



Unit 174 March 2024 Newsletter



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Contributors

Jack LaVigne - Dummy Reversal

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.



**Karen
Nussbaum**

President's Message

The Unit Board is preparing for the Election Sectional Tournament, coming up on April 5-7, and for the election as well. We have terrific candidates, and we hope everyone participates and votes. You will be able to vote online or at the tournament. Congratulations to Jack LaVigne on becoming the new District 16 President. He is a former Unit 174 board member and president. Jack replaced Betty Starzec, another former Unit 174 board member and president. Thank you to both for all their hard work and their tireless efforts to support the game of bridge.

You should have noticed that on the large Event Naming poster that we had on display at our recent LSR, there was a large picture of candy and it mentioned an anonymous donor. Well now it can be told that Mary Ann Murray made the very generous donation to our Hospitality table candy to ensure we had a generous supply of good chocolate! We should take the time to thank her in person. From the Board of Directors, Thank you Mary Ann!

Saturday, April 6th after the morning session at our Election Sectional, we will hold our annual meeting. It is important that we have a quorum, so we hope everyone will take the time to attend. It is a good review of our finances, and what is going on in the unit, the election results will be announced, and the Mini-McKinney and Ace of Club winners will be awarded. We hope to see everyone there.

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: Solomon J Alaniz, Adyaan A Ali, Hadia Asad, Clark Bennett, Neil Bhuriya, Will Bond, Daniel Chavez, Ngoc Chieng, Isaiah Cole, Hudson Daly, Ruizhe Deng, Collin Ernst, Ozzy Escobar, Lisa M Flynn, Warren T Horvath, Dillon Huynh, Dennis A Khalimov, Shees A Khan, Edwin Kofman, Jason M Lee, Saswin Maheswaran, Alliyah Minoza, David H Moore, Romeo Ngo, Isabella Owolabi, Noah Regner, Kian A Reyhani, Juan Rodriguez, Cristian Sepulveda, Malone Smith, Jennifer Tektiridis, Syed A Tirmizi, Antonio Wu, Roger Zhen, Weijun Zhu

Transfers: Ms. Karen L Jaeger

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

Sarah M Arends, Barbara J Emnett, John Untereker

Club Master

Tamara R Fincher, Mr. Charles J Murray, Shangyou S Nie

Sectional Master

Mr. Baines Manning, Dennis D Sucec, Mr. Don W WilliamMr. Thomas Brown, Dwight J Evans Jr, Kelly Harp, Mr. Kimberlin Kane, Mr. Clark King, Robert L Rolnick, Mr. Marc Sullivan, Ray Yoder

Regional Master

Steve Broderick, David Feuerbacher, Wolfgang G Horn

NABC Master

Carolyn A Hardy

Life Master

Mrs. Susan D Smith

Silver Life Master

Mr. David Littmann

Ruby Life Master

Mr. Stephen D Bickel, Ms. Patsy R Howell, Sam Khayatt

Sapphire Life Master

Mr. James P Ochsner

!!! Congratulations !!!

Member Profile



We have no March Member Profile. If you have someone you would like to let us all know about, please email Unit174News@gmail.com.



Unit News

Coming Tournaments

Date	City	State	Unit	Category	Type
Feb 27-Mar 3	San Miguel de Allende	GJ	173	Regional	Open
Feb 29-Mar 2	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
Feb 29-Mar 3	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	Open
Mar 7-9	Beaumont	TX	201	Sectional	Open
Mar 25-31	D16		All	Sectional	STaC
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
Jun 7-9	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
Jun 10-16	D16		All	Sectional	STaC
June 20-23	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
Aug 8-11	Houston	TX	174	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



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	30,122.50	50
2021	29,241.50	24
2022	19,285.50	24
2023	16,054.50	25

No 2024 numbers are available because ACBL is *still* having a problem with that feature of the website. It will be included in next month's newsletter assuming ACBL has corrected the problem.

It is hoped that Unit 174 will keep the distinction of having the largest club in terms of table counts (Clear Lake Bridge Club) in District 16 for 2024 even though our 2023 total tables is down by 3,231 from 2022.



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 then 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 DBC will be closed Friday, March1st through Monday, March 4th for primary elections and will reopen on March 8th.

Apple II will be closed on March 29th for Good Friday which is a Harris County Holiday.



Bridge Academy of West Houston

499er Sectional

The Bridge Academy will host a 499er Sectional from Thursday, February 29th through Saturday, March 2nd. Game times are 10:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday; and 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Mentor/Mentee

Our monthly Mentor/Mentee game is held on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:30 a.m. The March game will be on *March 5th - 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 once a month on a Sunday at 1:30 p.m. The next game will be held on

March 24th - FLM & 8 is enough Swiss Teams

The 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 is 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

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Tuesday - Mentor/Mentee
Wednesday - Open & 299'er
Thursdays - Invitational
10:30 a.m.

