

# UNIT 191 BRIGHT LEAF ALERT

Official Publication of Unit 191

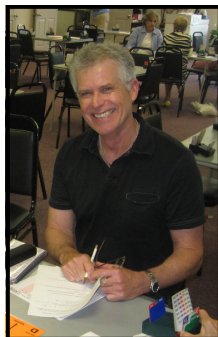
February 2015

## From the President.....

Happy New Year Unit 191 Members! Our new year will start off with an earlier Carolina Dreamin' Tournament beginning on February 26th through March 1st. Get your partners and teammates ready because we expect another bustling tournament. **Kay Gruninger** and **Katie Wilson** will be happy to arrange partnerships if you need them and **Melanie Riva, Nancy Crow, and Rita Musante** will be in charge of the hospitality. Please ask any of the hospitality team how you can help either with food, money donations, and/or volunteering in the kitchen. We pride ourselves on our hospitality and thanks to our membership we are known for it! Whatever you can do to help us, we would be grateful.

I would also like our members to be aware of our privacy policy regarding members' email addresses and phone numbers. We have now included in our directory a privacy policy that forbids any members from using our directory without the unit's consent. We take your privacy seriously and will send you emails that are only related to unit activities. For any reason you do not want to be included in the directory or have changes in your personal contact information, please notify our electronic contact, **Linda Harris** at [lharris166@nc.rr.com](mailto:lharris166@nc.rr.com).

If you have a member you would like to nominate for the Goodwill award, please submit the nomination to **Joyce Jenzano** by February 1.



I wish all our members a bounty of masterpoints this 2015. Happy Bridging!

**Jim Bean,**  
Unit 191 President

## GOODWILL NOMINATIONS

Each year, the Unit 191 Board of Directors considers nominees to be honored as Goodwill Ambassadors and selects an individual whose name is also submitted for District nomination. The ACBL invites units to select a nominee to be so honored, stipulating "the ideal nominee is one who personifies high standards of goodwill, sportsmanship and volunteerism; who gives selflessly of his/her time to promote and enhance bridge; who exhibits good manners; and who strives to make the game nicer for all of us. This person has an exemplary demeanor at the bridge table—welcoming and friendly."

Individuals who have been recognized in the past by our unit as Goodwill Ambassadors are:

**Mary Lou Johnson, Peggy Barbee, Harrison Brooke, Bob Boggs, Sue Torrey, John Torrey, JoAnne Vansuch, Maggie Lindquist, Linda Harris, Sigrid Olin, and Darleen Bates.**

Others in our unit who have been recognized elsewhere as Goodwill members **include Jay Bates, Judith Bloomer, Kay and Randy Joyce, Chris Moll, and Mike Sears.**

Please consider submitting the names of individuals in our unit whom you feel are deserving of this recognition. It will be helpful to the committee to include specific comments in support of your nomination of such individuals. Nominations may be submitted to **Joyce Jenzano** ([jjenzano@nc.rr.com](mailto:jjenzano@nc.rr.com)), chair of the nominations committee. Other members of the committee include **Maggie Lindquist, Barbara Martin, and Linda Harris**. The committee will consider all nominations and present information and recommendations to the full Board of Directors for final selection of the 2015 nominee from this unit at its February meeting.

The deadline for submitting names and comments to the committee is February 1. Please direct any questions you may have to any of the committee members or to **Jim Bean**, Unit President.

*Submitted by Joyce Jenzano*

# NEWS FROM ROXBORO (YEAR END REPORT)

*Submitted by Helen Starr*

The ACBL sanctioned Roxboro Bridge Club had a tumultuous year in 2014. We began the year in the basement of the Senior Center on Depot Street, our home for the past 9 years. When the building was condemned, we were cut adrift and rescued by the Roxboro Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center holding our games there until the temporary Senior Center could be opened. We met in the temporary Senior Center for a while until space and scheduling problems were too daunting. At that point we searched for a new meeting place and were welcomed warmly by Long Memorial Methodist Church where we continue to meet in Lewis Hall.

