

BRIGHT LEAF ALERT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF UNIT 191

AUGUST 2017

Message from our President.....

Many thanks to all who worked hard to make the Bright Leaf Summer Sectional the success that it was. Our total table count exceeded last year's totals at a time when many regional and sectional tournaments are experiencing 10% or more in reduced attendance.

This was the first time that we used the "split-site" approach and are grateful to ACBL for giving its approval of this arrangement as it allowed us to maximize the resources we have in our unit. As a side note, the tournament did operate as a single Open Sectional, not separate tournaments at the respective sites, i.e., all results, income, expenses, etc. were calculated as if the tournament occurred in a single site. The split-site approach was unusual but was fully sanctioned by ACBL.

I especially want to thank the Chair and Co-Chair, **Chris Moll and Henry Meguid**, for their individual efforts in guaranteeing the success of the tournament, but also for their collaborative efforts in making sure that all aspects of the tournament were conducted in a fully equitable manner and as seamlessly as possible.

Thanks also to Kelly Harville and Holly Davis, who tirelessly and efficiently "ran" the kitchens in the respective facilities. They were well organized and responsive to all requests. I don't think we could have done it without them. Both Kelly and Holly (neither of them are bridge players) have become very familiar to us through their contributions to the hospitality at our tournaments and other special events. We should at least give them honorary membership in our unit.

Many others contributed to the tournament efforts. **Nancy Crow and Kathy Newman** worked hard to match up partners or arrange for fill-ins or guaranteed partners. **Jackie Marks, Suzie Goldberg and Deanna Larus** all were helpful in setting up and cleaning up and doing whatever was needed. **Tammy Moll** was always working in the background to help make everything go smoothly. I am sure there were others who also lent a hand to help out when needed. Thanks to all of you.

The food was good, especially all of the homemade goodies that appeared each day. Thanks to all who brought food and to others who contributed money to help offset hospitality costs. All contributions are appreciated greatly by the unit.

We were lucky to have two very capable and familiar directors assigned to run the tournament, Thank you **Jay and Darleen** for doing a great job.

Lastly, thanks to all of the players who came out to support the unit by participating in the tournament. I hope you all earned silver points and/or had a really great time. We always welcome feedback and suggestions, so feel free to communicate any comments you have to me at joycejenzano@icloud.com or to any of our unit board members.

See you at the bridge table.
Joyce Jenzano

Plan the Play

By Randy Joyce

Playing in a local game, sitting North, I picked up the following collection and heard it go P-P-P to me:

♠ A93

♠ A

♠ KQ9743

♠ K65

♠ KJ10875 ♠ 62

♠ 985

♠ KQJ6

♠ 8

♠ J65

♠ J92

♠ A1043

♠ Q4

♠ 107432

♠ A102

♠ Q87

I opened 1 Diamond, and partner responded 1 Heart. I was stuck between bids, but decided to take the high road and rebid 3 Diamonds. This bid had two strikes against it in that it was minimum in HCP and the suit quality is not up to my usual standards. When my partner passed, I was afraid that we were in a dreadful spot. Partner surprised me with great trump support and enough HCPs that she should have tried 3NT.

She was rightly worried about Spades, but since my Diamonds were only so-so I had to have points somewhere.

Since we were not in 3NT, I didn't waste mental energy worrying about that contract. So I focused my attention on the contract that I was playing.

I got the HK as an opening lead and won my stiff A. I was pretty sure that Hearts were 4-3, since LHO had not overcalled 1 Heart as a passed hand. My first order of business was to try the Spade finesse. Nooo, that doesn't mean going to the dummy to lead the Q of Spades. The opponent will merely cover with the K when they have it. I led a Spade toward the Q, and if the K had been on my left, I would have set up a pitch (from the dummy) for my second Club loser.

Note, I was never tempted to pull trumps at this stage of the hand. I might have to trump my 3rd Spade if the Q lost to the K. I got a little help now when RHO won the Spade K and led back a trump and LHO contributed the Jack. I won with the A of trumps and trumped a Heart to my hand. (It was going to take a lot of ruffs to set up that 5th Heart and I couldn't squander any trips to the dummy.)

