



American Contract
Bridge League

NEWSLETTER

June 2017



Events and News

President's Message

Our June "Nearly Summer" Sectional was a big success with a great turnout: 663 tables. We continue to defy the national trend of decreasing attendance—with a big credit going to our Houston area players.

We are looking forward to the leadership of the new CEO for the ACBL, **Bahar Gidwani** of New York. See the Unit 174 Web page (www.acblunit174.org) for a good write-up about him.

For the upcoming Awesome August Sectional, we listened to the players. We are changing the times back to 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., and we will change the Sunday lunch, probably to on your own with time to either eat from the concession stand in the big room, full buffet in the hotel dining room, or at one of the fine eateries within walking distance of the Marriott Westchase.

For our Fall Sectional Extravaganza, October 27-29, we will go to a new venue near Intercontinental Airport, the Hilton North, with a \$92 room rate (866-577-1154, code ACBL). We have a Casino Party Saturday night, and the Sunday games will be REGIONALLY RATED! Mark your calendars now so you don't miss it.

If at any time you have questions, suggestions, comments (or even complaints), please contact any board member; we are here to serve you, and we want to hear from you.

Now we prepare for the August Sectional. See you at the tables!

Bill Riley, Unit 174 President

Bill Riley, ichibanbill@gmail.com

Here's the June 1 report from ACBL for May 2017:

Each month the ACBL sends us the new members and rank advancements for our Unit. Here is the list from the June 1 report.

NEW MEMBERS

Teresa Becker, Richard E. Bird, Suanna H. Debusk, Dwight J. Evans Jr., Beverly E. Hamblen, Jay Jorns, Lark Leazar, Carol Paden, Bari L. Ross, Lawrence S. Ross, Eileen Silverman, Wynette B. Stuntz, Susan Thom, and Linda K. West have joined Unit 174. Please welcome these new members of our Unit as you meet them at the tables.

Congratulations to these new Masterpoint Milestone Makers:

NEW JUNIOR MASTER

Owen W. Anglum, Richard Arnold, Sherian Bloomer, Paula C. Easter, Claudia Lummis, Betty H. Macintyre, Sue K. Mahaffie, Diane Manning, Gregory May, Morris Reinisch, Henrietta Sasser, and Pamela Vincent.

NEW CLUB MASTER

Jackie Alder, Kenneth J. Bray, Jay Evert, Carol B. Gore, and Corinne L Smith-Sloan.

NEW SECTIONAL MASTER

Cheryl D. Benash, Leslie E. Brewer, Francis V. Gay, Suzanne Musgrove, Jacqueline Pognonec, Henry J. Skaggs, Paula L. Towner, Michael L. Wexler, and Charles L Woody.

NEW REGIONAL MASTER

Dennis D. Beckman, Betty M. Cartmell, Charlotte M. Howell, Douglas S. Lilly, Sandra A. Maalouf, and Laura C. McWilliams.

NEW NABC MASTER

Laura H. Chandler, Ann C. Coates, Jane L. Joplin, Shirley D. Kingsley, Syed R. Naqvi, and Scherry K. Sprague.

NEW ADVANCED NABC MASTER

Alan G. Adams, Louis Bockman, Susan K. Fenton, Frederick H. Gregory, and Marcia J. Lindsey.

NEW LIFE MASTER

(124 in Unit 174)

Susan N. Mandel and Carol Meade.

NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER

(315 in Unit 174)

Steven E. Bell, Ann R. Gibbs, and Vicky L. Martinez.

NEW SILVER LIFE MASTER

(182 in Unit 174)

Lynne E. Address, Susan P. Belding, James A. Evans, Ellen M. Greenfield, Patrick H. Horsley, and Mary E. McDonald.

NEW RUBY LIFE MASTER

(172 in Unit 174)

Shou A. Chao and Gerry C. Earnest.

NEW GOLD LIFE MASTER

(99 in Unit 174)

Estelle Kastleman.

NEW SAPPHIRE LIFE MASTER

(46 in Unit 174)

Jack Balter.

NEW DIAMOND LIFE MASTER

(38 in Unit 174)

Bobby R. Maynard.

Bound for Lyon!

Again, we are SO PROUD of Unit 174 members **Eddie Wold** and **Bob Morris!**

Eddie's team is again headed for the 2017 World Championships in Lyon, France, August 12-26, for the D'Orsi Senior Team 2017 World Championship, representing the United States Bridge Federation. This is the event in which Eddie was playing when he caught those German doctors cheating in 2014. (More details in the Unit 174 report in the July-August issue of the District 16 *Scorecard*.)