Our club was sanctioned by the American Contract Bridge League ACBL in 1994 and has hosted 137 different players from Roxboro and surrounding areas since that time. Of the 137 players, 124 have won masterpoints.

For those not familiar with the ACBL, it was founded in 1937 and currently has 167,000+ members. The headquarters are in Horn Lake, Mississippi and their mission is to promote the game of bridge through local clubs and tournaments. The Roxboro Club is a member of Unit 191 consisting of 5 Durham Clubs, one Farrington Village Club, one Chapel Hill Club and our club.

As we close 2014, we want to congratulate **Darcus Woody**, who won the 2014 Masterpoint Race with 40.33 MPs and **Fran Westmoreland**, who finished a close second with 38.84 MPs.

As we move into 2015, we have made several positive changes. The club adopted a set of by-laws at their annual meeting during the Christmas party. There is now a Board of Directors who will be responsible for all activities at the club. **Keith Starr**, who has served as club manager since 1994, is stepping aside and will assume the duties of President of the board. **Fran Westmoreland** will assume the duties of club manager. Other officers include **Barbara Tuck**, Vice-President; **Barbara Parker**, Secretary; **John Barnard**, Treasurer; and **Rich Helms**, Member-at-Large.

Our game is a zero tolerance (friendly) Open Game. The game is stratified so that beginners are matched against beginners and experts are matched against experts in the scoring, so that masterpoints can be won by players at different levels of expertise. We meet on Monday afternoon at 1:00 and on Wednesday night at 7:00 PM. Players come when it's convenient in their personal schedules.

**Why not come join us in 2015!**

## TBC NEWS

Anniversary game on February 5th! Please join us for a special unit game with bigger points to celebrate the 5th anniversary of Triangle Bridge Club at its current facility!

February 22—**8 is Enough**

February 8—**Sunday Pairs**

*Jay and Darleen*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**FEBRUARY 10**  
**MENTOR/MENTEE GAME**

**FEBRUARY 12-15**  
**RALEIGH SECTIONAL**

**FEBRUARY 26-MARCH 1**  
**DURHAM SECTIONAL**

**MARCH 28**  
**MENTOR/MENTEE GAME**

**APRIL 13-19**  
**GATLINBURG REGIONAL**

**APRIL 21**  
**MENTOR/MENTEE GAME**

**MAY 12**  
**MENTOR/MENTEE GAME**

**MAY 19-25**  
**RICHMOND REGIONAL**

**JUNE 8-14**  
**GREENVILLE, SC REGIONAL**

Dear Bridge Players,

I am delighted that I am here to thank you all for the beautiful cards and good wishes for my recovery. I appreciate it more than I can say, but I will still try my darnedest to beat you at the bridge table.

Fondly,

*Pearl Schechter*



## DURHAM BRIDGE CLUB

The Durham Bridge Club now gives a discount to newcomers having 0-10 masterpoints.

These pairs can play for \$8 per pair, compared to the regular \$14 at the DBC game on Wednesday mornings at 9:30.

**Come play with us!**

## FIRST MENTOR/MENTEE GAME IN 2015



**Sharon Crane and Charlotte Davis** were the overall winners of the first Mentor/Mentee game with a score of 61.82%. Well Done! In a tie for second and third place with a score of 59.43% were **Kay Gruninger/Jo Bays**, and **Ken Dye/Phyllis Woody**. Fourth place was **Barbara Martin/Linda Owen** with 56.71 and coming in at fifth place was **Frank Hund/Ginny Cole** with a 56.02%. **Thanks to Sharon Crane and Linda Harris** for organizing the game and to **Darleen Bates** for directing.

The next Mentor/Mentee game is scheduled for Tuesday, February 10.

## MORE NEWCOMER NEWS

The two newest games at TBC are continuing to bring in new players. Tuesday's 0-5 and Friday's 0-20 games have grown in table count each week.

What does this mean? More and more folks are discovering the fun and challenge of duplicate bridge. Newcomer games help the novice acclimate to format and rulings in a relaxed and friendly environment. Both games begin at 1:15 and end about 4:00. Most games include about 18 boards.

