

# UNIT 191 BRIGHT LEAF ALERT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF UNIT 191

DECEMBER 2019

from the president ...



## Farewell as your president, and Thank You

Many, many thanks to all the Unit 191 members for your support and assistance. It has been a great pleasure serving as your president these past two years.

### 2019 Bright leaf Fall Sectional

The unit's 2019 Fall Sectional was a big success. Attendance was up approximately 10% over the 2018 Fall Sectional. Your hospitality was stupendous. All the delicious snacks and dishes made the Sectional extra special for visiting players.

### Donation to Durham Branch of the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina.

The Friday and Saturday afternoon pair games of the unit's Fall Sectional awarded extra Silver Points as these games are Regionally-Rated. The extra dollar charged for each of these games goes to charity. The dollar from one game goes to an ACBL charity and the dollar from the other game goes to a local charity. This fall, Unit 191 donated \$160 to the Durham Branch of the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina as our local charity. Dana Lange, Unit 191 player and past chair of the Food Bank Board, was pleased and grateful that we chose to donate to this group. She said our contribution will provide 1,600 meals for needy families. What a worthy cause!

### Peggie Stokes Award Winner

Congratulations to **Sandra Irby** as the 2019 Peggie Stokes Award Winner. She amassed 8.12 masterpoints playing with Carol Whisnant (three times), Gail King (twice) and Bobbi Pinkerton (once)

### Get Out & Vote for Unit Board Directors!

Voting is underway for selecting four Directors to the Unit 191 Board. The candidates listed alphabetically are:

Eric Hamilton, Fran Milberg, Chris Moll, Paul Morrisette, Donna Walther, and Phylliss Woody. See bios on pages 11-13 of the 2019 November Alert newsletter.

**Voting is online.** If you are unable or do not wish to vote online, a **paper ballot is available** by calling Marian Meyer at 919-933-5919 **before December 2<sup>nd</sup>**. All votes must be **received by Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** calling Marian Meyer at 919-933-5919 **before December 2<sup>nd</sup>**. All votes must be **received by Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**.

### Notice of 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 objectives are several 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 proposed revision will be voted upon by the unit membership at the 2019 Annual Meeting, December 15, 2019.

**I look forward to seeing you at the Unit  
191 Holiday Gala & Annual Meeting, De-  
cember 15<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 a.m.**

Sheraton Imperial Hotel, 4700 Emperor Boulevard, Research Triangle Park, NC.

**Make reservations by December 9<sup>th</sup>.**

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

Play every card well,

**Ed Fuller**, Unit 191 President

# UNIT 191 CHAMPIONSHIP

## Championship Week - December 9th-15th

December 9—Monday afternoon—Triangle, Bridge Academy, Roxboro Bridge Club

December 10—Tuesday afternoon—Triangle, Governor's Club

December 11—Wednesday afternoon—Tarheel Bridge Club, Bridge Academy, Fearington

December 11—Wednesday evening—Triangle, Roxboro Bridge Club

December 12—Thursday afternoon—Triangle, Bridge Academy

December 13—Friday afternoon—Tarheel Bridge Club, Bridge Academy

December 14—Saturday morning—Triangle

December 15 Sunday—Holiday Gala

Play in any or all the above games and you qualify to be the unit champion! The top 2 percentage scores for the week will determine the winner. (Only scores of 48% and above will be considered—to make bookkeeping easier.)

A \$50 gift certificate will be given for the top LM and the top NLM.

If less than 24 boards are played, the percentage is derated to make the score equitable.

**John Schachte** will be the scorekeeper and will keep members updated throughout the week.

**Choose your partners—and it's GAME ON!**



**Mark Francis and Dan Snedecor** played recently in a club game at The Bridge Academy. Mark and Dan will represent our unit in the North American Pairs competition in C Flight. Mark and Dan play together regularly and you may see them often in club games working on their partnership. We wish them well in the playoffs.

**Membership Report**

Submitted by Jane Kiernan  
 As of November 1, 2019

Total membership for the unit as of November 1 was 616.

