

THE BRIGHT LEAF ALERT

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF UNIT 191

JUNE, 2026

We are heading to summer in North Carolina. Some of us truly enjoy the heat and humidity; others tolerate it as a fair trade for all the joys of living in the area. Many of us look forward to long weekends at the beach and/or vacations, often with family and friends. But, for when you find yourself in town, we have some suggestions for you to consider:

- **Play at your local club:** What better way to escape the heat than to spend a few hours in air-conditioned comfort improving your game? It is a time to catch up with friendly players, many of whom you may have known for years. If you sit down against players you have not seen or met before, introduce yourself and welcome them to the club. We have been encouraging players new to duplicate to try it, so please be especially kind to them. We can probably all remember feeling intimidated the first times we played in a duplicate game or tournament, and we want everyone to come away with a positive experience.
- **Play in our sectional (July 16-19):** We are excited to have the Raleigh Bridge Club as co-sponsors for the first time. This tournament will provide you with an opportunity to test your skills against some players you may have never met before. Also, we will be seeking volunteers to make this a successful event. Please see Tournament Chair **Deanna Larus'** article about the Sectional in this issue of Alert! Consider offering up a bit of your valuable time to help make this Tournament a success. The Tournament flyer with all the details is included in this issue.
- **Play in the Greensboro regional next week (June 1-6):** This is a wonderful opportunity to earn colored masterpoints and, again, compete against players you have never met. Greensboro folks are great hosts who appreciate seeing our members at the tables. Information can be found at <https://web2.acbl.org/Tournaments/Ads/2026/06/2606112.pdf>.

There's so much going on! Summer is upon us. Let's make the most of it and have some fun.

Your Unit 191 Co-Pres, **Morris Weinberger and Ray Boylan**

Calling all Volunteers!

It is time to plan for our Summer Sectional.

Dates: July 16-19!

This summer Unit 191 is cohosting the summer sectional with the Raleigh Bridge Club. We are looking to schedule volunteers to help with the sectional. If you can help, please contact me by email deanna@elarus.com. I will not be at the club for most of June but will still be preparing for the tournament from afar so you will need to use virtual means of communication to talk to me.

The tournament will be held in Governors Village (like last fall) but in the Bold Building (across from the ABC store). Look for the Green cow out front! There is plenty of parking behind the building.

As you know hosting a tournament takes lots of volunteers. Here is how you can help!

You can help with:

Tournament Set up and Break down– We need at least five people to help set up tables, chairs and game equipment, unload cars, post signs, etc. on Thursday July 16 at 3:30pm and Sunday as soon as the Swiss game ends. The more people the better especially on Sunday afternoon.

Guaranteed partners: We offer guaranteed partners at our tournaments. **Ann Fisher** (afisher9tk@gmail.com) is the partnership chair once again. With the assistance of **Barbara Hudson** in Raleigh, Ann can help match players with partners and/or teams if you contact her ahead of time. Otherwise, we have standby players available for each pairs (Open and Limited) game. So just show to play in a pairs game and we will have someone available. Ann is a wonderful help! We don't guarantee partners for Swiss but we do try to help ahead of time. Contact them and we will try to match you up.

If you are willing to serve as a standby guaranteed partner for the Open or Limited pairs game, please let Ann know. You will receive a free play coupon that can be use at a sectional game or a local club game (Raleigh games included) as a benefit.

Hospitality Team-

Someone to help before each morning game to put out food and make coffee and generally set things up.

People to help during each game session to keep coffee available, put out food, and troubleshoot. **Susan Overcash and Mary Newman** can answer your questions about this role. Teamwork makes it easier on everyone!

Need clean up help in hospitality area after each afternoon session to close for the day.

Need someone to assist with setting up and serving Sunday Swiss Lunch around noon.

We will be ordering wraps for everyone this time. Lunch price will be included in your Sunday Swiss entry fee.

Hospitality Goodies: As usual we need treats and food items to share! Our players love to eat! Please plan to bring a homemade dish or donate \$\$ so we can have delicious goodies each day. You choose how to help. Bring your favorite cakes, cookies, breakfast items – anything**! Also, our players love little sandwiches to fuel their game efforts so small platters would be welcome. For cash donations, **John Cobb, Susan Overcash, Deanna Larus and Ann Fisher** will be collecting cash donations during the two weeks prior to the tournament at local clubs.

**When bringing homemade food, we ask that you try to bring it on disposable serving trays or recognize that your dishes will be returned to you unwashed at the end of each day. Oh – will we miss having a kitchen sink!

Other needs:

We need two coolers of ice each day.

We are in search of a 5 gallon water cooler. We would love to borrow it for the tournament. We prefer not to get drinking water from the bathroom sinks throughout the day.

