



Unit 174 April 2024 Newsletter



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In Memoriam

From the Editor

Please visit the Unit 174 [Website](#) to view additional information about the activities in our Unit and at our Clubs.

President's Message



**Karen
Nussbaum**

I have been honored to serve once again as the Unit 174 President. My first term was mostly during the pandemic, from April 2021 to April 2022. In January of 2022 we hosted our Lone Star Regional (LSR). It was our first tournament since the LSR of 2020. It was a learning experience for all of us, but we did our best. The presidency was quite different in 2023. We had three regular sectionals and a fourth was held in Galveston in October 2023. Our tournament table counts were not nearly as high as the pre-Covid table counts, but they are slowly improving. The 2024 LSR was a big improvement over last year's, but our 1800+ table count was far less than the 3000+ in 2020. As our fixed costs are the same, it is difficult for our regional to be as great a money maker as those the past regionals; but the numbers are slowly increasing. We are also pleased to see the attendance slowly increasing at the local club games, as more and more bridge players are returning to face-to-face games. For those still playing bridge online, ACBL started the EDGAR program, which monitors for cheating, to keep everyone honest.

A very special thank you must go to the other officers and board members of our unit. They have put in many long hours to plan and carry out our sectionals and our regional, and we have a great crew of directors to help run our tournaments.

This is my last president's message, and it comes with bittersweet thoughts. Unit 174 has come a long way since our 2020 regional, but there is much work to be done. A primary focus will be to increase our membership. Having all our great instructors is a real bonus. They offer a variety of bridge classes, private group lessons and online lessons as well. Our Future Life Masters leaders have set up great programs for the novice players which are a model for other units.

I have been proud to serve as president of Unit 174, and I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Thank you again,

Karen Nussbaum
Karenunit174@gmail.com



New Members and Rank Advancement



New Members

ACBL notifies us each month about the members new to our Unit and those who transferred into our Unit. Please welcome the following players to our Unit:

New Members: Julie Hoopingarner, Kerry R Incavo, Daniel Thadikonda, Deborah Zissman

Transfers: Ms. Patricia D Purcell

Welcome!



Rank Advancements

Listed below are the Unit 174 Masterpoint Milestones reported by ACBL as of February 1, 2024. An explanation of ranks may be found on the [ACBL website](#).

Junior Master

Mrs. Sariye B Bayram, Suzy Carroll, Jessie Y Lee, Joshua Roberts

Club Master

Joe Edwards, Audrey C Vinyard

Sectional Master Nicki R Lamey, Shangyou S Nie, Sally E Ward

Regional Master

Jeffrey J Brown, Janie S Kobes, Richard G Kobes, Mr. Artie Lane, Cynthia Monroe,
Anju Sethi, Mrs. Maria L Turner, Mr. Haskell M Weinberger

NABC Master

Beryl T Booker, Mrs. Daryl L Dunn, Lindy Kahn, Mrs. Cynthia Macholan,
Zane H O'Keefe, Ms. Karen Winston

Advanced NABC Master

Betty M Cartmell, Mrs. Cindy Schaefer, Mrs. Susan M Silvey, Mrs. Margaret V Thomson

Life Master

Vera Annenkova, Kyo Chen, Mr. E Edgar Cosman, Mrs. Paula W Gay,
Mr. Carl W Hogan, Mr. Mark Levy, Ms. Linda K McCasland, Charles H Otto,
Ronald J Randleman, Mr. Corbin N Shouse, Mr. Nathan W Yee

Bronze Life Master

Susan Banks-Johnson, Laura L Hayes, Mr. Kenneth G Hudson, Mr. Corbin N Shouse

Silver Life Master

Mr. William J Churchman, Mrs. Kathleen F McDougall, Ms. Cheryl C Smith

Ruby Life Master

Mary Cris Emmons, Mr. Carl W Hogan

Gold Life Master

Lynne E Andress, Mr. Jay Evert, Mr. William J Van Dame

Diamond Life Master

Steve N Vaughn

!!! Congratulations !!!

Member Profile



Who is the *real* Dave Glandorf?

BY **EVVIE GILBERT**

Dave Glandorf of Houston and Education Director for the Clear Lake Bridge Club (CLBC) of Unit 174, was born in

Dubugue, Iowa. His family moved Williamsburg, Iowa where he was raised. He graduated from high school in Williamsburg and attended Iowa State University. He decided to study aerospace engineering because of Sputnik although he can't remember going outside to watch it fly over like many were doing in 1957. During the spring of his sophomore year at Iowa State in 1960, he began having qualms about his choice to study aerospace engineering and was trying to decide if he should do a double major in both aerospace and electrical engineering or get his bachelor's in aerospace engineering and do a master's in electrical engineering.



