

# UNIT 191 BRIGHT LEAF ALERT

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF UNIT 191

OCTOBER 2019

## CALL FOR CANDIDATES FOR UNIT 191'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Unit's Nomination Committee is seeking candidates to fill vacancies on the Unit 191 Board of Directors for terms beginning in 2020. Each term is for a three-year period and four of the twelve positions are open each year.

The Unit's By-Laws describe the Powers and Duties of the Board of Directors as:

"In addition to the powers herein granted by other provisions hereof, and the laws of the State of North Carolina, the Unit Board of Directors shall have powers and duties including but not limited to the:

1. Conduct, management, supervision and control of the business of the Unit,
2. Conduct of Unit tournaments,
3. Employment and discharging of employees, and the supervision of their conduct and fixing of their compensation,
4. Overseeing all budgets and funds associated with tournaments and special programs."

The Board has regularly-scheduled meetings and members fulfill responsibilities of offices held and committee assignments as designated for each Director. A review of information under *Unit Officers and Board and Unit 191 Documents* on the Unit's web page can provide additional insight into activities that board members are part of. Certainly, current and previous board members can also be helpful in providing information.

Please consider submitting your name if interested or nominating someone else who you think might be an effective member of the Board. Feel

free to submit names with or without comments to any member of the Nomination Committee listed below. Your input is greatly appreciated.

**Nominations are needed on or  
before **October 16th****

Marian Meyer, Chair [marianmeyer@nc.rr.com](mailto:marianmeyer@nc.rr.com)

Hugon Karwowski [hugon@tunl.duke.edu](mailto:hugon@tunl.duke.edu)

Maggie Lindquist [maggie.lindquist@gmail.com](mailto:maggie.lindquist@gmail.com)

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from the president ...

## Want to Serve our Unit?

The Unit's Nomination Committee is seeking candidates to fill vacancies on the Unit 191 Board of Directors for a three-year term beginning in 2020. Please consider submitting your name, if interested, or nominating someone else who you think will be an effective member of the Unit Board. Contact any member of the Nomination Committee **Marian Meyers** (Chair), [marianmeyer@nc.rr.com](mailto:marianmeyer@nc.rr.com); **Hugon Karwowski**, [hugon@tunl.duke.edu](mailto:hugon@tunl.duke.edu); or **Maggie Lindquist**, [maggie.lindquist23@gmail.com](mailto:maggie.lindquist23@gmail.com)] with questions or for your input, which is greatly appreciated. **Nominations are needed on or before October 16th.**

## Save the Date – December 15<sup>th</sup> – Unit 191 Holiday Gala & Annual Meeting

The Holiday Gala Committee, headed by Deanna Larus, has planned another outstanding Holiday Gala for our unit. *They foresee no snow or sleet in the forecast for this year!* **Save the date:** Sunday, **December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019**, 11:30 a.m. – Sheraton Imperial Hotel, 4700 Emperor Blvd., Research Triangle Park (RTP). Make your reservations by December 9<sup>th</sup>. Questions: email [Deanna@elarus.com](mailto:Deanna@elarus.com).

## Sharpen your Bridge Skills with (almost) free lessons from the Unit!

The unit's **Fall 2019 Bridge Lecture Series** started off with a bang! Fifty-five players came out on September 24<sup>th</sup> to hear Lance Shull as he helped us in deciding "**When to Declare**" and "**When to Defend.**" The next lecture in the series is on October 19<sup>th</sup> when **Henry Meguid** will help you to "**Improve your Bidding Judgment.**" The final lecture of the series is on "**Finessing and Card Play Combinations**" on November 19<sup>th</sup> by Chris Moll. A minimal \$5 charge helps defray the costs of the lecture handouts.

Let us know what you think about the bridge lectures: whether you like them; whether we should continue them in the spring; and what topics would you like to have discussed.

## Celebration of the Life of Harrison Brooke

The Unit Championship in **Celebration of the Life of Harrison Brooke** on Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. We had twenty-one and a half tables of fun bridge and shared memories of Harrison, a long-time member and pillar of Unit 191, who passed away on July 2, 2019. As a teacher and mentor of many unit players, Harrison would have been delighted that a Flight C pair, **Karen Popovich and Eric Larson**, took top honors with a 63.55% game. A tidbit that I learned about Harrison was that he wasn't always Harrison Brooke. He started life as Harrison Brown, but as an actor in New York City, his agent told him that "Brown" would not do, so he became Harrison Brooke. I also learned that he really fancied a pair of **Phyllis Woody's** shoes. She wore them to his memorial service and the celebration game.

Play every card well,

**Ed Fuller**, Unit 191 President

## UNIT 191'S NEWEST LIFE MASTER



Congratulations  
to **Jui Wang**  
(pictured) for  
becoming our  
unit's newest  
life master!

### MENTORS NEEDED!!

The Mentoring Program is in need of a few more mentors this year. We have had an overwhelming number of mentees enrolled in the program. Please consider making time for 1 game a month to help develop an upcoming player. Mentors play for free.

Email [nkcrow@icloud.com](mailto:nkcrow@icloud.com) if you can volunteer.