Advancing in rank since October 1 were:

<b>Junior Master</b>	<b>Alice Donoghue</b>
<b>Club Master</b>	<b>Jayne Bremer</b>
	<b>Stacey Rader</b>
	<b>Michele Smith</b>
<b>Bronze Life Master</b>	<b>Thomas Kronmiller</b>

**HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS  
IN OUR UNIT**



Mark your calendars and plan to celebrate the holidays with your bridge friends:

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6**

The Tarheel Club celebrates the season. John will be making his delicious chicken divan and homemade bread.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14**

Triangle Bridge Club hosts its holiday celebration. Enjoy a morning of bridge and delicious food.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15**

The unit sponsors the annual holiday gala—see the website for details. Make your reservation with Deanna Larus—or leave your reservation at either club.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20**

The Bridge Academy has its party—don't miss the Jay Miller Jazz Quartet, lunch and an afternoon of bridge. Register online at TBA website.

**Common Scents**

Environmental allergies are a serious problem for many people. Perfume, scented lotions and other scented products can be a number one trigger. We ask that you help create a fragrance-free bridge environment to ensure that all players can enjoy their time at the table.

## Pass or Correct Part 2

By Randy Joyce

Last month, we took a look at a simple and familiar auction which proceeded

1 Club Pass 1 Spade Pass  
1NT.

After this start, I told you that a 2 Heart bid by responder was "Pass or Correct" and not the least bit invitational. What if partner has a good hand (either with invitational or game forcing values) and wants to explore his options? How does responder get the message across to partner that he really has something and wants to explore Game/Slam options?

The simple and most effective (least chance of confusion) way to proceed is to start with New Minor Forcing (NMF). What do I mean by New Minor Forcing? Just what it says. There is one minor left, and if you bid it, that sets up a one round force.

For Example: 1 Club Pass 1 Spade Pass  
1NT Pass 2 Clubs (New Minor)

says nothing about Clubs but asks partner what are his major suit lengths. What if partner has what the doctor ordered in the majors i.e. 3 Spades and 4 Hearts? I teach my classes to bid Hearts first trying to find a 4-4 fit first, since the 5-3 Spade fit could then be used for pitches.

Let's say that partner was not looking for Hearts but was interested in a 5-3 Spade fit. He will bid either 2NT or 3NT depending on whether he has invitational or game going values. You can now show your 3 card Spade fit by bidding the appropriate number of Spades. By that I mean, if partner bids 3NT, you will bid 4 Spades, and if he bids 2NT (invitational), you can bid 3 or 4 Spades depending on whether you would have accepted the invitation.

What if you have a really great hand for Spades on the aforementioned auction? You could cuebid over partner's 3 NT bid! Let's say the auction starts

1C	Pass	1 Spade	Pass
1NT	Pass	2 Diamonds (NMF)	Pass
2 Hearts	Pass	3NT	Pass
4 Clubs			

This last bid would tell partner that you have, in addition to your 4 Hearts, 3 Spades and Slam going values, if he is so inclined. An example hand would be something like Kxx, AQxx, xx, AJxx. Remember that you have announced 12-14 HCP so partner cannot hope for any more. Nine times out of 10 partner will subside in 4 Spades, but every now and then with a hand like AQTxx, KJx, AKxx, x, partner can move toward slam. If partner doesn't have this much strength, he can subside in 4 Spades with no harm done.

Let's discuss another auction that is similar, but responder's suits are reversed. By this I mean that responder has 5 Hearts and 4 Spades. I assume that over

1 Club Pass 1 Heart Pass  
?

you would bid 1 Spade whenever you have 4 of them. It has become popular to skip over 1 Spade, if you are 4-3-3-3 since you have no ruffing value. This is an acceptable treatment. It means that you will occasionally play 1 NT with a 4-4 Spade fit, but it has the virtue of keeping you a level lower when your values are not sufficient for game. It is a better treatment for team game play than at pairs.

