

# THE BRIGHT LEAF ALERT

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF UNIT 191

APRIL 2020

## ALERT! New Bridge Club in Unit 191: *Triangle Bridge Academy* Inaugural Game this Wednesday

Chris Moll and Henry Meguid have merged their clubs! The new club will be called the *Triangle Bridge Academy*. They are developing a system whereby bridge games can continue while players can maintain social distancing. Some of the chairs they are considering are shown here.



Tables will be spaced at least 8' apart with special devices (shown to the right) used to pass the boards between the tables.

Rather than awarding masterpoints to the winners, the first-place pair will each get a roll of toilet paper; the second-place pair will get a bottle of hand sanitizer; and the third-place pair will get a bar of hand soap.

**Please plan on coming out to play in their inaugural game on April 1<sup>st</sup>**

and have a



Thanks to **Ed Fuller** for hopefully creating a laugh.

## Bright Leaf Unit 191



ACBL  
Bright Leaf Unit 191

Dear Friends,

March 26, 2020

I hope this finds you healthy and safe. I'd like to give you an update of goings-on in our Unit and in our clubs.



American Contract  
Bridge League

Obviously, all our bridge clubs are closed—likely through the end of May or beyond. The economic effects of the pandemic for small businesses have been severe and we are not immune. We have seven clubs in our unit; however, only The Bridge Academy and Triangle Bridge Club rent commercial space and have long-term leases. Their combined rent is in excess of \$12,000 a month, and with additional fixed costs and no revenue, the outlook for them of being closed several months or more with no income is dire.

All our clubs provide communities of friends and supportive environments to gather, and we want these clubs to be open when we can all return to the game we love. We are not assured that this will happen without our collective help.

Like families who save for a rainy day, our Unit has a rainy-day fund. Our Board has met and unanimously agreed to help our clubs to the extent we can with the understanding that our fiduciary responsibility is to ensure our Unit's long-term health and success. We cannot do it alone, however, as you see from the

numbers above. We ask for your contributions in whatever amounts you can afford, recognizing, respecting and valuing every individual's unique circumstances. Beginning April 1st, the Unit will donate \$1000 a month and we will match 100% of your donations up to another \$1000. All funds raised will be split equally between The Bridge Academy and Triangle Bridge Club.

The Board decided to take this on a month by month basis due to the uncertain time frame of the pandemic effects. We don't know how long this will continue. We have to expect several months of this and may reach out again. Here's how we look at it:

Approximate Combined monthly rent for April	\$12,000
Unit 181 contributions with matching	<u>-\$2,000</u>
Goal for individual contributions	\$10,000

While \$10,000 seems like a large goal, think about it this way. On a typical week I personally play bridge four times a week. At my usual weekly rate, I spend about \$200 a month. Monthly math:

- \* 1 game a week—about \$50 per month
- \* 2 games a week—about \$100 per month
- \* 3 games a week—about \$150 per month                      and so on.....

Won't you please give what you are able? We have over 600 members in our Unit. If everyone gave \$17, we could easily meet our goal this month. If the people who played regularly each week gave a portion or all of game fees that would go a long way. Together we can make this happen.

We have arranged for two ways to contribute:

1. We have set up an online site called GoFundMe, <https://www.gofundme.com/f/brightleafunit-191>, where you can make your contribution with a credit card.

2. You can mail a check **payable to Unit 191** to:

Deanna Larus  
106 Cedar Hills Drive  
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

I personally pledge to give \$250 for the month of April. Please join me if you can/

For more information, please contact me—Deanna@elarus.com or Paul Morrissette-paul@morrissette.com.

Thank you for your consideration, your donation if you are able, and we look forward to seeing you as soon as we can.

**Deanna Larus**

Unit 191 President

# Bridge Base Online

## The Bridge Academy Virtual Club

As a result of the hard work of the ACBL, Bridge Base, and The Common Game's Jay Whipple, The Bridge Academy has been able to launch a private Virtual Club on BBO.