I now led the A of Spades and led my last Spade, planning to trump it in the dummy. I was surprised when LHO showed out. I had gained another two bits of information. Say what? What could he possibly have learned from that play you say? In addition to finding out the spade distribution, I now knew that LHO had the Club A, since RHO would surely have opened a weak 2 bid with six Spades to the KJ10 and the Club A.

LHO helped out on the Spade when he did not ruff to force the Diamond 10 out of the dummy, thereby letting me score the Diamond 2. Now I trumped another Heart, reducing my LHO to only the Heart Q. Now a Diamond to the 10 and a last Heart ruff finally set up the 10.

Only at this stage did I pull the outstanding two trumps and lead a Club toward the Q. Dummy had been reduced to Qx of Clubs and the hard fought GOOD Heart 10! Making 5five : mission accomplished!

The field was not bidding 3NT. I guess most Easts were opening a little light, and after West bid 1 Spade, 3NT for N/S was not in the picture. I scored 7 out of 8 (1 pair did bid and make 3NT) for my efforts. The key points to take away from this hand are as follows:

***Don't fret about some contract that you wish you were playing. Play the contract that you really are playing.**

***Don't rush to pull trumps if you have *Work To Do* (usually trumping losers)**

***Realize that defense is hard for you and equally hard for the opponents. Take advantage of their errors. West should never shift to a trump when he is in, and East should trump the 3rd Spade to force one of my honors out of the dummy.**

Take advantage of information that you garner during the play of the hand. If West held the Club A and had not opened a weak 2 Spade bid, I would have complimented him on being the most conservative player in the room. Also, I would have taken 1 less trick than the field.

Following through on this last point, have a plan, but be flexible if the situation changes during the play of the hand. Back your judgment and assume that partner will see things your way if all doesn't work out like you hoped.

P.S. Editor's comment: Thank you—**Randy and Kay** for your excellent advice and willingness to share your knowledge to improve the play of our members. Congratulations to the two of you for getting over 50 points in our sectional tournament. Outstanding play!!

The Story told in my family about the Origins of the Name Bridge

By Maggie Lindquist

I have long told the story my Grandmother told me about how the game of Bridge was named 'bridge' as opposed to anything else they might have named the game. I tell this story when I am teaching new players (usually kids) and I tell it because although I have never seen or heard this story anywhere else I know it came from a time close to the when the game of Auction Bridge began. This year when I was telling it at Summer Camp and thinking about it I realized that because at least 4 of my Great-Grandparents played bridge (both sides of my Mother's family) and all of my Grandparents plus my Parents all played bridge so I am in the fourth generation of family bridge players. Ed Fuller, having heard me tell this story, did some internet research on the naming of the game and sent me "The Facts and Fiction and History of Bridge (author unknown)" which basically said that no one knows for sure where the name came from, but it is known that it evolved from Whist. The article also listed a series of important dates, one of which was "1903: British civil servants in remote India developed the practice of bidding for the privilege of calling the trump suit, thus introducing 'auction bridge'". My Grandmother was born in St. Louis in 1904 (the year of the World's Fair held in St. Louis, which is famous for the creation of the ice cream cone). Her parents and my Grandfather's parents (who also lived in St. Louis) learned to play Auction Bridge and they told her this story which she passed on to me. This story may be the true story given that the world came to St. Louis about the time Auction Bridge began, or it may simply be something my Great-Grandparents heard which may or may not have been based on fact. The story is:

There were two British families who lived in adjacent conclaves stationed in India. They frequently got together to play games which include Whist. Over time they modified the game of Whist into a different game which they had a wonderful time playing. There was a stream that ran between the two conclaves so one family or the other would cross over the bridge across the stream in the evening to go to their neighbors' house to play their game. The invitation generally was "would you like to come over the bridge to play our game tonight", which gradually got shorted to "would you like to come play bridge tonight".

