

UNIT 191 BRIGHT LEAF ALERT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF UNIT 191

JUNE 2017

Bright Leaf Summer Sectional July 13-16



From our President.....

We encourage all members to participate in the upcoming Bright Leaf Summer Open Sectional Tournament. Please review tournament information in this Alert edition, pick up a tournament flyer at Triangle Bridge or The Bridge Academy, or go to the Unit web site at unit191bridge.org for details.

Most importantly, please take notice of the split-site arrangement for the tournament. All open sections will be conducted at Triangle Bridge and all 499 sections will occur at the Bridge Academy. All sessions will run concurrently at the respective sites but, for all ACBL records, the tournament will be considered a single tournament.

ACBL has approved this arrangement, which allows us to maximize the resources available to us. Although there will be some duplication of effort required, we feel that the benefits far outweigh any added burdens imposed by operating two separate sites for the tournament,

We encourage and request everyone to give the unit its full and enthusiastic support for this tournament as we move forward in providing tournament opportunities for our members and for players who come from other areas to play in our tournament.

We may ask your help in enhancing our hospitality offerings and, as in the past, hope to extend our reputation for our outstanding hospitality. Most of all, though, we want you to come and play and encourage others to do so. Often, we note that our members are outnumbered by "outsiders." We still want them to come, but we also want more of our members to participate. Please find a partner or sign up with our partnership chairs and come and play. Regardless of your level, there is a spot for you and you can win some silver points.

Joyce Jenzano

Let's Play in a Team Game, Part 2

By Kay and Randy Joyce



Last month, we wrote about seven ideas for improving your team game strategies, all the while telling you that you should enjoy it more. This month, we will have only four maxims, plus the “biggie”: *Stretch to bid vulnerable games*. This last one is very important but harder to digest, so hang in there!

1. Play with friends or make new ones. Usually you have plenty of time to complete play of all of the boards, and there is time left to visit and socialize with teammates. It is nice if you are playing with friends and can visit and enjoy each other's company, but not critical. You don't have to like your opponents or teammates, but it's more fun if you can. You may find that teams are a way to make new friends, just because you have the opportunity to get to know someone better.

2. Set their contracts. Like making your contract last month, setting theirs is far better than “holding the overtricks”! Going plus, board after board, is a great strategy at IMPs.

What does this mean, any more than the usual context? At matchpoints, you are under the gun to take all of your tricks or you will get a low matchpoint score. At IMPs, you are at liberty to make a risky play that might succeed in “setting in the contract.” It is OK if you don't get each and every one of your tricks, because you rate to lose an IMP a trick, a negligible amount, if that. If you succeed in setting a partial contract, you win a minimum of about 4 IMPs, a game, a minimum of 6 for nonvulnerable and 10 for vulnerable games. The odds favor thinking in a different way.

The nice thing is that it is a more relaxed format: every little trick is not so important, unless it is the setting trick, of course!

3. Overtricks are not as critical, as at matchpoints. Is there an echo here? As in last month's column, your mindset, if you are declarer is to make your contract, first and foremost. As in #2 above, your mindset, if you are a defender is to set their contract. Sure, there are IMPs to be won and lost in overtricks, but the amount of gain or loss is small when compared to the value of the contract. Trust me when I say that you can “relax a little!” It makes for a less stressful afternoon of bridge. Enjoy your friends, the slower pace, etc. etc.

4. If you draw a star-studded team, ugh! It may be because you are doing well, or they may be having a bad day. Let's say you draw a team that has many, many thousands of masterpoints more than your team. You would rate to beat them only when “hell freezes over.” What should you do?

Well, of course, it's natural to bitch and moan; they've heard it before, yada, yada, yada.

We're talking a really superior team here. Here's what you should do:

Keep bidding; don't get frozen scared. Remember that all the pressure is on them; they're supposed to win. Realize that if you get blitzed, the director won't take any masterpoints away or even any victory points.

Consider that you may get a free lesson at the table: observe what they do, how they bid, how they defend, how they react to adversity and/or success. If they are truly superior, you can learn some things that may help you in the future. Most truly superior players are willing to answer questions and explain things to newbies, if time permits.