**This week will be offering three 18 board games on:**

- **Tuesday, March 31**
  - **1pm**
  - **4pm**
- **Saturday, April 4**
  - **10:30 am**

These games are restricted to local club players and will directly support The Bridge Academy. Any player who played at The Bridge Academy over the past 12 months is eligible to play.

The fees are BB \$8.00 and BB \$10.00 for an 18 and 24 board game respectively. Each three-board round will be clocked at 18 minutes per round.

It is my understanding that these private, club games will soon begin awarding Masterpoints at a higher rate than the National online support your club games, so stay-tuned.

In the following weeks and based on your support, we will be offering more games at different times, as well as limited games once a few bugs are worked out by ACBL.

[Click here to view a short video tutorial](#)

[Click to download guidelines](#)

If you have any questions, please contact me [at info@bridgeacademync.com](mailto:info@bridgeacademync.com)

Thank you for all your support.

Henry

Editor's note: I don't think the hyperlinks will work with this program, plan to go to the website.



## **SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR UNIT 191 TEACHERS**

All the bridge games in February were special games with the added proceeds going to the Educational Fund established by the ACBL, of which Craig Robinson is a member. His article in last month's issue explained the directives of the group.

It seems appropriate to recognize those members in our unit who have taught or are now teaching classes and bringing new members into the fold.

Clockwise beginning at the top left are:

**Maggie Lindquist**

**Randy and Kay Joyce**

**John Torrey**

**Chris Moll**

**Henry Meguid**

**Marc Goldberg**

**Andrea Roitman**

**List of names in box**

**Tammy McDonald**

**Mike Sears**

**Ed Fuller**

**Valerie Roberts**

Each of you should be proud of the work you are doing to make the game of bridge understandable and enjoyable for everyone!



**Paul and Ruthanne  
Schwenke**

**Jim Cunningham**

**Larry Honeywell**

**Jim Drake**

**Harrison Brooke**

**JoAnn Vansuch**

**Carole Stromberg**

**Jack Whetstone**

**Jeff Boak**

**Marty Demko**

**Glenn Marek**

**Craig Robinson**



Thank you all so much for donating to our Unit fundraising. Everyone has been so generous. That said - Please be aware that Gofundme charges 2.9% + 30 cents for each donation. They also allow an *optional* tip with suggested amounts of 10%, 15%, 20%, or other." Please be aware of this option as you use the Gofundme system. You do not have to tip. Thanks again.

Deanna



## BOARD MEETS BY VIDEO

These are unprecedented times for all of us. We would like for the bridge community to know that your Board is thinking about your safety and our club's futures. Because of the social distancing, six feet when possible request to slow the spread of the coronavirus, our first Unit 191 Video Board Meeting was born.

We are brainstorming and think tanking on how to best take care of our game facilities until the Coronavirus issues are over. While we are being asked to do all these new things here is picture proof that we are working to secure brighter days ahead for Unit 191. More details to come.

Remember, wash hands for at least 20 seconds, avoid touching your face with unwashed hands and stay away from others who are sick.

Be safe and take care.

Submitted by Phylliss Woody

## WHAT ARE MEMBERS DOING DURING THIS CRISIS?

I was able to be in touch with some of our members and thought it might be of interest to know how they are passing the time since there are no local bridge games available.

**Jim Cunningham**—*Unforgettable day for the big 7-5. I am updating our will, showing Jill How I do taxes, throwing out stuff, walking and riding a stationary bike. Just called Pearl to reach out and she sounded great. Playing with John T. online.*

**Maggie Lindquist**—*My children have ordered me to be under house arrest, although I have no symptoms nor have I been in contact with any one with the virus so I am doing things around the house that I have put off like painting a wall that needed it and washing windows. I do take walks however. Pretty boring, going a little stir crazy.*

**Jeff Boak**—*( from Maggie ) Jeff owns real estate and is forgiving the rent at least for the next few months. His daughter while out buying food and such for her father went shopping many places and bought lots of needed food and other items, brought them back to their restaurant, Blue Dogwood, and is offering them at their cost to people in downtown Chapel Hill who don't have cars or can't get to stores for necessary items.*

