

2019 Unit 191 Annual Meeting

December 15, 2019 ~ Sheraton Imperial Hotel, RTP, NC

1. Call Meeting to Order

2. Welcome everyone

- ❖ A warm welcome to everyone
- ❖ A special thanks to Deanna Larus for her incredible efforts in organizing this year's Gala event
- ❖ Special thanks to Ian Cloudsdale, John Larus, Ray McEntee, Eric Larson, Roman Davis, Eric Norford, Marian & Tony Meyer and other helpers for moving and setting up the tables, to Jane Kiernan, Suzie Goldberg and Marion Meyer for managing the registration desk, and to Phylliss Woody for memorializing the event with her photos.
- ❖ Pleased to have John Torrey and Maggie Lindquist as directors for our game today.

3. Introduce Board of Directors

This year's Board of Directors:

Deanna Larus – Vice President

Ray McEntee – Secretary Suzie Goldberg – Treasurer

Hugon Karwowski Chris Moll

Phylliss Woody Jane Kiernan

John Schachte Mariée Walton

Marian Meyer Craig Robinson

Recognize and thank another group of individuals who have given generously of their time and talents:

❖ **Barbara Martin** – Editor of the Bright Leaf Alert Newsletter

Barbara faithfully pesters us each month for our contributions to that month's issue, and then masterfully assembles them into our outstanding newsletter. Many players outside our unit have asked to be on our email distribution list just so they can receive our newsletter.

❖ **Marc Goldberg** – Unit Webmaster

This year we moved our website to a new Internet Service Provider. Marc stepped up and created a new website for the unit to greatly ease the transition.

❖ **Nancy Crow, Phylliss Woody, Bev Craig, and Andrea Roitman** – Mentoring Pairs Program Committee

The Mentor-Mentee Program has been a highlight of our unit. Players have switched units to participate. It's hard to imagine how it could be improved. But, this year's committee did just that. They developed a lesson guide to provide a more structured learning framework. They petitioned the Board for a subsidy to the mentor's entry fee to defray the mentee's cost. The Board approved.

❖ Board of Directors activities to enhance bridge-playing opportunities in the unit:

- Series of Bridge Lectures by local professional bridge teachers: Lance Schull, Henry Meguid and Chris Moll. Thanks to Mariée Walton for leading this program. Let her know your thoughts on the lectures and ways that we can enhance them for you in the future.

- Unit 191 Championship Week. A player's top two percentage scores in games this week will determine the winner. A \$50 gift certificate will be given to the top Life Master player and to the top Non-Life Masters player. Many thanks to John Schachte for organizing and running this event.
- Hosting more Unit Championship games as single-day events. The first such event was held in September in celebration of the life of Harrison Brooke. With an old timer's entry fee of only \$3, pizza and good bridge, it was a huge success. The Board plans to hold other such events next year. Please offer your ideas and suggestions for such single-day events.

4. Election of Directors

Call on Marian Meyer, Chair of this year's Nomination Committee, to give the results of this year's elections and to present your four new Board Directors.

175 unit members voted online and via mail-in ballots.

Returning Board Directors are Chris Moll and Phylliss Woody, and newly elected Directors are Paul Morrisette and Donna Walther.

- ❖ Congratulations to new Directors. The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for tomorrow, Monday, December 16th, at 4:20 p.m. at The Bridge Academy.

- ❖ Thank outgoing Director and Treasurer, Suzie Goldberg. A pleasure working with her and knowing that she was taking good care of our financial matters as the Unit Treasurer.

As an outgoing Director myself, I take this opportunity to thank all Unit 191 members and the Unit 191 Board Directors for your support and assistance. It has been a pleasure working with you and serving as your president these past two years.

5. Treasurer's Report

Call on Susie Goldberg to present the Treasurer's Report for the past year. (*Suzie reported a profit of \$631 for 2019 and a year-ending balance of approximately \$28,000.*)

6. Membership Report

Call on Jane Kiernan to present the membership report for the unit.

While membership fluctuates throughout the year, our unit membership has increased 7% over last December, going from 587 members then to 628 members now (a net of 41 new members).