DAVE GLANDORF

In the end, he decided to double major. This decision added an additional year to his undergraduate degree, but he stuck to it. Dave mentioned as an aside that he found the electrical engineering program a little easier. (Although he asked that I not mention that.) But in true Dave Glandorf style he said the reason it was probably easier was because he was ahead of his peers because he had more mathematics when starting the program. He likened this to how so many of his bridge students always mention to him how much easier a bridge class is when taking it the second time. I happen to be one of those students who share that sentiment.

After completion of his double major, Dave felt like he still didn't know enough so he did a master's in aerospace engineering and then decided to do a Ph.D. as well. I asked him to give me the title of his dissertation knowing that it would probably be over the heads of many, but he complied: *Optimal Fixed-Time Orbital Transfer with a Radial Constraint*. I'll bet some of our members might have a clue; it is definitely over my head.

Dave decided that rather than go into teaching, it would be better to work a few years and he was courted by several companies. He decided to work for Lockheed (now Lockheed Martin) at the Johnson Space Center in the Clear Lake Area of Greater Houston. He wanted to be closer to the action. He married his wife, Becky, while still an undergraduate and Dave, Becky and their daughter made the move to Clear Lake in 1967.

A real job felt almost luxurious after living on graduate student stipends. Dave and some of his work friends could afford to dine out during lunch. He said that "There were about three restaurants on Bay Area Blvd." After a couple of months that got old, so everyone started brown bagging and a lunch time bridge game was started. (He mentioned that he first played rubber bridge in the spring of 1959 at his fraternity house. Later over one of the undergraduate holidays, a friend took him to a duplicate game at a country club.)

The lunch time bridge games ran Monday-Friday although not everyone played every day. Initially, it started with one table and eventually grew to two. They even started playing Swiss Teams games. No one had any duplicate boards but they rigged it all up with rubber bands and slips of paper.

This group didn't just play. Following the play, they discussed the hands to try to learn from each deal. Dave started to emerge as the "Bridge Guru". At some point, he reached out to Lockheed management and got permission to use the offices and he started teaching Contract Bridge classes after hours which were free.

One Saturday, he and Becky went to Alameda Mall which was the closest shopping mall to Clear Lake. Clear Lake didn't have any bookstores back then so while Becky shopped, Dave went to B. Dalton Bookseller and was browsing. He saw a section with chess books so wondered if there were any bridge books. He discovered, Alfred Sheinwold's "5 Weeks to Winning Bridge." Dave said he remembered in the forward it says something like "This book will do you no good if you take it home and put it on the bookshelf." Well, three years later, Dave took the book from his bookshelf and his five weeks turned into about five months of study.

A work colleague and fellow bridge player knew of a duplicate game in the Clear Lake Area. Dave joined ACBL on October 1, 1984. He and his colleague started playing sanctioned duplicate bridge at a club in Seabrook owned by Lorna Walser. Unfortunately, Dave's colleague moved away that Christmas.

In the late 1980's, Ed Allen started the CLBC. Ed retired in the late 1990's and gave the club to the members. In 2002, Dave and fellow member George Weiland started team teaching free classes at CLBC. Both were certified ACBL teachers.

Dave has been teaching bridge for 22 years. Many of the CLBC A players started out as his students. To date, he has taught 805 students and that doesn't include all the students influenced during his many mini classes at Unit 174 tournaments over the years. Many of the members of the CLBC attribute the club's success to him and believe his dedication to the game of

duplicate bridge is the lifeblood of the club. Among Dave's beginning students, five have gone on to become members of the Unit 174 Board of Directors. Three have served as the unit's presidents.

One of his proudest awards was the year he and one other were awarded the Unit 174 Goodwill Awards. He was one of the first recipients of the award. He has been awarded the District 16 Teacher of the Year and the ATBA Teacher of the Year awards. Dave served as the District 16 Teacher of the Year Committee chair and has also been a member of that committee as well.

He still plays with his longtime partner, JD Frick. That partnership has been ongoing for 30 years.

Dave and Becky have been married for 61 years. They have two daughters, 12 grandchildren and two great grandchildren with the third due this June.

Evvie Gilbert is a member of the Clear Lake Bridge Club, former student of Dave Glandorf and Unit 174 Newsletter editor.



Unit News

Coming Tournaments

Date	City	State	Unit	Category	Type
Apr 5-7	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
Apr 6-7	Houston	TX	174	GNT/NAP	GNT D16 Finals
Apr 17-20	Dallas	TX	176	Sectional	Open
Apr 18-21	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
Apr 20-21	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
May 2-5	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	Open
May 10-11	Auxtin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
May 13-19	Dallas	TX	183	Regional	Open
May 22-26	Richardson [Dallas>	TX		GNT/NAP	D16 GNT Finals
June1-2	Georgetown	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
Jun 7-9	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
Jun 7-9	Midland	TX	209	Sectional	Open
Jun 10-16	D16		All	Sectional	STaC
Jun 20-23	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
Jul 1-7	Austin	TX	207	Regional	Open
Aug 3-4	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
Aug 8-11	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
Aug 15-17	Beaumont	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
Aug 22-24	Tyler	TX	225	Sectional	Open
Aug 22-24	Tyler	TX	225	Regional	I/N
Aug 27- Sep 1	Dallas	TX	176	Regional	Open
Sep 5-8	New Braunfels	TX	172	Sectional	Open
Sep 19-22	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
Oct 25-27	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
Nov 4-10	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	StaC
Nov 14-17	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N

You can find tournament information by clicking [ACBL Tourneys](#).