Thanks,

The Mentoring committee

### Unit 191 Holiday Gala



December 15th, 11:30

Sheraton Imperial Hotel

4700 Emperor Blvd. RTP

Make Reservations until 12/9 by leaving a \$35 check payable to Unit 191 at Triangle Bridge or The Bridge Academy. Include partner's name, Open or 499er game and if you MUST sit N/S



Questions? Email [Deanna@elarus.com](mailto:Deanna@elarus.com)



### BRIDGE

#### MYTHS..continued

**WHIST WAS AN EASIER GAME TO PLAY WELL THAN BRIDGE.**

Reality: This point can be argued. Playing whist did not involve any bidding. The last card dealt was turned over, and the suit of that card automatically became the trump suit. Very simple. No partnership bidding mistakes or bidding arguments could occur. The card game was identical to bridge except that there was no exposed hand (9 dummy). This greatly complicated card play, provoking the use of numerous very sophisticated signaling methods. A player was forced to master these methods or fear being labeled a "bumblepuppy."

## 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 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 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 have 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 3 NT 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 1 C and you respond 1 H. Partner rebids 1S. You have 16 highs; do you do justice to the hand by bidding 4 S or do you just launch into Blackwood? With FSF, you can bid 2 D. 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."

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.

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

There are many other nuances and understandings that I do not have the time nor 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

## FROM THE ARCHIVES—FIVE YEARS AGO

### OCTOBER, 2014

\* The unit held its first LBIAD event at Doubletree Hotel in Durham

\* A Double/Triple session event was sponsored by the unit—players played in 2 or 3 session events. Winners were:

Flight A—**George Bloomer/Mort Stromberg**

Flight B—**Gale Meyer**

Flight C—**Skip and Melanie Riva**

0-499—**Linda Karp and Mason Page**

Triple Session:

Flight A—**Jim Hansell**

Flight B—**Barbara Martin**

- **Robin Marin and Doris Elkin** are making plans for the holiday gala at The Rizzo Center
- Winners at the first Mentor/Mentee game for overall—tied for first place were **Jim Wells/ Marian Meyer and Jim Bean/Linda Brezin**
- **Larry Kupper and Joe Haseman** finished third in the Common Game—that includes all club games across the country who participate in the Common Game! They had a huge 74.81% game.
- Our membership number was 551 New members were; **Charlotte Davis, Dixie Hapgood, Danny Hou and Tyler Hapgood.**
- **Carol Schachner** became a life master

# Membership Report

Submitted by Jane Kiernan  
As of September 1, 2019

The total membership for the unit as of September 1 was 600.

Advancing in rank since June 1 were:

Junior Master	Jeanne Gismondi Karren Kerrick James Starling	Bob Seidel Howard Withers
Club Master	Donna Kurst Dana Lange	Nina Wallace
Sectional Master	Vicky Albright Randolph Bock	Jim Leak III
Regional Master	Stephen Dong Caroline Dixon	Tony Meyer Gerri Stanczyk
NABC Master	Beverly Craig	Alice Hughley
Life Master	Susan Ingelbinck Patricia McFeely	Jui Wang Valerie Zentil
Bronze Life Master	Bill Colton	Valerie Zentil
Silver Life Master	Marc Goldberg	
Gold Life Master	Suzanne Goldberg	





The unit sponsored event to honor **Harrison Brooke** was held on September 10th. **Dave Schreiber** provided the beautiful flower arrangement—and thanks to **Phylliss Woody** for the photos.

**Deanna Larus** submitted the following about Harrison:

*Born in 1935 in Staunton, VA to the Brown/Loathe/Hamilton clans; given name of Harry Hamilton Brown III  
 Robert. E. Lee grad, with honors; on drama team, cheerleader, band—graduated early  
 Attended Emory University in Atlanta and graduated early  
 Sought fame in the theater in NYC where he changed his name to be catchier—Harrison Brooke  
 Left the theater in 1963 and lived for 6 months with his half-sister and two half-brothers—all living  
 Began working in the finance/comptroller at Duke University—rising to management level  
 Rode horses (jumpers) in the Tri-city area at shows; his heritage as his two great uncles were Confederate caval-  
 rymen from Kentucky  
 Master bridge player and teacher for many decades; bridge partner in NYC was famous actress Tallulah Bank-  
 head  
 Loved Yorkshire terriers  
 Extremely attentive to the lives and careers of his grand nephews and nieces*



There were 20+ tables of bridge players who came to honor Harrison. As one player commented, "It was a shame Harrison's family couldn't be there to see how many friends Harrison had in the bridge world."





## TRIANGLE BRIDGE CLUB OCTOBER 2019 NEWS

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### **October is Club Appreciation Month**

Many games are Club Appreciation games this month which pay 81.8% sectional-rated black points. See the calendar on our website to find the ones that fit your schedule. <http://www.trianglebridgeclub.net/schedules.html>

### **October 6<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm Eight is Enough: Win Gold in the Club Appreciation Game**

Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm is the “Eight is Enough” Team Game. Winners earn 5% gold points. Although teammates are not guaranteed, please contact Chris Moll (504) 495-7485 or [trianglebridgeclub@gmail.com](mailto:trianglebridgeclub@gmail.com) by 1pm on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup> for assistance.

