

UNIT 191 BRIGHT LEAF ALERT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF UNIT 191

JANUARY 2015

NEW BOARD MEETS!

The 2015 unit board members are:

Seated: Phylliss Woody, Jim Bean, Joyce Jenzano, Linda Harris

Standing: Randy Joyce, Ed Fuller, Jackie Marks, Barbara Martin, Diane Saulsberry, Maggie Lindquist, Paul Kobrin, Melanie Riva



Newly elected board members, **Jackie Marks, Barbara Martin, Diane Saulsberry, Melanie Riva, and Linda Harris** met with the current board members on December 8 for the first meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was to elect officers for the coming year. The following were elected:

President—**Jim Bean**
Vice-President—**Joyce Jenzano**
Secretary—**Jackie Marks**
Treasurer—**Diane Saulsberry**

Appointments for committee chairpersons are:

Membership Chair—**Linda Harris**
Electronic Contact—**Linda Harris**
Publicity Chair—**Melanie Riva**
Intermediate-Newcomer Coordinator -
Maggie Lindquist
Alert Editor—**Barbara Martin**
Education Liaison—**Maggie Lindquist**
March Sectional—**Jim Bean and Andrea Roitman**

July Sectional—**Jackie Marks**

Future Life Master Sectional—**Joyce Jenzano and Melanie Riva**

Annual Meeting (Gala) - **Linda Harris and Kay Richardson**

Tournament Coordinator—**Ed Fuller and Jackie Marks**

Unit Bridge Coordinator—**Ed Fuller and Jackie Marks**

Unit Recorder—**Phylliss Woody**

District Representative—**Chris Moll**

Disciplinary Chairperson—**Randy Joyce**

Webmaster—**Ed Fuller**

A HAPPY
NEW YEAR

AD CAMPAIGN FOR NEWCOMERS

If you recall the article in last month's Alert, we are reaching out to newcomers. On November 10 the Board of Unit 191 met and approved an ad campaign to run on WUNC radio and in IndyWeek.

For WUNC listeners, 91.5 on your radio dial, our sponsorship announcements will run 15 times during the period January 5-11. The 24-word FCC-compliant spot 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.**

We are told that the blocks in which these spots will run are roughly:

On-Air Schedule

Start Date	End Date	Scheduled Time/Event	Length	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Su
1/5/2015	1/11/2015	06:00:00a to 10:00:00a	:15	1	1	0	1	1	0	0
1/5/2015	1/11/2015	10:00:00a to 03:00:00p	:15	1	0	1	1	0	1	0
1/5/2015	1/11/2015	03:00:00p to 07:00:00p	:15	0	1	1	0	1	0	1
1/5/2015	1/11/2015	05:00:00a to 12:00:00a	:15	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

WUNC listeners, keep your ears peeled for these announcements!

Also, we will run ads in IndyWeek—print and online. Please remember to pick up your print copy of IndyWeek on December 31—IndyWeek is published weekly on Wednesday. The Online ad should be available during the period January 7 through 13 at Indyweek.com. Here are the ad proofs:

Flashing Online Ad
Note: because the website is an embedded link, you do not see it in the proof below.

Print Ad

Flash 1

Have fun & meet new people

Flash 2

We wait with some curiosity to see what this new paid public presence will bring us. You already know that we have a presence on Facebook. Can Twitter be far behind? We are collecting data.

Submitted by Linda Brezin

“A THREE RING” BRIDGE HAPPENING

It was a “three ring” event at the TBC on Tuesday, December 9, when the regular 499er pairs game was held, the newly formed 0-5 game for players who can come with or without a partner and play bridge under the supervision of Valerie Roberts was held, and the Christmas luncheon and special game for Mentors and their mentees was held. 28 tables—three separate games—and all directed by **Darleen**. Not only are the mentees learning to play better bridge, but there are several who have excellent cooking skills. The food provide by the mentees was outstanding! Thanks from all the mentors! And thanks to **Sharon Crane and Linda Harris** for organizing the M/M event.



Linda Harris and Chris Moll—winners of the Mentor/Mentee game. Not only did Linda help organize the event and set up the kitchen, she also was the winner!! Well done!