Who knows, maybe it is truly the real story, maybe it isn't but it makes sense to me.

The Facts and Fiction and History of Bridge (author unknown)

Believe me, there was a time in the past when there were no computers, television sets, telephones, fax machines or cars, but people still came together and played card games. They would play in taverns, inns, at countryside homes, in royal palaces, in the mansions of the rich, in the private rooms of the clergy. Every nation, kingdom and state would have card players battling each other in the afternoons and evenings on every night of the week. It was a pastime, a way of filling the evening with fun and games.

Nobody remembers who invented the first deck of cards. Nobody remembers who named the suits and designed the graphics. And today we have all kinds of cards: trading cards, credit cards, greeting cards, baseball cards, tarot cards. Bridge cards, of course, have a history as does the game itself. It was not always called Bridge, and many still believe that it is an ancient game. But, in comparison, Bridge is a relatively new game derived from an older version. The refinement came about in the early 1900's and has continued to this day. Following are some historical moments in Bridge.

We are able to trace the beginnings of Bridge back to the early 16th century, although at that time it was called Whist and was played by the Brits. The first book devoted to Whist appeared in the year 1742, called Edmond Hoyle's Short Treatise, and, according to all players of the time, became a best seller. The first game of duplicate Whist was played in London in the year of our Lord 1857, and the systems used eliminated much of the luck involved in which card each player was dealt. If you would like to learn more about this early variation, click on the sites below:

Bid Whist Homepage

You can learn about the game, the rules, and trumps of the game

Bid Whist Online

The official website for Bid Whist players.

Cayenne Whist

This card game is also referred to as a variety of the game of Whist, which is played with two full packs of 52 cards each. The Joker is not included.

Ultimate Bridge Whist

This website offers the electronic version of playing Whist online. The full version allows you to team with a computer partner against two computer opponents at Novice or Expert level.

Whist

This website describes the classic game of Whist which was played widely in the 18th and 19th centuries. Whist was derived from the older game Ruff and Honours, and in the twentieth century, bridge has displaced whist as the most popular card game internationally among serious card players. Nevertheless, whist continues to be played in Britain, often in local tournaments called "whist drives".

In the following centuries, Whist went through stages of evolution and actually became popular with all classes. With the migration towards the New World, sailors and immigrants took along their card games and they became very popular to pass the time. Around the 1890's the game of Bridge was introduced to the United States. The rules of the game underwent many changes made by its players, who have in the time since become the pioneers and forerunners of the game of Bridge. Mr. Harold Vanderbilt did much to perfect a system in 1925. He introduced rules, principles, treatments and even a scoring table. His established rules became so popular that his game of Contract Bridge was adopted by the majority of players. How did the card game come to be called Bridge? An interesting question, because no one seems to be able to answer it. Many seem to attach value to the Russian word biritch or britch, which apparently meant an announcer or herald of some news or event. However, when you ask an etymologist, you could receive an answer like the following from a renowned expert on the subject.

The truth, alas, is that no one knows precisely where the name bridge for the card game came from, although it is fairly certain that it has nothing to do with other senses of the word bridge. The invention of bridge in the 19th century was, evidently, based on a card game long popular in the Near East and known at that time as Russian whist. The word whist itself, by the way, is an old British equivalent of shhh!, and is a natural name for a game that demands silence from its players. Russian whist was also known as biritch or britch, both of which do sound Russian although neither of them seems to be an actual Russian word. In any case, once the British took up the game, britch became bridge through a process known as folk etymology, which is a fancy way of saying that whenever the substitution makes no sense. So the answer is that the name bridge is almost entirely random and does not mean a thing, or, as we say at my house, Go Fish.

England continued to colonize the world and the Commonwealth grew. In the early 1900's British civil servants, who always follow any Army took along the developed systems of this evolving game and actually developed the Bidding System. In this manner, a Trump Suit was introduced to the game. They introduced the term Auction Bridge. A selection of outstanding dates in the history is listed below:

1742: The first book devoted to Whist appeared, Edmond Hoyle's Short Treatise, which became a best seller.

