

# UNIT 191 BRIGHT LEAF

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## New Year's Resolutions (from Bridge Winners)

1. Make fewer mistakes.
2. Avoid lapses in concentration.
3. Avoid frowning when partners mess up.
4. Be the partner that partner wants me to be.
5. Count opponents' hands more consistently.
6. Read more. Listen more. Watch more. Play more. Enjoy the journey.
7. Concentrate on each hand.
8. End every game with a partner who wants to play with me again.



## ...and from New Year's Bridge ( 1950's)

1. The player across the table is your teammate. Try to play off their bids to get the most number of points.
2. Try a counting strategy when bidding. A=4 K=3 Q=2 H=1 Empty suits=3 1 card suits=2, and 2 card suits=1
3. If you have less than 13 points, don't bid! Always pass!
4. With a balanced hand and 16-18 points, feel free to bid 1 No Trump.
5. If your hand is not eligible for this 1 NT bid, and you have 13 or more points, open a bid with your strongest suit.



*Bright Leaf Unit 191  
wishes you a Healthy,  
Happy and Bridgeful  
2021!*

# Eight and Thirteen Revisited

By Randy Joyce

When I taught bridge (pre pandemic), I always asked my students "What are the two most important numbers in bridge"? After getting some very blank stares, I would tell them that 8 is one since all bidding is designed to locate 8 card or longer fits. Sometimes you have to languish in 7 card fits (or occasionally even shorter, but everyone has a comfort zone of 8+ card fits.

Why 13 you ask? That will be a counting topic to be discussed at a later date and will deal with the fact that there are NEVER more than 13 cards in a suit.

The reason that I write this article is to improve your finding abilities for 8 card fits and to try to dispel the epidemic that I have seen of bidding 1 Heart over one of a minor with 5-5 in the Majors.

If partner opens 1 of a minor and you are 4-4 in the Majors, your correct bid is 1 Heart. Partner will raise with 4 (8 card fit) bid 1 Spade with 4 which you will raise (8 card fit) or bid anything else which means that you do not have an 8 card fit in that major. I have seen a rash of hands in BBO games that partner opens 1 of a minor and the responder bids 1 Heart with 5-5 in the Majors.

***If partner now bids 1NT, you can never find your 5-3 Spade fit!***

Let's back up and say that you rebid 1 Spade over 1 of a minor, with 5-5. Partner now rebids 1NT and you have an easy 2 Heart bid. This auction shows only 5-4, but partner will know that you have at least 5 Spades.

Let's say that you have invitational + points for game and are just trying to find your best fit while investigating the possibility of having enough points for game. Here is where New Minor Forcing is such a valuable tool. I know the XYZ players say that it is much superior, but I don't know all the nuances and the opponents that I have played against *Screw it up Every Time* that it comes up! I take that back, Bob White and Glen Anderson of Raleigh bid it without flaw that last time that I played them. One in a row!

New Minor Forcing starts when you bid the minor that partner did not open. It promises at least invitational values and asks partner about his Majors. If the auction had started, 1C - P - 1S - P - 1NT, then 2 Diamonds would be New Minor Forcing. It would promise AT LEAST invitational values, and would be forcing 1 Round.

(continued)

What should partner do? Well if he is a good partner, he will have big fits for your suits. Partner's first obligation on the above auction is to bid a 4 card Heart suit if he has one. You might be 5-4 in the Majors and be searching for a 4-4 fit in Hearts. His second obligation is to show 3 card Spade support. Remember that he denied 4 when he didn't raise the first time.

Assuming that Partner does have 3 Spades, what else can he show you about his hand? He can show whether he is maximum or minimum by simply bidding 2 Spades with a minimum, or by jumping to 3 Spades with a maximum. Remember, partner is always invitational + when he bids New Minor Forcing.

Let's say that you have the hand that caused me to write this article in the first place. 5-5 in the Majors and 6 points. No real chance for game once partner rebids 1NT. You simply bid 2 Hearts over 1NT saying for partner to "Pass or Correct."