**Randy Joyce**—*See Tuesday, March 24, GARFIELD in the News and Observer, read everything. And watch news and BBO.*

**Kay Joyce**—*Reorganizing the pantry above all other household chores, playing on BBO and reading anything: best recent fiction: [Big Lies in a Small Town](#) (Diane Chamberlain) and best recent nonfiction: [Killers of the Flower Moon](#) (David Grann).*

**Craig Robinson**—*Well, let's see. They have suspended the Phillies, the 76ers, Villanova and they have closed all bridge clubs and cancelled all tournaments. So I am relegated to watching the stock*

*market. Overall, pretty close to Hell. On the bright side, I have Elaine, I feel pretty good, my dad taught me that health is the most important thing that you have. The kids, we have 5, the grandkids, we have 9, are doing pretty well and adapting to change better than we are. I am playing online at ACBL World and enjoying that. So life is good.*

### **Marc Goldberg's Formula for Weathering the Coronavirus Isolation—**

1. *Be disciplined. Make your bed every day and get dressed. Lounging around in your pajamas may be fine for an occasional lazy Sunday, but it's not OK for every day.*
2. *Get some physical exercise. Walking outdoors is still OK. There are many good YouTube videos to guide exercises for all levels.*
3. *Keep your bridge mind active. I like Mike Lawrence's Bridge Clues for a daily dose of bridge problems —<https://www.bridgeclues2.com/>. ACBL BridgeFeed is another great source. —<https://bridgefeed.acbl.org/>*
4. *Accomplish something every day. Set out to do something—clean a closet, vacuum a rug, bake some bread, or anything that shows you did something each day. My hobby is woodturning, and I spend time in my shop making bowls and other items.*
5. *Feed your mind. Learn something new every day. Read a book (county libraries have excellent online sources). Watch You Tube videos on various topics. Find documentary films on TV,*
6. *Feed your body. Eat healthy to stay healthy. Grocery stores still have good stocks of fruits and veggies. Many accept online or phone orders for curbside pickup*
7. *Keep in touch with friends and family. Stay*

connected by phone calls, emails, text messages and social media.

8. *Nurture your spouse or partner. If you are fortunate enough to have another person sharing your isolation, work hard to make that person your best friend.*

*How we do with our isolation is a frame of mind. Keep a positive attitude. Doing positive things will stave off boredom and despair. Count your blessings each day. Feeling sorry for yourself won't get you anywhere.*

**John Torrey**— *I was thinking of starting a thread on Bridgewinners for the same thing, but this is probably better. (Something players could contribute to online would be nice, though.) I have been sheltering-in-place since March 12. I had a sore throat for several days, but never a fever, and I am pretty sure after almost two weeks that if I had the virus (probably not) it was a mild case and now over. My sister lives with me and she took care of getting (but not hoarding) sanitizers and so forth early on. Today I played in a BBO Support Your Club game with Jim Cunningham. Both of us had some BBO-newbie problems. We won 0.30 master-points” It’s real bridge, but lacks the social aspect that is so important.*

*I called Pearl Schechter yesterday; she is doing well. The Cedars has closed its dining room and now gives its residents a (limited! she said) menu for the dinner meal, and delivers the meals to the people. She saves a soup or salad for lunch. I asked her about BBO, but she said she does not have a computer. We should all be as alert and composed as Pearl is!*

*Stay well; life trumps bridge.*

**Joanna Pagano** - *I have been doing more cooking, cleaning out cabinets and closets, and did a few hours worth of shredding! Hoping to get online and play some bridge. Have been catching up with friends online as well...thank goodness for the internet!! Of course, there will be a great many appointments to reschedule once this is over!*

**Karen Keebler**— *OK so what am I doing instead of bridge. I am cleaning out thousands of photos of my family and organizing them in photo albums. The kids these days have no clue how to take a picture with film. I am also working in the gardens weeding and getting them ready to have mulch put down. As long as my old legs can handle bending I'll do it, if it's not too long. I am not bored and find it interesting that the days pass quickly and I don't know how I ever fit bridge into my day, but I'll be very happy to get back to the tables.*

**Kay Gruninger**— *I am catching up on reading journals and magazines from months back, reading books, catching up with long time friends, cleaning out, and golf once a week.*