1857: The first game of duplicate Whist was played in London; this eliminated much of the luck involved in which card each player was dealt. It was the forerunner of modern duplicate bridge.

1903: British civil servants in remote India developed the practice of bidding for the privilege of calling the trump suit, thus introducing "auction bridge."

1925: Harold S. Vanderbilt, American multi-millionaire and three-time America's Cup winner, changed the course of bridge while on a cruise. He suggested that only tricks bid and made count toward game, with extra tricks counted as bonuses. These revised rules turned auction bridge into contract bridge.

1931: The Culbertson Summary and Culbertson's Blue Book topped all book sales for the year, outselling such popular titles as Believe It or Not and Crossword Puzzles! "The Battle of the Century" was held in New York City. The team captained by Ely Culbertson won by 8980 points.

1953: President Eisenhower played bridge regularly on Saturday night with top experts. He attended national bridge tournaments when possible. He enjoyed bridge as much as golf and he was considered an excellent player.

1958: Charles Goren appeared on the cover of Time magazine and was dubbed "The King of Aces." The inside story explained the basic rules of bridge and proclaimed it the "United States' No. 1 Card Game."

But, back in North America, there was Mr. Harold Vanderbilt, who changed the course of Bridge while taking a cruise no pun intended. You know, *Captain on the Bridge*. A highly intelligent gentleman, Mr. Vanderbilt recommended that only the tricks bid and made would count toward making a game. Overtricks would count as a bonus. His recommendation became popular and out of Auction Bridge, we suddenly had Contract Bridge. If you track Mr. Vanderbilt through the Internet, you will discover that he was a multi-faceted and multi-talented man.

Several years later, Mr. Ely Culbertson wrote a book called the Culbertson Summary and Culbertson's Blue Book was published and instantly became a best seller. Mr. Ely Culbertson possessed a colorful imagination and achieved many of his goals. He wandered the world from Russia to America, was a pioneer, an educated man, a rich man, a poor man. He founded the magazine The Bridge World, developed bridge principles and treatments such as Jump Bids and New-Suit Forcing. When the Hall of Fame was inaugurated in 1964, Mr. Ely Culbertson was the first person to be elected. By this time, his tombstone was nine years old.

There were many other pioneers in the development of the game of bridge. They are too numerous to mention here. However, we should mention one more person. His name is Mr. John S. Bennett. In Kansas City, Kansas, in the year 1931, Mr. Bennett was playing with his wife as his partner against Mr. and Mrs. Hoffmann. The couple had had some serious communication problems that day and they were uttering some rude remarks in public about the bidding and playing abilities of each other in derogatory words. Then came the fateful hand when Mr. Bennett bid a Spade, the Left Hand Opponent overcalled with Two Diamonds, and Mrs. Bennett raised to Four Spades. Mr. Bennett did not fulfill the Contract, and Mrs. Bennett could not hold her tongue. She became so enraged that she seemed hysterical. Mr. Bennett reached across the table, slapped her several times, as witnesses reported. Mrs. Bennett went into her mother's bedroom, retrieved the family automatic weapon, returned to the game room, and pointed the weapon at her husband. Mr. Bennett raced toward the bathroom and slammed the door behind him. But Mrs. Bennett fired two shots which went through the wooden door, and killed Mr. Bennett. It seems that Mr. Bennett could have made the contract of 4 Spades after all, according to Mr. Ely Culbertson, who later analyzed the cards.

Submitted by Ed Fuller

Unit 191 Alert Membership Report

Submitted by Linda Harris

During the month of June the following occurred:

Total Membership for June 2017	June	(596)
New	3	
Transfer In	3	
Transfer Out	3	
Deceased		
Snowbird In		
Snowbird Out		
Future Life Masters inactive	2	
Future Life Masters reinstated		
Life Masters Unpaid	1	
Life Masters reinstated		

We welcome to our Unit 191 family three (3) new ACBL members--**Bayard M. Atwood** and **William P. Jones** both of Chapel Hill and **Hollins Williams** of Durham. In addition three (3) player transferred in **Charlie Besch** , **Veronica J. Besch** from unit 131 of Durham and **Valorie A. Zentil** from unit 547 of Pittsboro.