(continued)

If the auction starts

1 Club Pass 1 Heart Pass

1 NT Pass 2 Diamonds

then we will assume that partner is asking for 3 card Heart support. That is the prime question, and if you happen to hold 3 Hearts and 4-3-3-3 and bypassed 1 Spade, then you should always show partner 3 Hearts. The same principals apply to your responses. If you have a minimum that would not accept an invitation, then preference to 2 Hearts. If you would accept a game invitation, jump to 3 Hearts. If you have slammish values, cue bid.

I have found, through bitter experience, that xxx of Hearts is NEVER a good holding to wave the Slam flag, even if your other values are pristine.

New Minor Forcing is a multi-faceted convention that solves bidding problems without being overly complicated. Along with "4th Suit Forcing to Game," these are two conventions that should be in every player's tool kit. The problem we see repeatedly with NMF is responder using it with less than invitational values. Don't do it--you might escape a few times, but it is not the correct way to bid!



As the year comes to a close, it seems time to thank people in our unit who provide our members the many opportunities to enjoy the game we all love.

- Club owners—Chris and Henry
- Directors
- Volunteers who prepare delicious food
- Those who clean up
- Teachers
- Board members

May 2020 bring peace and happiness to everyone!



Have You?

## Vote for Unit 191 Board Directors

(Vote for up to four)

Eric Hamilton

Fran Milberg

Chris Moll

Paul Morrisette

Donna Walther

Phylliss Woody

If you did not receive an **online ballot** and would like to vote online, email Ed Fuller at [edwin.fuller@gmail.com](mailto:edwin.fuller@gmail.com).

If you would like to vote by a **paper ballot**, call Marian Meyer at (919) 933-5919 **before December 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Return your ballot so it is received **by December 13<sup>th</sup>**.

## Petition to Amend the Unit 191 By-Laws

by the Unit 191 Board of Directors, November 11, 2019

**The proposed amendment to the Unit 191 By-Laws is to be voted upon by the Unit 191 membership at the 2019 Annual Meeting, December 15, 2019.**

### The proposed revisions are:

- a. ARTICLE VIII, COMMITTEES, Nomination Committee (*see below*)
- b. Renumber ARTICLE IX to ARTICLE X
- c. Insert a new ARTICLE IX, NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS (*see below*)

### The objectives of these revisions are:

- to define the composition of the Nomination Committee to include both members of the Unit 191 Board of Directors and unit members who are not Board Directors;
- to provide a procedure for unit members to nominate candidates in addition to those put forward by the Nomination Committee; and
- to separate the balloting from the annual meeting.

## Proposed Amended Sections to the Unit 191 By-Laws

### ARTICLE VIII

#### COMMITTEES

The President shall appoint such committees as may be necessary to perform the function of the organization. Standing committees shall be appointed with the approval of the Unit Board of Directors.

#### Nomination Committee

The President shall appoint the Nomination Committee and its chairperson. The Committee shall be composed of three Unit Board Directors and two Unit members who are not Board Directors.

### ARTICLE IX

#### NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

- The Nomination Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of preparing a list of candidates to fill the number of vacancies on the Board of Directors. The names of the nominees, together with these By-Laws, shall be published at least three months prior to the forthcoming Annual Meeting.

- Nineteen Unit 191 members may, by signed petition, nominate additional candidates for Director, provided the signed petition, together with written assurance of assent of the candidates, reaches the chairperson of the Nomination Committee on or before two months prior to the forthcoming Annual Meeting.
- The names, photographs and biographical information of each candidate shall be published at least thirty (30) days prior to the forthcoming Annual Meeting.
- The Nomination Committee shall be charged with developing voting procedures and protocols for absentee ballots to insure confidentiality.
- If a ballot is required by virtue of there being nominees by petition or contested positions by nomination, the Nomination Committee shall prepare and distribute a ballot to each unit member entitled to vote. Only those ballots properly completed and received within one week of the scheduled Annual Meeting shall be a valid ballot.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS**

Amendments to the By-Laws may be made:

- (1) By members of the Unit upon a petition signed by at least fifty (50) members and submitted to the Secretary at least thirty (30) days in advance of the scheduled meeting,
- (2) Or, by petition signed by at least eight (8) members of the Unit Board of Directors. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to incorporate the text of the proposed amendment(s) in the notice of the special meeting. The concurrence of two-thirds of all members present and voting shall be required to pass any amendment(s).