What does this double talk mean? That partner will either bid 2 Spades with 3 or Pass 2 Hearts with 4. This bid is not only Non Forcing, but it is Non Invitational.

If you start with 1 Heart over 1 of a minor, holding 5-5, you can never have a correct auction. Remember, "up the line" with 4-4, not so, with 5-5: Spades first, for Pete's sake (or for yours and Randy's best results)!

"It is not the handling of difficult hands that makes the winning bridge player. There aren't enough of them. It is the ability to avoid messing up the easy ones."

Alan Sontag

Warren Buffett:

"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 the most entertaining and intelligent card game the wit of man has so far devised."

"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."

# The Bridge Academy



*Have fun, Play better*

[www.bridgeacademync.com](http://www.bridgeacademync.com)

As we *finally* bid farewell to 2020, I'd like to take a moment to thank you for your continued support. Last Spring, your generous support of the unit fund drive gave The Bridge Academy a life line to stay in business. Equally, your continued participation in virtual club and SYC games, as well as online classes, continues to be instrumental in keeping the club viable post COVID.

I recently read an [article](#) about the impact of prolonged stress caused by COVID 19 on our brains. The article states that "When brains are flooded with the stress hormone cortisol on a long-term basis, it inhibits the function of the prefrontal cortex, leading to excessive activation of the "reward center" of the brain — triggering the excessive baking, drinking, smoking and shopping that filled the idle hours of 2020." The birth of virtual clubs in such a short time after the shutdown has given us an outlet to fill these idle hours and keep our minds engaged from the safety and comfort of our homes.

For the past eight months, there has been a worldwide effort to develop a more enjoyable playing and teaching online experience by enabling social interaction at each table. The Bridge Academy has been on the forefront of this effort beta testing several of these exciting platforms. In December, we held three experimental fun games on *RealBridge*, a state-of-the-art platform that offers players the option to re-connect with friends via audio and video at each table. This enables a face-to-face experience online and leads to a more enjoyable experience.

Beginning in January, 2021, The Bridge Academy will bring *RealBridge* to the United States, and will offer players a choice of social bridge, "fun" duplicate, and team games. These games will offer awards based on monthly participation but no master points.

We will be introducing *The Bridge Academy Social Bridge Lobby* allowing players to register, receive a link to log in and pick a table to play twenty boards with friends with the option of calling for help with bidding or play. The goal is to attract social players to play and improve their games in a fun and friendly environment. For detailed information visit [www.bridgeacademync.com](http://www.bridgeacademync.com)

Once again, thank you and best wishes for a safe and healthy 2021.

**Henry Meguid**

P.S. I am unable to get the hyperlink to work properly— go to the website below to find the article mentioned above.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/your-brain-cortisol-why-overstressed-gray-matter-leading-us-astray-n1252251>



**Come Play with Us!**

**♥ as a Mentee or Mentor ♦**

The December mentee-mentor game was hosted by The Bridge Academy on the evening of Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all who came out to play. We had 28 pairs, challenging hands, and a delightful time!

Our congratulations to the leaderboard.

**Beverly Craig & Ed Fuller, 1<sup>st</sup> overall with 67.09%**

**Barbara Bute & Martin Causley, 2<sup>nd</sup> overall with 66.45%.**

**Marlene Jones & Barbara Martin, 3<sup>rd</sup> overall with 61.75%.**

**Renee Getz & Emily Hungerford, 4<sup>th</sup> overall with 59.83%.**

**Liz Schuler & Joy McKenzie-Smith, 5<sup>th</sup> overall with 59.62%.**

**Dixie Hapgood & Joyce Jenzano, 6<sup>th</sup> overall with 59.19%.**

We gave back to the local community, as well, in this time of need. **\$3** of each player's game fee, or **\$168**, was donated to the **Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina**.

