



BRIGHT LEAF ALERT – January 2023

President's Corner:

Dear Unit Members,
Welcome to 2023!

The Unit Board welcomes each of you to a New Year of playing bridge! Regardless of your level of play, the unit wants to provide you with opportunities to play F2F bridge locally, improve your game, and provide a congenial atmosphere where we can connect with others who enjoy the game. Many bridge players say that playing in person elevates mood, reduces stress, and encourages social interactions – all good things!

We were thrilled to have our annual Holiday Gala in December after a hiatus of several years. Thank you to Chris Moll who directed our game and to both Henry Meguid and Chris for the use of the Triangle Bridge Academy. We had 19 tables and a smorgasbord of potluck dishes by our unit members (and we appreciate the cash donations too!) The gala was great fun, and we hope it is a positive sign for future events and attendance. We are grateful to Phyllis Woody for taking the photos below. And let's give a huge shoutout to those who volunteered time to decorate the club, set-up the food, monitor the kitchen, and clean-up afterwards. Special thanks to Deanna Larus, Mary Newman, Ian Cloudsdale, Suzie Goldberg, Michael Lavine, Bill Young, Deborah Hoveland, Barbara Bute, Karen Popovich, and the many others who helped make this a success.

The Raleigh Winter Sectional, January 19-22, is just around the corner. The Swiss Team event on Sunday, January 22nd, will be held at the Triangle Bridge Academy. Make plans to play!

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

Alan Sontag

Also make note on your calendar that our next unit sectional is March 2-5 at the Triangle Bridge Academy. Deanna Larus is tournament chairman. We will announce the Partnership Chair soon.

Throughout 2022 we saw F2F bridge enjoy a modest resurgence, but levels are still far below pre-pandemic levels. Following ACBL protocols and local guidance, club and tournament games are mask-optional now. As we approach the 3-year mark of covid's advent, we want to stress how important it is to participate in F2F club games. We want our unit clubs to survive and thrive. The board is exploring ideas to encourage people to rejoin a F2F setting with the benefits of being at the table with others.

On behalf of the unit, I'd like to thank: Ed Fuller, Donna Walther, Bev Craig and Maggie Lindquist (our 2022 Mentor/Mentee committee) for their exceptional work in keeping that program running with both online and F2F opportunities; Janet Strope for her diligent work on our Alert newsletter; Suzie Goldberg for helping out whenever there is a need; Marc Goldberg for keeping our website always up to date with the latest news and information; Phyllis Woody for providing us with membership numbers and informing us of our member achievements, and Gail King for her great help with the Spring and Summer Sectionals this past year.

As always, the Board welcomes your ideas. Cheers

Ann Fisher, 2023 Unit 191Board President

Holiday Gala





[**Click here for more pictures**](#)

January Game Schedule

Triangle Bridge Academy

Open face-to-face games:

Monday – Friday @ 12:30pm

Saturday @ 9:45am

Open online BBO games:

Monday, Wednesday @ 7:00pm

Online learn and play

Monday @ 9:00am: No class 1/2, 1/9, 1/30

[Click here to register and pay](#)

Play and review face-to-face Barometer game

Friday @ 10:00am (under 300mps): No game 1/6, 1/13, 1/20

RSVP required [Click here to RSVP](#)

Special games this month:

January 2, special game and potluck lunch.

Lunch at 11:30 game at 12:30

Unit 191 Mentor/Mentee game:

Face to face: January 3, 12:30pm (lesson at 11:45)

Online BBO: January 18, 7:00pm



Upcoming District 7 Bridge Events (click for flyer):

January 19-22, [Raleigh Sectional](#)

January 27-29, [Pinehurst Sectional](#)

February 6-12, [Hilton Head Regional](#)

February 16-19, [Greensboro NLM Regional](#)

February 16-19, [Greensboro Sectional](#)

INTRODUCTION TO MODERN BRIDGE BIDDING is an eight-week class to be held on consecutive Tuesdays starting February 21. It is suitable for people who dabbled with bridge in college or playing social bridge and would like to improve their bidding and overall enjoyment of the game. See flyer below. For more information contact Henry Meguid at info@bridgeacademync.com or (919)-724-6239
To register: go to www.bridgeacademync.com

Member Spotlight



As a child in Poland (in current Ukraine), Anna Stachon watched her parents play social bridge with their friends, kibitzed at the table, progressed to playing under her mother's tutelage, and continued playing while attending the University of Warsaw. At that time bridge was very popular on campus resulting in dorm games lasting almost all night. Even so she successfully completed college and law school

and practiced law finally becoming a judge in Poland. With marriage, a child and work, bridge took backstage.

Anna says that living and working under the threat of communism prompted her to immigrate to the United States in 1981. Upon arrival she lived and worked in Houston, Texas, and outside Denver and in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Anna Stachon retired and moved to be close to her son in Durham and looked for some activities. Her son mentioned to a neighbor that she had played bridge in the past. The neighbor told her about Henry Meguid's lessons at The Bridge Academy and OLLI. As a result, she rediscovered

her childhood fun times when she played bridge with her family in Poland.

In Henry's classes, which she continues to take, she learned that there were conventions beyond Blackwood (the only convention she had ever played). Prior to COVID she played several times per week with a variety of partners. During COVID lockdown, she was in Poland most of the time but continued to play TBA bridge via BBO, partnering with Catherine Garland and Martha Schulwitz. Finally, she met De Cutshaw and developed an on-going F2F & BBO partnership and genuine friendship. Her learning and perseverance are reflected in reaching ACBL Regional Master level.