5. **STRETCH TO BID VULNERABLE GAMES.** This is one of the most basic tenets to successful team game play.

Let's say you hold the following hand: S AQTxxx, H xx, D x, C Kxxx. With only you and partner bidding, the auction goes 1D 1S 1NT ? At pairs, you would have an easy 2 S bid. I am going to assume that partner would always have at least 2 Spades and never a singleton.

Vulnerable in a team game you should bid an invitational 3 Spades. Why make such a pushy bid, you ask? Because of the BIG bonus for bidding and making a game (especially vulnerable). Partner goes on to 4 Spades. You await dummy and see the following hand:

S Jxx, H Qx, D KQxxx, C AQx. You can't lay the blame on this one at partner's feet. He could not have any more HCP, and he even has a third spade for you. As you can see, barring a 4-0 trump break, it is on a straight finese for the trump king.

Let's say you play this hand 10 times, and your luck is average. That means that you will make the hand 5 times and go set 5 times. Let's go a step further and say your counterpart only bids 2 Spades each time and makes 10 tricks 5 times and 9 tricks 5 times.

At pairs, you would get 5 top boards for the times you bid and made the game and 5 bottom boards for the times that you went set: 50%. You can't win many pair games with that score.

But, look at what you can score in a team game. For the 5 times that you went set, you would lose a total of 240 points (-100 for you as opposed to +140 for your counterpart) on each hand or 6 IMP's per hand. On the 5 hands that you made your game, you would achieve a margin of +450 points (+620 for you as opposed to +170 for your counterpart) on each hand or 10 IMPs /hand.

Over the course of the sample ten hands, you would lose 30 IMPs but gain 50. Let's say that things aren't going so hot for you today, and you only make 4 hands and go set on 6. Then your gain is +40 and your loss is -36. If you do the math, you are still showing a small profit if you only make 40% of your games. That's about the number that you should shoot for when considering whether to go on or not.

A very good player took me under his wing when I (*Randy*) was first beginning to play. He said that if both partners pushed for a vulnerable game, then you would go set a LOT. His advice was to invite optimistically and to accept only with rock ribbed values. This rule of thumb has stood me in very good stead over the years.

Are you asleep yet? Getting late, though. What does vulnerable have to do with it?

Let's use the same metric for bidding close non-vulnerable games. You make 5 and you go set on 5 while your counterparts are safely in partials on each hand. On the hands that you go set you lose a total of 190 points (-50 as opposed to +140) on each hand or -5 IMP's. On the hands that you make game you score +420 to +170 on each hand for a total of 250 points or +6IMP's. Notice how the spread is much smaller. If you are having a bad run and you only make 4 hands and go set on 6 the numbers would be +24 and -30. You need much better odds of success to bid non-vulnerable games, say 50%. Math is hard and making calculations on unseen hands is not an exact science. Just use the mindset that it's OK to push for vulnerable games and play it more down the middle on non-vulnerable ones.

We hope that these five topics have given you some food for thought. Next month, we will conclude this series on team games with a few more ideas. Happy teaming!

Ready for Two over One?

An Introduction to Two over One Game Force is a seven week class based on Audrey Grant/Eric Rodwell's *2 over 1 Game Force* text. Students should have a good understanding of Standard American bidding already. We will cover the basics of the 2/1 system. Although the text is only 4 chapters, the class will include lots of application as well as additional practice with defense and common conventions. Lessons develop in a logical manner with lots of hands on practice. One need not have a partner.

To register please call the Seymour Center at 919-968-2070.