BCOH 499er Sectional



SILVER POINTS ! SILVER POINTS! SILVER POINTS!

499er Tournament April 18 - 21, 2024

4688 Louetta Rd., Spring TX (NE corner at Kuykendahl)
281-651-6550 | thebridgeclub@sbcglobal.net

Need a Partner?

Contact Sherry Deal
713-569-0851 sadeal4@gmail.com

We will also have an Ambassador each day.

Stratification

A 300-499 **B** 100-300 **C** 0-100

Strats may vary at the director's discretion

Lunch / Snacks

Lunch for \$7 Thursday - Saturday, if ordered by 10 am. No meal on Sunday.

Free Coffee, Soft Drinks, and Snacks each day.

Entry Fees

ACBL Member (current)
\$10 per session per player

Lapsed ACBL Member
\$14 per session per player

Cash only

Tournament Chairs

Hugh & Catherine Miller
catherinemiller1@gmail.com
832-444-4614

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/bcoh/>

Event Schedule

Thursday, April 18th

♠ 499er Pairs 10am
♠ 499er Pairs 2pm

Friday, April 19th

♠ 499er Pairs 10am
♠ 499er Pairs 2pm

Saturday, April 20th

♠ 499er Pairs 10am
♠ 499er Pairs 2pm

Sunday, April 21st

♠ 499er Swiss Team 1:30pm

Hand Review

On Sunday, April 21st, from 12:30 to 1:15pm, Sam Khayatt (Bridge Instructor) will answer your questions on tournament hands.

BCOH is a fragrance-free facility.

Life Masters with less than 500 points may play

**Next 499er tournament
June 20 – 23, 2024**

Electional Sectional



HOUSTON



ELECTION SECTIONAL APRIL 5-7 2024

Friday & Saturday, April 5-6

10 & 2:30	Stratified Open Pairs	A: 3000+ X: 750-3000 Y: 0-750	Two Sessions
10 & 2:30	Stratified 299er Pairs	B: 200-300 C: 100-200 D: 0-100	Single Sessions
10 & 2:30	Side Game		Single Sessions
10 & 2:30	Bracketed Swiss		Two Sessions

Sunday, April 7

10 & 2:30	Stratified Open Pairs	A: 3000+ X: 750-3000 Y: 0-750	Single Sessions
10 & 2:30	Stratified 299er Pairs	B: 200-300 C: 100-200 D: 0-100	Single Sessions
10 & 2:30	Bracketed Swiss		Two Sessions

Arabia Shrine Center

Accommodations:

TownePlace Suites By Marriott
10610 Westpark Dr.
Houston, TX 77042
(713) 893-1638

10510 Harwin Dr.
Houston, TX 77036

Hospitality

- \$10 box lunches available
- \$ 1 coffee
- Free bottled water

Annual Meeting

between Saturday sessions

Entry Fees:

- \$15 per session per player
- Cashless - Credit Card Only

Tournament Chair

Charles Dalton
(713) 861-3399
cdinc35@att.net

Partnership

Luzia Turner
(832) 633-9433
jturner102@att.net



Dave Becker



I have played bridge since 1977. I have a great appreciation for the game and the players. I am a past president of Beaumont Unit 201, and am now a VP of Unit 174. I work on contracts and procurements.

As part of my employment with the Khoury Auto Group, I travel Texas and manage their used car dealerships. I have been in the car business all my life and helped many bridge players with their vehicle needs. I am pleased to return to the bridge community because of the friendships and loyalties the game has given me. I hope to continue serving on the board to promote the game and encourage players to return to F2F attendance.

Marty Hrachovy



I grew up in Houston and graduated from the University of Texas in Petroleum Engineering. I worked all around the world for Chevron in Engineering and Business Development assignments. I retired after 32 years in 2016.

My mom, Donna Hrachovy, a Ruby Life Master in Unit 174, taught me to play bridge as a teenager. When I retired, I began playing often. In 2023, I won the 300-500 bracket Mini-McKinney for the District. Besides bridge, I enjoy genealogy research, working out/gym, travel, and watching Longhorn sports teams. I am married to Darin Carey, from Anchorage.

Lesley Kellet



I was born and educated in UK. I married 1981. My husband is now deceased. I now live with my daughter in the Memorial area. I worked overseas in the oil and gas construction industry in North Africa for 10 years before moving to Houston, Texas, in 1989.

