



The NewBridgers (standing, from left): Karla Norfleet, Bonnie Christian, Ann Singer, Reva Wolf, Ruth Harrison, Suzanne Kaufman, Marlene Case, Gertrude Reninger, Lisa Gabrilson and Marilyn Sapir. (Seated): Berrin Avcilar, Carol Span, Donna Lavill and Bridget Carmody.

## A determined group

*By Marlene Case*

This is the tale of a group of women who came together through their bridge lessons before the pandemic and who continued to play and take lessons during the pandemic.

They fell in love with the game and

bonded in friendship. No one had many masterpoints, but they wanted to play duplicate bridge, and there was no longer a bridge club in Rockland County NY. So, they created one.

Marilyn volunteered her rec room for the bridge game, and we began our club. We played for about three months

and then knew we couldn't continue forever this way. Each person put in a designated amount of seed money. Bonnie, Reva and Donna found a place for us to rent. Bridget and Gertrude bought our refreshments. Berrin and Suzanne became our advertising and publicity faces. Ann and Bonnie did the organizing and keeping track of attendance and fees at each game. Karla, Carol, Lisa, Ruth and Marilyn helped where help was needed. A sanction was obtained for the club, bylaws written, and a true club for beginning players was born. Called the *NewBridgers*, our club meets twice a week in Nyack NY. We have a supervised play game for 0-99ers and a 0-299er game. We have grown from two to three tables to five and sometimes six.

Let's salute these ladies for doing what very few others in the novice community of bridge have done: They began a bridge club and brought back to life the world of bridge in our area. They are a group like no other. Bravo, ladies! ■