One of three tables laden with delicious entrees, salads, and desserts



0-5 Game supervised by **Valerie Roberts**

Kay Gruninger, Bunny Wheeler, Linda Owen and Margaret Rouse—part of the food line



Sharon Crane and Linda Harris—co-chairpersons of the Mentor/Mentee program



January 2015

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
GNT Swiss				1	2	3
Jr Fund						Morning
Unit				Afternoon No Game	Afternoon &0-20	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
			Morning			Morning
	Afternoon Evening	499er Swiss & 0-5 pairs Easy-bridge	Afternoon Evening	Afternoon Play&review	Afternoon &0-20	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
			Morning			Morning
Pairs	Swiss Swiss	499er & 0-5 pairs Easy-bridge	Afternoon Evening	Afternoon Play&review	Afternoon &0-20	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
			Morning			morning
	Afternoon Evening	499er & 0-5 pairs Easy-bridge	Afternoon Swiss	Swiss Play&review	Afternoon &0-20	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
			Morning			Morning
8 is Enough	Afternoon Evening	499er & 0-5 pairs Easy-bridge	Afternoon Evening	Afternoon Play&review	Afternoon &0-20	

For those of you unfamiliar with the **8 is Enough** format:

8 is Enough is a team game where players are allotted a number based on their ACBL master points—A (2000+); B (750-2000); and C (0-750).

A = 3 points B = 2 points
C = 1 point

The most a team can have is 8 points, therefore 2 A players must team up with 2 C players (3+3+1+1=8)

The team's total count is then added together to determine its ranking in the 8 is Enough game. If the team has an 8 count, it is considered an A team. A 7 count team would be a B team; a 4--5-or 6 count team would be a C team. 4 C players (1+1+1+1=4) or 3 C's and 1 B (1+1+1+2=5). 4 B players would be an A team (2+2+2+2=8); 3 C's and an A would be a C team (1+1+1+3=6).

When is the last time an A player got to be a C?!?!?

~~~**New Year's Eve**—Both the morning and afternoon games are a GO! No evening game.

~~~Some bidding cards are missing from some of the boxes. They most likely have been moved to another box. Please check the boxes to see if you find any extras.

~~~Please check the website to see all the classes and teaching games that are now being offered at the TBC. There is a 0-5 game held on Tuesday and a 0-20 game on Friday afternoons, monitored by **Valerie Roberts**.

**Maggie Lindquist** has a special game on Saturday morning with a lesson and play of the hand. **John Torrey** is offering classes on Thursday evenings beginning January 15. Play and Review is offered on Tuesday and Thursday nights for beginning and intermediate players—taught by Jay and Darleen.

~~~Amnesty for Pencils! No fine for returning the pencils that may have been inadvertently taken from TBC.

Darleen Bates

The Adventures of Duke and Caroline

Written by Randy Joyce and Sandy McCay

Dramatis Personae

Caroline.....Smart, vivacious, trusting; founded her own company at 25, now retired at 50 and seeking new challenges; wants to learn to play bridge the right way, both technically and ethically
Duke..... Rich, cavalier, devil-may-care; made his money the old fashioned way, he inherited it; sees bridge as a social outlet; not above bending the rules to advance his status
The McAdoosElderly couple from the 299er game
Buzz and Jim.....College students
The RGG's.....Expert players who gave and expected the best you had to offer at the table
Laggardly Larry..... The slowest player at the club
“Helpful Hilda”.....The club’s expert on gentle gloating
Gracie the Gatherer....The BEST HCP Holder in the club
Angie Antenna.....Always had her eyes and ears on alert
Astonishing Abe..... Tricky!!! Bidder

Over the course of many weeks, other characters will be introduced to our little drama. Any relation to real life persons will be purely coincidental.

New Year’s Resolutions

With 2014 drawing to a close, Caroline and Duke decided it was high time to have some bridge resolutions for the upcoming year. New Year’s Resolutions are always made in good cheer, and the maker always has the best intentions to carry out his or her promises. Duke and Caroline decided to draw up a list of 5 each and placed a small side bet (fancy dinner) on who could stick to their list longer. It would certainly add a new dimension to their efforts at the table.