I am active in Westside tennis club, Houston Accueil, DBE (Daughters of the British Empire), Awty International School parent association and IVH International Voices of Houston community choir. I became a US citizen 2001. I retired from Emerson Flow Division after 25 years so I am now free to pursue and improve my preferred social activity - the great game of duplicate bridge.

James Sells



James is a native of Texas. He was born in Fort Worth and lived near there until he moved to Houston—with which he immediately fell in love. James learned bridge from a high school teacher who befriended him. They played for a few years. After his partner moved away he did not play for decades.

James was a petroleum engineer and mathematics professor. He taught for 27 years at San Jacinto College, in the mathematics department. When he retired in 2017 he was able to take up bridge again. James was mentored by Dolores Aquino and befriended by many fine players, most of whom played at West Houston Bridge Academy. James is very grateful to the kind and generous bridge community.

Linda Rabon McReynolds



I am a country, Texas girl with a "can do" and "will do" personality. I was named most athletic senior, and later won the Greater Houston Area Golf Championship at 45. I was a registered nurse for over 50 years, and recognized by Channel 13 as the Greater Houston area outstanding employee. I attained GLM with lessons from Vinh Tran and many patient partners. I was blessed in my marriage to Dr. J W McReynolds for almost 40 years before he passed away in 2012. I am also blessed with my daughter Nancy Joy and my son-in-law, Ryan Carney, and 3 "perfect" grandchildren. I have always tried "to bloom where planted".

Louiza Turner



- * Born in Singapore
- * Parents are from Goa, India which was once a Portuguese colony for 500 years. My parents were both Portuguese educated.
- * My dad was a physician and my mother a nurse.
- * I went to school in Singapore, Portugal and England.
- * Worked in hospitality most of my life.
- * Married to a Texan.
- * I am Roman Catholic. I am a volunteer at my church, St. Cecilia on Bunker Hill.
- * I love animals.
- * And I love playing bridge♠♥♦♣nice.

Voting Information

For a ballot to be counted, a member must vote for at least one (1) candidate which can include a write-in candidate.

In person voting will take place one (1) hour before each session on Friday and Saturday morning of the Electional Sectional.

Early online voting will be available from March 5 until April 3 at 3:00 p.m. Go to www.acblunit174.org. Click on the VOTE button on the right side of the page and follow the instructions.

To vote by mail, contact the Election Judge, Paul Nimmons by March 18 via U.S. mail, email, or telephone to request an Official Ballot. Paul's address is: 1108 Krist Dr., Houston, TX 77055. His email is: paulnimmons@sbcglobal.net and his phone number is 713 822-1305. The ballot must be returned per provided instructions and postmarked no later than March 25 and received by the Election Judge no later than April 1 to be counted.

99er Nite Club



199er Nite Club



Future Life Masters



Future Life Masters of Unit 174

www.flm174.org

Special Event Game for 99ers!

Sunday, May 19th at 1:30
Arabia Shriners
10510 Harwin Dr
Houston

Sociable, Relaxed game for 99ers!
\$5.00 for Game & Snacks
Play FREE if you play 6 times
in our FLM BBO Games!

Election Sectional

Apr 5-7

Play for SILVER!

Stratified 299er Games every day!

Visit the FLM desk...we look forward to seeing you!

Regular Club Games

Face-to-Face

199er Games

- Clear Lake Bridge Club WEDNESDAYS at 2:00 PM

299er Games

- Clear Lake Bridge Club MONDAYS at 2:00 PM
- Bridge Academy of West Houston THURSDAYS at 10:30
- Bridge Club of Houston Selected SATURDAYS...check website

Online at BBO



Now for 99ers!

- **0-99er FLM Tuesdays at 3:05**
- All are welcomed! If new to the game, make sure you have your ACBL# linked to your BBO Account
- Questions? Contact MaryEllen Vail: mevail48@gmail.com



Club Table Counts

Unit 174 has many ACBL-sanctioned clubs so that means many games both Face-to-Face and Online. The following information might be interesting:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Table Count</u>	<u>Number of Clubs in Unit 174</u>
2019	32,137.00	30
2020	30,401.00	28
2021	30,365.00	24
2022	20,451.00	24
2023	18,183.00	25

The ACBL website is still broken so no 2024 numbers are available.



Club News

Below please find the information reported by some of the clubs in our unit. Please send your club news to: unit174news@gmail.com.

Additional information about all of the clubs can be found on the [Unit 174 website](#). Or, click a club name to jump to their website.

Apple Clubs

Our games begin at 11:30 a.m. sharp at the Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 Westcenter Dr. 77042. Please plan to arrive by 11:15 a.m. All games are \$3/person.

New Clubs' Policy:

APPLE clubs (Susan and Brigitte) have agreed to let members of the board play free with a FLM that has less than 50 points.

APPLE II has raised the offer: Any player who pairs up with someone under 100 points plays for *FREE!* Since many of your FLM's didn't take advantage of playing with a board member, the club is offering *FREE* plays to pairs that average less than 200 points! What a DEAL!