Sunday - Future Life Masters & Swiss Teams
1:30 p.m.

Arabia Shriner Center
10510 Harwin Dr.

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

Game Calendar

Tue – Mar – 5	Charity	Wed – Mar 20	Charity
Wed – Mar - 6	Charity	Thu – Mar 21	Educational Foundation
Thu – Mar 7	Charity	Sun – Mar 24	District 16 STaC
Wed – Mar 13	Club Championship	Wed – Mar 27	District 16 STaC
Thu – Mar 14	Grass Roots	Thu – Mar 28	District 16 STaC

Need a Partner?

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



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: mlinkins@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 – March 19th at 10:30 a.m. (**Register at the club.**)

Mentor/Mentee F2F: March 12th and 26th 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.**

*****March 16th*****

Potluck luncheon and Rank advancement celebration. Open and 299er games. Lunch will begin at noon, so bring a favorite dish to share. The games will follow at 1:00 p.m.

March 22nd – Pizza Friday! Enjoy a free pizza lunch

“TWENTY TABLE SATURDAY”

Saturday February 17th Lasagna, sides and dessert will be provided.
Extra points will be awarded. Prizes and other random giveaways!
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 register for the game in which you will play so we can estimate the amount of needed food. To make a reservation, click [here](#).

2024 Board Of Directors

The 2024 Board of Directors are ready to work hard to keep BCOH a wonderful place to play bridge. The elected officers are: **Janice Hardcastle** – President; **Bob Ziegler**- Vice President; **Kathy L’Hommedieu**. Other board members include Mike Linkins, Marsha Boyer, Charles Woody, Debbie Nash, and newly elected members Brian Shaffer and Kas Rangan.

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.

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Clear Lake Bridge Club

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 March 20th 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!

Donuts, Lesson and Bridge is March 13th at 9:00 a.m. The lesson starts at 9:15 a.m.. Rick Stell is teaching The Law of Total Tricks with Adjustments

Game Schedule
March 1- 3 – Pop up Red Point
March 4- 6 & 8 – Unit Charity
March 11 - 13 & 15 – ACBL Charity
March 17 – Jr. Fund
March 18-24 – Club Championship
March 25-31st – District 16 Royal STaC Week (Black, Silver, Red and Gold)

70%+Club
Jack and Jeanette Dean scored 73.96 during the Open Game on Thursday February 22nd. ATTA Boy and Girl!

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

Bobbie Moutz
2nd Vice President

281-546-9199
natcolemed@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 or visit our [website](#).

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 Shriner 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



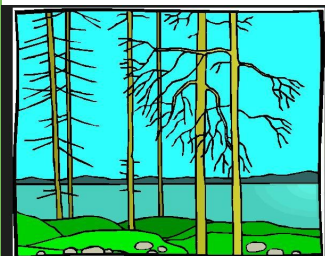
KINGWOOD DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

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

March 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.

Following is what's happening in March:

- March 1 – Club Championship Game
- March 8 – Grass Roots Fund
- March 16 – Club Membership Game
- March 22 – Unit Charity Game and Pizza Lunch
- March 29 – District 16 Royal STaC D16

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.

Monday, March 4th Busy Day!
11:00 a.m – Jeff Kroll's free lesson.
March Birthday Celebrations with Cake!
District 16 Charity Grass Roots Fun Game starts at 11:45 a.m.

Thursday, March 7th at 10:30 a.m. – Local Charity Game for St. Paul's Methodist Church

Monday, March 11th at 11:45 a.m. – ACBL-wide Senior Pairs Game - win SILVER!

Thursday, March 14th at 10:30 a.m. – Unit 174 Charity ACBL Charity Foundation. FREE Pizza Day during Lunch Break.

Monday, March 18th at 11:45 a.m. – Club Championship. Please Join us on this Special Day in Honor of Mary McDonald and the other Original Members who had the Vision to Start our Bridge Club six years ago. Pizza is being supplied by club members Faye Vincent and Odis Nolte. Pizza will be served starting at 11:00 a.m.

Tuesday, March 19th at 10:30 a.m. – Club Championship and Mentor/Mentee

Thursday, March 21st at 10:30 a.m. – Club Championship Game

District 16 Royal STaC - Win Black, Red, Silver & Gold

Monday, March 25th at 10:00 a.m. -Royal STaC

Thursday, March 28th at 11:45 a.m. - Royal STaC

*****Please note the change of dates for the Bridge Lessons NOTE *****

Classes begin Tuesday, February 13th and will be continued on February 27th, March 5th and March 12th. Followed by a wrap-up lesson on March 26th.