If you are willing to volunteer, show us your commitment by sending an email to deanna@elarus.com and I will record your offer. Doing so will reduce the stress associated with planning this event on the committee and lower my blood pressure! Thank you to everyone in Durham/Chapel Hill and Raleigh for stepping up to help make this a terrific event!

Tournament team: **Deanna Larus (chair)**

John Cobb (RBC President)

Mary Newman and Susan Overcash (Hospitality co-chairs)

Ann Fisher and Barbara Hudson (partnership co-chairs).

PLEASE CHECK THE TOURNAMENT FLYER ON THE UNIT WEBSITE

FROM THE ARCHIVES—JUNE 2016

1. Our unit has 604 members
2. **Hugon Karwowski** receives an award in the 2016 Breakthrough Program in Physics as a researcher at UNC
3. **Maggie Lindquist** prepares for her adult bridge camp.
4. **Jim Bean** was named our unit's Goodwill ambassador.
5. Our unit's centenarian, **Ira Vendig**, passed away at the age of 103.
6. **Marc and Suzie Goldberg** joined our unit—(editor's note: thanks to the two of you who have been actively involved in our unit)
7. All previous alerts are on the website—check them out for some great memories.

LET'S TALK ABOUT TRICKS

By Marc Goldberg

I see this all the time at the club. Someone leads a card, four cards are played, someone wins the trick, and everyone turns their card over. Then someone asks, "**Can I see that again?**" And everyone faces their card. You might think this is a friendly game, and you are just being a nice guy in showing your card, but the correct answer to the question is "**No, you may not. You have quit the trick.**"

What does that mean, and what does the Law say?

Inspecting the Current Trick- (asking to see the cards in the trick that were just played)- Law 66 says this- ***So long as his side has not led or played to the next trick, Declarer or either defender may, until he has turned his own card face down on the table, require that all cards just played to the trick be faced.*** In other words, if your card is still face up, you can ask to see all the cards in the trick as long as your side has not led or played to the next trick. If your card is face down, you no longer have the right to see the cards played on that trick. (Note- Dummy may never ask to see the cards played in a trick).

Looking at Your Own Last Card- Law 66 says this- ***Until his side has led or played to the next trick, declarer or either defender may inspect, but not expose, his own last card played.*** This allowance might be used by Declarer to confirm if the trick was taken in his hand or in the dummy, or it might be used by a defender to confirm that they have followed suit.

Quitted Tricks- a player "quits the trick" when he turns his card upside down at the end of the trick. Law 66 says this- ***Thereafter, until play ceases, the cards of quitted tricks may not be inspected (except at the Director's specific instruction: for example, if necessary to verify a claim of a revoke).***

When I was learning bridge, my mentor gave me some advice as Declarer (but it applies to defenders, as well). She told me to leave my card face up on the table until I know which card I am going to play next. That also gives me the option of inspecting the trick if I forgot to look at all the spot cards to help evaluate the suit.

That advice often comes in handy. Here is an example. Defending against 4 Spades, partner leads the Club 3. Dummy comes down with QJ10745 in Clubs. I hold AK82 in Clubs. Declarer

calls for the Club Q, I play the Club K, and Declarer plays the Club 9. Remembering my mentor's lesson, I keep my card face up so I can figure things out. What card do I play next? Some may be able to analyze the cards faster, but I have to go through the sequence of the clubs. I have the 2, partner played the 3, dummy has the 4 and the 5, so the 6 is out. I see the 7, 8, declarer's 9, and all the honors. If partner had the 62 in clubs, she would have led the 6. So my assessment is that partner has a singleton club, and declarer has the Club 6. Now, I turn my card over and put the Club 8 on the table (this keeps my Club A to keep Declarer from immediately running clubs). I am expecting partner to ruff the trick, and my high club suggests partner return the higher of the two suits. After ruffing the clubs, partner dutifully leads a heart to my Ace. I lead another club, partner over-ruffs the Declarer for Down 1 before they even get started. Had I quit the trick early, I would have had to rely on my memory on the cards that were played, and I may not have figured out who had what and how best to defend.

So when you are playing at the club, and someone who has turned their card over asks to see the cards again, nicely say, "**No, not permitted by Law 66.**" It isn't mean- it's bridge.

Here is one additional note about tricks. Law 65B specifies that if your side has won a trick, you place the card in front of you pointed lengthwise toward your partner, and if the opponents have won the trick, the card is pointed lengthwise toward the opponents. So what happens if your partner points their card in the wrong direction? Law 65B says this- ***A player may draw attention to a card pointed incorrectly, but this right expires when his side leads or plays to the following trick. If done later, Law 16B may apply.***

Dummy may correct Declarer on a card pointed incorrectly on the current trick, and Defenders may correct each other on a card pointed incorrectly on the current trick.