Bidding help may be requested. Folks do not need to come with a partner but as people become regular players, it's clear partnerships are developing.

*Submitted by Valerie Roberts*

*P.S. Thank you, **Valerie**, for monitoring these games and helping newcomers not only learn the game, but getting them off to a great start by teaching the systems and rules correctly.*

# Melanie Lands a Big One

Recently, while playing at the TBC, **Skip and Melanie Riva** had a hand for the ages. Melanie had the following hand:

♠ KJxx

♥ JTxx

♦ AKQJ

♣ x

and heard Skip open 1 Club. She responded 1 Heart and partner bid 4 Hearts. Melanie rolled out Keycard Blackwood and heard a 5 Club bid which showed 1 or 4 Keycards. She reasoned that partner must have 4 to justify his leap to 4 and decided not to find out about the Q of trumps, but proceeded directly to 6 Hearts. She realized that something might have gone amiss when LHO led the Spade A that she could not hold. Skip put down:

♠-----

♥- Qxxx

♦- xx

♣- AKQxxxx

As you can see this slam was not a favorite! Melanie is certainly not a quitter or a whiner, so after trumping the Spade Ace, she led a trump to her Ten. It held the trick. It turns out that her LHO had the Heart Kxx and 4 clubs to the J. She was hoping that Melanie would trump a Spade to return to the dummy to repeat the finesse and then she could pounce with the K and lead her last trump. The bad Club break would hopefully be too much for Declarer to overcome. A sound plan, but Melanie tricked her by leading a low Heart out of her hand! What could she do but put up the Heart K for fear of losing it? As you see, when her partner contributed the Heart A, the No-Play slam rolled home.

There are several very important issues to be considered about this hand. When the dummy came down, Melanie did not jump out of her chair berating her partner's bad bidding. She remained stoic; and WOW ! What a result! You will find that not all your contracts are pristine (*Kay puts me in some doozies*), but you can take a lot more tricks if you act as if nothing is out of the ordinary. I will admit that this hand is spectacular, and you will not achieve this result very often.

On a technical note, when you bid Key-card and receive a 0 or 3 or a 1 or 4 response and are not 100% sure that you know which partner has, you should sign off at the 5 level. Partner is supposed to carry on to 6, because you would not be asking and find out that many and want to sign off.

On a more technical level, what would you bid with Skip's hand? There is no clear-cut number of Hearts to bid. What do you play a 4 Club bid to mean? It actually is a bid which shows 4-card Heart support, great Clubs and a desire to reach at least 4 Hearts.

In olden times, the jump to 4 Clubs would always show solid Clubs along with your 4-card Heart support. Over the years, standards have been relaxed and this hand would certainly be adequate. Kay and I play that the 4C bid shows a minimum of AKxxxx and another card keycard outside clubs or hearts, if your club holding is only AKxxxx. An example would be x, Qxxx, Ax, AKJxxx. Melanie would have properly signed off at 5 Hearts, expecting Skip to proceed to 6 if he did in fact hold the 4 Keycards. A better auction, but not much of a story.



By Randy Joyce



# What's New for January

Please join us for the following events at Triangle Bridge Club—5110 Revere Road, Durham.

## A new set of small group lessons on Saturday mornings, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.

- Price—\$8 person per session
- Taught by **Maggie Lindquist** with help from **Ed Fuller**, **Murthy Awaquri**, and **Jeff Boak**

Newcomers and beginners are welcome to drop in for any of the lessons, as long as they are comfortable with the material covered to that point.

Maggie is continuing the breakout session format that attracted 12-16 newcomers last fall. Because multiple teachers and mentors attend each session, newcomers receive plenty of individual attention.

### **Two sections every Saturday:**

**Diamond Section**—For those who attended this past fall and have mastered the early material that focused on bidding, and introductory play of the hand and defense. Lessons focus on additional bidding conventions, overcalls and doubles, card combinations, more advanced play of the hand, and carding. We will also address playing questions for those starting to play in newcomer and beginner games.

