

2016 - 2017 Cup Races *by Jack Self*

Only two more months to go in this years cup races and it seems almost impossible for anyone to catch the front runners in the Sol Lourie Open and Henry Mills Under 2000 categories but the Coleman-Farrel NLM and Centurion trophies are still within anyone's grasp.

In the **Sol Lourie Open** race, Mohan Bali keeps on demolishing the rest of the field leading second place Hap Neuffer by just over 55 masterpoints. Jay Shahani still claims third place with Alice Moore behind him in fourth. Pat Webb and Bob Webb come in at fifth and sixth while Mary Townhill makes a strong masterpoint showing to claim the seventh slot. Harold Moore and Ken Fasching round out the top ten.

In the **Henry Mills Under 2000** race, Al Kirkland continues his dominance over the rest of the field leading second place Jack Wilkinson by over 28 masterpoints. Carolyn Cromer is a close third while Scott McPherson and Francis Robinson are neck and neck for fourth and fifth. Jack Self, Bernetha Henry, and Mike Bitonti are bunched up together in the sixth, seventh, and eighth slots, while Helen Young and Bill Charwood check in at ninth and tenth.

The **Coleman-Farrel Non-Life Master** race is much more competitive this month although first place Helen Young has a comfortable eight point lead over Kenyon Stevenson. Mary Frame jumps up to claim the third slot while Janet Sheridan trails just behind at number four. Karen Falkenberg, Dot Jones, and Kathy Kimmerling are all grouped together at the fifth, sixth, and seventh spots, while Brenda Isbell, Shelby King, and Myra Jaynes round out the top ten.

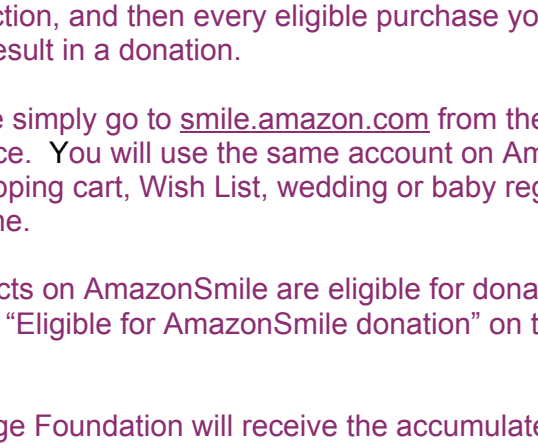
The **Centurion Under 100** category is traditionally the most competitive race of the lot and this month is no exception. Brenda Isbell is in first place with a six and a half point lead over second place Myra Jaynes. Olivia Smith claims the third spot while Sue Kline is just behind Olivia in the fourth position. Jerry Isbell, Charles Williams, and Doug Rice are fighting it out for the fifth through seventh slots with Craig Lemrow, Judy Sternberg, and Glenn Mitchell complete the top ten.

The next two months could still see some changes in the top ten so be sure to get your favorite partner and come to the table. Who knows? Next month YOUR name might be in the top ten.

APRIL 2017

Sol Lourie	(Open)	Henry Mills	(Under 2000)	Coleman-Farrel	(Non-NLM)	Centurion	(Under 100)
Mohan Bali	255.95	Jack Wilkinson	129.80	Helen Young	73.71	Brenda Isbell	50.75
Hap Neuffer	192.56	Carolyn Cromer	101.41	Kenyon Stevenson	67.62	Myra Jaynes	44.22
Jay Shahani	183.08	Francis Robinson	89.74	Mary Frame	61.23	Olivia Smith	42.13
Alice Moore	176.22	Scott McPherson	89.78	Janet Sheridan	60.42	Sue Kline	33.65
Pat Webb	171.47	Karen Falkenberg	89.21	Karen Falkenberg	59.30	Jerry Isbell	23.50
Bob Webb	152.12	Jack Self	82.81	Dot Jones	57.84	Charles Williams	23.29
Mary Townhill	130.86	Bernetha Henry	81.78	Kathy Kimmerling	56.15	Doug Rice	23.26
Al Kirkland	129.80	Mike Bitonti	81.38	Brenda Isbell	50.75	Craig Lemrow	21.50
Harold Moore	115.37	Helen Young	75.71	Shelby King	47.43	Judy Sternberg	19.19
Ken Fasching	111.54	Bill Charwood	73.08	Myra Jaynes	44.22	Glenn Mitchell	19.18

Support the South Carolina Bridge Foundation!



AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to your designated charity. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support. We hope you will choose the **South Carolina Bridge Foundation as your charity.**

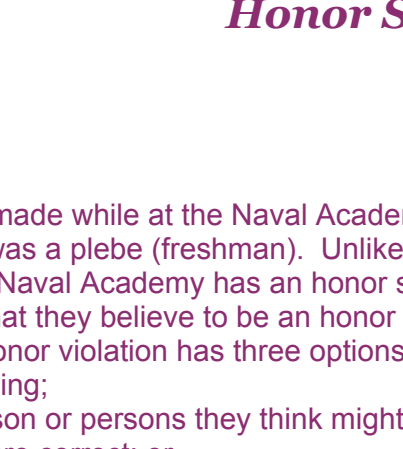
On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you need to select a charitable organization to receive donations from (eligible purchases before you begin shopping. We will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You will use the same account on Amazon.com and AmazonSmile. Your shopping cart, Wish List, wedding or baby registry, and other account settings are also the same.

Tens of millions of products on AmazonSmile are eligible for donations. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.

The South Carolina Bridge Foundation will receive the accumulated funds quarterly. If you have any questions about this program, either Pat Webb or Kathy Kimmerling will be happy to help you!

Construction at the CBC *by Lee Webb*



The building construction is making good progress and I think we all can see how nicely it is shaping up. The crew will work the next 3 weekends (through April 30th) to complete the work.

The remaining Sunday games in April have been cancelled and we are hopeful we can resume Sunday games on May 7th. I will keep you updated as I get progress reports.

Come see the progress!!

From the Club Manager



Honor System *by Craig Lemrow*

One of the better decisions I made while at the Naval Academy was to volunteer to be on the honor committee when I was a navee (freshman). Unlike the other service academies that have an honor code, the Naval Academy has an honor system. The major difference is that someone observing what they believe to be an honor violation or hearing something that could be an honor violation has three options:

- 1) they can choose to do nothing;
- 2) they can approach the person or persons they think might have committed an honor violation to determine if they are correct; or
- 3) they can report it to the honor committee which will investigate the alleged violation.

The honor committee is very discrete in it's work. The Superintendent of the Naval Academy reviews all honor violation decisions made by the honor committee. In my four years, not one recommendation of the honor committee was ever modified. I was not on every investigation and decision. The experiences were foundational.

Why am I sharing this with you? Because, we use an honor system when it comes to paying for drinks and snacks. We expect everyone to be honorable and pay for the drinks and/or snacks they enjoy. I think the prices we charge indicate that we make a very small/if any profit on the items. We use the profit to purchase cups and other supplies for the break area. While we need everyone who partakes of the drinks and snacks to pay for them, we don't need gossip. If you think you see someone take a drink or snack and not pay for it you have 3 choices. You can do or say nothing; you can nicely let the person know what you think you saw; or you can confide in me. Then, I have only two choices. Hopefully, if I choose to speak to someone our conversation will remain between the two of us. I know it will for me.

Let's have the drinks and snacks continue to be a positive addition to the club. If you have any questions or thoughts on this matter or any other matter please feel free to chat with me or call me.

2017 Youth Bridge Camp

Learn to Play Bridge this Summer

Columbia Bridge Club
2017 Youth Bridge Camp

Grades: 4th thru 12th
Ages: 9 thru 17

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
June 26 - 30, 2017

77 Brighton Hill Road, Columbia, SC 29223

Bring Your Friends and Join Us for a Week of Bridge Lessons at the Columbia Bridge Club!
\$20.00 Includes Booklet, Snacks and Pizza Party

Space is Limited Registration Ends June 20

For More Information or to Register Visit -
http://www.columbia.bridge-club.org/
or scan our QR code with your smartphone!

www.acbl.org www.cbc.org/juniors



Masterpoint Milestones

Regional Master (100+ MP)
Naomi Freedman

NABC Master (200+ MP)
Karen Faulkenberry

Congratulations!