Didn't play last time? Please join us for the next mentee-mentor game on **Friday, January 8<sup>th</sup>**, at **7:00 p.m.** The game will be hosted by **Triangle Bridge Club** on BBO (**VACB252858**). We hope to "see" you there. ***Let us know if you would like to play and need a mentor.***

Play every card well,

**Ed Fuller, Beverly Craig, Barbara Bute, & Donna Walther**  
(Board Liaison)

Unit 191 Mentoring Program Committee



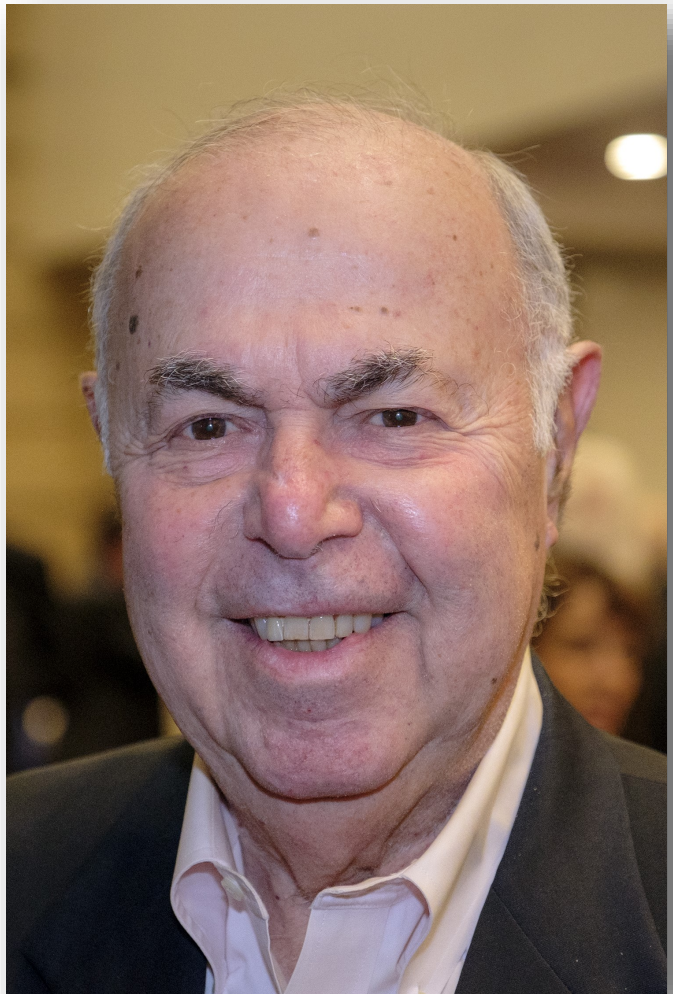
My name was Hans Rosenberg. I was born [November 7](#), 1935, in Rheine, Germany, a small town in Germany, about one hundred miles north of Cologne along the northwestern border. I was an only child. My father was Herman, my mother, Marga.

My father traced our family, all German, way back to the 1500's. One of my ancestors served Kaiser Wilhelm as finance minister. As a measure of respect and appreciation for his value, he was named a baron. I am the son of the first-born male all the way down, so I am a baron also. You may call me "Baron Tom" or if you prefer, "Baron Hans", at the bridge table.

A few weeks after Kristallnacht in November, 1938, the city police came to our house to arrest my father for the crime of being a successful Jewish merchant and took him to the local jail. The Third Reich had set in motion their plan to eliminate all Jewish citizens. I've been told that the Gestapo was to pick him up the next morning. My mother went to the bank, took out all our money, went to the jail, and bribed the jailers to let my father (and a few others) "escape." The three of us then walked (I'm sure dad carried me) about twelve [miles](#), through the woods into Holland. A narrow escape to be sure.

On the ship to the US, my mother decided that the name "Hans" would not be great for me in America. There were two other boys on the ship, one of them Steven, the other, Tom. She flipped a coin and I became Tom.

We moved to Chicago, home of our "US sponsor" and lived on the north side, not too far from Cubs Park, in a fourth-floor walk-up. The apartment had four rooms: living room, dining room, bedroom, and kitchen. I slept on a pull-out sofa in the dining room until I was about 18. The back of our apartment faced the Chicago elevated tracks, and the trains came by with significant noise every few minutes. But I don't recall any discomfort. It was just the way it was. We never had much money, but we always had enough to eat and have a roof over our heads. I never thought of us as being poor. Importantly, my parents took care not to speak German when I was around. They wanted me to grow up without an accent. It worked of course.