**Melanie Riva**— *Doing lots of reading, knitting, and we try and get out each day to walk or take a ride. 3/4 of the way through a 1000 jigsaw puzzle.*

**Deanna Larus** - *Those who know me well probably assume that I am making the most of social distancing by needlework. So true. I am also playing on BBO and taking long walks and learning a new MahJongg card. I miss my bridge friends and my NCCU babies. But we will get through this. Thanks for everyone who contributed to the Unit 191 fundraiser. Kudos! Find me on BBO I am tarheeldee. Stay well!*

**Andrea Roitman**— *All I do is go for walks. Some of my neighbors meet at night and sit apart and drink wine. I haven't done that yet. I'm also catching up with friends and cousins.*

**Pearl Schechter**— *I have been sorting through papers and deciding what to keep or toss. So far, I have been kept busy and haven't even had time to read.*

**Barbara Martin**— *Continuing my routine of walking 2-3 miles each day and I am able to golf, walking and keeping my distance. Lynn Rohrs, a member of our golf league, organized an effort for*

members in our league to make face masks. While they are not FDA approved, organizations are happy to receive them. I have been making masks in my spare time—which I have plenty of! Lynn took 60 masks to UNC Hospital last week and will deliver more next week, My first 12 masks were shipped to my neighbor's daughter, who lives in Italy, residents are not allowed out of the house without a mask and there are none to be found. And suddenly, it's cocktail hour! Phil and I toast to good health, also that of our friends and family, and hopefully an end soon to this pandemic.

**Henry Meguid**—I have kept busy teaching classes online, working with BBO to get games scheduled, and enjoying time with Carol and our 4 legged friends.

**Chris Moll** - I spend most of my time playing online bridge, speaking to friends via text, phone, and BBO, and trying to walk around neighborhood while stocking enough items to make it through April.



## TRIANGLE BRIDGE NEWS

I hope everyone is adhering to the CDC guidelines and is happy and safe.

Although the physical club is closed, I anticipate the online club to be open shortly featuring both BBO games and learning opportunities.

We will avoid conflicting with the BBO SUPPORT YOUR CLUB games currently scheduled at 10:00, 5:00 and 7:30 daily.

Please check our website for frequent update and details as things often change.

## BE SAFE

*Please join us for friendly competition at its best*

Chris Moll

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

504-495-7485—cell

BBO name: mollbridge

## ONLINE BRIDGE

The Bridge Academy had its inaugural game of online bridge today (March 31) and there were 29 pairs who participated. If you played at the Bridge Academy in the past year, you are eligible to participate. The Bridge Academy is also having a game this Saturday at 10:30.

Triangle will soon have its first game online, please watch for announcements in your email.

In addition, you may also play in games which SUPPORT YOUR CLUB at the times listed on the right.

Log onto BBO, buy your bridge bucks, and see you at the virtual games.

## Jacoby 2NT Will Seal the Deal

By Randy Joyce

While hunting for a possible hand on which to base this article, I came across a good teaching example from the 3/10 Mentor- Mentee Game held at the Bridge Academy. The South hand was:

S...Kxxx

H...Jxx

D...AKQx

C...Kx

South's partner opened 1 Spade. What a perfect hand for Jacoby 2NT! (Almost everyone plays this convention to show a "forcing to game raise. It came into use in the sixties and seventies and caught on in the duplicate and tournament community like wildfire! People, even in social games, I think, switched to it, because it was so helpful.

Fast forward to us, and how can it help?

I'm sure that you are all familiar with the convention. A 2NT bid directly over one of a major tells opener that responder has 4+ card support for the major opened and an opening hand plus. What happens then follows this recipe:

1. It asks opener if they have shortness anywhere, and, if they do they are supposed to bid the suit at the three level.
2. If opener has no shortness, singleton or a void, he is supposed to jump to four of the major with a minimum or rebid 3 of the major with more than a minimum. (You can refine this idea more if you play with a regular partner and both of you want to do some memory work.)
3. Rarely, opener will have a 2-suited hand and want to show the second suit over Responder's 2NT bid. Instead of showing the shortness, opener will bid 4 of the second suit. Common parameters are that the second suit will be 5+ and will have 2 of the top 3 honors. This is a good, sound way to play.