## **Relevant Sections of the Current Unit 191 By-Laws, 2005-09-12**

### **ARTICLE VIII**

#### **COMMITTEES**

The President shall appoint such committees as may be necessary to perform the function of the organization. Standing committees shall be appointed with the approval of the Unit Board of Directors.

#### **Nomination/Election Committee**

The President shall appoint the Nomination/Election Committee and its chairperson. The Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of preparing a list of candidates for Directors, which shall be published at least thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting. The Committee shall also be charged with the voting procedures and the protocol for absentee ballots to insure confidentiality.

## ARTICLE IX

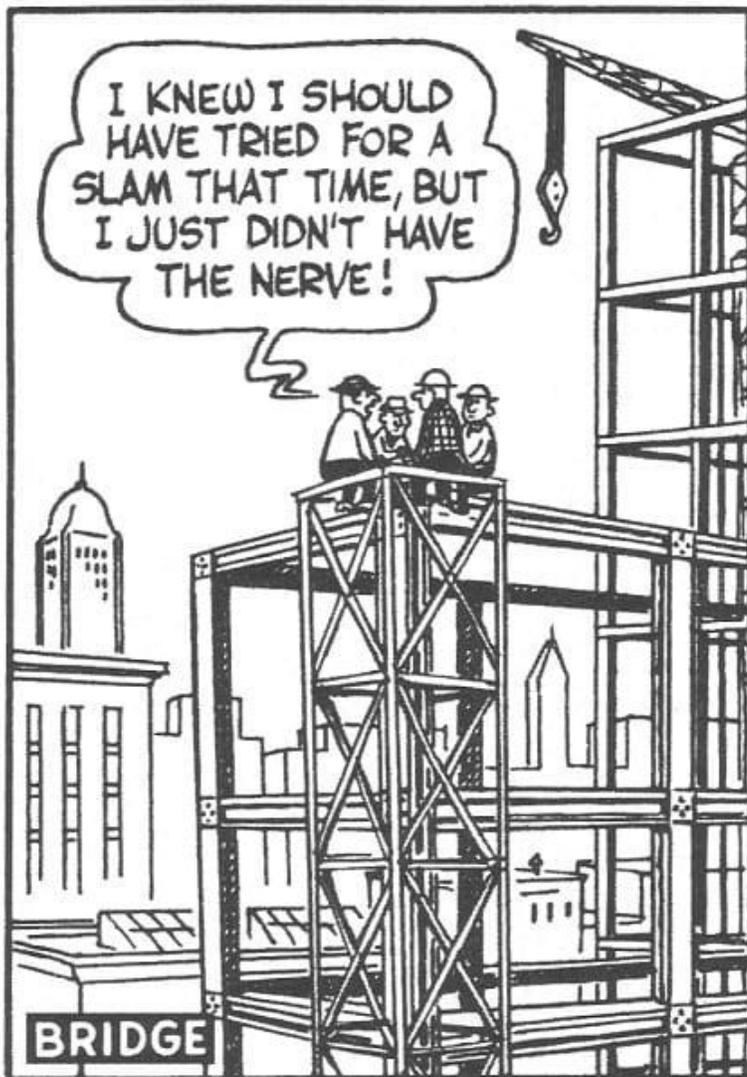
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Revised September 12, 2005

## SANDRA IRBY WINS PEGGIE STOKES AWARD



**Sandra Irby** accumulated 8.12 masterpoints at the recent sectional—499er sectional—playing with **Carol Whisnant** (3 times), **Gail King** (twice) and **Bobbi Pinkerton** (once). Carol Whisnant was second with 6.87 masterpoints, but only playing with Sandra. Well done, Sandra!

# HOW GOOD IS YOUR BRIDGE?

BY THE FOUR ACES

## REBIDS AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE BIDDING

### The Return

When bidder or responder bids two suits, a return to the first suit is invited if partner's support is as good as in the second suit; such return is not considered a raise.