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

Advancing in rank thirteen (13) during the month of June were:

# FOR EACH RANK	RANKS	JUNE/MEMBERS	MP REQUIREMENTS
61	Rookie Masters		(Fewer than 5 Points)
69	Junior Masters	Lou N. Fierro	(5+ Points)
		Jeanne M. Hankins	
		Richard Schneider	
		Margaret L. Smith	
51	Club Masters	Ted C. Michie	(20+ Points)
		Barbara Phillips-Bute	

# FOR EACH RANK	RANKS	JUNE/MEMBERS	MP REQUIREMENTS
72	Sectional Masters	Lee R. Nackman	(50+ Points)
		Shengding Sun	
		Mariee L. Walton	
86	Regional Masters	Martin Causley	(100+ Points)
		Liz Schuler	
42	NABC Masters	Pat L. McFeely	(200+ Points)
5	Advanced NABC Masters		(300+ Points)
27	Life Masters		(300/500+ Points)
72	Bronze Masters		(750+ Points)
32	Silver Masters		(1,000+ Points)
43	Ruby Masters	Jon R. Nadel	(1,500+ Points)
14	Gold Masters		(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:

Beth Watson

Eloise M. Fontaine

John W. Barnard

Robert S. Thorstad

Congratulations one and all!

TOURNAMENT ACTION



Chris Moll and Henry Meguid, co-chairs of the June tournament—smiling during their planning session



Players are enjoying their round at The Bridge Academy



Players await the beginning of the Saturday morning session at Triangle



Kathy Newman (top) and **Nancy Crow** served as partnership chairpersons at the tournament. Thanks, ladies for a job very well done! Much appreciation to those members who volunteered to be designated partners.



Henry and Darleen Bates, director of the 499er games, kept everything running smoothly at The Bridge Academy



Thanks to **Phylliss Woody, Melanie Riva, and Tammy Moll** for sharing photos for this issue.



Chris and the wonderful **Kelly**, hospitality chair, share a moment before the tournament. Sorry **Holly**, I didn't get a photo of you—hospitality chair, at TBA

Jay Bates, Director in Charge of the tournament—directed all the games at Triangle. This photo had to be before the 25 director calls Friday afternoon.



When two co-chairs cannot come to an agreement—they just decide the outcome by having an arm wrestling contest. We will never know who won this one!



Skip Riva has good reason to smile—with wife **Melanie**, they scored well in almost all of the games.



Sunday Swiss



**THE HUGO GERMINO AWARD
WAS WON BY B.WAYNE STU-
ART—WITH AN AVERAGE OF
61.21% PLAYING WITH TWO
DIFFERENT PARTNERS IN THE
PAIRS GAME.
CONGRATULATIONS WAYNE!**



TOURNAMENT WINNERS—499ER



2ND OVERALL—FRIDAY MORNING
IRA MUELLER AND DIXIE HAPGOOD



FRIDAY AFTERNOON—1ST PLACE : CANNITY AND HENRY CATRELL
2ND PLACE: FREDERICK JONES AND JEANNINE SEDWICK



SUNDAY SWISS—1ST PLACE
CHARLES MEYER, FREDERICK JONES, WILLIAM BESTMT AND LINDA BESTMT



SATURDAY MORNING—FIRST IN B AND C
GAYLE EDWARDS AND JUDITY GANEY



SWISS—2ND OVERALL
MARGARET CRANFORD, BARBARA VEASEY, BARBARA YOWELL, CAROLINE DIXON



It was a red, white and blue day on July 4th as bridge players celebrated at Triangle. **Phylliss** and **Tammy** definitely were the winners of the dress contest!! It appears that **George** has his game face on even when he is dummy—while **Judy Colser** concentrates on her defense.

