



ACBL Unit 191 Brightleaf



February 2022 Bright Leaf Alert

Unit 191 Membership News! As of early January 2022, Unit 191 has 560 members. Welcome to new member, William Marzluff and four transfers into our group – Lila Berry, Suzanne Fast, Doris McReynolds, and Theresa Wagner.

Congratulations to our members who changed rank recently.

Junior Master – Nancy Sprinkle
Club Master – Anne Anderson
Regional Master – Michael Lavine
Silver Life Master – Eric Hamilton
Ruby Life Master – Marc Goldberg

As we head into February, I am happy to report that the Triangle Bridge Academy games regularly hosted 6-8 face to face tables most weekdays during January! Game time is 12:30pm. As Omicron Covid fades, we hope to see more of you at the table soon. We are continuing a few online game options (especially in inclement weather) so join us there. There is also an online teaching game on Monday mornings – contact Henry Meguid for more information. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday nights through Triangle Bridge Academy at 7pm are open virtual games. Look for emails with regards to schedule changes each week. Farrington Bridge Clubs games are live on Wednesday afternoon. Contact John Torrey for more information about Farrington games.

February is [ACBL Educational Foundation Month](#)! For face-to-face clubs, this means all sessions during the month at Triangle Bridge Academy will be run as an Educational Foundation game. Not only will these special games award **double regular club black masterpoints**, but also part of each entry fee will go to the [ACBL Educational Foundation](#).

For those who play online, there will be an Educational Foundation Week (Mon.-Sun., Feb. 21-27) in the virtual clubs. These games will also raise funds for this worthy organization and award double the normal club black points.

Member Spotlight on LaVerne Burch



Bridge is an internationally treasured and renowned table game that had its beginning from the game of Whist. It evolved from a variation of a game called "Bid Whist." LaVerne Burch's first exposure to card games began during her college years. Instead of studying, many of the girls in her dorm spent evenings playing "Bid Whist" or "Pinochle." They played so often, some

girls said that they were majoring in "Cardology." LaVerne actually majored in Accounting. She admits that she enjoys many card games.

After she moved to the Washington, D. C. area, she played Pinochle and Bid Whist with a a group of ladies who soon introduced her to Bridge. Her social tentacles touched more groups and Bridge began to unfold in her basket of table card games.

Her first exposure to contract Bridge was with the American Bridge Association (ABA). This group was formed years ago because people of color were not welcome in the ACBL. The ABA has many excellent players and teachers. Some of the seasoned players began teaching her the fundamentals and nuances of Bridge...offense, defense rules and etc as her mentors. Soon she became hooked on Bridge.

In 1997, on her way to visit her brother in Charlottesville, VA, she was involved in a serious car accident that resulted in an injury to her shoulder. A after her hospital stay, she recuperated in Durham where her daughter lived. Here, she found a local ABA club in which to play Bridge. It was at a Bridge game in Durham, where she met a handsome widower BG (RET) Harold E. Burch. She had been a widow for many years. They married in 1999 and moved permanently to Durham.

She is currently a Silver Life Master in the ACBL and working towards becoming a Ruby Life Master. She has established many partnerships and lasting friendships in both ACBL and ABA over the years.

Submitted by: Alice W. Hughley

♠ ♥ Come Play with Us in February as a Mentee or a Mentor! ♦ ♣

The Unit 191 Mentoring Program started out the New Year of 2022 with two **online mentee-mentor games**, one on January 7th and another on January 21st. **Thanks to all who came out to play.** The hands were challenging, the competition was excellent and tough, and all had a delightful time!

On **Friday evening, January 7th** we had 18 pairs. A **hearty congratulations** to the **leaderboard:**

Larry Stanczyk & Nancy Sparks, 1st overall & 1st EW with a whopping 65.18%

Eileen Bok & Leslie Blair, 2nd overall & 1st NS with 58.04%

Mike Pope & Ray McEntee, 3rd overall & 2nd NS with 57.14%.

Dana Lange & Deanna Larus, 4th overall & 3rd NS with 55.95%
Ann Fisher & Nancy Crow, 5th overall & 2nd EW with 54.17%
Jill Koury & Janet Dence, 6th overall & 3rd EW with 52.68%

On **Friday evening, January 21st** we had 21 pairs and two robots. A **hearty congratulations** to the **leaderboard**:

Mike Lavine & Glen Anderson, 1st overall & 1st EW with a whopping 64.75%
Nancy Garman & Eric Hamilton, 2nd overall & 1st EW with 60.39%
Bev Craig & Ed Fuller, 3rd overall & 2nd NS with 57.08%
Barbara Bute & Maggie Lindquist, 4th overall & 2nd EW with 56.92%
Larry Stanczyk & Joyce Jenzano, 5th overall & 3rd EW with 55.64%
Dwight Smith & Donna Walther, 6th overall & 4th EW with 55.42%
The robots were 17th overall and 7th EW with 44.25%

We gave back **\$3** of each player's game fee to the **Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina** in this time of need: **\$234** is to be donated.

Please join us

- for a **face-to-face mentee-mentor game** at **12:30 p.m.** on **Tuesday, February 1st**, at **Triangle Bridge Academy**, 2634 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd., Suite 102, Durham, NC (the game will be preceded by a 20-minute lesson at 12:00 noon) – ***stay tuned in case conditions change, warranting a game change to BBO***, or
- for an **online mentee-mentor game** at **7:00 p.m.** on **Friday, February 18th** hosted by **Triangle Bridge on BBO (VACB252858)**, or **for both games.**

*** PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO PLAY ***

*** If you would like to play and need a mentor, let us know ***

Play every card well,
Ed Fuller, Beverly Craig, Barbara Bute, and Maggie Lindquist
Unit 191 Mentoring Program Committee
Donna Walther (Board Liaison)

Tournament news!

Coming February 17-20, Unit 119 will hold a Winter Sectional. Games on February 17th, 18th and 19th will be held in Raleigh. **But the swiss team event will be held Sunday February 20th at Triangle Bridge Academy starting at 10am.** Unit 119 players represented at our Fall Sectional in November 2021. Let's return the favor and join in the fun on February 17-20. More details are posted on the flyer at www.bridgewebs.com/unit191brightleaf .

Looking ahead to March – We will once again host our Spring Sectional - **“March into Gladness!”** - Mar 3-6th at Triangle Bridge Academy. The flyer is posted on the acbl website and on our own website: <https://www.bridgewebs.com/unit191brightleaf> . Put it on your calendar and come read to play.

Please keep Paul Morrissette (Alert Editor) in your thoughts and prayers as he recovers! We look forward to seeing him again soon.