But, no one may correct previous tricks. Doing so may put you in violation of providing Unauthorized information.



MEMBERSHIP

REPORT

Deanna Larus, Membership Chairman

Activity in Unit 191 during the month
of April, 2026

Our unit has 461 paid members and 68
guest members for a total of 529

We welcome the following new mem-
bers:

Stacy Brehn

Shurn Monet

Mark Thomas

Unit 191 congratulates the members
who have achieved a new rank:

CLUB MASTER

Loretta Michael

Gloria Marwell

NABC MASTER

Dan Snedecor

SILVER LIFE MASTER

Lori Scanga

GOLF LIFE MASTER

John Schachte

Maggie Lindquist



The Bright Leaf Alert is published monthly and is the official newsletter of Unit 191. If you have ideas for articles, recognitions of unit members, interesting hands, or information you wish to be included in the alert, please notify a board member or Barbara Martin, editor.

A huge thank you to those individuals who generously contribute regularly to provide newsworthy information for our members.

BREAKING NEWS FROM THE CARD TABLE: ROXBORO BRIDGE CLUB'S STARS AND STRIPES SHOWDOWN!!

It's Red, White, and Bridge time at the Roxboro Bridge Club, and we're not just talking about fireworks—we're talking *card tricks* that'll leave you dazzled and deals that are more explosive than a bottle rocket!

It's June, and the Cards are Hot!

Hold onto your cards, folks—June at the Roxboro Bridge Club is shaping up to be the month of *grand slams*, *perfect leads*, and of course, *plenty of laughs!*

Whether you're a seasoned bridge master or a humble beginner, there's no better way to spend a Monday afternoon than surrounded by the buzz of friendly competition, great company, and maybe a few *questionable* bids (we all know who you are). With five Mondays of exciting play this month, there's no excuse not to join us!

And don't forget about **Wednesday Night Bridge**—because we know you just can't get enough of those trump cards! Join us every **Wednesday evening at 7:15 p.m.** for a night of friendly competition and bridge strategy at its finest. Whether you're a night owl or just looking to squeeze in another game before the weekend, this is the perfect mid-week escape.

We meet at the **Person County Senior Center**, located at **87 Semora Road, Roxboro, NC**—a cozy spot where the cards are always dealt with care and the atmosphere is always welcoming. So, grab your partner and come out for some great hands and even better company. We promise you'll leave with a smile (and maybe a few tricks up your sleeve for the next game!).

See you there, and remember—**the more, the merrier!**

And here's the deal: We're turning up the fun *just a bit* for the 4th of July celebration! That's right, on **Thursday, June 29th**, we're hosting a **Patriotic Picnic**—complete with red, white, and blue goodies, a light-hearted atmosphere, and of course, *bridge* (because we can't forget the cards!).

The picnic starts **at 12 noon**, so come hungry and ready to mingle with fellow bridge enthusiasts. But wait, there's more—The **Bridge game kicks off at 1 p.m.**, and trust us, you won't want to miss it! Whether you're playing or just cheering on your fellow card sharks, we promise a good time.

Please let **Jayne Bremer**, our wonderful club manager, know if you'll be attending the picnic, so we can make sure we have enough food (and drinks!) to go around. You can reach her directly by text or phone at 919-824-0666 or email: RoxboroAC-BLBridge@gmail.com .

Don't miss out on the fun—grab your favorite partner, your lucky bridge charm (we know you have one), and get ready for a month of good cards and even better company!

See you at the table!

P.S. Important Reminder: No, the picnic does not come with a free pass for a bad hand. (Sorry, but you'll still need to earn that win!) However, lunch is on the club so please make sure you RSVP!

10 Bridge “Crimes”

1. **Blaming the cards** {after a bad result}—*every experienced player has bad boards. The cards are the same for everyone. The real crime is not learning from what went wrong at your table.*
2. **Leading away from a King** {in a slam} - *a passive or safe lead is essential in slams. Leading away from a king gifts declarer a free finesse and often the contract. Lead neutral.*
3. **Not counting tricks** (after playing to trick 1) - *declarers who don't count from the start fly blind. After trick one, immediately count your winners and losers—then build your plan.*
4. **Forgetting the opening lead** (as the hand plays out) - *The opening lead tells a story. Forgetting what was led early costs tricks. Mental note-keeping of the first card is a foundational discipline.*
5. **Blocking the suit** (in your own hand) - *playing high cards from the wrong hand strands winners. Think ahead— unblock before it's too late, or the long suit becomes a liability*
6. **Not drawing trumps** (when you should) - *leaving opponents trumps out is dangerous. In most cases, draw trumps first—unless you need them for ruffs or have a compelling reason to wait.*
7. **Ignoring vulnerability** (when bidding) - *vulnerability changes everything. Aggressive bids that work non-vulnerable can be catastrophic when vulnerable. Always check the scorecard.*
8. **Playing too fast** (to trick the opponents) - *rushing plays to confuse opponents is unethical and illegal. Bridge is a game of skill and ethics—hesitation tactics are a violation of the code.*
9. **Rescuing partner** (from a penalty double) - *when partner is doubled, running to a new suit usually makes things worse. Trust partner to play the contract—unless you have a very long suit.*
10. **Underleading an Ace** (against a suit contract) - *leading a small card when you hold the ace gives declarer a free trick. Against suit contracts, lead your ace first—or find a safer lead.*

