill tables at their games, and who was attending and why. After thinking about this, and after the massive recruitment efforts sparked by ACBL's Can you Learn Bridge in a Day? program so ably implemented by **Jeff Boak**, I was led to wonder how much more we could do to galvanize the great mass of potential bridge players in the Triangle who would fill our tables to capacity if only they were sparked in the right way. Indeed, there is the dawning realization that bridge is big business, and clubs to a greater extent should be run like a business: assuming that is true then it is natural for us to try again to find new ways to nurture new and intermediate players with structured games targeted to their level of play. This needs to be a conscious effort. We can no longer just preach to the choir—people who know they want to play bridge anyway. We must seek out and bring new players along. The Triangle is a unique place, after all, with the highest per capita PhDs and college graduates in the nation. We are lucky to live here—we all know this. It is the obligation of Unit 191 to meet the needs of this entire population, not just the people who already know they want to play bridge and can withstand the rigors of competition in our open games.




With regard to our fellow Triangle inhabitants, many, like me, learned bridge as teenagers from books by Charles Goren and Alfred Sheinwold, played in college, and while in college had to make the wrenching choice between remaining in college or, instead, dropping out because their bridge play was interfering to so great an extent with their studies. I know people in both categories. For those who stayed in college (or did not), they went on to a life of work and raising family, and they dropped out of bridge. If they did not drop out prior to 1990 and the internet revolution, they certainly did after when work became all-consuming because you were always within reach of your email and thus you never left work. You can see this phenomenon demonstrated on the UNC campus at night. Formerly, at night, the campus was abuzz with activity: you saw people walking across the main quadrangle going somewhere to meet people, and the lights in faculty offices were on as they worked on research that could only be done in the office. Now the campus is dead at night—everyone is at home working on the internet, writing emails and responding to them. If our smart bridge players are rewarded with money and prestige to work this way, they do this in preference to playing bridge. This was not true before 1990. Before 1990, smart people left work, had no special place to go, and so they went out and played bridge.

So I wondered about the great mass of folks, like me, who now had finally retired. What were they doing? Didn't they miss bridge? Well, it turned out that when I handed out the LBIAD flyers, a common response I got was: ***"Oh, I have always been intending to get back into bridge."*** Sometimes this was followed up by additional comments about new-fangled conventions, and reluctance to step into a competitive organized duplicate game.

Now Bridge has become big business and the ACBL knows this. The ACBL may be a ponderous, stodgy organization but you can see signs of life there. Their LBIAD initiative is one indication; their Cooperative Advertising Program (CAP) where they will reimburse 75% of the cost (up to a maximum subsidy of \$750) of a date-specific ad campaign for newcomers is another. Now Unit 191 is taking advantage of this subsidy.

On November 10 the Board of Unit 191 met and approved an ad campaign to run on WUNC radio and in IndyWeek. The 24-word FCC-compliant WUNC ad will state: **American Contract Bridge League's Bright Leaf Unit 191, welcoming new bridge players and offering classes starting in January 2015. Details and registration information: unit191bridge.org**

Here are the proofs of our IndyWeek ads:

Print Ad	Dual flashing on-line ad The website does not appear because it is an embedded link.	
		
	Flash 1	Flash 2

Mark your calendars and watch for our ads! Here is the schedule.

One week of spots on WUNC radio: January 5 through January 11

Two ads on Indy Week: our print ad will start on December 31 and run for a week, our online ad will start on January 7 and run for a week.

We had a lot of fun drafting our slogan for the IndyWeek ads. We got a lot of ideas from the ACBL CAP site. I liked **You can't duplicate bridge** but Ed Fuller prevailed with:

Join the ♣

Betsy Mebane suggested **"Learn to play the hand you're dealt"** and also,

Get to the ♥ of the matter.

Apparently, the possibilities for good slogans are unlimited—let me know your ideas. Surely we will go back for more ads. ACBL CAP tells us that there is currently no limit on how many times we can go back to them for the subsidy.