Learn Bridge in a Day?
August 2nd at the Columbia Regional



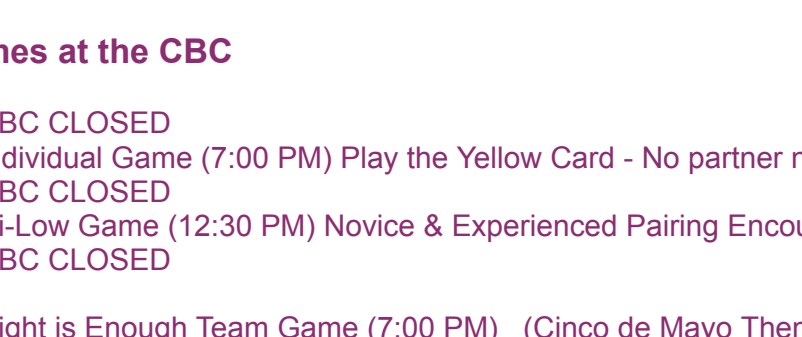
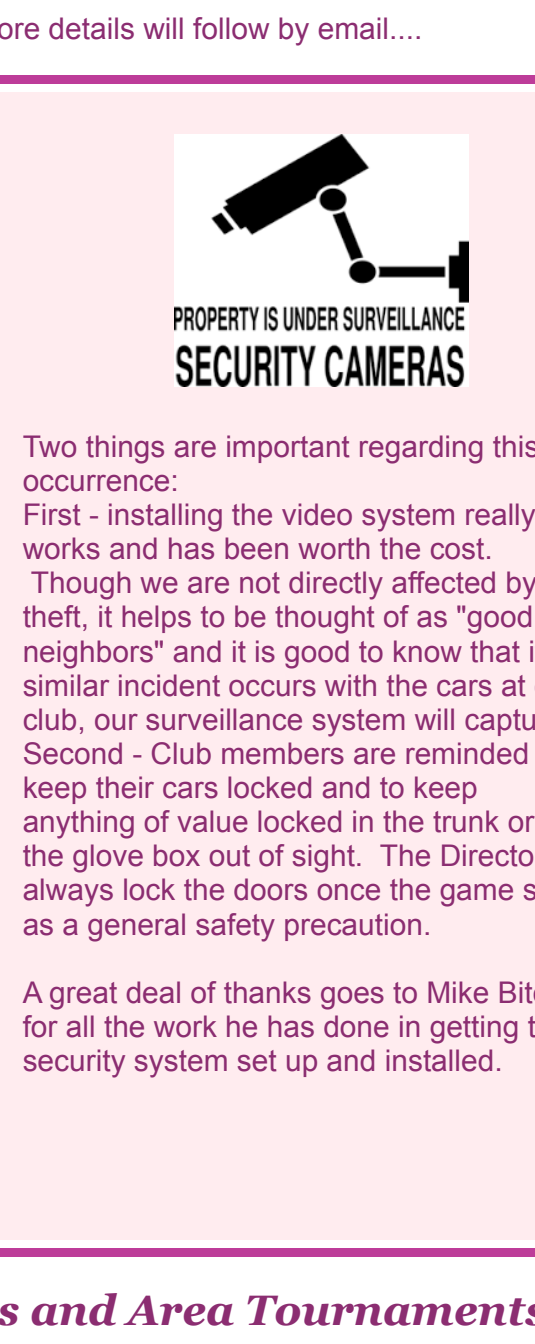
Can you Learn Bridge in a Day?®
Yes!

Whether you are a beginner or returning to bridge, it's the perfect place to start.

Come with a friend – or make new ones! See why bridge is the world's most popular card game.