Caroline’s Resolutions:

- 1. I resolve to understand that my partner is not perfect and is trying to do his/her best on each and every hand. I will refrain from hurtful remarks and comments when things sometimes go awry.**
- 2. I resolve to greet each new table with a warm” Hello” and a “How are you doing?” even if we have just gone set 1100 on the previous board.**
- 3. I resolve to take a little extra time when I see the dummy and make a plan about what I should be doing on a particular hand. This applies to Defense as well as Offense.**
- 4. I resolve to try to not make bids that have not been discussed or are outside of our partnership agreements. I especially resolve to not preface any peculiar bid or play with a protracted huddle.**
- 5. I resolve to compliment my opponents for a really good play and not just attribute it to pure blind dumb luck.**

Duke's Resolutions:

1. I resolve to play at a pace that is neither overly hasty nor intolerably slow. If I have a problem and need to think on a hand, I will assume that my partner takes no undue inference from the hesitation.
2. I resolve to not make "Frowny" faces if the dummy that I see does not seem to agree with the bids that my partner made. 
3. I resolve to compliment my partner for a thoughtfully played hand or an imaginative defense. I will NOT compliment partner in a gloating tone when the opponents went awry and handed us a top board, or we bid a grand slam on 2 finesses and they both worked.
4. I resolve to not give helpful hints to the opponents unless they expressly ask for them. I will not tell them that they should play differently resolve to not give helpful hints to the methods to handle the problem that they just encountered.
5. I resolve to pick up my trash at each table.

Well, the resolutions were made. The bets had been placed. We will see whether Caroline or Duke have what it takes to take their game/behavior to the next level in 2015.

♠ ♥ ~ ~ Attention New Bridge Players ~ ~ ♦ ♣

More Limited Duplicate Games

0-5 Masterpoints:
Tuesdays at 1:15 pm
0-20 Masterpoints:
Fridays at 1:15 pm

Triangle Bridge Club
5110 Revere Road
Durham, NC
(919) 405-2016

Please check the website for a listing of all Newcomer Games and Classes beginning in January

Durham Bridge Club

The Durham Bridge Club continues to give \$5 coupons to the mentor playing with his/her mentee who has the highest score. At the annual meeting of the club, Ed Fuller was elected to the board. **Jim Hansell** was elected President and **Mary Jo Doherty** was elected vice-President.



Please plan to come for an early round of bridge on Wednesday at 9:30, enjoy delicious breakfast snacks and have fun.

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

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Total Membership for November 2014 | 557 |
| New | 5 |
| Transfer In | 0 |
| Transfer Out | 0 |
| Deceased | 0 |
| Snowbird In | 1 |
| Snowbird Out | (1) |
| Future Life Masters inactive | (5) |
| Future Life Masters reinstated | 3 |
| Life Masters Unpaid | (1) |
| Life Masters reinstated | 1 |

I am pleased that we gained five (5) new ACBL members, **Jim Eichel**, and **Rajneesh Gupta** of Chapel Hill, and **Faith Henry**, **Judy C. Larrimore**, and **Gerard J. Musante** of Durham. In addition, one (1) player (snowbird) transferred in— **Michael M. Sears** of Durham, from Unit 195. We bid a warm welcome to these players and look forward to having them as part of our bridge family.

Advancing in rank 8 (eight) during the month of November were:

Club Masters

Susan Korn

Sectional Masters

Linda Brezin
Bob E. Keeter
John E. Pinkerton

Regional Masters

Rita R. Chapman
Judy F. Smith

Bronze Life Masters

Jack A. Heslip

Silver Life Masters

Mary C. Best

Congratulations one and all!
Happy Holidays!!

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.

Does Where Matter?