Fee: \$125 (7 weeks)

Seymour Center, Chapel Hill

Tuesday mornings, 9:30 am-noon, beginning June 6

For more information please contact **Valerie Roberts** at 919-294-4138 or vjroberts3@gmail.com

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Happy Birthday

**To Pearl Schechter—
who turned 98 on May
18! Still looking great
and winning at bridge!
Best wishes from your
bridge friends!**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

WORLDWIDE BRIDGE GAMES—JUNE 2-3 Triangle

THE LONGEST DAY—TO SUPPORT ALZHEIMER' S

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21— Triangle and Bridge Academy

BRIGHT LEAF SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

JULY 13 –15—Triangle and Bridge Academy

Details of all events found in this issue of the Alert or at the website

The Bridge Academy New Teaching Program

This fall, the Bridge Academy will launch a new teaching initiative. Our goal is to offer a comprehensive and systematic bridge curriculum that will attract and develop new players. It is also designed to pave a pathway for existing players to continue developing their bidding, declarer play, defensive skills, and enjoyment of duplicate bridge. This curriculum will include 4-6 week classes, supervised play games, barometer games, as well as workshops covering specific topics geared toward advancing players.

To this end, The Bridge Academy is pleased to welcome **Marc Goldberg** to the teaching staff. Marc is an experienced bridge teacher who has taught many courses and led numerous workshops focusing on instruction for advanced beginner and intermediate level players. Marc is a certified teacher through the ACBL Teacher Accreditation Program. And he is also an accomplished player, having achieved ACBL Life Master rank.



Marc and his wife, Suzie (currently ACBL Unit 191 Treasurer) recently relocated to Durham from Harrisburg, PA. At his local, member-owned club in Harrisburg, Marc was a member of the board of trustees, served as treasurer and chaired the Education Committee.

Marc will add a new dimension to bridge education at the Bridge Academy and will help the club achieve the vision of becoming the premier Bridge Club in Central North Carolina.

Here are two workshops we are offering in June and July:

Wednesday, June 28—***How Serious Is Your Slam Try?*** (Henry Meguid)

Friday, July 28—***The Power of Cuebids*** (Marc Goldberg)

Both workshops are from 9-11:30 am. The cost is \$25 per session.

Stay tuned to learn more about the entire curriculum and other exciting learning opportunities.

TRIANGLE SCHEDULE FOR JUNE

June 2017

	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2	3
NAP							Open / Play & Review
Local Charity					Open/0- 1000	Open/0- 300	Open Game at 1:30pm
The Longest Day					Play & Re- view	Open Game at 7:00pm	
	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Worldwide Bridge				Morning			Open / Play & Review
Club Champion- ship		After- noon	Open/0- 500	After- noon	Open/0- 1000	Open/0- 300	
STAC		Evening		Swiss	Play & Re- view		
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
				Morning			Open / Play & Review
8 is Enough at 2:00pm		After- noon	Open 0- 500	After- noon	Open/0- 1000	Open/0- 300	
		Swiss		Evening	Play & Re- view		
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
				Morning After- noon & 4:15 pm (18 bds)			Open / Play & Review
		After- noon	Open/0- 500	Swiss	Open/0- 1000	Open/0- 300	
		Evening			Play & Re- view		
	25	26	27	28	29	30	
				Morning After- noon			
		After- noon	Open /0- 500	Evening	Open/0- 1000 Play & Re- view	Open /0 -300	
		Swiss					

Triangle Bridge

Please visit our updated website at www.trianglebridgeclub.net

If you have any comments or questions, please contact Chris at (504) 495-7485 or email Tammy at tammy26bridge@aol.com

June Special Events:

The Worldwide Bridge Contest:

What is unique about these games are not only do they pay ½ red/ ½ black extra masterpoints, but everyone in the world are playing the same hands and you do receive a booklet with an analysis.

Friday night, June 2nd at 7:00pm

POT LUCK LUNCH Saturday afternoon, June 3rd at 1:00pm so please plan to come and enjoy a homemade lunch before you play!!

Saturday afternoon, June 3rd at 1:30pm

These are two separate sessions so you may play in either or both games.