Date: Wednesday, August 2, 2017
Time: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: Double Tree - Columbia
2100 Bush River Road
Columbia, SC 29210
Cost: \$25 includes class materials and a light lunch
Please Preregister (see below)

Registration: Website: www.columbia.bridge-club.org
Questions: Email: cbc-news.sc@gmail.com
or call Kathy at (734) 476-4046 All Ages Welcome!



Watch for upcoming ads in the newspapers to share with potential students! Flyers and Postcards are available to distribute to anyone who you think would be interested in participating. Please post in churches, neighborhood newsletters, Facebook, etc. This session is for true beginners as well as those coming back to the game. Parent and child partnerships would be exciting for the game! All ages are welcome!

The event is listed on the ACBL, District 7 and the CBC websites. It can also be found on the CBC Facebook page!

If you know of a group who might be interested in this session, let us know and we can speak to them directly about the session.

Helpers will be needed at the session - more info to follow on this.

Registration for the session is on the CBC webpage - we need to have a minimum number of students registered 60 days out for ACBL to support this session.

If you have any questions or suggestions for how to make this a success - please contact Kathy Kimmerling or Lee Webb.

Annual Membership Meeting
Monday - May 15 - 6:00 PM

The Nominating Committee members have met and reviewed all of the nominations made by Club members. They are pleased to announce Scott Dunn and Carolyn Cromer as candidates for 3-year terms as Members-At-Large. Be sure to thank the Nominating Committee for their hard work: Frazer McCrory, Chair, Bob McCardell and Sallie Blackwell.

The election will be held at the General Membership Meeting at 6:00 pm on May 15, at which point additional nominations for these two positions will also be accepted from the floor.

Absentee Ballots will be available for those who want to participate in the elections but are unable to attend the meeting.

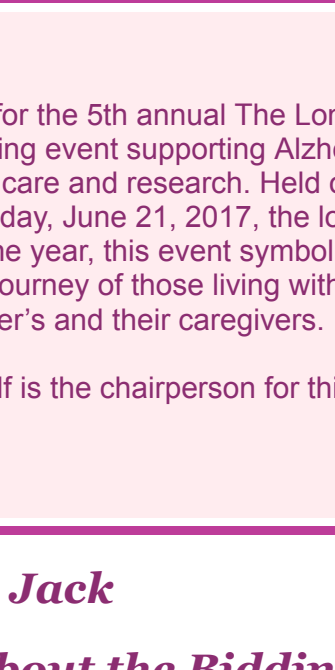
A Farewell to Dixie Allan *by Jack Self*

As most of you know, Club member Dixie Allan passed away on Thursday, April 6, 2017. Dixie was a talented woman who designed the logo for our Club and served as our volunteer webmaster. She will be greatly missed by those of us who knew her and we send our condolences to her family.

On Wednesday, April 12, the Club dedicated its game to Dixie and invited members to bring refreshments the game to share in the celebration of Dixie's life.

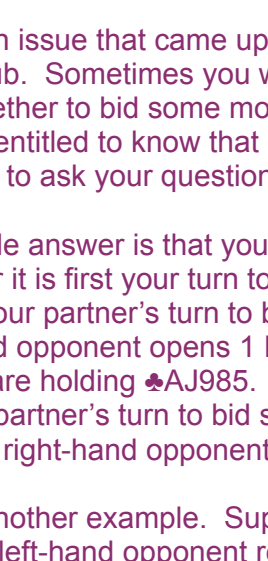
The response was humbling with a total of eighteen tables in ten bridge games. The assortment of food and refreshments was overwhelming.

Shortly before the start of the game, Club members paused to remember Dixie and share a few amusing anecdotes of her time with us here at the CBC. It was noted that although her passing is sad and we will mourn for her, it is difficult to think of Dixie without smiling in remembrance of her enthusiasm and wit.



Dixie's daughter Angie Reynolds was in attendance as well as her son Kurt Ward and his wife Jennifer. Kurt spoke briefly to thank the Club for hosting the dedication game and to tell us how much Dixie enjoyed belonging to the CBC and how much she valued the friendships she made while she was here.