On the hand used at the beginning of this article, responder should bid 2NT over 1 spade, and "per the recipe," South, whose hand will be shown later (OK go ahead and peek!), would bid 3 Hearts. He is saying, I have a singleton or void in Hearts.

This is the Home Run best response that South could have gotten. A good many people would simply bid Blackwood at this point and that would not have been a bad bid.

One South that I know chose to bid 4 Diamonds saying, "I have a cuebid in Diamonds." What else can you tell me about your hand? Opener should have bid 5 Clubs to show the A of Clubs, but her overall hand strength and xxx of Diamonds dissuaded her from doing so. Since the North hand was:

S...AQTxx

H...x

D...xxx

C...AQxx

(continued)

An easy slam was missed. By everyone! Nobody bid it!!! If things don't improve, we may have to have six easy lessons on Jacoby 2N!!!! (*Think Barney Fife with the mussed hairdo!*)

Where should we apportion the blame? North should have showed her Club A since South did not sign off at 4 Spades after the 3 Heart response. If South had a marginal 2NT response or the shortness bid did not help her hand (i.e. KJx) then she should have tried to slow the boat down. A cue bid was forward going and did not ask about the strength of North's hand but instead about controls. The one real knock on the 4 Diamond bid is that it forces partner to go beyond Blackwood to show her Club Ace. Now, there is no way to ask for the very important Spade Q.

What could South do, other than Blackwood after the 3 Heart reply? She could bid 3 Spades! It is the same principle as 2/1 bidding. The less you bid after a 2/1 or in this case Jacoby 2NT, the more you have. I always ask my classes, what is the biggest bid that you can make after partner opens 1 Heart, you bid 2 Clubs and partner bids 2 Diamonds? If you guessed 2 Hearts, you would be right on the money.

If South had chosen a 3 Spade bid, North would have had an easy 4 Club bid, and later Blackwood would show 2 Key cards and the trump Q in opener's hand.

Other methods should have gotten N/S to slam, but as I perused the scores, I saw that NOT ANY N/S pair got to slam! This is not rocket science, but adhering to the same rules as 2/1 will really help your slam bidding. That means bidding good ones and staying out of bad ones. (*Are you listening, Craig?*)

### UPDATE ON PHYLLIS FULLER...

As most of you know, Phyllis Fuller fell and broke her leg a week or so ago. She is in rehab and I got this note from her today.....

*I'm told that I'm doing very well. Am determined to be back on my feet walking normally. Too much to do and places to go to let this defeat me. I don't accept defeat easily.*

*Walking for short distances alone with my walker now. Can get up by myself at night. Need a little help getting situated back in bed...but just over a week since the operation. I guess I shouldn't expect full recovery yet.*

*Food is good and plentiful. Certainly more than I want or need to eat.*

*Phyllis*

**Please send your BBO names to Jane Kiernan  
jik2215@gmail.com. She will add this information  
to the Online Directory so that we can more easily  
find each other on BBO**

Warren Buffett—(in Buffet on Bridge)

“It’s a game of a million inferences. There are a lot of things to draw inferences from—cards played and not played. These inferences tell you something about the probabilities. It’s got to be the best intellectual exercise out there. You’re seeing through new situations every ten minutes. Bridge is about weighing gain/loss ratios. You’re doing calculations all the time.”

“Bridge is such a sensational game that I wouldn’t mind being in jail if I had three cellmates who were decent players and who were willing to keep the game going 24 hours a day.”