7. By-Laws Revision

The Unit 191 Board has proposed a revision in the unit's By-Laws to codify better the unit's election process. The revision is precipitated somewhat by the cancellation of last year's annual meeting due to inclement weather and the resulting

status of the unit elections. The objectives of the revisions are three-fold:

- (i) to define the composition of the Nomination Committee to include both members of the Unit Board of Directors and unit members who are not Board Directors;
- (ii) to provide a procedure for Unit members to nominate candidates in addition to those put forward by the Nomination Committee; and
- (iii) to separate the balloting from the annual meeting.

The petition to amend the Unit 191 By-Laws was emailed to the unit membership in November and published in the December issue of the Bright Leaf Alert Newsletter.

No request to read the amendments, and no questions.

By-Laws revision passed unanimously.

8. Hall of Fame

In 2014, Unit 191 established a Unit 191 Hall of Fame to recognize bridge players in our unit who have made major contributions in their service to Unit 191, or in promotion of the game of bridge, or in their expertise at the bridge table. As we did not have the opportunity to honor last year's inductee, I would like to honor her now. Last year's inductee was **Maggie Lindquist**.

Maggie Lindquist

A long-time member of our unit, Maggie has served on the Unit 191 Board for at least eight years. She has volunteered in numerous ways to the Unit 191 bridge community, most

notability as hospitality chair for many unit sectionals and in annual audits of the unit's financial records. She directs at two bridge clubs in the unit. Believing strongly in education and youth, she started and has fostered a youth bridge camp from 2012 to the present. She is a Ruby Life Master.

I am honored to announce that this year's inductee is

Barbara Martin.

Barbara has served on the Unit 191 Board for three three-year terms, first from 2002 to 2008 and most recently from 2015 to 2017. She is the outstanding editor of the Bright Leaf Alert Newsletter; in which capacity she actively pursues articles of interest to our members. She is a Gold Life Master.

9. Special Recognitions

Many special people in our Unit. Recognize several of them.

- ❖ **Joyce Jenzano**, past Unit 191 President, is Unit 191's District 7 Goodwill Nominee for 2019. Congratulations.
- ❖ **Henry Meguid** was awarded the 2018 Teacher of The Year Award by the American Bridge Teachers' Association (ABTA). He is President of the American Bridge Teachers' Association this year, 2019.
- ❖ **Chris Moll** and **Wayne Stuart** were second world-wide in the World Wide Bridge Contest on June 7th with a 75.05% game. First place was taken by a pair from Greece with an 81.42% game. They will receive subsidized travel to the

2020 World Bridge Games, tentatively set to be held in Istanbul.

- ❖ **Rose Meltzer** won the Keohane North American Swiss Teams at the 92nd Fall North American Bridge Championships in San Francisco last Sunday. I heard it was a dramatic, close finish. Her team was leading going into the last round. They lost in that round but saved a narrow overall win. Rose has won at least three major NABC events and two open World Team championships, probably the best record by a woman in open competition history.
- ❖ **Jacek Pszczola**, on a team captained by **Josef Blass**, both of Unit 191, won the Soloway Knockout Teams two weeks ago at the Fall North American Bridge Championships. Pszczola, better known as **Pepsi**, is a bridge pro and travels so much he is seldom seen locally. Josef, however, plays in our clubs and tournaments from time to time.

10. Remember Departed Members

Each year we honor our members who have passed away during the past year. As we the did not have the opportunity to do so last year, let's first honor our members who we lost in 2018,

Carol Lou McCaskill in January (January 27, 2018),
James (Jim) Frederick Drake in June (June 29th, 2018), &
Ruth Ann Willmon in December (December 10, 2018).

And, our members we lost in 2019,

Felix Creighton Germuth in January (January 23, 2019),

Sigrid Luecke Olin in January (January 29, 2019),
Sara “Sally” Lacy in March (March 25, 2019),
Deborah Leichner,
Bob Keeter in May (May 2, 2019),
Harrison Brooke in July (July 2, 2019),
Thomas (Tim) F. Kinnamon, Jr. in August (2019),
Peggy Barbee in October (October 15, 2019), and
Lona Ruth Kennedy this past week (December 11, 2019).

Please, if I have omitted anyone, let us know.

Let's have a moment of silence in their honor. Thank you.

11. Adjournment

Thank you for coming. The last game of the Unit 191
Championship is ready to commence. John Schachte will
announce the winner after the game and present them with
their prize. (*The winners are Kay Joyce, Open, and Paula
Head, Limited.*)

Play every card well!

The meeting is adjourned.