**Clubs Section**— Begins on Saturday, January 17. This is a good starting place for those who could not participate in November and December, or who want a refresher on bidding balanced and unbalanced hands, hand evaluation, basic play, leads, and defense. You can also switch to the Diamond Section for any sessions where you are already comfortable with the Clubs material.

Both sections offer 40 minutes for lessons (with relevant handouts), and the remaining time is for hands-on supervised play, discussion, and questions. The times for lessons and play for each group will be staggered, so you can potentially attend both sets of lessons and skip playing that day.

## 2 for 1 play for newcomers at the Wednesday morning game, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM:

- Partners with less than 10 masterpoints play for \$8 per pair (regularly \$14 per pair at this game)
- Game run by the **Durham Bridge Club**—e-mail **Nancy Young** at [nancyyoung@nc.rr.com](mailto:nancyyoung@nc.rr.com) with questions
- Special point games available, including a Valentine's Day special

## Free Question and Answer session on Wednesdays, beginning at 12:30 PM:

- Bring a sandwich, along with questions and hands for discussion
- 12:30 PM to 1:00 PM—Questions answered from all levels
- 1:00 PM to 1:30 PM—Focus on newcomer questions

## "Shuffle and Play" begins at 1:30 PM:

- Stay for casual "shuffle and play" (ask questions after the hands)
- A small table fee to play

Please tell your friends, family, associates, your social bridge friends about these wonderful opportunities to for bridge in the unit. It's the perfect time to learn more about the game, improve skills, meet new friends and partners, plus enjoy the game in a relaxed atmosphere taught by good teachers.

## DURHAM BRIDGE CLUB

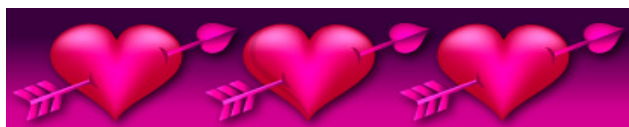
### VALENTINE PARTY

Invite your favorite bridge Valentine to play bridge on Wednesday, 9:30 AM, February 11, 2015!



Be festive and wear red, pink, or a heart of some kind. There will be a drawing for a free play.

Snacks or baked items to share would be appreciated.



## TARHEEL BRIDGE CLUB

Starting February 6, the Tarheel Bridge Club Friday afternoon game will begin play at 1:15 instead of the previous 1:00, so that players will have an easier time parking. The club plays at the Triangle Bridge Club facility on Revere Road in Durham.



## UNIT 191 WEBSITE

Are you one of those unit members who only goes to the website to find out results of games? If you qualify, then you are missing out on volumes of information about our unit.

Check the website for the following:

- Unit directory
- Minutes of all unit board meetings for the last two years
- All the Alerts for the last 2-3 years
- Classes being currently offered in our unit for instruction
- Memories—which includes photos of several recent events
- By-laws of the unit
- Board members and their assignments
- Governance
- And of course, game results

A huge thank you to **Ken Dye**, for being in charge of the site for the last 3 years, and our current webmaster, **Ed Fuller**. Please contact Ed if you have suggestions or comments.



Find us on:  
**facebook®**

Check us out on Facebook! Find out the latest happenings in the unit and also test your brain on bidding problems.

**The Alert is published monthly and is the official newsletter of Unit 191. If you have suggestions or ideas for articles, please let me know.**

**Deadline for the March Alert is February 24.**

**Barbara Martin, Editor  
Liz, McGuffey, Dave Streifford, and  
Randy Joyce,  
Contributors**

## Q & A

*Submitted by John Torrey*

**Questions and Answers! Today we'll focus on the Answers component, illustrated with a recent ruling from my club.** On the hand in question, North and South were very experienced players, East and West much less so. With East-West vulnerable, East dealt and opened 1 C. The auction proceeded:

West	North	East	South
----	----	1 C	Dbl
1 D	Pass	2 C	Dbl
??			