For information, please contact:

Monday - Apple - Susan Johnson
sisbjohnson@gmail.com - 281-536-1451

Friday - Apple II - Brigitte Sandifer
sandiferdb@gmail.com - 281-494-1464

Results and additional information [here](#).

Only drinks in bottles or covered containers are allowed. No food is allowed at the tables during play. You are welcome to bring food and eat before the game starts.

Apple II will be closed on Friday, April 5th for the Electional Sectional. There are no other April club closures.



Bridge Academy of West Houston

499er Sectional

The Bridge Academy hosted a 499er Sectional from Thursday, February 29th through Saturday, March 2nd. It was a resounding success with 49.5 tables playing. Food was served between sessions and everyone had a great time.



**Pamela and Gorge
Holmes**

Top Masterpoint winners were Pamela and George Holmes closely followed by Maria Turner and Roslyn Pittsford.



**Maria Turner
and
Roslyn Pittsford**

Mentor/Mentee

Our monthly Mentor/Mentee game is held on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. The April game will be on *April 2nd - Mentor/Mentee*

If you have not signed up and would like to participate please contact our coordinator Bert Onstott by clicking [here](#).

Mentees must have fewer than 300 masterpoints and Mentors greater than 300 points.

Future Life Masters and 8 is enough Swiss Teams

Our Future Life Masters (FLM) and 8 is enough Swiss Teams games are held monthly on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. The next game will be held on

April 28th - FLM & 8 is enough Swiss Teams

NOTE: The upper limit for the FLM game has been raised from 199 to 299 masterpoints.

The Swiss Teams stratifications are:

- Level 1** - 0-1000 masterpoints (1)
- Level 2** - 1000-3000 masterpoints (2)
- Level 3** - 3000+ masterpoints (3)

For example one Level 3, two Level 2 and one Level 1 players total 8 as would four Level 2 players. Another example would be three Level 2 and one Level 1 players whose team total is 7 and it is OK to be less than 8.

The Swiss Teams has become an extremely popular event. For help to find teammates contact:

Linda McReynolds @ (713) 819-7812 lindamcreynolds@comcast.net

Mini-lesson

Before each Wednesday game there is a mini-lesson beginning around 10:00 a.m. taught by Joe Quinn.

Game Schedule

Tuesday - Mentor/Mentee
Wednesday - Open & 299'er
Thursdays - Invitational
10:30 a.m.
Sunday - Future Life Masters & Swiss Teams
1:30 p.m.
Arabia Shriners Center
10510 Harwin Dr.

- \$7.00 per person
- Coffee & Snacks are provided
- Jennifer Breihan, John Herzer and Tom Jahnke directors

Game Calendar

Tue – Apr 2	Charity	Wed – Apr 17	Charity
Wed – Apr 3	Charity	Thu – Apr 18	Charity
Thu – Apr 4	Charity	Wed – Apr 24	Charity
Wed – Apr 10	Charity	Thu – Apr 25	Charity
Thu – Apr 11	Charity	Sun – Apr 28	Charity

Need a Partner?

Contact Linda or Tom Martinsen at 713-398-4907 martinsens@comcast.net.



Bridge Club of Houston

Please consult our monthly calendar online: [BCOH Calendar](#).

BCOH: Online Choose Houston - Tuesday and Thursday 7:00 p.m.

BBO - Mentor/Mentee Games: 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7:00 p.m. (Protege should invite and pay for game of mentor.) Contact Mike Linkins if you have any questions: minkins@swbell.net.

BCOH Open Games (Face-2-Face):

Monday: 11:55 a.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:30 a.m.

******1:00 p.m. Saturday game every weekend******

Saturday F2F 299er and Open games - check BCOH [website](#) for details, potlucks and points each week.

SAVE THE DATES:

Open Swiss Teams - April 16th at 10:30 a.m. ([Register at the club.](#))

Mentor/Mentee F2F: April 9th and 23rd at 10:30 a.m. Please contact Judy Cupps at judy_n_al@yahoo.com by phone 713-320-5592 or Bob Zeigler@713-829-6928. Also contact them with any questions.

TUESDAY TIDBITS

Build a solid foundation with Julie Halperin, Diamond Life Master and ACBL Teacher. Enjoy a free lesson from 9:30 to 10:10 a.m. Game to follow begins at 10:30 a.m. We will set up partnerships for those who need it. Text Julie at 713-857-8004 with questions or concerns. **Lessons are open to all.**

April 15th - Pizza Friday! Enjoy a free pizza lunch

"TWENTY TABLE SATURDAY"

Saturday April 27th "Brunch for Lunch" will be provided.

Extra points!

No partner. No problem we will match you up.

Lunch will be served at 12:15 p.m.

Open and 299ers games beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Please see the flyer below for all of the fun details.