*Another opinion on where bridge players sit at the tables —submitted by **Linda Brezin***

About the choice to sit North/South

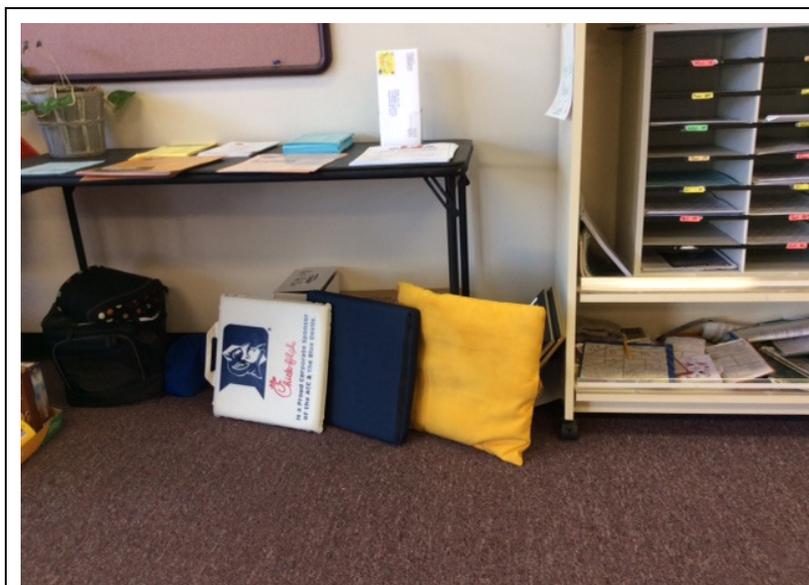
North/South seems like the obvious choice. Most people prefer it. The North/South positions are sold more quickly than the East/West. East/West is always available. Sitting N/S is more convenient, you can depend on your side table to set your drink, you may enjoy the convenience of the bridgemate, you do not have the confusion of finding your next table or knowing where the cards will come from. Because of age or infirmity, you may have no choice—I certainly respect this: someday that will be me.

About the choice to sit East/West

Any physical therapist will tell you that if you have long periods of sitting you should consciously break the inactivity by standing and stretching. On rising from a long day of bridge, how often do you hear your partner, or you yourself, comment on how stiff you are. Well, were you sitting North/South? Perhaps, for some, the stiffness passes but perhaps other problems develop later in the day that are not obviously traced back to bridge. Therefore, the mother of all reasons for where to sit is an orthopedic one: you should pick the East/West orientation and it does not matter whether you choose East or West, the important thing is that you get to move.

Several weeks ago, I sat opposite a partner playing North/South, all day, stock still, absorbed in my bridge hands. Now I did not experience any discomfort at the time, nevertheless, at the end of the day, when I lay down in bed and my body had to adjust from being upright to supine, I felt the most excruciating pain that travelled from the soles of my feet up the sides of both legs to my hips. I could not lie still in bed. After much distress, I Googled, I found a site for, of all things, restless leg syndrome (RLS), and there I found a set of exercises which alleviated the pain so I could get to sleep without pain killers. The next day I mentioned my back/leg muscle problem to another player who said that she too experienced back pain. When you walk into TBC, you will see a batch of lost/discarded seat cushions that indicate that people have trouble sitting and have sought a remedy. The fact that these cushions are now discarded indicate that they have not solved the problem.

Of course every back problem is different, but we may possibly have a problem which we can call Bridge Player's Leg (BPL). When you lie down in bed at night, do you feel a tingling in the soles of your feet? Does the pain travel up the sides of your legs? Did you sit North/South that day? I have your exercises.



Discarded seat cushions at TBC

HOLIDAY PARTY AT THE GOVERNOR'S CLUB

- **Calf stretch**— Stretch out your arms so that your palms are flat against a wall and your elbows are nearly straight. Slightly bend your right knee and step your left leg back a foot or two, positioning its heel and foot flat on the floor. Hold for 20 to 30 seconds. Now bend your left knee while still keeping its heel and foot flat on the floor. For a deeper stretch, move your foot back a bit farther. Switch legs and repeat.
- **Front thigh stretch**— Standing parallel to a wall for balance, grab and pull one of your ankles toward your buttock while keeping the other leg straight. Hold for 20 to 30 seconds. Switch legs and repeat.
- **Hip stretch**— Place the back of a chair against the wall for support and stand facing the chair. Raise your left foot up and rest it on the chair, with your knee bent. Keeping your spine erect, press your pelvis forward gently until you feel a stretch at the top of your right thigh. Your pelvis will move forward only a little. Hold for 20 to 30 seconds. Switch legs and repeat. (To achieve a better stretch, maintain your upright posture, and minimize the amount by which you need to move your pelvis forward, either find a stairway to raise your leg higher, or place your leg on the top of the chair back.)
- **Lower back stretch.** Sit in a chair, cross your ankle over your knee, and lean forward as far as you can. (No need to bounce.) Hold for 20 to 30 seconds. Switch legs and repeat.