### The Level Shift

The level shift occurs when the bid of a second suit invites a return to the first suit at the lowest level at which the original player could have rebid it. It does not necessarily indicate any more strength than a simple rebid.

### The Skip Level Shift

The skip level shift occurs when the bid of a second suit invites a return to the first suit at a higher level than the original player, himself, could have rebid it. It indicates considerable values in addition to those which would be shown by a simple rebid.

### The Sign-off

Any bid which warns partner that our hand is of such nature that we do not desire any further bid by him.

### PROBLEM NO. 128

♠ K		
♥ 9 8 7 6		
♦ Q 10 6		
♣ —		
♠ 10	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">           NORTH            ♠    ♡    ♢    ♣            SOUTH         </div>	♠ 7
♥ K		♥ Q 5 2
♦ 8 5 4		♦ J
♣ 5 4 2		♣ K 10 9
♠ —		
♥ A 10		
♦ K 3		
♣ A J 6 3		

Spades are trump and South leads. North and South are to win seven tricks against any defense.

The Four Aces will be pleased to answer questions concerning bidding and play in bridge. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope. The Playbill, 108 Wooster Street, New York City.

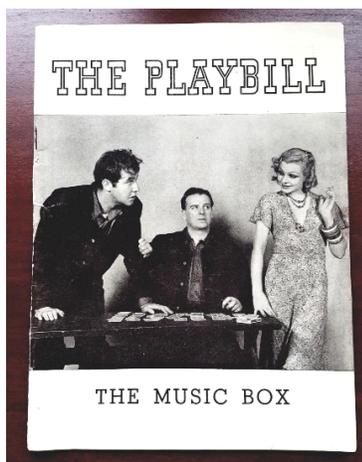
## 1938 "Double Dummy" Bridge Column PLAYBILL Magazine

David Galt (Life Master at 25, game designer, historian, teacher, writer, collector, and BBO commentator) recently posted the following article and insert from a 1938 PLAYBILL magazine on his Facebook page.

*For many years, NY Theater audiences would find a bridge column inside their "Playbill" programs.*

**HOW GOOD IS YOUR BRIDGE?** with **Problem No. 128** by The Four Aces is from the 40-page Playbill for John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men" with Wallace Ford and Broderick Crawford. It opened at The Music Box, February 7, 1938. (If disappointed with the play somehow, you could always try to solve this difficult puzzle.)

**HOW GOOD IS YOUR BRIDGE?** with **Problem No. 128** by The Four Aces is from the 40-page Playbill for John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men" with Wallace Ford and Broderick Crawford. It opened at The Music Box, February 7, 1938. (If disappointed with the play somehow, you could always try to solve this difficult puzzle.)



*I haven't done that yet, but maybe you can! To receive the solution, The Four Aces promised to deliver it to you in a stamped return envelope sent to them. Note: this was way before the Internet...*

*The Four Aces were a group recruited in 1932 by Bid-Rite 4-Color Playing Cards. Originally, they were David Burnstine (who soon changed his name to David Bruce), Richard Frey, Howard Schenken, and Charles Lockridge. Lockridge was replaced early by Oswald Jacoby, as Michael T. Gottlieb was added to the team. As a result, they were referred to as "Four Aces and a Joker."*

*The Four Aces contributed a lot to bridge and other game-playing communities in the 1930s.*



## TRIANGLE BRIDGE CLUB DECEMBER 2019 NEWS

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### **Happy Holidays to all!**

December is a celebratory month! We have parties, a STaC week, and many opportunities to earn extra points. Please check the calendar at <http://www.trianglebridgeclub.net/schedules.html>

for all special events.

### **Mentor/Mentee Game Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:30pm**

### **Triangle Holiday Party Saturday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:45am**

Celebrate the holidays on Saturday morning with breakfast and merrymaking before the 9:30am game. This game is a Unit Championship game. More reasons to celebrate!

### **STaC Week December 16-21**

Earn silver points at Triangle in every game every day. Don't miss the opportunity to relax locally without traveling to a Sectional!