*(continued)*

Mom and Dad became U.S. citizens in 1944, five years after their arrival in the U.S. I remember how proud they were, and they talked about their pride in being Americans often. Because of my age, I was automatically made a citizen with them. But they wanted me to have my own papers, so they put me through the whole citizenship procedure when I was thirteen and I have my own papers. They were very proud of that, and so am I.

I have three children, four grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren. All are successful and currently live in California. Obviously I miss them. Thank heaven for Zoom.

I graduated from the University of Illinois with a degree in marketing and management. I joined IBM and stayed in the computer industry for a variety of companies for my entire business career. In 1984, I was offered a position as senior vice president of Global Software here in Raleigh which, after considerable conversation with my wife, June, we decided to accept.

At June's impetus, we involved ourselves in the Arts community and, over the years, I've served on the boards of the NC Symphony, the Carolina Ballet, the NC Museum of Art, and the NC Opera, among others. June and I recently were awarded the Raleigh Medal of Arts.

Also at June's impetus, I involved myself in politics and in 1993 was elected chairman of the Wake County Republican Party. On the wall of my office is an article from the News and Observer naming me "Tarheel of the Week" for my efforts on behalf of the party and the community as a whole.

In 1998, I ran for US Congress against David Price. This was an experience of a lifetime, and I was blessed to have a number of distinguished Republicans come here to Raleigh to help me. Among them were Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich, former Vice President Dan Quayle, separately Mrs. Quayle, Jack Kemp, and Steve Forbes. I especially remember, at a fundraiser in front of 400 people, Newt Gingrich, put his arm around my shoulders and said "America needs Tom Roberg in the House of Representatives". I still "tear up" when I remember that.

I lost narrowly due to some late gerrymandering by the Democrat legislature, but am still friends with David Price. Politics was different then and while we disagreed about most issues, it didn't get nasty.

After retiring in 2000, and again at June's impetus, I became involved in the entrepreneurial community as advisor, investor, and board member. Perhaps most importantly, I was co-founder of a company called Biomarck, built around a peptide discovered by Dr. Kenneth Adler of North Carolina State University, which, several years later, has become a drug which has the potential to stop the metastasis of Cancer. We continue to work with the FDA. We'll see. *(continued)*

And of most importance in my life, I became a Christian accepting Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior and was baptized on [October 3](#), 2003.

Finally, and less important of course, but important nonetheless to my life after seventy-five, was my re-introduction to the game of bridge. I had played in college, but hadn't played in even a casual game for about fifty years. One day in [January 2009](#), Peggy Haigler, who also lives at The Cypress of Raleigh where I do, asked me to play with her in a local duplicate game. Amazingly, we won! So I joined the ACBL. In [April 2010](#) the national ACBL magazine arrived at my home, and there was my picture with the title "Rookie of the Year." At seventy-five years old, I was the top new player in the country. Fortunately, and to keep my ego in check (not easy for those of you who know me), on the cover of the same magazine, was a nine-year-old Chinese boy with the title, "Youngest Life Master."

I've been playing bridge 4 or 5 times a week ever since, now even more electronically. My partners have been varied, frequently Andrea Roitman, Peggy Haigler, Alan Senzel, and many, many others.

And I thank each of you, partner and opponent, for your friendship over the years. It's meant so very much to me.

I thank you all.