Please register for the game in which you will play so we can estimate the amount of needed food. To make a reservation, click [here](#).



BRIDGE *club of* **HOUSTON**



Twenty-Table Saturdays!

Saturday, April 27
ACBL Membership Game
(lots of points)

12:15 PM Lunch

Brunch for Lunch

1:00 PM Open Pairs

Prizes for section tops!

No partner? No problem!

1:00 PM 299er Pairs

Prizes for section tops!

Other random prizes!

No partner? No problem!

4688 Louetta Rd
Spring, TX 77388
281-651-6550

Entry: \$10

Questions?: kbl@fastmail.com

Register: www.bridgewebs.com/bcoh

**CHOOSE HOUSTON BASIC SCHEDULE - BBO
ONLINE GAMES**

Online Games for all levels every day! These dates will change if the ACBL has approved special games online so please check the Bridge Club of Houston and Clear Lake Bridge Club for updates.

Playing online? CHOOSE HOUSTON!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9:00 AM						Monthly, usually second Sat; hand review after the game →	FLM 0-20 flm174.org
10:00 AM							
10:10 AM							
11:50 AM							
12:00 PM							
3:00 PM							
3:05 PM	FLM 0-50						
	↓ First and third Mondays only. Visit www.bridgewebs.com/bcoh for details						
7:00 PM	Mentor	Open		Open			

Check the club and FLM websites for the most up-to-date information.

Check the club and FLM websites for the most up-to-date information.



Clear Lake Bridge Club

Clear Lake Bridge Club celebrated St. Patrick's Day during Swiss Teams Sunday March 17, 2024. Irish Soda Bread with Irish Butter, Sausage and Cabbage, as well as cake with Bailey's Irish Cream in the batter made our bellies full. Fun was had with green beads and green bowler hats and shamrocks on our shirts!

Clear Lake Bridge Club

🍀🍀🍀🍀🍀🍀 St Patrick's Day 2024 🍀🍀🍀🍀🍀



Sandi Mills, Claudia Parr, Rose Cleveland

Claudia Parr cooks up a feast!



Bridge Lab celebrating St Paddy's Day at the Club!



THE LONGEST DAY
ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

**A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN ACBL
AND THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION**

The club is gearing up for The Longest Day to be held on Wednesday, June 19, 2024. Watch for more information as the action gets underway.

Weekly Game Schedule:

Open Games: Monday - Wednesday and Friday at 10:00 a.m., Thursday at 2:00 p.m. and Saturday at 1:00 p.m.

0-299 Games: Monday at 2:00 p.m.

0-199 Games: Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.

0-749 Games: Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. and Thursday at 1:00 p.m.

Swiss Teams: Sunday at 1:00 p.m. March 10th is 8 is Enough. The B players' upper limit is 2000 - 2500 masterpoints. We ask that anyone interested in playing in any of the Sunday afternoon Team Games to please register before you come so that the director can have the set up done on time.

Please arrive no later than 15 minutes before the game start times.

Game table fee is \$6.00 for members, \$7.00 for guests.

Bridge Labs (Supervised Play):

Sunday and Tuesdays from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Bridge Lab table fee is \$8.00.

Our Mentor/Mentee game at on April 17th at 2:00 p.m. For more information and to submit a contact form, visit the [CLBC Mentor/Mentee site](#).

Due to the costs involved, the Mentor/Mentee game is the one game where we do not invite visitors. We certainly appreciate having visitors at any of the other games!

The club will be closed April 5-7 for the Unit 174 Election Sectional.

Game Schedule

April 21- 23, 25-28 - Stardust Split Gold Points

All other April games are Charity Club Championship.

Check out www.clearlakebridgeclub.org/bridge-education for new classes offered in 2024.

Bobbie Moutz

2nd Vice President

281-546-9199

natcolemmed@comcast.net

P.S.

For more information, please visit our [website](#).



CYPRESS NORTHWEST DBC & KATY DBC

Cypress NW DBC meets at the Richard and Meg Weekley Community Center, 8440 Greenhouse Rd, Cypress, TX, and games are played every Tuesday and Thursday starting at 11:30 a.m., with sign-up beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Coffee, tea, and snacks are provided. Games are \$3.

Katy DBC meets every Wednesday. Sign-in starts at 11:00 a.m., and the game begins at 11:30 a.m. The club meets at the Steve Radack Community Center - 18650 Clay Road, Houston, Texas 77084.

Coffee, tea, and snacks are provided. Regular games are \$3.

For more information, contact Jim Warren at **832/851-4745** or jwarren760@gmail.com.

CLUB OWNER RETIRING - BRIDGE CLUBS FOR SALE

Cypress Northwest DBC
Meets Tuesday and Thursday at Weekley Community Center

Katy DBC
Meets Wednesday at Radack Community Center

Will sell both or separately.
If interested please contact

Jim Warren
832-851-4745
jwarren7602gmail.com



Fort Bend Duplicate Bridge Club

Open Games Tuesday

Arabia Shriners Center
10510 Harwin Dr.
Houston, TX 77036

Please arrive by 10:15 a.m. Games starts at 10:30 a.m.
Due to rent increases, our entry fee is \$7.00.