This information comes mainly from <http://www.healthline.com/health/restless-leg-syndrome/exercises-to-alleviate-rls> with additions and refinements from my chiropractor.

Anyway, after a few days of exercise and a visit to my chiropractor, my problem was completely resolved. I do my exercises every day just in case, and, most importantly, from now on, I sit East/West. When I am forced to sit North/South I find a way to do some extra stretches anyway.



The holiday party at the Governor's Club was held on December 17. There were 23 tables of bridge players —and 3 separate games: Sanctioned, Intermediate, and Novice. Thanks to **Susan Ingelbinck and Ray McEntee** who organized the event.



2014 IN REVIEW

JANUARY

♠ The newly seated board elected the following:

Jim Bean—President

Joyce Jenzano—Vice-President

BodohPat —Secretary

Paul Kobrin—Treasurer

Other members of the board are **Maggie Lindquist, Melanie Riva, Jackie Marks, Phylliss Woody, Randy Joyce, Ken Dye, Ed Fuller, and Katie Wilson**

♥ **Carol Wilcox, Mary Newman, Margaret Rouse, and Katie Wilson**, having played bridge together as partners and a team, all became life masters. That made 13 members who achieved the rank of life master in our unit in one year (2013) which was definitely a record!

FEBRUARY

♣ **Charlie Marshall** is the first life master in 2014 from our unit.

♠ **Bob Lenkeit** passed on February 22. Bob and Joyce joined our unit when they relocated to Cary in 1994. They opened a bridge club in Cary which grew to 2 clubs and the two ran successful games for many years. Bob taught and was a director.

♦ **Rita Musante and Liz McGuffey** were the winners of the special mentoring game held on February 11.

♣ An article in the Alert featured our many teachers who are members of our unit: **Maggie Lindquist, Kay and Randy Joyce, Valerie Roberts, Jack Whetstone, Paul and Ruth Ann Schwenke, Jay and Darleen Bates, John Torrey, Henry Meguid, Chris and Tammy Moll, Harrison Brooke, Larry Honeywell, Jim Drake, and Marty Demko.**

♠ The Raleigh Sectional was held at the TBC after a power outage in their facility was not repaired on time. Jay offered the space and the tournament ran smoothly.

MARCH

♥ **Randy and Kay Joyce** finished first overall in four out of five sessions at the Carolina Dreamin' Tournament held at the TBC. Their 56+ points is an amazing record for a sectional in our area.

♣ 80+ tables of bridge were played in our unit on March 19th in the unit sponsored double/triple session event. Two huge containers of food were donated to the Durham Food Pantry from members' donations.

♣ A local ice storm presented some unfavorable issues the weekend of the Carolina Dreamin' Tournament. In spite of the unfortunate conditions, there were 339 tables of bridge for the weekend.

♠ The UNC Bridge team composed of **Robert Thorstad, Ben Kompa, Parker Xie, and Xiyuan Ge**, qualified for the National Collegiate Championship that will be played in Las Vegas in July.

♦ **Skip and Melanie Riva** both became life masters, Melanie was the National Ace of Clubs winner and Skip was second in the National Ace of Clubs in his division.

♠ The Alert goes digital.

APRIL

♣ **Dave Streifford and Doris Elkin** become Life Masters.

♣ **Jim Bean and Jim Wells** placed first overall in the A and B divisions of the Mentor/Mentee game held on April 19.

MAY

♥ **Pearl Schechter** has a special birthday celebration for her 95th birthday.