Now logos are important in these ads and the ACBL will not reimburse us for a print ad if it does not have their logo. It is clear that they guard their brand jealously—yes, indeed, bridge is big business. Also, if

you have not already seen this, **Ed Fuller** has devised an unofficial Unit 191 logo which he uses on Facebook and which we have adopted in our ad campaign:



ACBL
Bright Leaf Unit 191

I like this logo: When **John Torrey** first saw it he remarked: ***"At last we are showing some skin."***

There is an ocean of retired folk out there, some are only 60 years old with, several more decades of bridge to play, and there are new young players coming up all the time: ACBL wants their dues, we want their card fees and most of all we want their enduring fellowship as I have found fellowship in this remarkable group. Fill those tables, make new friends! That's my motto.



DID YOU KNOW

Pat Owens is a writer and avid bridge player; she has been a member of our unit since the 90's. She recently published her fourth book ***"The Gnostic Scroll"*** which is available on line at Amazon, and at local bookstores, along with, ***"Pulling Time, Sy's Gift, and Tsunami Journal"***. Owens' world travel, whether to an archeological dig in Israel, France, or Italy; or as a volunteer helping tsunami victim in Sri Lanka; or teaching

creative writing to prisoners, her unique experience has provided insight into the hearts and minds of a vast array of people from every walk of life. These are the sources she brings to life in her writings. When she's not writing she's playing bridge.

Pat also heads her own company – Bookology – a service for people wishing to publish their own works, whether novel, non-fiction, genealogy, family recipes, etc., designed and listed on Amazon. For info contact her at **powens5@nc.rr.com**.

Membership Report
Submitted by Linda Harris
During the month of October the following occurred:

Total Membership for October 2014	554
New	3
Transfer In	4
Transfer Out	(1)
Deceased	0
Snowbird In	0
Snowbird Out	(1)
Future Life Masters inactive	(6)
Future Life Masters reinstated	1
Life Masters Unpaid	(2)
Life Masters reinstated	1

I am pleased that we gained three (3) new ACBL members, **Anne H. Fishel**, and **Betty House** of Chapel Hill, and **Charles T. Meyers** of Hillsborough. In addition, four (4) players transferred in **Jeffrey Biggers** from Unit 114, and **Virginia G. Page** from Unit 128 both of Chapel Hill, **Carol L. Goettman** of Pittsboro from Unit 244, and **Brenda Rigby** of Apex from Unit 119. We bid a warm welcome to these players and look forward to having them as part of our bridge family.

Advancing in rank 4 (four) during the month of October were:

Junior Masters

Jo D. Bays
Zheqi Zhang

Club Masters

Susan J. Wheeler

Sectional Masters

Phoebe P. Brinskelle

We're very proud of the achievements of all the above!!!

Unit 191 members please check the Directory on our unit website (www.unit191bridge.org) and report to me any changes or corrections that need to be made.



♪ The Voices of Chapel Hill ♪

This local singing group will be presenting its holiday concert on:

December 19 at 8:00 PM
December 20 at 3:00 PM



at Hill Hall—East Cameron Street in Chapel Hill.

Susan Parker and Skip Riva, unit bridge players, are members of the chorus. Either Susan or Skip can give you more details and provide information about tickets.

This is a great event to support the local arts plus enjoy some beautiful traditional holiday music.

MISCELLANEOUS

- Be sure to put the dates of the holiday parties on your calendars—each club hosts a special game and festive party to add to the spirit of the season.
- One load of food from the double/triple session event has been given to The Durham Food Bank—the boxes remain for those who wish to bring in canned food items.
- At this Thanksgiving time, our unit has indeed much for which we are thankful - our club owners, directors, volunteers, unit board, and the list goes on.



PLEASE REMEMBER.....

If you will not be attending the holiday gala and annual meeting, you have the opportunity to vote for candidates for the 2015 unit Board of Directors. Absentee ballots are available at club games.

The complete bios were in the November Alert and may be found at the website.

Candidates are:

LINDA BREZIN
LINDA HARRIS
JACKIE MARKS
BARBARA MARTIN
MELANIE RIVA
DIANE SAULSBERRY

We hope as many members as possible attend the very popular gala and will vote at that time.



**THE ALERT IS PUBLISHED
MONTHLY AND IS THE OFFICIAL
NEWSLETTER OF UNIT 191.
PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU
HAVE IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS.**

BARBARA MARTIN, EDITOR
**CONTRIBUTORS: RANDY JOYCE, LIZ
MCGUFFEY AND DAVE STREIFFORD**