At this point, West asked North about South's second double. North didn't really know, but wanted to be helpful: he answered, "I think it's penalty." West, holding

**S 10 7 5**  
**H A 3 2**  
**D 10 9 8 7 6**  
**C A 2**

now bid 2 D and played there. Partner's clubs were K J 9 7 4; when it came time to play the clubs, West led the jack and played low when it was not covered, losing to North's queen. (North started with Q 10 8 in clubs.) The 2 Diamond contract ended up down one, and East-West called the director. South said he intended his second Double for takeout.

**How would you rule?** West had clearly made a play (and a bid) that she would never have made without South's answer; on the other side, that same answer included the "I think" qualification suggesting that there was no guarantee. On that same other side, the play selected had very small chance of success even on the assumption that the second double was for penalty.

We might notice first that North's club holding suggests (in the absence of an agreement) that the double is most likely not for penalty. Where are South's clubs coming from? But North is required to answer the question without reference to his own hand. His answer should be the same, even when his hand suggests that South made a mistake.

**The *Laws of Duplicate Bridge* devote a full page to the distinction between a mistaken explanation and a mistaken bid. When a bid and an explanation of that bid differ, what matters is whether the explanation matches the agreement the pair had, and not whether the bid does. If North and South had agreed that the double should be for penalty, there is no violation when South forgets and tries to double for takeout. But if they agreed that the double should be for takeout then the answer gave misinformation and there could be an adjusted score. The common case that the Laws do not address is the one in our example, where there was no agreement in the first place.**

I've seen this situation frequently at tournaments – including one at a NABC where my late wife used the "I think it's X" response and lost in committee. You should answer questions completely and include inferences from other actions that were available – but only when you have an agreement with your partner (which could come from experience as well as discussion). When you have no agreement, you should not guess or offer an opinion – just say that you have no agreement. You opponents are not entitled to your opinion and you should not offer it, even if they ask. (Call the director instead!)

Some years ago the ACBL promoted Active Ethics, one of whose precepts was that pairs should have (and remember) agreements about different situations where their conventions applied. Under this principle it was common for appeals committees to issue procedural penalties to pairs like our North and South, for not knowing their agreements. These penalties are rare today, but still possible.

**In the situation above, I ruled that here had been misinformation that led directly to the unfortunate play that our declarer made, and I adjusted the score. The (experienced) North player said that 95 percent of the players in the room would have answered as he did – and I decided I needed to write this article, because he could well be right.**

## 6-5 Come Alive and the Jump Reverse

You are dealer and open the following hand:

♠6 ♥AKT87 ♦3 ♣AJ9864

What do you bid? If you start with the longer suit and then rebid hearts twice to shape out your hand, you've conveyed a reverse denoting 17+ points. Not a good way to sustain partnerships. Or you could open 1H and rebid clubs twice, but that looks like 5 & 5.

Navigating the literature to learn how to bid this revealed two columns in the Bridge Bulletin written by Karen Walker. As one of her many fans, I wrote and asked permission to use her material. She graciously agreed, granting free rein to share any material from her BB columns. With that here is one solution.

To avoid lying to partner about points but still show a 6-5 shape, many players use something called the "jump reverse." The agreement has 4 key requirements:

- 1. It applies only to hands where the 6-card suit is of lower rank,**
- 2. The hand has between 10 and 15 high card points,**
- 3. You have sufficient playing strength to play opposite partner's minimal response, and**
- 4. Partner's one-level response bypasses your 5-card suit.**

So, the auction might proceed like this: 1C – P – 1S – P; 3H showing 6 clubs and 5 hearts. Partner's job is to figure out how the two hands will interface.

There are two main exceptions:

- 1. Do not jump if you can bid the 5-card suit at the one-level.**
- 2. If partner bids a negative double, your jump is a value bid.**

In our example, if the auction goes 1C – 1D – Dbl by partner, your 3H rebid is invitational showing 4+ hearts.

Karen weighs the relative benefits thusly:

*"This simple convention is especially effective in finding short-point games and slams, and can even have preemptive value. Unless you already use this jump as a "mini-splinter", adding the jump-reverse also makes good use of an otherwise idle bid, since you don't need the jump to show strength. If you have a 6-5 hand with extra values, you can make a forcing 2-level reverse and then rebid your second suit. The main drawback is that although the jump rebid gives a near-perfect description of your hand, it takes the auction very high, very fast. If partner has a weak hand with shortness in your second suit, he'll have to go to the 4-level to take a preference to your first suit. To make best use of this bid, opener and responder must exercise good judgment."*

Next month: Partner responses when you "come alive."

