

THE BRIGHT LEAF ALERT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF UNIT 191

JULY 2016

IT'S TOURNAMENT TIME!!

Unit 191's summer tournament is being held July 7-10. We need the help of our members to show our hospitality to the bridge community. If you can bring baked items, deviled eggs, snacks, fruit, vegetable platters, breakfast items, or your speciality, please notify **Ed Fuller**. **Ed and Linda Brezin**, co-chairpersons, have been working hard to make sure this is the best tournament ever. Monetary contributions are also welcome. If you can be a designated partner, please call **Blanche Tremblay** or **Gale Meyer**. We hope you have gotten your teams together to play in the Swiss events Thursday night and Sunday—and hope to see many of our members in the pairs events on Friday and Saturday. Please visit the website for all information regarding the tournament. See you there!!

The Bridge Academy



Have fun, Play better

Join Us On Monday, August 1, 2016

To Celebrate Our 1st Year
Anniversary At Our New Location

Lunch
at 11:30

Fun
Games

Awards
& Door
Prizes

More
Master
Points

Stratified Open, 0-300 and 0-50 Pair Games

Please RSVP at rsvp@bridgeacademync.com

YOUTH BRIDGE CAMP



Alissa Meyerhoffer, Luke Walker, Ethan Meyerhoffer, and Jesse Sikes (top left photo clockwise) enjoy a game of Four Square and a break from Bridge Camp. Maggie Lindquist and Ed Fuller were in charge of the camp held at Triangle. These students participated in the first week held June 20-23. Second week to follow. The students all said they were not only learning the game but having lots of fun!



Tar Heel (Club) History, Part 1

I've begun compiling a history of the Durham Bridge Club, which probably extends back seventy years or more. (If you have documents or information about this, please email me at johnctorrey@aol.com.) I don't have enough information yet, so I thought I'd write about the club I know best, the Tar Heel Bridge Club.

The Tar Heel Club is the one I now direct at the Triangle Bridge Club, on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. It was started around 1992 by my late wife, Sue. The first games were held in the Carrboro Arts Center, in a room with barely enough space, and with some bridge-unfriendly tables, including circular ones (with rough plywood tops) that may have been six feet across. This was before computer scoring, though the club adopted this early on. The games were scored by manually matchpointing travelling scores and entering the matchpoints on a paper spreadsheet. The director added the scores for each pair, adjusted for sit-outs, and checked the total. Sue was pretty good at this, and it was normal for players to wait until she had done the scoring before leaving the game.

Sue's club was the area's first to do many things: she made and brought sandwiches and cookies. Her first holiday party surprised players, because she forgot to announce it in advance. She gave pocket calendars to players at her holiday parties, which the club still does. Players at those games included **Irene Adams, Jeanette Collier, Peggy Barbee, Evelyn Tuck, Joan Rose, Harrison Brooke, Mary Lou Johnson, Sarah Jones-Chambers, Jim and Gisela Migliore, Marilyn Kelley, and Mary Sue Roach.**

When the Senior Center opened on Elliott Road in Chapel Hill, the Tar Heel Club moved there; it grew to be probably the most popular club in the unit, frequently having two sections. The Senior Center also hosted other popular club games, but these

closed when Bob Boggs opened The Bridge Center in Carrboro.

After 2000, the club moved to the Seymour Center when the Elliott Road center closed; it continued to average more than 20 tables a session. When Sue died in 2008, I took over as director and manager, and continued Sue's tradition of baking and sandwich-making for every game.

The club moved to the new Triangle Bridge Club location when that opened in 2010. My decision to move was very strongly influenced by the possibility that the TBC could host the Unit's sectional tournaments, which at that time had over 50 concurrent tables for some sessions. The move would cost me personally, because the rent at the Seymour Center was much less than the rent I would pay the TBC. I wrote a flyer titled, "**Why Move?**" in which I noted problems with the sectional locations we had been using, including the inability to schedule a Friday afternoon event because of conflicts with the host location.

The Tar Heel club moved, but the Seymour Center wanted to continue to host bridge. They asked **Paul and Ruth Anne Schwenke** to run a new Friday afternoon game there, and asked me to help them get it going. I gave ACBL score and directing counseling and some supplies to their new club; the Center kept its own bid boxes.

This ends Part 1. Part 2 will cover the TBC years and the Wednesday game.

Written by John Torrey

Want to Improve Your Game?