Dennis Clerkin, Jerry Clerkin, Mike Levine, Mike Passell, Eddie Wold, Marc Jacobus, and Bob Morris (unofficial NonPlaying Captain), USA1 Team for 2017 D'Orsi.

FEEDBACK & FODDER

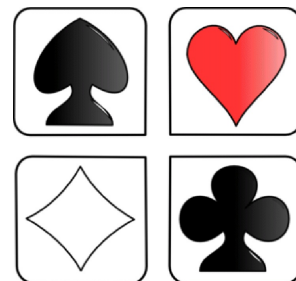
Unit 174 News and Club News

News from Clubs

National Ranking: Westside Bridge Academy was #15 on the "Top 50 Clubs" list in the May 2017 *Bulletin*, with 8.929 tables in 2016. Congratulations!

Bridge Club of Houston was jam-packed for its Memorial Day "Hot Diggety Dog" Game! It was a sellout, with fabulous food, in addition to the hot dogs. They have LOTS of great cooks up there, and when they say "sides will be appreciated," their players and members really jump in and do it up right! And they are having another "Hot Diggety Dog" on July 4, so get your reservations in if you plan to play.

It looks like our Unit 174 clubs are having good turnouts for StaC week, and we're seeing some of our players' names on the District 16 ranking sheets. Right out of the starting gate on Monday morning, **Georgianna Gates** and **Ralda St. Pierre** were 1st in A in District 16 at **Apple DBC** with a 69.41% game for 16.89 MPs! Right behind them at the same club were **Mary Pat Gentry** and **Paul Nimmons** with 68.37% for 12.67 MPs. And again, at Apple DBC, 1st in B the same day were **Pat Kubicek** and **Paula Hradecky** with 65.40% for 11.08 MPs, closely followed by **Bobby Maynard** and **Jan Rubenstein** at 4th in A with 64.03% for 7.13 MPs. I see a many



more of our unit members on the District 16 list with good games and high scores, and I'd call that a rip-roaring start of StaC Week!

In the Tuesday morning Open Pairs, #s 1, 3, and 5 in the District totals played at **Westside Bridge Academy**: **Jack LaVigne** and **Mary Pat Gentry** were first in A with 67.04% for 16.28 MPs; **Mildred Breed** and **Tom Hogle** were 3rd in A with a 64.41% game for 9.16 MPs; and **W. Lease** and **L. Laird** were 5th in A for 5.15 MPs for a 63.52% game. **Raleigh Williamson** and **Harold Copeland** had a 63.20% game at Southwest Duplicate Bridge Club for 5.90MPs and 6th in A, and **Wally Klugiewicz** and **Karen Fireman** were 7th in A with a 63.29% game for 4.43 Mps at **Bridge Club of Houston**. Kudos to all! We also had some District rankings among our Unit 174 members in the limited games. Press time prevents me from waiting for all of them, but a link is posted at the Unit 174 Website, so you can find them all at www.acblunit174.org.

Every month Unit 174 has a newsletter about classes and learning opportunities available at Unit 174 clubs. Be sure to check them out and make sure to check *all* the Websites of our Unit 174 clubs (links at www.acblunit174.org) for 2017. Their calendars will also have news of all scheduled events.

Final Thoughts

I always ask for comments and suggestions from our readers. **Linda Marlin** sends this along for discussion and consideration. We are so helpful to sort the cards for the next player who might have a vision problem. The director will ask players in those seats from time to time to help out, and we are always glad to do so. Linda suggests that, since so many of us are a "bit older," why not just do it for everybody at all places? Just make it a *routine* thing. In bandying this around, I found that a few clubs always do this and have done so for a long time. It sure makes a lot of sense to me. We go to the trouble of mixing them up before putting our hands back in the boards. Why not just sort them? Then those of us who do not keep our hands in order can unsort them when we get them. (But then all players should at least *pretend* to sort them, shouldn't they, so cagey opponents won't try to see from whence they pull a card in a hand they have left in order as received from the prior table? It's a little clumsy to say all that, but you get the idea, don't you?)

For the July, and all other newsletters, please send your news, ideas, articles, comments, and suggestions, to carolwilson@earthlink.net, or leave a message or text me at 281-642-4050 or find me at work, 281-600-6000x2. I would LOVE to hear from you!

That's all for now! Keep on biddin'!

Carol Ann Wilson, Unit 174 Newsletter Editor