- We use Bridge Mate II Bridge pads.
- At least 36 upgraded games are held each year.
- Hand records are available after every game.
- Our players are a nice balance of friendly A, B and C players.
- Coffee and substantive snacks are provided.
- All games are fully sanctioned by the ACBL.
- Results available immediately.
- Fully qualified and experienced directors.

**CALLING AHEAD WILL FACILITATE STARTING GAMES ON TIME.
CONTACT:**

John Eric Watson
ewat2004@aol.com
832 287 9107



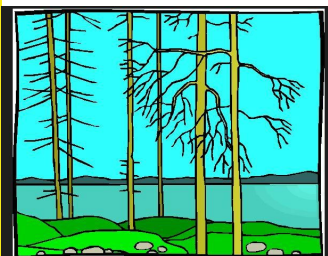
KINGWOOD DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Games:

Wednesday and Thursday at 10:00 a.m. at the Kingwood Community Center, 4102 Rustic Woods Drive, Kingwood, TX 77345. Entries are still \$2 and \$3 for upgraded games.

On Thursday morning, Bill Riley will be giving a short 20-30 minute presentation on various topics, conventions, etc., starting at 9:20 a.m. A schedule of topics will be published shortly. Coffee is available.

For information, contact any of the following:
Jim Simmons at (281)913-0441 or jrsimmons2102@gmail.com.
Bill Riley at (832)289-3833 or ichibanbill@yahoo.com.
Kingwood Community Center Phone: (281) 348-2570
Or Visit our [website](#).



LAKE CONROE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

April 2024

Our Bridge Club is a very welcoming and friendly Club. We have players from all levels, so all duplicate players will feel comfortable. We would like to invite you and your bridge friends to join us every Friday.

We begin playing at 10:30 a.m. The game fee is \$5.00. We always offer complimentary snacks, sweet and savory, and coffee and iced tea. Please bring your lunch as we have microwaves for heating and refrigerators for keeping your food cold.

Our games are played in the Fellowship Room at April Sound Church, located at 67 1/2 April Wind Dr. S, Montgomery. There is easy access from Hwy 105 into the church parking lot.

No Partner?? No worries! Call Gerry Earnest, 936-447-6958, and she will do her best to find you a partner.

We look forward to seeing you on Friday's at LCDBC and invite you to join us at the table for a great day of bridge.

Penny Grassedonio
Club Manager
832-361-4577
czthdaypjg@gmail.com
[website](#)



LONE STAR BRIDGE CLUB

Lone Star Bridge Club (LSBC) in Conroe, Texas, plays at St Paul Global Methodist Church, 1100 Semands Drive, Conroe; the church is located within easy access from Interstate 45. Directions to our game may be found on our [website](#).

Weekly OPEN games are Mondays at 11:45 a.m. and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. All games are stratified.

We provide coffee, bottled water, and only individually wrapped snacks.

Our games are **always** \$5.00.

March was a very busy month at the Lone Star Bridge Club. On March 18th, members hosted a pizza and cake party for our club founders who had the foresight to start our club six years ago. Special guests were Mr. David Barton, pastor of St. Paul and his wife Jeanne. Also present was Jeanne Crumpler, our original church liaison with St Paul United Methodist Church (UMC) in Conroe. A very special recognition was given to Mary McDonald, our original Board President and still the most dedicated volunteer who does just about everything for LSBC. Thank you, Mary!

We started our on-line voting Saturday, March 23. Three new Board members will be elected by our current membership for a three-year term. The candidates are Donna Frederick, Gerry Stevenson, Julie Farnsworth, Linda Hensley, and Zane O'Keefe. Election results will be announced at our Annual Membership Meeting on Monday, April 8th. The new board will meet Monday, April 15th to elect officers.

Special events are planned all month! April is Charity Month, so we will have Charity Club Championships for the ACBL and our local charity St Paul UMC April 1st, 4th, 11th, 15th, and 30th.

April 1st, Monday - FREE LESSON from Diamond Life Master Jeff Kroll. We will also celebrate our members with April Birthdays with cake.

April 2nd, Tuesday - 2/1 Lesson #5 with Linda Sutton

April 8th, Monday - Yearly Membership Game

April 11th, Thursday – FREE PIZZA PARTY

April 16th, Tuesday – Mentor/Mentee Game – Club Championship

April 18th, Thursday – Club Championship

April 22nd-23rd and 25th, Monday-Tuesday and Thursday is STARDUST WEEK
(win **GOLD** points!)

April 29th, Monday – Club Championship

April 30th, Tuesday – * 8 is enough* SWISS TEAM! and Charity Club
Championship for the ACBL

For more information, contact Linda Sutton, Club Manager at
lindasutton212@gmail.com.