Join The Bridge Academy Barometer 0-500 Game

Thursdays at 1:15

Play & Discuss 14-16 Boards

Learn how to
Recognize and correct mistakes
Improve your bidding, declarer play, and defense
Improve your partnership agreements

Henry Meguid
ACBL Accredited & ABTA Master Teacher

The Bridge Academy



Have fun, Play better

www.bridgeacademync.com

Join The Fun!

New Limited Game

0-500

Saturdays at 10 am

DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL BRIDGE CLUB (DCBC)

FRIDAY SPECIAL GAMES FOR JULY

July 1st - Membership Game for **BIG POINTS**

JULY 8th - No game due to Unit 191 Sectional

July 15th - North American Pairs Qualifier with **HUGE POINTS**

July 22nd - Local Charity Game in support of Chatham County CORA Food Pantry and **BIG POINTS**

July 29th - Join us for DCBC's 1st Anniversary at The Bridge Academy. North American Pairs Qualifier for HUGE Points as well as prizes for the first six Overall Winning Pairs and other smart folks who can make good educated guesses about DCBC's super year.

Also Special Yummies!

And if it's Friday it's always Sundaes!

Ruth Ann and Paul

OUR UNIT'S NEWEST LIFE MASTER

DOUG STEELE



Congratulations to **Doug Steele**, Unit 191's most recent Life Master! Doug provided the following information:

"I played bridge first in college and over lunch at the workplace. I began to play duplicate during my early working career. Money was tight, so I chose not to join ACBL—heaven only knows how many of those pink slips with a notation of Master Points were tossed aside during that time. (For a longer article, I have a bridge tournament story of cheating and clout in those days of the late 60's.) But I stopped playing duplicate as family and job demands grew.

When the last youngster left for college, I drifted back to the duplicate club, with a store of Goren-based bidding techniques. What a jolt! I was humbled to learn that one didn't open 4 card majors: there was this gadget called Stayman; and on and on. Several players at the Kingsville, TX club were kind to bring me somewhat to speed (I particularly remember Tom Hayes, Mary Tryor, and the Harrisons.) I have been an ACBL member since.

*When I retired to the Triangle area of NC, I met **John Aluise**, who has been my principal duplicate partner since. I have probably enhanced some of the antics of bridge competitors excessively to my wife, who, although a credible player, will not consider joining me at a duplicate game. As John and I approached Life Master status we got some help scoring gold points from **Susan and Jerry Parker**, who joined us in knock-out games at tournaments. Our finest adventure was the group of us (including wives) driving to New Orleans in 2015 for the National Tournament. The bridge, the sight-seeing, the camaraderie, and the food—oh the food! - were memorable. And our gold haul was sufficient. I only had to gather a few more conventional points afterward to reach LM."*

TRIANGLE JULY SCHEDULE



July
2016

| ACBL-Wide International Fund Game | S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
|-----------------------------------|----|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| ACBL Charity | | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| North American Pairs (NAP) | | | | | | 0-5 at 10:00am | Open/Play & Review |
| Durham Sectional | | | | | | Open & 0-50 | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | | Afternoon | Open & 0-500 | Morning Afternoon | Open & 0-300 | Durham Sectional | Durham Sectional |
| | | No Evening Game - Happy 4th | | | | | |
| | | | Play&Review | Swiss | Durham Sectional | | |
| | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| Durham Sectional | | | | Morning Afternoon | | 0-5 at 10:00am | Open/Play & Review |
| | | Afternoon | Open & 0-500 | Evening | Open & 0-300 | Swiss & 0-50 | |
| | | Swiss | Play&Review | | Play&Review | | |
| | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| | | Afternoon | Open & 0-500 | Morning Afternoon | Open & 0-300 | 0-5 at 10:00am | Open/Play & Review |
| | | Evening | | | | Open & 0-50 | |
| | | | Play&Review | Swiss | Play&Review | | |
| | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| | | | | Morning | | 0-5 at 10:00am | Open/Play & Review |
| 8 is Enough at 2:00pm | | Afternoon | Open & 0-500 | Afternoon | Open & 0-300 | Open & 0-50 | |
| | | Swiss | Play&Review | Evening | Play&Review | | |
| | 31 | | | | | | |

How Forcing Is It?

After hearing about yet one more 4th suit forcing disaster, I feel that it is high time that I weigh in on one of the most useful and easy-to-play bids in your conventions' toolbox. When casual partners sit down to fill out their convention card, they intone "4th suit forcing" to each other and really don't have much idea of what follow up bids mean. Stick with me, and I will make it all crystal clear.

Fourth suit forcing was in vogue long before 2/1 game force was invented. It handles those hands that do not involve a 2/1 sequence, but still are game forcing hands that need the right amount of investigation to arrive at the proper contract. Often the partnership's HCPs total about 28-32, and it's unclear whether slam is a makeable proposition.