The Longest Day to support the Alzheimer's Association:

Wednesday, June 21st

9:30am, 1:00pm and 7:00pm

A special **4:15pm** 18-board session game

Two new classes are starting now being taught by Chris & Tammy Moll:

Lebensohl & methods to cause & avoid difficulties over 1NT openings

5 classes on **Thursday mornings** from 10:00am – 11:30am

June 1st, 15th and 29th, July 6th and 13th

We will focus on:

Lebensohl on June 1st & 15th and some of 29th

Defense over No Trump including, Cappelletti, HELLO, Meckwell, and others on June 29th, July 6th and 13th

\$109.00 for total class (or you can drop in for \$25/session)

These classes are for players of all abilities but due to the volume of material, the pace will be crisp and is not designed for players who are new to bridge. If you haven't already signed up, please contact Tammy at tammy26bridge@aol.com

BASICs on **Tuesday evenings** from 7:00 - 9:00pm

Initial phase starts May 30th and continues through August 29th

No class on June 6th, July 18th and July 25th

For bridge players who:

Are new to the game

Have played a long time ago and want to learn the modern techniques

Have played bridge but want to ensure they know the fundamentals and get a solid foundation/fill in the holes for the basics

\$20/class includes materials

Combination of lessons and supervised play

If you have any questions or wish to sign up, please contact Tammy at tammy26bridge@aol.com

TM



June 2017 Special Events

5110 Revere Road, Durham, NC 27713 (919) 405-2016

Worldwide Bridge Contest

This international competition, sponsored by the World Bridge Federation, is scored across the world to give an overall winner. The WBF will award prizes based on worldwide matchpointing. The ACBL gives bonus awards to the top two district winners. The Friday and Saturday games are separate events. Each participant receives an electronic souvenir booklet. (\$10.00 entry fee/player)

Please join us:

Friday June 2nd at 7:00pm

Saturday June 3rd at 1:30pm

Pot Luck Lunch served at 1:00pm

The Longest Day

Please join us with the ACBL to partner with the Alzheimer's Association to support the millions living with this disease every day and those who care for them. All games will be Charity to support this worthy cause. (\$11.00 entry fee/player)

Please join us:

Wednesday, June 21st

9:30am Durham Bridge Club

4:30pm Special 18 board session

1:00pm Tarheel Bridge Club

7:00pm Team Game

(Teammates Guaranteed)

Please join us for friendly competition at its best

Tammy & Chris

tammy26bridge@aol.com

(504) 495-7485

WINNERS OF THE BRIDGE ACADEMY SPRING FESTIVAL SECTIONAL



Donald Bosken, Thomasville NC, **Fred Picklesimer**, High Point NC (68.6%), **George Broderick**, Apex NC, and **Gary Davis**, Cary NC (61.1%). Overall first and second place in the Friday morning 499er pairs



Page Thomas III, Chapel Hill NC, **David Neal**, Chapel Hill NC (68.7%), **Barbara Hooks** and **W Borden Hooks Jr**, Mount Airy NC (63.9%). [Overall first and second place winners in the Friday afternoon 499er pairs.](#)



Martin Causley, Chapel Hill, NC; **Barbara Hooks**, Mt. Airy, NC (60.9%); **William McCartney**, Chapel Hill NC, and **Donald Hierman** (not shown), Cary NC (60.5%). Overall first and second place winners in the Saturday afternoon 499er pairs.

Karl and Beth Krummel, **Michele Salmon**, **Ellie Margeson**; **Jennie Robinson**, **Joseph Haseman**, **William McCartney** and **David Neal**, won first and second place respectively in the Sunday Swiss Teams



Jill Kaufman, Cary NC and **Lori Scanga**, Hillsborough NC (65.7%). **Douglas Steele** and **John Aluise** (not shown), Chapel Hill NC (65.3%). Overall first and second place winners in the Saturday morning 499er pairs.



Henry and Remy—both dressed in patriotic garb to celebrate

Memorial Day



The Bridge Academy hosted a picnic and special bridge game on Memorial Day. Players enjoyed traditional holiday fare—hot dogs, cold slaw, chips, and ice cream. Thanks to the Bridge Academy for making it a special day.