♠ **Tatyana and Vladimir Stemkovski, Ben Kompa and Robert Thorstad** placed 1st in the Flight C of the Grand National Teams for District 7. They will compete in the finals in Las Vegas in July.

JUNE

♦ **Betsy Mebane** is Unit 191's newest Life Master. She attained that goal playing in the Raleigh Regional in May.

♣ On June 4th, **Ira Vendig** celebrated his 102nd birthday!

♥ **Andrea Roitman/Linda Owen and Skip Riva/Linda Brezin** finished tied for first overall in the final Mentor/Mentee game held on June 10.

♣ The Youth Bridge Camp was held two consecutive weeks at the TBC. **Maggie Lindquist** has organized and taught the Bridge Camp for the past four years.

JULY

♥ **Linda Harris** is name Unit 191's Goodwill Ambassador for 2014.

♦ Our unit's sectional tournament was held July 3-6. **Robin Marin, and Diane Saulsberry**, Hospitality Chairs, along with their efficient helpers served hot dogs and ice-cream to celebrate the 4th of July.

♣ The Bridge Academy becomes a member of the Common Game—which means that players can compare their results with other players across the country who played in the same game on that day.

♣ Membership in our unit now numbers 548.

AUGUST

♠ The UNC Bridge Team finished second in the Collegiate National Championship! Team members competed in Las Vegas.

♥ **Allan and Debbie Carlson** are the newest Life Masters in our unit.

SEPTEMBER

♣ The first Mentor/Mentee game was held on Sept. 16. **Sharon Crane and Linda Harris** are coordinators for the program this year and Jay Bates directed the game. Winners were: First place (tie) Jim Wells/Marian Meyer and Jim Bean/Linda Brezin,

OCTOBER

♠ The first unit sponsored LBIAD was held on October 12th at the Doubletree Hotel in Durham. 75+ new players enjoyed the day and had their first introduction to bridge—taught by Patty Tucker. **Jeff Boak** coordinated the event.

♥ On October 15, the unit had its third double/triple session event. Members had the opportunity to play in as many as three sessions during the day and enjoy food provided by the clubs.

♣ **Larry Kupper and Joe Haseman** finished third out of 1849 pairs who played in the Common Game that day. Their percentage was 74.81 and of course, they finished first at The Bridge Academy.

NOVEMBER

♦ The FLM tournament was held November 7-9 at the TBC. **Maggie Lindquist and Katie Wilson** were co-chairpersons.

♠ A class on Keycard Blackwood is being offered by **Kay and Randy Joyce** —**Valerie Roberts** is teaching an intermediate class. Valerie is also teaching a class on Tuesday as a follow-up of LBIAD.

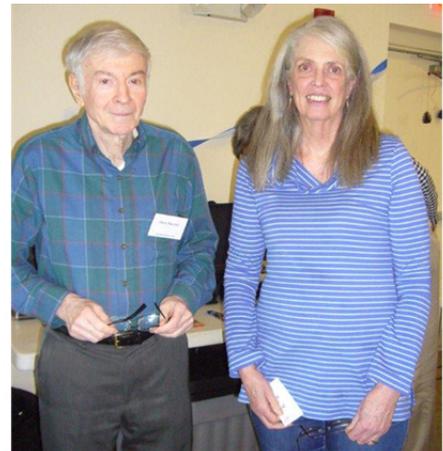
♣ Unit 191 now has a Facebook account—we need you as a friend.

DECEMBER

♠ The unit's annual Holiday Gala and annual meeting was held at the Dubose House on Dec. 7. 190 members and guests attended and enjoyed a delightful lunch and bridge.

BRIDGE ACADEMY HOSTS HOLIDAY PARTY

One hundred people attended The Bridge Academy holiday party and game. The party featured a feast of delectable goodies and started with playing a game designed to allow unit members to know more about each other. Forty two participants submitted three statements about themselves, two were true and one false, the game was about guessing which one was false. **Ed Fuller, Barbara Yowell, Joe Haseman, Steve Barrett and Nancy Crow** reached the final round by correctly identifying between 20-25 false statements. In the final round, **Barbara Yowell** emerged as the ultimate winner.