Before we proceed any further, please look toward the bottom of your convention card on the right-hand side. You will see a place to check 4th suit forcing: 1 round force or GAME FORCE. Please check **GAME FORCE** (except in one instance that I will explain later in this article). Take my word for it (the old, tired voice of experience) that "forcing to game" works the best.

How do we arrive in a 4th suit forcing situation? Well DUH, responder bids the fourth suit! For example:

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| 1C | P | 1H | P |
| 1S | P | 2D | |

That pretty much covers all four suits doesn't it? What does 2 Diamonds say to partner? It says that, "I have enough to go to game, and I want more information from you."

Does it say anything about Diamonds? No, No, No!!

Partner needs to alert 2 Diamonds in this auction and simply explain that it is a game force and says nothing about the Diamond suit.

Now, read very carefully! Your responses will always be the same and in the following priority order:

- #1..... Show 3-card support for partner's first bid suit
- #2..... Show a stopper in the 4th suit by bidding notrump
- #3..... Bid anything else that's logical (usually repeat your first suit)

Isn't that simple? Everyone likes a rule, and they always seem to be changing in bridge. These DO NOT! You will always respond in the aforementioned order.

Let me give you an example. Responder holds **Axx, AQxxx, xx, KQx**. Partner opens 1 Club, you respond 1 Heart, partner bids 1 Spade, and you bid 2 Diamonds. Partner alerts that 2 Diamonds merely sets up a game force and says nothing about Diamonds.

Partner responds 3 Clubs. Using our check list, we know that partner doesn't have 3 Hearts or a Diamond stopper. Does partner guarantee 5 Clubs? NO! He had to do something and #3 is bid anything else.

What can you do from this depressing start? You can bid 4 Clubs! Remember, you set up a game force with your 2 Diamond bid. Let's say partner now bids 4 Hearts. Great! He is showing you Honor doubleton.

How do I know this Mr. Smarty Pants Teacher? He denied #1 so he doesn't have 3 Hearts. How does he know that you don't have 6 Hearts? After the auction got to the point of 3 Clubs by partner, you could have bid 3 Hearts to show 6+. Remember, you were in a game forcing situation. It's like the old pregnancy joke; it wasn't just a little bit forcing.

What did 4th Suit Forcing (FSF) do for us on this hand? Let's say that partner has been dealt the death hand of **KQJx, xx, Jx, AJxxx**. He is beginning to wish that he had not opened the bidding! FSF kept us out of a 3NT contract where the opponents own the whole diamond suit.

Here's another sticky situation where FSF helps. As responder, you hold **AQxx, AKxx, Kxx, JT**. Partner opens 1C and you responder 1H. Partner rebids 1S. You have 16 highs; do you do justice to the hand by bidding 4S or do you just launch into Blackwood? With FSF, you can bid 2D. Over whatever partner bids, you bid the minimum number of spades, saying, "I had more than a 4S bid over your 1S, but not quite enough info to bid Blackwood."

(continued)

I promised you one instance (that I would explain later in the article) when 4th suit does not apply. If you are not glassy eyed and are still with me... The auction proceeds exactly:

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| 1C | P | 1D | P |
| 1H | P | 1S | P |

Most experts treat the 1 Spade response as natural and forcing for 1 round. The reason for this is that frequently partner has 4 Spades and you have 4 Spades and you risk getting way too high when 1 Spade is forcing to game. How do we bid 4th suit when we don't have 4 Spades and want to find out either 1, 2, or 3 as in our checklist above? We bid 2 Spades which is an alert, and shows a FSF bid, but *without* 4 Spades.

| | | | |
|-----------|----------|-------------|----------|
| 1C | P | 1D | P |
| 1H | P | 2S * | P |

There are many other nuances and understandings that I do not have the time or space to cover in this article. Not to mention that you are probably ZZZing contentedly at this point in time.

This treatment of 4th suit forcing does work! Always remember.... 4th suit sets up a Game Force and asks very specific questions. These questions are answered in the 1,2, 3 order that I have given you. Always!!!! No freelancing on your responses.

I have been playing bridge for many years, and 4th suit forcing (TO GAME) is one convention that I would never be without. Trust me, its value in improving your slam bidding is right up there with 2/1 GF!