**Tom**



Happy  
New Year



## FROM THE ARCHIVES.....

10 years ago....January 2011

- The annual meeting (Dec.) was held at the Chapel Hill Sheraton. Elected to the unit board were: Jim Bean, Paul Morrisette, Doris Elkin and John Braun. Jeff Boak and Henry Meguid had a 72% game to win the event—Linda Allen and Carol Garbutt were first in the 99er game. Grada Arble chaired the event.
- John Torrey has initiated a new event for the unit—a Double Knock Out. The format is similar to a knock out at a regional tournament except that a team must lose two matches before being eliminated.
- Newly elected officers for the unit board are:
  - President—Sigrid Olin
  - Vice President—Robin Marin
  - Secretary—Maggie Lindquist
  - Treasurer—Paul KobrinOther members of the board were:
  - Marty Demko, Harrison Brooke, Jim Bean, Doris Elkin, Paul Morrisette, Sandy McCay, Ken Dye
- 20 people took a step up the ladder for rank advancements:
  - Junior Master—Carole Crotty, Pete Peterson, Robert Sumner, Karen Curtin, Bobbie Pinkerton
  - Club Master—Kathy Bishop, Connie Pattillo, Maria-Olga Wittkowsky, Minnie Montgomery, Elizabeth Tingen

Sectional Master—Jay Cooper, Phyllis Fuller, Barbara Veasey, Patrick Domico, Deborah Shenk

Regional Master—Leonard Bee ghley

NABC Master—Lucy Terrell

Life Master—Patsy Whitehurst

Bronze Life Master—Ruth Roskoz

Silver Life Master—Liz WaCHA

- Sandy McCay and Edie Bulthuis have set a date for a new tournament in our unit—"Carolina Dreamin' "
- Membership in Unit was 594
- Kay Richardson and Barbara Haskell, co-chairs for the Mentor/Mentee program announced their schedule—and are offering free pizza at the next mentor/mentee game.
- Lessons being offered in our unit are given by Henry Meguid, Harrison Brooke, Marty Demko, and Randy and Kay Joyce
- Peggy Barbee and Mary Lou Johnson amassed the most points in our unit for a STAC game held in Dec. Deanna Larus had the most points for a non-life master
- New members in our unit are: Vicky Albright, Edith Johnson, Billy Mack, Liz and Reece Schuler, Phylliss Woody, Laurie and Tracey Wrenn, Karen Brown, Vanessa Brown, Karen Lazarus, Sandy Manheimer, Sondra Sielicky, Mary Vickers, and Jack Whetstone

## First Match for The Schwab Trophy

### 1933 - Britain vs USA

This is one of the most famous matches from 1930s, the first match between Britain and USA for the Schwab Trophy in London 1933. The intention was that it would be a match for World Championship and Ely Culbertson entitled the match "The first World Championship," but it was not officially recognized. The reason was how it was implemented. It became at most an International match. Some have called it just a private match between Culbertson and Crockford's.



L.T. Colonel H.M. Beasley  
Captain of the British Team



Ely Culbertson  
Captain of the USA Team

The first official recognized World Championship was arranged by the International Bridge League, predecessor to the European Bridge League (EBL) and the World Bridge Federation (WBF), in 1937 in Budapest, where Austria won (Paul Stern's "Wunderteam") using the Vienna system.

The video is a recreation of the match based on the official records from 1933. It shows bidding and play for all 300 boards in the

open room and in the closed room the boards where a swing occurred. Modern scoring is used. The most interesting boards are commented by Ely Culbertson and Henry Beasley, the captains of the teams.

The video is almost 7 hours long with about 450 plays. It is not a video to look at from start to end. The most interesting deals, usually where a swing occurred, can be found in the 1933 scoring document.

The match can also be viewed with a Bridge Movie program, either *BridgeVu* or *NetBridgeVu*, which can be downloaded below. *The programs are rather old (updates are frozen) and may not work on some Windows 10 systems. If one program does not work, the other may work.*

The most recent Bridge Movie program by BBO (only available online) is *Handviewer*, but it lacks the ability to show text comments and is more complicated to use. It requires that the LIN files is wrapped in a XML file and stored and accessed on a server. More information is in the *Handviewer* description, "[Loading an external .lin](#) file through a parameter."

[The Schwab Trophy article](#)

[BridgeVu](#)

[1933 Scoring](#)

[NetBridgeVu](#)

P.S. Thanks to Ed Fuller for this article.