So, as the Club bids a fond farewell to Dixie, we all feel fortunate to have known her and to have had her as a part of our lives.

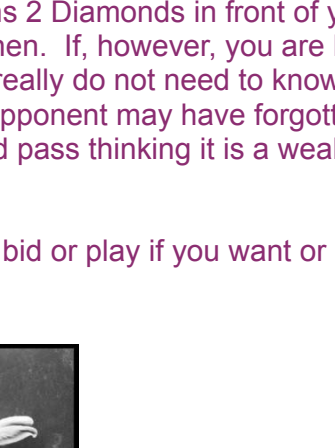


Hold the Date!
CBC Summer Party!

The annual CBC Summer party will be held on June 24th. The luncheon will begin at 11:00 AM and the game will follow at 12:30 PM.

Beth Watson is chairperson for this event. More details will follow by email....

CBC Video Surveillance System Assists Police in Investigating a Robbery



By Lee Webb

A recent event that occurred on Wednesday, April 12, should be of interest to all Club members regarding their safety and security.

Someone stole a cell phone from a parked car at the Circle K while the CBC's Supervised Play session was in progress. A bystander chased the thief over the hill where the thief ran by the Club's side door and then circled back around the Club. All of the action was captured and recorded by our outside camera system. The Circle K employees suggested that cell phone owner check with us and see if we had it on camera, which, of course, we did. The police came to watch the video and asked head director Mike Bitonti to save the footage. They also said that a detective may come by to view it and want a copy of it. (By the way the cell phone was recovered when the thief discovered he could not unlock it and threw it away).

Two things are important regarding this occurrence:

First - installing the video system really works and has been worth the cost.

Though we are not directly affected by this theft, it helps to be thought of as "good neighbors" and it is good with the cars that if a similar incident occurs with the club at our club, our surveillance system will capture it.

Second - Club members are reminded to keep their cars locked and to keep anything of value locked in the trunk or in the glove box out of sight. The Directors always lock the doors once the game starts as a general safety precaution.

A great deal of thanks goes to Mike Bitonti for all the work he has done in getting the security system set up and installed.

Upcoming Special Games and Area Tournaments

Special Games at the CBC

Apr 16	CBC CLOSED
Apr 20	Individual Game (7:00 PM) Play the Yellow Card - No partner needed
Apr 23	CBC CLOSED
Apr 27	Hi-Low Game (12:30 PM) Novice & Experienced Pairing Encouraged
Apr 30	CBC CLOSED
May 4	Eight is Enough Team Game (7:00 PM) (Cinco de Mayo Theme)
May 7	Open Pairs (1:30 PM)
May 11	Mentor/Mentee (12:30 PM) NO Open Pairs game
May 13	Eight is Enough Team Game (7:00 PM)
May 13	Youth Bridge Game (9:30 AM)
May 13	Birthdays Party (12:30 PM) Open Pairs
May 14	Individual Game (1:30 PM) Play the Yellow Card - No partner needed
May 15	CBC General Meeting (6:00 PM) Open/299 Pairs Games follow (7:00 PM)
May 18	Individual Game (7:00 PM) Play the Yellow Card - No partner needed
May 21	Eight is Enough Team Game (1:30 PM) Team Sign-Up at Club
May 25	Hi-Low Game (12:30 PM) Novice & Experienced Pairing Encouraged
May 28	Individual Game (1:30 PM) Play the Yellow Card - No partner needed

Area Sectional and Regional Tournaments

April 17 - 23	Gatlinburg Regional
April 28 - 30	Greenville Sectional
April 29 - 30	GNT District Final: Unlimited and B Flights (Greenville)
May 5 - 7	Morganton Sectional
May 6 - 7	GNT District Final: A and C Flights (Morganton)
May 10 - 13	Highlands Sectional
May 25 - 29	Atlanta SuperSectional
July 31 - Aug 6	Columbia Regional

Click on Tournament to download flyer

Yard Sale Wrap Up *by Jack Self*

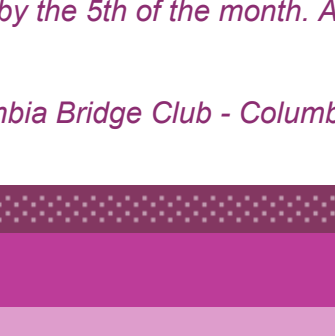
The CBC Yard Sale held Saturday, April 8, was a resounding success with \$750 being raised from the sale of merchandise contributed by our Club members.