Neighborhood Watch Security Tip Fraud and Scam Protection

By Marc Goldberg

Fraud: fraud is when someone obtains your personal information and uses it to commit a crime for their financial gain.

Scam: a scam is when someone tricks you into taking a detrimental action that usually results in loss of money.

Scammers are becoming much more sophisticated. They contact you via emails, text messages, and phone calls. They look and sound so real! It is easy to get fooled.

How do you avoid being scammed? First, be suspicious. Never give out any personal or account information. Never click on a link to a website that you have not initiated. If the question involves a friend, call them and ask: is this invitation really from you? If the question involves a business, call them using a number you have or find, not one that is listed in the scam email or text.

Don't click on attachments that you do not know are legitimate. Here are some general guidelines:

- * *Legitimate law enforcement agencies will never call and demand payment to resolve a warrant or avoid arrest. If someone pressures you to pay immediately to avoid arrest it's a scam.*
- * *Verify any claims by contacting your local law enforcement agency directly using a publicly listed phone number. These scammers often use spoofed phone numbers to appear as though the call is coming from a local agency.*
- * *They may pressure you to act quickly and request payment via gift cards, prepaid cards, wire transfers, or cryptocurrency.*
- * **If you receive a suspicious call:**
 - * **Do not provide any personal or financial information.**
 - * **Do not send money.**
 - * **Hang up immediately.**
 - * **Update your passwords**
 - * **Change settings on your smartphone to send all unknown numbers to voicemail**
 - * **Do a privacy checkup on your social media accounts**
 - * **Freeze your credit**
 - * **Don't carry your Social Security card in your wallet**
 - * **Review your bank and financial accounts frequently for suspicious activity**
 - * **Limit App permissions on your phone.**

Today's reality is that no one is trustworthy unless you know them personally. If the little voice in your head says "This doesn't sound right," listen to it!

Everyone is encouraged to report incidents to your local law enforcement agency or the Federal Trade Commission at reportfraud.ftc.gov.

P.S. There has been some suspicious calls involving bridge/ACBL players—please be aware.

JUNE 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	<p>9-11 Play and Learn Online</p> <p>12:30 PM International Fund Game (\$13)</p> <p>6:30 – 8:30 Social Bridge</p>	<p>1-4 PM Barometer</p>	<p>9:30 AM Nuplicate Barometer</p> <p>12:30 PM International Fund Game (\$13)</p>	<p>12 PM Private ABA Game</p>	<p>12:30 PM International Fund Game (\$13)</p>	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	<p>9-11:30 Barbara Seagram Workshop and Lunch</p> <p>12:30 PM Unit Championship Game (\$12)</p> <p>6:30 – 8:30 Social Bridge</p>	<p>1-4 PM Barometer</p>	<p>9:30 AM Nuplicate Barometer</p> <p>12:30 PM International Fund Game (\$13)</p>	<p>12 PM Private ABA Game</p>	<p>12:30 PM International Fund Game (\$13)</p>	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	<p>9-11 Play and Learn Online</p> <p>12:30 PM NAP Game (\$13)</p> <p>6:30 – 8:30 Social Bridge</p>	<p>1-4 PM Barometer</p>	<p>9:30 AM Nuplicate Barometer</p> <p>12:30 PM Longest Day Alzheimer's Open Game (\$13)</p>	<p>9 AM Limited Game (<750mps)</p> <p>12 PM Private ABA Game</p>	<p>12:30 PM Unit Championship Game (\$12)</p>	<p>10 AM Eight is Enough Swiss Team Game</p>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	<p>9-11 Play and Learn Online</p> <p>12:30 PM NAP Game (\$13)</p> <p>6:30 – 8:30 Social Bridge</p>	<p>1-4 PM Barometer</p>	<p>9:30 AM Nuplicate Barometer</p> <p>12:30 PM NAP Game (\$13)</p>	<p>12 PM Private ABA Game</p>	<p>12:30 PM NAP Game (\$13)</p>	
28	29	30				
	<p>9-11 Play and Learn Online</p> <p>12:30 PM International Fund Game (\$13)</p> <p>6:30 – 8:30 Social Bridge</p>	<p>1-4 PM Barometer</p>				