*Written by Dave Streifford*



# **CAROLINA DREAMIN' SECTIONAL**

**FEBRUARY 26TH-  
MARCH 1, 2015**

**THURSDAY, FEB. 26TH**

7:00 PM STRATIFIED  
OPEN 299er PAIRS



**FRIDAY, FEB. 27TH**

10:00 AM STRATIFIED OPEN AND 299er PAIRS  
2:30 PM STRATIFIED OPEN AND 299er PAIRS

**SATURDAY, FEB. 28TH**

10:00 AM STRATIFIED OPEN AND 299er PAIRS  
2:30 PM STRATIFIED OPEN AND 299er PAIRS  
(REGIONAL –RATED GAME BENEFITS  
JUNIOR BRIDGE (\$1 EXTRA)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST**

10:00 AM STRATIFIED OPEN SWISS TEAMS  
10:00 AM 299er SWISS TEAMS

**PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR  
MORE DETAILS.**

**GET YOUR PARTNER, YOUR TEAMMATES, AND  
DON'T MISS OUT ON WONDERFUL HOSPITALITY,  
GREAT BRIDGE, AND GOOD FUN!**

# Membership Report

*Submitted by Linda Harris*

**During the month of December the following occurred:**

<b>Total Membership for December 2014</b>	<b>561</b>
<b>New</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Transfer In</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Transfer Out</b>	<b>(2)</b>
<b>Deceased</b>	<b>(3)</b>
<b>Snowbird In</b>	
<b>Snowbird Out</b>	
<b>Future Life Masters inactive</b>	<b>(5)</b>
<b>Future Life Masters reinstated</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Life Masters Unpaid</b>	
<b>Life Masters reinstated</b>	<b>2</b>

We welcome to our Unit family (6) new ACBL members, **Lee R. Nackman** of Chapel Hill, **Barbara Phillips-Bute**, **Judy F. Cosler**, **Lorraine P. Pesin** of Durham, **Lamar Harrison**, and **Susan W. Morton** of Pittsboro. In addition, three (3) players transferred in: **Dianne L. Hale** from unit 244, **Nancy D. Myers** from unit 252 of Pittsboro, and **Robert K. Stevens** from unit 119 of Cary. We bid a warm welcome to these players and look forward to having them as part of our bridge family.

**Advancing in rank 6 (six) during the month of December were:**

Club Master	<b>Steven B. Kunin</b>
Sectional Master	<b>Michael Schlessinger</b>
NABC Master	<b>Janet Hitti</b>
Advanced NABC Master	<b>Bon Smith</b>
Bronze Life Master	<b>Helen J. Moon</b> <b>Carol H. Wilcox</b>

**Congratulations one and all!**

**Unit 191 members please check the Directory on our unit website ([unit191bridge.org](http://unit191bridge.org)) and report to me any changes or corrections that need to be made. Please remember Contact information in this directory is provided as a courtesy to Unit 191 members. Unauthorized use of this information is forbidden.**

**A complete list of all board members and committee chairs is available on the website.**

## *PARTY TIME!!!*

### *Triangle Bridge Club*

*has been at its own full-time location for 5 years and  
we plan on celebrating!!!*

*Please join us on February 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 for lunch and  
stay to play in the 1:00 game.*

*There will be a 499er game along with the Open game.*

*— AND —*

*There will also be a special 0-20 point game with a special \$5 game  
fee. We need minimum of 2.5 tables for this game. If there are  
fewer, we will offer two free mini-lessons: one on Different Types of  
Doubles and one on Special Cue Bids. \$20 prize for the winner of the  
0-20 game!!!!*

*Door Prizes*

*Partner guaranteed*

*Let's try to break the table count record of 28 tables we had this  
past MLK Day!*