### **GNT Qualifiers: Wednesday, Dec 4<sup>th</sup> 7pm & Mondays, Dec 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>th</sup> 7pm**

December 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.

### **Eight is Enough December 29<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm**

Sunday, December 29th at 2:00pm is the "Eight is Enough" Team Game. Although teammates are not guaranteed, please contact Chris Moll (504) 495-7485 or [trianglebridgeclub@gmail.com](mailto:trianglebridgeclub@gmail.com) by 1pm on Saturday, December 28th for assistance.

### **Midnight in Mumbai New Year's Eve Party Tuesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at noon**

Join us at 12:00pm for a potluck lunch and game at 12:30pm. Last chance for glory in this Unit Championship game.

### **Thank you, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year**

Thank you for supporting Triangle Bridge this year. Happy Holidays and peace during this holiday season. Safe travels to all who venture forth to celebrate the season with family and friends. We look forward to seeing you all month and send best wishes for a Happy New Year in 2020.

*Please join us for friendly competition at its best.*

Chris Moll

[trianglebridgeclub@gmail.com](mailto:trianglebridgeclub@gmail.com)

504-495-7485 cell 919-405-2016 club

*Triangle Bridge*  
*Holiday*  
**PARTY**



*Eat, Drink & Be Merry!*

**SATURDAY**  
**DECEMBER 14TH**

**8:45AM BREAKFAST**

**9:30AM GAME**

**IF YOU WISH, BRING YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY TREAT TO SHARE**

**TRIANGLE BRIDGE  
PRESENTS**



**JOIN US  
NEW YEARS  
PARTY**

**DECEMBER 31ST**

**MIDNIGHT IN MUMBAI**

**It's midnight somewhere so let's celebrate!**

**Potluck lunch at 12pm and game at 12:30pm**

## Triangle Bridge December 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	3 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	4 12:30 Open Pairs 7:00 GNT Swiss	5 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-1000 Pairs	6 11:45 Holiday Party and Potluck 12:20 Open Pairs 12:20 0-500 Pairs	7 8:30 Open Pairs 9:30 0-3000 Play & Review
8	9 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 GNT Swiss	10 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs 12:30 Unit 191 Mentor Mentee	11 12:30 Open Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	12 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-1000 Pairs	13 12:20 Open Pairs 12:20 0-500 Pairs	14 8:45 Holiday Party and Potluck 9:30 Open Pairs 9:30 0-3000 Play & Review
15 Unit 191 Gala	16 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	17 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	18 12:30 Open Pairs 7:00 Open Swiss	19 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-1000 Pairs	20 12:20 Open Pairs 12:20 0-500 Pairs	21 9:30 Open Pairs 9:30 0-3000 Play & Review
22	23 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 GNT Swiss	24 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	25 HO HO HO Merry Christmas	26 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-1000 Pairs	27 12:20 Open Pairs 12:20 0-500 Pairs	28 9:30 Open Pairs 9:30 0-3000 Play & Review
29 2:00 Eight is Enough Swiss	30 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-750 Pairs 7:00 Open Pairs	31 Midnight in Mumbai 12:30 Open Pairs 12:30 0-500 Pairs	December 16-22 STAC Week Unit Championship Week December 9-15 GNT Swiss Charity GNT Fund Club Membership Club Championship			

For a clearer view of the calendar, please go to the Triangle website.

**Mats Nilslund** on comments from **Benito Garosso** about his book: "I feel very honored today. Maestro himself Benito Garozzo asked me to send him my book, and wrote these wise words: Bridge is beautiful because even if as me you have played from 76 year you can learn something you don't know."

From Mats: "Just want to make a comment about my book. By giving it for free to 200 juniors I got some "free" PR for the book. I am happy for that, but not so much for economic reasons. If there is royalty to come in, I also intent to "invest" that in the future of bridge, by supporting junior bridge. The same goes for the ongoing translation to Chinese, where the balance would go to junior bridge in China. So please make your bet:)"

Thank you Ed for the "fillers" this month. They are greatly appreciated.