By **Randy Joyce**

TARHEEL BRIDGE CLUB

The Tar Heel Club (Wednesday and Friday afternoons at the TBC) has had a promotion for players with less than 500 masterpoints. The club would be better balanced with more 0-500 players and is trying to encourage that. The promotion offers a \$4.00 discount, so eligible players pay \$5.00 to play. The original promotion was to expire at the end of July, but the club will extend it indefinitely. Players with discount coupons for "after July" will not need them while the promotion lasts, but should keep them as they do not expire.

The Tar Heel Club has been running a Swiss Team event once a month, for the past several months. In July and future months these will be held on the third Friday of the month, unless a tournament conflicts with that schedule.

John Torrey

The Alert is published monthly and is the official newsletter of Unit 191. If you have suggestions or ideas for articles that you would like to be included in the Alert, please let me know.

The deadline for the August Alert will be July 27.

Barbara Martin, Editor

Contributors: Randy Joyce, Liz McGuffey, Dave Streifford



Future Life Master Sectional

August 4 - 7, 2016

5110 Revere Road, Durham, NC 27713

(919) 405-2016

ALL SILVER POINTS

Thursday, August 4

Stratified Pairs: 0-NLM<500 (0-100,100-300,300-NLM<500) 7:00 pm

Friday, August 5

Stratified Pairs: 0-50 (0-10, 10-20, 20-50) 10:00 am

0-NLM<500 (0-100,100-300,300-NLM<500) 10:00 am

Stratified Pairs: 0-50 (0-10, 10-20, 20-50) 3:00 pm

0-NLM<500 (0-100,100-300,300-NLM<500) 3:00 pm

Saturday, August 6

Stratified Pairs: 0-50 (0-10, 10-20, 20-50) 10:00 am

0-NLM<500 (0-100,100-300,300-NLM<500) 10:00 am

Stratified Pairs: 0-50 (0-10, 10-20, 20-50) 3:00 pm

0-NLM<500 (0-100,100-300,300-NLM<500) 3:00 pm

Refreshments at each game

Sunday, August 7

Stratified Swiss 0-NLM<500 (0-100,100-300,300-NLM<500) 10:00 am

Play through with lunch included

PRIZES for Overall Winners!!!

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Partnerships:</p> <p>Linda Harris lharris166@nc.rr.com (919) 414-6716</p> | <p>Co-Chairs:</p> <p>Chris Moll (504) 495-7485 Tammy Moll tammy26bridge@aol.com</p> | <p>Nearby Lodging:</p> <p>LaQuinta Inns & Suites 1910 Westpark Drive (919) 484-1422</p> |
|--|--|---|



Jennie Robinson and Larry Kupper

1st Overall—Saturday Morning



William and Linda Bestimt

3rd Overall—Saturday Afternoon



**Jennie Robinson, Richard Cole, Bill McCartney,
Page Thomas**

1st Overall—Sunday Swiss



Molly Chiles, John Chiles, Linda Clayton, Margie Cannity

2nd overall—Sunday Swiss

The Bridge Academy Summer FLM a Great Success

The two-day sectional attracted 46 tables and thanks to all the hard work of **Ann Vaughan, Holly Spencer, Carol and Neil Meguid** (Hospitality), **Phylliss Woody, Nancy Crow** (partnership), **Ruth Ann Schwenke, Deanna Larus**, (directors) and **Paul Schwenke**, the tournament was a great success. Also, great thanks to all of our members who donated money or brought yummy treats throughout the event.

Congratulations to all the winners!

Results:

Saturday Morning

0-500:

1st overall: **Larry Kupper and Jennie Robinson** (64.08%)

2nd overall: **Barbara Veasey and Margaret Cranford** (61.3%)

3rd overall: **Barbara Thomson and Dana Conn** (60.76)

4th overall: **Carole Crotty and Nina Wallace** (59.59%)

0-50:

1st **Lynn Colvard and Kathy Brown** (60%)

2nd **Nancy Sparks and Susan Kolodkin** (59%)

3rd **John and Catherine Schwab**

Saturday afternoon

0-500

1st overall: **Barbara Thomson - Dana Conn** (64.48%)

2nd overall: **Sharon Northcutt and Rita Rettinger** (63.83%)

3rd overall: **William and Linda Bestimt** (62.81%)

4th overall: **Phylliss Woody and Sperry Kaler** (62.31%)

Sunday Swiss Teams

1st: **Jennie Robinson-Bill McCartney-Page Thomas and Richard Cole**

2nd: **Linda Clayton - Margie Cannity - John Chiles - Molly Chiles**

3rd: **Janet Strobe - Jean Hjelle - David Hamill - Ingrid Parish**

4th: **Paula Head - Phyllis Alexander - Jo Bays - Cindy Ahlbom**



Barbara Thomson and Dana Conn

1st Overall—Saturday Afternoon



Nancy Sparks and Susan Kolodkin

2nd Overall—Saturday Morning 0-50



Sharon Northcutt and Rita Rettinger

2nd Overall—Saturday afternoon



Triangle Bridge

Summer Lessons:

For the newer player, ACBL's Play of the Hand course, taught by **Valerie Roberts**, focuses on the role of the declarer although it reviews bidding and discusses defense to some degree as well. This class presents the newer player with solid knowledge of basic bridge. It also provides former players a chance to review and improve bridge techniques in the most modern Standard American bidding system. Each lesson develops in a logical and progressive fashion with lots of hands on practice. One need not have a partner.