## Paul Morrissette

***You're a frequent player at our Unit's clubs and have been known to say how much you love playing cards. Have you played bridge since childhood?***

I was raised in Fall River, Massachusetts in a French-Canadian family, the second of my parents' six children. I mention the French-Canadian background not only because we spoke French often at home and actually attended a school for our first six grades where half of every day was taught in French, but also because many French Canadians are avid card players. Many hours of my youth were spent playing games like Rummy, Pitch, and Cribbage. My grandparents brought a game called "Ruff" with them when they moved south from Quebec and it was by far the most popular game among my parents' friends and, as a result among my brothers, sisters and me. We also frequently played Whist, a precursor to Bridge. Bingo, a popular game for church fund raising, was illegal in Massachusetts, so our parish church often conducted "Whist Parties." While attendance wasn't mandatory, it was encouraged and we attended many of these events. So, it's not an exaggeration to say that card playing is in my blood.

***.When did you first play bridge?***

I didn't learn to play bridge until a few years after I graduated from Providence College with a degree in English Literature. At that time I was working as the Personnel Manager at Lipton's soup factory in Albion, New York, a small town about halfway between Rochester and Buffalo. I lived there in a two family house with my wife and my two young sons, Paul Jr. and Glenn. Two local schoolteachers were our tenants and, to my great good fortune, they were bridge players! If you've ever spent any time in northwestern New York in the winter, you know that you don't spend much time outdoors there, particularly after nightfall. So, our neighbors came to our side of the house every night during our first winter and taught us how to play bridge. I'd always contended that I was unlucky at cards and would often explain a night of losing by saying that I was never dealt good hands. So, when my tenant explained something called duplicate bridge, I said "You mean everyone gets the same lousy cards as I do?" When he explained that I would be judged only by how well I did with the same cards that my opponents held, I was hooked. Soon I was playing with him in a weekly duplicate game.

***Have you continued to play bridge ever since?***

My bridge career was put on hold when we left Albion after being there for five years. I'd been promoted to Lipton's headquarters in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey. Like many individuals at that stage of life, I was busy with family matters and business travel. I worked in Employee Relations overseeing Personnel activities in six of Lipton's factories. Later I was promoted to head the company's Employee Benefits Department and subsequently put in charge of Management Development. Lipton is a subsidiary of Unilever, a Dutch-British conglomerate that was, and I believe still is, the second largest consumer products company in the world. In 1989, I was offered the opportunity to move to London to continue my work in Management Development and to conduct courses at Unilever's International Training Center in a London suburb. I was there for three wonderful years, spending more than half my time traveling the world conducting management seminars. Unilever has businesses in nearly every country in the world and I was fortunate to visit more than twenty of them. I returned to the U.S. in 1992, working first in New York City and then back in Englewood Cliffs as the Director of Management Development for Unilever USA. A feature of the company's pension plan enabled an employee to retire at age 55 with full benefits if age and service added

together totaled 85. I qualified for this in 2000 and, after careful financial calculations, took advantage of this opportunity. I immediately returned to the world of bridge and by the time I moved to North Carolina in 2007, I was a Silver Life Master.

***What brought you to North Carolina?***

My younger son, Glenn, had lived in Durham for a few years and I had spent some time here visiting him. When my wife, Colette, and I decided to leave the high taxes and cold winters of New Jersey, my first choice was to relocate to this area. And why not? Where else would I find beautiful golf courses, an active bridge community, and the cultural advantages of the local universities? Lucky me! She agreed with me and we've lived here ever since.