### **Unit 191 Mentor/Mentee Game October 8th 12:30**

### **Club Appreciation Swiss Teams: Win Gold October 14<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>**

There are two evening Club Appreciation Team games in October: Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, October 16<sup>th</sup>. Winners earn 5% gold points.

### **GNT Qualifiers: Wednesday October 2nd & Monday November 28th**

October continues the cycle to qualify to earn the right to represent District 7 at the Summer North American Bridge Championships in 2020. The District gives generous stipends to Flight A, B and C teams to attend. Red/black points are awarded.

### **ACBL Instant Matchpoint Game October 31, 2019**

You can win gold in the ACBL-wide Instant Matchpoint Game. Play Wednesday afternoon on October 31 and have the chance to earn one gold point when you win a section top at the club.

### **Looking forward to November**

### **Unit 191 Brightleaf Fall Sectional., Thursday, November 7th-Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**

### **Eight is Enough Sunday, November 17, 2019**



# Bright Leaf Unit 191 Fall Sectional November 7-10, 2019



**Tournament Chair**  
Henry Meguid (919) 724-6239

**Tournament Co-Chair**  
Chris Moll (504) 495-7485

Only players under 500 MP may  
play at The Bridge Academy

All Open Pair Events:  
Triangle Bridge Club  
5110 Revere Road  
Durham, NC 919-405-2016

**\*\* Thursday, November 7 \*\***  
7:00 pm Open and 499'er Swiss Teams  
Open and 499'er teams : Triangle Bridge Club

All 499er Pair Events:  
The Bridge Academy  
2634 Durham Chapel Hill Blvd  
Durham, NC 919-724-6239

Open Stratification:  
0-1000, 1000-3000, 3000+  
A/X: 0-5000, 5000+  
B/C/D: 0-1000, 1000-2000, 2000-3000

10:00 am Open & 499'er pairs  
\*2:30pm Open & 499'er pairs

499er Stratification:  
0-100, 100-300, 300-500

Partnership Requests:  
Ed Fuller  
301-906-1667  
edwin.fuller@gmail.com



**Friday, November 8**  
10:00 am A/X, B/C/D & 499'er pairs  
\*2:30pm A/X, B/C/D & 499'er pairs  
\*Both 2:30 games award extra silver points  
(Regionally-rated)

Partnership Requests:  
Ray McEntee  
919-967-1712  
rmcentee2@gmail.com

Nearby Lodging:  
La Quinta Inns & Suites  
1910 Westpark Drive, Durham  
919-484-1422

**Saturday, November 9**  
10:00 am & TBD Open and 499'er Swiss Teams  
(stratification based on team MP average)  
Play through with lunch included  
Open : Triangle Bridge 499'er : Bridge Academy

Nearby Lodging:  
La Quinta Inns & Suites  
4414 Durham Chapel Hill Blvd  
Durham 919-401-9660

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Mark your calendar now.....and plan to play in Unit  
191's Fall Sectional November 7-10.

The hospitality committee will be most appreciative if  
you can provide some delicious food to be used to enter-  
tain our guests.

Don't miss it!

**Triangle Bridge Club**  
**Sunday afternoons**  
**Oct 6th, Nov 17th, Dec 29th**



**IS ENOUGH**

**Swiss Teams**  
**2 pm**

Contact Chris Moll 504-495-7485 or [trianglebridgeclub@gmail.com](mailto:trianglebridgeclub@gmail.com)

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## Triangle Bridge October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	<b>2</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 7:00 Open Swiss	<b>3</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-1000 Pairs	<b>4</b> 12:20 Open Pairs 12:20 0-500 Pairs	<b>5</b> 9:30 Open Pairs 9:30 0-3000 Play & Review
<b>6</b> 2:00 Eight is Enough Swiss	<b>7</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	<b>8</b> 12:30 Mentor/Mentee 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	<b>9</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	<b>10</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-1000 Pairs	<b>11</b> 12:20 Open Pairs 12:20 0-500 Pairs	<b>12</b> 9:30 Open Pairs 9:30 0-3000 Play & Review
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 Open Swiss	<b>15</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	<b>16</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 7:00 Open Swiss	<b>17</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-1000 Pairs	<b>18</b> 12:20 Open Pairs 12:20 0-500 Pairs	<b>19</b> 9:30 Open Pairs 9:30 0-3000 Play & Review
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	<b>22</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	<b>23</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	<b>24</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-1000 Pairs	<b>25</b> 12:20 Open Pairs 12:20 0-500 Pairs	<b>26</b> 9:30 Open Pairs 9:30 0-3000 Play & Review
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 Open Swiss	<b>29</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	<b>30</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	<b>31</b> 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-1000 Pairs	<b>GNT Qualifying Games ACBL</b> <b>Instant Matchpoint Game Club</b> <b>Appreciation Swiss Teams Unit</b> <b>Championship Club Appreciation</b> <b>Pairs Charity Games</b>	



The Alert is the official publication of Unit 191. If you have ideas or suggestions: please contact Barbara Martin (bmartin1@mebtel.net)