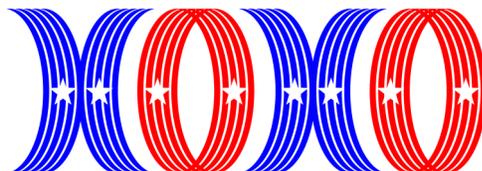


These ladies made the day enjoyable for everyone by making sure the food was prepared and served in fine style—
Robin Marin, Holly Davis, and Carol Meguid
Left—Lady Liberty herself —our **Phylliss Woody**



Thanks to Phylliss Woody
for the photos

Remembering on Memorial Day
Thank You, Veterans!



Want to Improve Your Game?



Join The Best Educational
Duplicate Game in The Triangle

The Bridge Academy 0-500 Barometer Game

Thursdays at 12:30

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
ABTA Master Teacher

(919) 724-6239 - www.bridgeacademync.com

The Bridge Academy



Have fun, Play better

Join Our Stratified Swiss Teams

Sunday, June 27
at 1pm

The Bridge Academy now offers a Swiss Team
Game on the 4th Sunday of each month

The Bridge Academy



Join our Wine & Cheese Social Duplicate for Beginners

TWICE A MONTH ON MONDAYS

MEET & GREET AT 6 PM - GAME AT 6:30 PM

STARTING JUNE 19

Tell a friend to join us to meet new players and discover the fun of duplicate bridge

The Bridge Academy



HOW SERIOUS IS YOUR SLAM TRY?

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28

FROM 9-11:30

\$25 (RSVP by June 20) or \$30 for drop-ins

For information contact: info@bridgeacademync.com
919-724-6239

Offered by Henry Meguid
American Bridge Teachers' Association (ABTA) Master Teacher

After you find a major suit fit and would like to make a slam try, you have to decide between cue bidding controls, asking for key cards or simply bidding slam. In this workshop, we will discuss a special tool that will help you improve your slam bidding by differentiating between a serious and a non-serious slam try.

Level: Intermediate – Advanced Players

The Bridge Academy



THE LONGEST DAY

JOIN US TO SUPPORT THE ALZHEIMER FOUNDATION

Wednesday, June 21

Stratified Open Pairs at 12:30

During the month of April the following occurred:

Total Membership for April 2017	April	(598)
New		
Transfer In		
Transfer Out		
Deceased		
Snowbird In	1	
Snowbird Out		
Future Life Masters inactive	5	
Future Life Masters reinstated	2	
Life Masters Unpaid		
Life Masters reinstated		

UNIT 191

MEMBERSHIP

REPORT

We welcome to our Unit 191 family Laura L. Lind transferred in from unit 128 of Chapel Hill.

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

Advancing in rank seven (7) during the month of April were:

# FOR EACH RANK	RANKS	APRIL/MEMBERS	MP REQUIREMENTS
70	Rookie Masters		(Fewer than 5 Points)
63	Junior Masters	Dorothy R. Cass Nancy R. Leroy	(5+ Points)
51	Club Masters	Katherine M. Nickerson	(20+ Points)
73	Sectional Masters		(50+ Points)
84	Regional Masters		(100+ Points)
43	NABC Masters		(200+ Points)

# FOR EACH RANK	RANKS	MARCH/MEMBERS	MP REQUIREMENTS
4	Advanced NABC Masters		(300+ Points)
25	Life Masters	John W. Barnard Eloise M. Fontaine Robert S. Thorstad	(300/500+ Points)
74	Bronze Masters		(750+ Points)
35	Silver Masters		(1,000+ Points)
40	Ruby Masters		(1,500+ Points)
14	Gold Masters	Steven M. Fine	(2,500+ Points)
9	Sapphire Masters		(3,500+ Points)
4	Diamond Masters		(5,000+ Points)
2	Emerald Masters		(7,500+ Points)
6	Platinum Masters		(10,000+ Points)
1	Grand Masters		(10,000+ Points)

Life Masters since January 1, 2017	Names	(300/500+ Points)
	Beth Watson	
	John W. Barnard	
	Eloise M. Fontaine	
	Robert S. Thorstad	

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

Submitted by Linda Harris, Membership Chair