

Houston Unit 174 to Hold Board Election May 4-6, 2018

The members of Unit 174, whose participating clubs include Baytown, Bryan/College Station, Clear Lake, Conroe, Galveston, Houston, Kingwood, Lake Jackson, Livingston, Pasadena, Spring, Stafford, and Sugar Land, will have an opportunity to vote for three members of the Board of Directors May 4-6, 2018, during the Election Sectional at the Marriott Westchase. The three newly elected members will join Nancy Guthrie, David Henke, Ken Hudson, Daniel Jackson, Lauri Laufman, and Bill Riley to complete the full nine-member Board. Karen Nimmons, Chairman of this year's Nominating Committee, consisting of Tom Hogle, Pat Levy, Shawn Quinn and Rick Stell, urges you to vote, either in person, early online, or by absentee ballot. For a ballot to be counted, a member must vote for exactly three candidates, which can include write in candidates. In person voting will take place one hour before each session of the tournament on Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning. To vote early online, go to www.acblunit174.org, place your mouse over "MyUnit174" on the right side of the menu bar, click on "BOD Election" and follow the instructions. Online voting will become available on April 9 and will end on May 1. To vote absentee, follow the instructions below. Winners will be announced prior to the second session on Sunday, May 6.

Jack LaVigne



I was introduced to bridge during my senior year of college and have been fascinated by the game ever since. I have served on the unit board in Midland, Texas, and also on the Ethics Committee in Houston.

During my thirty-nine years with Schlumberger I earned a reputation for being dedicated, reliable and able to work well in a team environment to achieve common goals. Now retired I would like to take an active part in helping keep this great game alive so I am running for the Board. Your vote would be appreciated.

Carol Lombardino



My first bridge experience was at Bridge & Games Studio (now called Westside Bridge Academy) on March 11, 2005. I had never played bridge before in my life. I was encouraged by my late sister-in-law, Sarah Webster, and I joined ACBL on that same day! I never knew it would open such a huge wonderful world for me, but it did!

I am a Native Texan (my great grandfather was at the Battle of San Jacinto, and a first cousin died defending the Alamo). I have a BA from the University of Houston and have worked as a consultant since leaving my job as Controller for GE Power Systems in 2002. Hobbies include grandkids, bridge, yoga, fishing, and traveling.

Kathleen Malcolmson



Duplicate bridge and the folks who play it have enriched my life and I'd like to return the favor by serving the Houston area bridge community. I will use my creativity, interpersonal skills and enthusiasm to benefit Unit 174. My profession has been a fine woodworker, designing and making puzzle boxes and mechanical puzzles to sell to collectors around the world since 1994. My interactions with people from other countries, cultures and from just across the bridge table give me the experience to help keep Houston bridge strong and growing.

Ronnie Martin



I was born in Jacksonville, Texas but moved to the Houston area at a very young age. I graduated from North Texas in 1968 and was a teacher-coach in my first career. Later, I worked for Gerald D. Hines Interests as a leasing representative and retired in 2012. My home club is Clear Lake Bridge Club where I began taking classes in 2015. I have enjoyed the challenge of trying to learn the game and still have a long way to go. I think the thing I can bring to the Unit 174 Board of Directors is energy. I am currently the Intermediate/Newcomer representative to Clear Lake Bridge Club and I like to get involved. And, my plan as a board member would be to listen to the membership.

Paul Nimmons



I graduated from Austin High School in Houston, Texas in 1962. I graduated from Rice University in 1966. I graduated from the University of Houston College of Law in 1969.

I have been a member of unit 174 since 1990. I would be proud to serve as a Director.

Sheryl Thomas



I am a native Houstonian and a graduate of Prairie View A&M and the University of Detroit-Mercy earning a BS in Nursing and a MS in Anesthesiology.

I practiced at M.D. Anderson first as a nurse and then as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist, retiring in 2010.

Just about everyone on my maternal side loved to play cards and board games, in fact, I literally grew up at the card table!! I found bridge about 5 years ago and it was love at my first play of the hand!!

I served as the Intermediate/Novice Coordinator for about 2 years and I loved it. If elected, I will do everything I can to serve the members of Unit 174.

Absentee Voting Procedure

Any member may vote by Absentee Ballot. To vote absentee, a member must contact the Election Judges by U.S. mail, e-mail, or telephone requesting an Official Ballot. If the voter is a member in good standing, an Official Ballot will be sent to the voter at the voter's address of record, in a small unsealed envelope. Upon receiving the Official Ballot, the voter should complete the ballot, seal it inside the small envelope provided, and place the small sealed envelope inside another envelope addressed to the Election Judges. The back flap of the outside envelope must be signed by the voter. If no signature is provided, the ballot will not be counted. The Absentee Ballot must be postmarked no later than April 28 and must be received by the Election Judges no later than May 1 to be counted. The Election Judges are Danny and Brigitte Sandifer. Correspondence should be addressed to Brigitte Sandifer: 507 Rozelle Ave. Sugar Land, TX 77498; sandiferdb@gmail.com; 281-494-1464.