*Steve Barrett & Grada Arble
2014 Master Point Race Runner-up*



Wait, Wait, But Tell Me!

One hundred people attended The Bridge Academy holiday party and game. The party featured a feast of delectable goodies and started with playing a game designed to allow unit members to know more about each other. Forty two participants submitted three statements about themselves, two were true and one false, the game was about guessing which one was false. Ed Fuller, Barbara Yowell, Joe Haseman, Steve Barrett and Nancy Crow reached the final round by correctly identifying between 20-25 false statements. In the final round, Barbara Yowell emerged as the ultimate winner.

The game featured 25 tables in two sections:
 1st overall - Ken and Betsy Schooff (71.09%)
 2nd overall - Nancy Crow - Nancy Coey (64.58%)
 3rd overall - Roger Hayes - Lee Laska (62.12%)
 4th overall - Audrey Crosby - Robin Marin (60.23%)
 5th overall - Barbara Martin - Jim Cunningham (58.9%)
 6th overall - Jennie Robinson - Ann Petro (58.71%)



Peggy Barbee, Margaret Rouse and Katie Wilson



*Joe Haseman & Larry Kupper win the 2014
Bridge Academy Master Point Race*



Playing Wait, Wait, But Tell Me!





Joe Haseman, Nancy Crow, and Ed Fuller were finalists in the Wait, Wait, But Tell Me game



Ann Vaughan receives a special holiday gift in recognition of her generous contribution of time and effort as the hospitality coordinator



100 people attended The Bridge Academy Holiday Party and Game



Ruth Schwenke, John and Bob Pinkerton and Paul Schwenke



HOLIDAY PARTY

WINNERS

The game featured 25 tables in two sections:

1st overall - Ken and Betsy Schooff (71.09%)



2nd overall – Nancy Crow – Nancy Coey (64.58%)

3rd overall - Roger Hayes – Lee Laske (62.12%)

4th overcall – Audrey Crosby – Robin Marin (60.23%)

5th overall – Barbara Martin – Jim Cunningham (58.9%)

6th overall – Jennie Robinson – Ann Petro (58.71%)

Leads and Lead-directing Doubles: Some Tips & Tricks

Written by Dave Streifford

Most leads against most contracts are uncontroversial. But then there are the tougher ones. What follows is some miscellany re the business of leading or deciding to double.

If opponents are playing in an ill-fitted suit contract, do not lead a trump. You've seen this kind of auction when responder settles in partner's suit because there's nowhere else to go. Corollary to above: do not lead trump when it's obvious partner has a trump stack. All you'll do is finesse partner.

If you have an honors series [3 of them] against a NT contract, lead the top of that series. If a broken or interior sequence, lead the 2nd highest of the string. For example, holding KJT9, lead the J [not playing coded leads]. But holding KQx and a 4- or 5-card suit, better to lead 4th best from the latter. You might get both K and Q, so don't lead the Queen. Also, don't lead the little one, possibly giving declarer a freebie.

If you want a lead in a suit, remember to double artificial bids -- Stayman, Jacoby Transfers, cue bids and Blackwood responses. These are all *lead-directing doubles*.

Never lead lowest from J874 or any similar holding headed by the Jack. Indeed, absent anything better, it's probably better to lead the Jack.

Do you lead the Ace from AKx(x) vs. a suit contract? If so, it's advised to do this ONLY on trick one. Thereafter lead the King from AKx(x). Why? You or your defending partner may want to lead an ace without the king and doesn't want partner to think you have the king as well. Consider leading the queen from the AKQ vs. a suit contract. Assuming partner can read the lead (almost always can), partner should give count.

**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**

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

Everyone possibly is in the midst of making New Year's Resolutions—some possibilities regarding bridge (in addition to what Randy has already mentioned in his article):

1. Make an effort to do just one tidying-up chores after each game—push in your chair, put your pencil away, pick up trash, or return your mug or glass to the kitchen.
2. Take a second to thank the director or manager of the game—they give of their time to provide all unit members the opportunity to play bridge several times a week.
3. Plan to volunteer—the unit needs help at the tournaments, special games and events during the year.





Holiday Party at the Veterans Honor Center