Mentor/Mentee Games will be on March 19th. For more information and to enroll, please contact Linda Sutton at: lindasutton212@gmail.com or 936-443-3600.

If you would like to play and need a partner, please contact our partnership chairperson, Sandra Maalouf, at 936-597-8756 or smaalouf@icloud.com.

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



Dummy Reversal

BY **Jack LaVigne**

Dummy Reversal

In a normal trump contract, the declarer’s trumps are as long as or longer than the dummy’s (an exception being after a transfer). Typically, a declarer can increase the number of tricks by taking a ruff in hand with fewer trumps. For example, if the declarer has five trumps and dummy has three trumps, the declarer can take six trumps if tricks can be trumped something with the three-card holding; five trumps in the declarer’s hand plus one ruff in the dummy adds up to six.

In a dummy reversal, the declarer increases the number of tricks by ruffing in the long hand until this holding is shorter than the number of trumps held by

the dummy. For example, if the declarer has five trumps and the dummy three trumps, the declarer can take six trumps if able to trump three times in the long hand; three ruffs in declarer’s hand plus dummy’s three trumps adds up to six.

You and your partner have done very well to bid 6♠ with a minimum point count. South is declaring six spades in a matchpoint event. These are the two hands:

<u>North</u>
♠QJ3
♥A742
♦532
♣AK6
<u>South</u>
♠AK1084
♥3
♦A4
♣QJ1082

The ♠2 is led and the declarer starts to plan. This looks terrific! South has five spades, one heart, one diamond and five clubs for a total of 12 tricks. You should get a terrific score for getting to the laydown slam.

However, since it is matchpoints, you should always see if there is an extra trick available, which would surely garner a top. It doesn’t look promising. After drawing trumps and running clubs, it seems unrealistic to think that you could get a trick with the ♥7 in the dummy or the ♦4 in your hand.

It's time to put on your dummy reversal hat. What if you could trump three hearts in declarer’s (South’s) hand? You would then have three trumps in dummy, three trumps in your hand (i.e., six trump tricks), the ♥A, ♦A and five clubs a total of 13 tricks. For this to happen you will need trumps and clubs to be break three-two (there is also an outside chance that the person holding four clubs is also the person holding three trumps).

In attempting to get a 13th trick, you want to ensure you don’t end up going down. For the first trick, float the ♠2 around to your hand, capturing East’s spade with the ♠8 or ♠10, depending upon whether East plays small or the ♠9. For this example, we’ll assume that East plays a small card and you win with the ♠8. Next, ♥3 to the ♥A and trump the ♥2 with the ♠A.

Now play the ♠4 to dummy’s ♠J and, assuming that everyone follows, trump the ♥4 with your ♠K. At this point the position is:

<u>North</u>
♠Q
♥7
♦532
♣AK6
<u>South</u>
♠10
♥
♦A4
♣QJ1082

Lead a club to dummy’s ♣A and trump dummy’s last heart with your ♠10. Finally, lead a second club to dummy’s ♣K and draw the last trump with the ♠Q. On this trick, having no spades left, you pitch your losing ♦4. Lead a club or diamond to your hand and claim! Remember you don’t want to sacrifice the cold contract going for an overtrick. Make sure at trick four, when you lead to the dummy’s ♠J, if someone shows out, you stop the dummy reversal plan, draw trumps, and take your guaranteed 12 tricks.

What if someone trumps the first or second club? In that case, all the trumps are accounted for (remember, you have drawn two), so you run the clubs pitching two diamonds in the dummy and get your 12th trick by ruffing a diamond in the dummy.

Summary
Most of the time one increases the number of trump tricks by ruffing something in the hand with short trumps. On occasion, if the conditions are right, it is possible to increase the number of trump tricks by ruffing in the hand with long trumps until the number of trumps held is smaller than the trumps held in the short hand (i.e., dummy reversal).

For most people, your author included, the problem is more of recognizing the possibility instead of the difficulty of play. In the example hand, if one were asked to play a dummy reversal, one would have little difficulty.

Conversely, if asked to make a plan with the example hand, most people would draw trumps and hope that the defense really screws up and allows you to take one of the small red cards; most people would not recognize a dummy reversal.

Jack LaVigne is a regular contributor to the Unit 174 Newsletter. He is Platinum Life Master, past president of Unit 174, immediate past recorder and current president of District 16, and volunteer at the Bridge Academy of West Houston. Jack can be contacted at jacklavigne@att.net.



In Memoriam

- * Carol K. Banks, Houston
- * Mrs. Elizabeth L. Ghrist, Houston
- * Lew N. Levy, Houston
- Carol Montague, Houston
- * Larry W. Peterson, Houston

* 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