A big thank you goes to Margaret Barksdale and Frances Lawton for organizing, categorizing, and pricing the sale items. Also thanks go out to Frances McMeekin, Pat Staying, Scott Dunn, and Beth Watson for staying after the game on Friday afternoon to help organize the sales area and placing the merchandise out on display. Additional thanks go to Lee Webb, Mary Frame, and Frances Lawton's husband Charlie for being there on Saturday morning to haggle with the customers. And one big thank you to all the Club members who contributed their unwanted items for the sale.

We had a number of items that were not purchased so we are keeping them in storage and plan to have another yard sale sometime in early May.

So if you have any more unwanted items you would like to donate, please drop them off at the Club at any time.

A specific date for the second sale will be publicized shortly.



Cinco de Mayo 8 is Enough Team Game

Get your team together and join us at the CBC on May 4th for a Cinco de Mayo themed pot luck and a game.

Dinner will start at 6:00 PM with the team game to follow at 7:00 PM.

Please see the Sign Up sheet at the Club.

The Longest Day June 21st

Join us for the 5th annual The Longest Day fundraising event supporting Alzheimer's disease care and research. Held on Wednesday, June 21, 2017, the longest day of the year, this event symbolizes the difficult journey of those living with Alzheimer's and their caregivers.

Jack Self is the chairperson for this event.

Play Along with Jack

When Can I Ask a Question about the Bidding? *by Jack Self*

Here is an issue that came up during a recent 8 Is Enough Team Game on Thursday night at our Club. Sometimes you want to ask the opponents what their bids mean so you will know whether to bid some more or plan on how you will defend their contract. You are certainly entitled to know that information; however, it is important to know when you are permitted to ask your questions and when it is improper to ask.

The simple answer is that you may make inquiries whenever it is your turn to bid or whenever it is first your turn to play. You most definitely may NOT ask your questions when it your partner's turn to bid or when it is your partner's turn to lead. Suppose your right-hand opponent opens 1 NT and you pass and the next player bids 3 Clubs (no alert) and you are holding 4A.J985. You are certainly wondering what the 3 Club bid means but it is your partner's turn to bid so you CANNOT ask about the bid. If you want to ask, wait until your right-hand opponent bids and then ask your question.

Here is another example. Suppose your right-hand opponent opens 1 Heart, you pass, and your left-hand opponent responds 1 Spade. Your partner passes and RHO now bids 3 Hearts. You pass again and your LHO now bids 4 Clubs. RHO now bids 4 Spades and that ends the auction. Your partner is on lead. You want to know if the 4 Club bid means anything special. Do NOT ask until it is your turn to play! To ask the question before your partner leads could be interpreted as meaning that you have something in clubs and suggesting a lead to your partner. IMPORTANT! No one is accusing you of doing anything unethical. No one is even hinting that you are suggesting a club lead. The rule about asking questions is in place to prevent even the APPEARANCE of impropriety.

In this way, everyone is above suspicion and a lot of misunderstandings are avoided. By the way, beginners sometime are intimidated by all the "alerts" they hear and want to ask questions right away about what the bid means. Sometimes it is a good idea to wait until the auction is completely over and it is your turn to play before you ask. Some partnerships are playing so many conventions that they forget what they are playing, and your questions and their answers may help the opponents sort out what their partners mean by their bids. A good rule of thumb is to ask about the meaning of a bid if it is important for you to know before you take an action. If you are holding seven diamonds headed by the AQJ and your right-hand opponent opens 2 Diamonds in front of you, it might be important to know what that bid means right then. If however, you are holding a hand with 3 high card points and no five card suit, you really do not need to know what the 2 Diamond bid means, so do not ask. You right-hand opponent may have forgotten that the 2 Diamond bid shows a balanced 18 or 19 HCP and pass thinking it is a weak two bid in diamonds. Stranger things have happened.