Student text is *Play of the Hand in the 21st Century*, available through Amazon or Baron Barclay. Further questions may be directed to vjroberts3@gmail.com.

To register please call 919-294-4138. Fee: \$125 (9 weeks), Thursdays, July 14-September 8, 9:30 am-noon

Chris Moll is offering a class on "**Competitive Bidding Concepts**" starting on Tuesday mornings 10:00am – 11:30am (8/9, 8/16, 8/23, 9/6 and 9/13) 5 lessons for \$109.00. Advancing players need methods to deal with competitive auctions. Basic bridge concepts only focus on the interaction between you and your partner. This class will explore the methods and temperament to cope with opportunities and pressure created by the opponents. You may drop in for \$25/session. This class is for players of all abilities but due to the volume of material, the pace will be crisp thus is not designed for players who are new to bridge. To sign up, please contact: tammy26bridge@aol.com

Upcoming Events and Schedule:

Come join us for the **ACBL-wide International Fund Game** on Thursday afternoon, July 14th at 12:30pm.

The **Tar Heel Bridge Club** continues to host its monthly Swiss team on the 3rd Friday of each month, with the next one scheduled on July 15th at 1:15pm.

The monthly **8 is Enough Swiss** is on Sunday, July 24th at 2:00pm. Please contact Darleen by 2:00pm Saturday (dar_boone@hotmail.com) if you want partners and/or teammates and she will try to let you know by 8:00pm that night whom you are matched up with for a team. For planning purposes the next month's date is August 28th.

The North American Pairs (NAP) qualifying continues in July and August.

Please continue to support the **Durham Bridge Club** on Wednesday mornings at 9:30am for intriguing coffee and friendly competition.

Please reserve August 4th – 7th for the Future Life Master Sectional. All non-life masters with less than 500 masterpoints are eligible and there will be 0-50 games on both Friday and Saturday. Silver points will be awarded. (Flyer on page 8)

Game Times

Morning: Wed, Sat 9:30am

Afternoon: Mon, Tues, Thurs 12:30pm
Wed 1:00pm
Fri 1:15pm

Evening: Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs 7:00pm

Unit 191 Membership Report

Submitted by Linda Harris

During the month of May the following occurred:

| Total Membership for May 2016 | May | (608) |
|--------------------------------|-----|-------|
| New | 5 | |
| Transfer In | 1 | |
| Transfer Out | 1 | |
| Deceased | | |
| Snowbird In | | |
| Snowbird Out | | |
| Future Life Masters inactive | 2 | |
| Future Life Masters reinstated | | |
| Life Masters Unpaid | | |
| Life Masters reinstated | | |

We welcome to our Unit 191 family five (5) new ACBL members-- **Mark W. Attwood** of Chapel Hill, **Carol A. Silbaugh** of Roxboro, **Jane M. Green**, **Nellie T. Hardy** both of Durham, and **Peggy L. Wynn** of Hillsborough. In addition one (1) player transferred in **Liz Ashley** from unit 110 of Durham.

We bid a warm welcome to these players and look forward to having them as part of our bridge family.

Advancing in rank 14 during the month of May were:

| RANKS | MAY 2016 |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| | |
| Junior Masters | Anne Marie Harrison |
| | Sharon J. Kunc |
| | Carol C. Whisnant |
| | |
| Club Masters | Lee R. Nackman |
| | Yunhan Wu |
| | |
| Sectional Masters | Beverly Craig |

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| RANKS | MAY 2016 |
| | |
| Regional Masters | Ira D. Mueller |
| | |
| NABC Masters | Beverly J. Barg |
| | Page Thomas III |
| | |
| Advanced NABC Masters | Benjamin J. Kompa |
| | |
| Life Masters | Douglas W. Steele |
| | |
| Bronze Masters | Kwong T. Chung |
| | Doris B. Elkin |
| | |
| Ruby Masters | Valerie Roberts |

*****Congratulations one and all*****



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