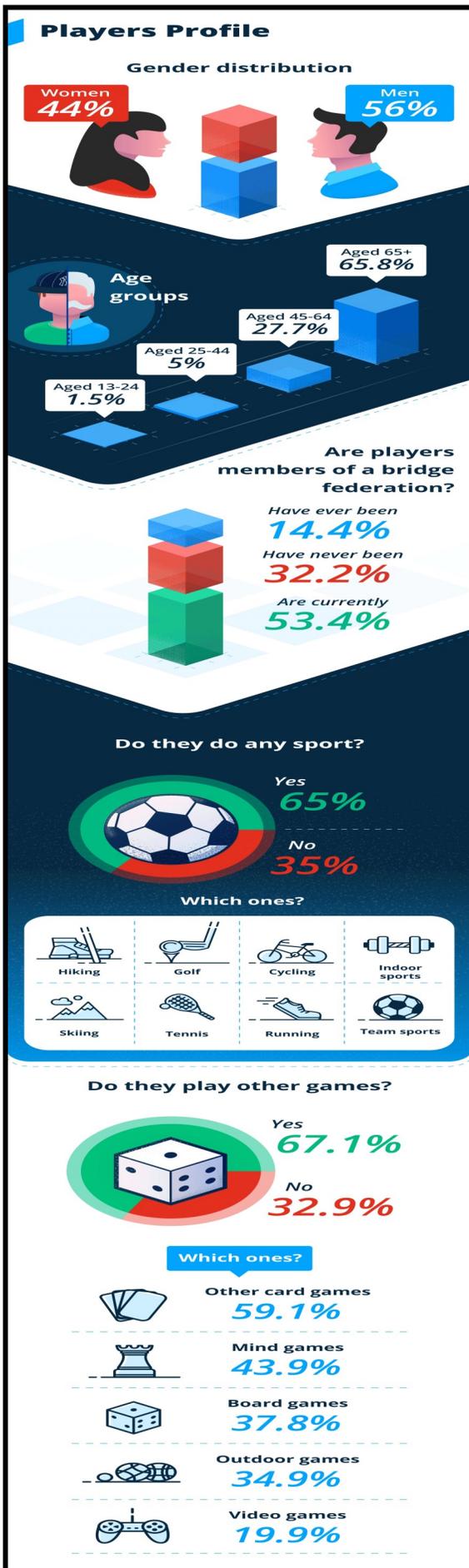
***Do you have any regrets about moving to this area?***

What regrets could I possibly have? I'm a very lucky guy. Despite being diagnosed as a Type 1 diabetic in 1960, surviving prostate cancer and heart bypass surgery, I still enjoy good health. I'm happily married to a wonderful woman. Those of you who know Colette will surely agree. My older son Paul is the President of a division of Chubb Insurance and his brother Glenn is a musician, well-known in the Los Angeles area. Paul's three daughters, Courtney, Lauren and Julia are their grandfather's pride and joy. I will soon have been retired for twenty years of bridge, golf and reading, three activities that I'll never tire of. Life is good!

***As a member of the Unit 191 Board, what issue do you think is most important for the future of our game?***

I'd have to say I think the survival of the game we all love depends on attracting more young people to the joys of bridge. There are relatively few younger people at our club games and none of us is getting any younger. I'm optimistic about this, however. I remember when I first played duplicate in 1970 (fifty years ago!), hearing my older opponents say that by the time I reached their age, no one would be playing anymore. Well, I've reached their age and there still are plenty of us playing! I think bridge is a game that accommodates older people well. First of all, we have time to play, and we also look for activities that stimulate the mind and are not overly stressful physically. There are many people like me who learned to play at an early stage in life and return to the game when work and family no longer interfere. It is important, however, that we continue to provide lessons for newer players, particularly those who did not learn the game when they were younger. Our Unit does a great job of this and for that reason, I'm confident that bridge will survive long after I'm gone.

We all know Paul as the cheerful opponent (or partner) at the table—never complaining and always having a smile on his face. When Paul moved here, the summer sectional was being held at Chapel Hill High School, Paul agreed to being a designated partner and was willing to play with anyone. If I remember correctly, he played with 4 different partners at the tournament. Since then, Paul has chaired at least 6 or 7 tournaments—always keeping a calm demeanor during the course of the tournament. Paul has many partners and each would be agreeable to saying that he is the best partner ever—never criticizing what partner does (or doesn't) do. Paul has participated in the mentoring program and can't even recall how many people he has mentored. Paul was recently elected to the board for a three year term.



## Two bridge puzzles to stimulate your brain during our hiatus from the bridge table

First, an easy one to prime your mental faculties. **What is minimum number of high card points (HCPs) that a partnership needs to make a grand slam in a suit contract?** You can arrange the hands and cards any way you want.

The second bridge puzzle is more difficult and has been discussed by bridge mavens, such as Terence Reese and George Coffin. **What is the maximum number of HCPs (high card points) that a partnership could have for a deal and not be able to make any game, assuming best double dummy play?** Again, you can arrange the hands and cards any way you want.

Both articles submitted by **Ed Fuller**