With a goal of learning to play better, she joined the Mentee-Mentor Program and began a new partnership with Ian Cloudsdale for Mentee-Mentor games. She appreciates her Mentor's contributions and the challenges this "learning partnership" and participation in the twice monthly Mentee-Mentor games brings to her ability to grow as a bridge player.

DID YOU KNOW all players at the table are responsible for the boards, not just north.

Mentoring Program News

♠ Come Play with Us in January 2023! ♠

♥ as a Mentee or Mentor ♦



The **in-person mentee-mentor afternoon game on Tuesday, December 6th** was a Sectional Tournament at Clubs (STaC) game with six tables. The game was preceded by a great lesson on "**Bad Open Leads**" by Marc Goldberg – *Just when I thought I knew all of them, I learned some new ones. See his handout [HERE](#).*

The **online evening game on Wednesday, December 21st** had five tables. We gave back to the local community: \$3 of each player's online game fee: **\$54** is to be donated to a local charity.

Hearty congratulations to those on the December leaderboards: see below.

Please join us in January 2023 for an in-person mentee-mentor afternoon game at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 3rd, at Triangle Bridge Academy, 2634 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd., Suite 102, Durham, NC. The game will be preceded by a 30-minute lesson at 11:45 a.m. [note earlier start time], given by Chris Moll on "Common Director Calls." For example, what are your options when an opponent leads out of turn. It is advantageous for you to have considered these options beforehand, so you can make a good choice in the heat of the moment at the table.

Let us know at <brightleaf.mentee@gmail.com>
if you plan to play or if you need a mentor.
We hope to see you there!

Come play with us on Wednesday, January 18th at 7:00 p.m. for an online mentee-mentor evening game hosted by Triangle Bridge on BBO (VACB252858).

Hearty congratulations to the Tuesday afternoon, December 6th, leaderboard:

Shelley Hedtke & Eric Hamilton , 1st overall & 1st EW with 56.25%
Bill Marzluff & Debbie Hoveland , 2nd overall & 1st NS with 55.75%
Barbara Hulka & Beverly Craig, 3rd/4th overall & 2nd/3rd EW with 55.08%
Cathy Simon & Leslie Blair, 3rd/4th overall & 2nd/3rd EW with 55.08%
Barbara Bute & Ed Fuller, 5th overall & 2nd NS with 54.33%
Jo Anne Rosenfeld & Kay Gruninger, 6th overall & 3rd NS with 54.25%

Hearty congratulations to the Wednesday evening, December 21st, leaderboard:

Jo Anne Rosenfeld & Michael Lavine, 1st overall with 62.50%
Jill Koury & Janet Dence, 2nd overall with 57.64%
Barbara Hulka & Beverly Craig, 3rd overall with 55.56%
Anna Stachon & Ian Cloudsdale, 4th overall with 53.47%

Play every card well,

Ed Fuller, Beverly Craig, Maggie Lindquist, and Barbara Bute (Board Liaison)
Unit 191 Mentoring Program Committee



Unit 191 Mentee Bridge Lessons in the Spring of 2023



January	<i>Common Director Calls</i>	Chris Moll
February	<i>No-Trump Bidding Ladder</i>	Marc Goldberg
March	<i>Cue Bids</i>	Marc Goldberg
April	<i>Reverses</i>	Marc Goldberg
May	<i>When to Lead Trump</i>	Marc Goldberg
June	<i>Balancing</i>	Marc Goldberg

Time: **11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.** [Note the earlier start time]
before the in-person mentee-mentor afternoon game,
which is typically on the first Tuesday of each month.

Place: Triangle Bridge Academy
2634 Durham-Chapel Hill Blvd., Suite 102
Durham, NC

When available, Lesson Handouts will be posted on Unit 191's Mentoring Program website. Click [HERE](#), to view or download.

The January lesson is on "*Common Director Calls*." For example, what are your options when an opponent leads out of turn. It is advantageous for you to have considered these options beforehand, so you can make a good choice in the heat of the moment at the table.

ACBL Unit 191 Membership Report

Includes all transactions processed **10/31/22 through 12/01/22**

Total Members - **542**

NEW MEMBERS

Pamela Richey
Mark Weedon

TRANSFERRED INTO YOUR UNIT

Janet R Baker

NEW REGIONAL MASTER

Anna Stachon

NEW LIFE MASTERS

Bobbi Pinkerton
John Pinkerton

NEW SILVER LIFE MASTER

Jennie Robinson

NEW GOLD LIFE MASTER

Debbie Sears

DECEASED

Ken Schooff

NEW RUBY LIFE MASTER

Ian Clousdale

Pahnea Ratty

NEW DIAMOND LIFE MASTER

Sonja Smith

Submitted by Phylliss Woody, Membership Chair
November 2022

Unit 191 members please check the Directory on our unit website (unit191bridge.org) and report to me (pwoody@unc.edu, (919) 612-7711) any changes or corrections that need to be made. Please remember Contact information in this directory is provided as a courtesy to Unit 191 members.

Unauthorized use of this information is forbidden.



2634 Durham Chapel Hill Blvd,
Suite 102
Durham, NC 27707

INTRODUCTION TO MODERN BRIDGE BIDDING

FEBRUARY 21 – APRIL 11
6:30-8:30 PM



This is an eight-week class held on consecutive Tuesdays. It is suitable for people who dabbled with bridge in college or playing social bridge and would like to improve their bidding and overall enjoyment of the game.

\$225 per person

[Click to register](#)

For more information contact Henry Meguid at
info@bridgeacademync.com or (919)-724-6239