Please visit our website by clicking [here](#).



PEBBLE CREEK DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Face-to-face games are held on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. For further
information, please contact Richard Duble at 979-324-8421 or
richard.duble@yahoo.com or visit our [website](#).



SPRING BRANCH DUPLICATE BRIDGE

Games are now on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 11:00 a.m.

Location: Trini Mendenhall Sosa Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road, Houston,
Texas. Located in the northeast corner of the intersection of Wirt Road and
Westview in the Spring Branch area.

Regular games are \$1/person. Totally non-profit in accordance with County
rules.

Manager & Director
John Herzer
737-287-7888
johncherzer@gmail.com
[website](#)



STAR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Games are on Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 am and are **now \$5** per person.

You must have a partner.

For more info, contact Richard Duble at 979-324-8421
or richard.duble@yahoo.com or visit our [website](#).



Contributors



Every Card

BY THOMAS RUSH

Sometimes every card is important. Follow the play of this hand. I was defender in the A/X/Y teams on the final day of the recent NABC in Louisville, Kentucky.

South opened 1NT, North used Texas 4♦ to transfer to 4♥, checked for keycards, and then bid 7♣, intending to give South a choice of grand slams in clubs or hearts. South chose hearts.

North
♠75
♥AKJ107
♦A
♣KQ1074

South
♠AQ64
♥93
♦KQ7
♣AJ82

The opening lead was a diamond by West, dummy's ♦A wins performe as East follows with the ♦2 and you play the ♦7. It looks like you have 13 tricks if you can bring in the heart suit, with one spade, five hearts, three diamonds, and five clubs.

You are a bit short of entries to your hand (South). At trick 2 you decide to cash the ♥A and to your surprise you see East drop the ♥Q.

North
♠75
♥KJ107
♦
♣KQ1074

♥A ♥Q East

South
♠AQ64
♥93
♦KQ
♣AJ82

What now? Plan the play and be specific. You cannot lose a single trick. Don't peek!

OK, got your plan? Read on.

What did you play from your hand (South) on the above trick?

You noticed the ♥Q and did some quick figuring to realize that West started with the ♥86542. No problem, right? Trick three you can lead a heart to your nine, get back to dummy with a club, and then draw the rest of the trump.

Except that you have nine clubs, the opponents have only four, and those four will split 4-0 10% of the time - are you willing to risk losing the match on a 90% shot, or would you rather go for a 100% line? Is there a better line of play?

Note: You can't get back to dummy by ruffing a diamond because even one ruff in dummy leaves West with more trump than you have.

Unless East is truly Machiavellian, the play of the ♥Q shows a singleton. If you're paying close attention, you can realize that West's heart holding was ♥86542, and you are able to finesse against the heart 8 *but only if you analyze the suit and take care to unblock your heart 9 under the Ace!* You can then lead a spade to the ♠A, take the heart finesse *ending in dummy(North)*, draw all the trump, and use the ♣A as an entry to your diamonds before cashing the rest of your clubs (the losing spades in your hand get pitched away on the last three rounds of trump).

On this hand, on this day, clubs were indeed split 4-0. Failing to unblock the ♥9 sent the contract to its doom. Fortunately it was not our side! What could have been a solid win for the other team turned into a tie in a wild match with a score of 37-37 IMPs. Seventy-four IMPs scored in an eight-board match is almost a game swing on every hand, quite unusual!

Lessons:

1. It is important to pay attention to every card.
2. When something unexpected happens, take a moment to understand how the landscape of this particular hand has changed, and to modify your plan if necessary.
3. Don't settle for the 90% shot, if there's a 100% shot. Take the time in difficult contracts to look for a less-obvious line of play that can give you a better chance than your first thought.

The hand can be replayed using this [link](#).

Thomas Rush is a regular contributor to the newsletter, unit 174 board member and a bridge teacher who lives in the Houston, Texas area and teaches across North America using the internet and online bridge. His specialty is coaching partnerships to the next level of bridge: making sure your agreements and understandings are synchronized so that you get the maximum results when you play together. If you'd like to take your personal game or your partnership to the next level, contact him at PlayBridgeWithThomas@GMail.Com, or 832-228-7835.



In Memoriam

* Ariel Leibovitz, Houston
Dr. Peggy Shelton, College Station

* Life Master



From the Editor



Thank you to all of the people who contribute to the Newsletter. It takes a team of fellow bridge players to bring this information to you. Unit 174 runs on volunteers' energy.

If you are interested in volunteering for Unit 174 events and activities, please contact Karen Nussbaum, Unit 174 Board President - Karenunit174@gmail.com.

If you would like to have your club information or an article of interest

published, or if you have a bridge accomplishment for which you are proud and would like to share in the Unit 174 Newsletter, please send your name, phone, email, and subject title to unit174news@gmail.com.

Evvie Gilbert
Editor
unit174news@gmail.com