So, bottom line: Ask about a bid when it is your turn to bid or play if you want or need to know.

Moving to Columbia and Joining the CBC *by Jack Self*

I love this game. To me bridge is the best game ever invented. It combines intelligence, physical stamina, intuition, cunning, deception, boldness, logic, and luck in just the right mixture to make it endlessly fascinating and endlessly frustrating. I often compare it to an addiction; you get it into your blood and, although you swear at it at times, you just keep coming back for more.

I know of no other competitive game that can accommodate nearly every physical problem like bridge can. I have competed against (and been beaten by) blind players, deaf players, players attached to oxygen tanks, players who had limited mobility, and players who have had to lie horizontally to complete a hand. There is also no age barrier. I have played against children who had to sit on pillows to see the top of the table and against people whose 100th birthdays were behind them. Lack of command of the English language is no impediment either; just knowing 15 words allows you to compete against players from anywhere on the globe. You have to love a game like that.

The game of bridge has been good to me. When I first moved to Columbia in 2009, I felt lost. I left my friends and my family behind to come to South Carolina to begin what amounted to a new life. I found a part-time job but was completely isolated socially and was overwhelmed emotionally and physically in setting up a new household. I finally set out to find the Columbia Bridge Club, which was no small feat for someone who knew nothing about the geography of Columbia. I kibitzed a couple of games and introduced myself hoping someone would consent to play a game with me. Finally one of the Club members asked me to play. Alas, our game was not what you could call stellar and I feared that my opportunity to "break into" the local club was forever lost. Then I went to play one Thursday night at the individual game and got to meet and play with several of the players. The next day someone named Francine called me and asked me to play. I had no idea who Francine was but when she said, "It was the one who you were playing with you against 3 NT when you undered the AKxxx of Hearts and I held the Queen and we set them one trick." I instantly knew who she was – you do not forget partners that return your opening lead! That led to two more opportunities to play and gradually I felt I was making headway.

I went to the Columbia Regional later that year and found partners at the partnership desk staffed by someone named Bernetha. She paired me with a partner who, as it turned out, I used to play with many, many years earlier in the same city who had moved from. In talking to him, I made the comment that I did not think the people in the Columbia Bridge Club were very friendly. Well now that was the wrong thing to say! A woman working at the hospitality desk named Mary overheard me and very quickly informed me that she tried to set up a game with me and I never responded to her email. I still cannot remember ever getting that email but from that encounter, I learned that there were others willing to play with me – I just had to be more persistent.

Eight years later, here I am. The Columbia Bridge Club is just like a second family to me now and now when I go back to visiting my brothers and sisters, I talk about my friends back here in Columbia and find myself wanting to get back to be with them. Indeed, the Columbia Bridge Club has made me feel like Columbia is my home now and not just a place I live.

From the day I first entered the Boone (NC) Bridge Club as a college freshman to learn this game to my present day struggles to continue to learn the game here in Columbia, I've encountered a lot of people, some wonderful, some wacky, some famous, some irritating, and some endearing.

As I said, I love this game. It is like no other.

CBC Business Cards

The CBC now has its own business card!

Please take a couple.... and pass them along to anyone who might be interested in learning to play Bridge or attending current games at the CBC.

ACBL Sanctioned Duplicate Games - Offered Daily

Games for All Player Levels
Lessons Available

77 Brighton Hill Road
Columbia, SC 29223
500CIB@cs.com
www.columbia-bridge-club.org
(803) 388-7000

Columbia Bridge Club

Have a comment or an article you would like to submit? Reply to this email or send to cbc.news.sc@gmail.com. This is your CBC Newsletter and all suggestions or submissions for future articles are welcome! Please submit articles by the 5th of the month. All articles are subject to editorial approval and edit.

The CBC Newsletter is published monthly by the Columbia Bridge Club - Columbia, SC

