

MEET THE CANDIDATES



VERA ANNENKOVA

Born and educated in St. Petersburg, Russia, I earned a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the St. Petersburg University. Early in my life I spent a couple of happy and productive years living in the extreme environment of the Northernmost part of Siberia, inside the Polar Circle.

Together with my husband and my son I moved to the United States in 1994 and went on to have a career at the NASA Johnson Space Center. Upon retiring in 2017, I sought out a new challenge and community: the game of bridge. I began taking bridge classes at the Clear Lake Bridge Club and became an ACBL member.

Now retired, I have the time and energy to serve our unit effectively. I respectfully ask for your vote for the ACBL Unit 174 Board of Directors.



CAROL JEWETT

I have lived in Texas all of my life: I was born in Dallas; grew up in Austin; earned my undergraduate degree at Rice University in Houston; earned my law degree at the University of Texas in Austin; and thereafter lived in Houston where I practiced tax law with the Vinson & Elkins LLP law firm for many years.

I grew up playing all sorts of card games with my family but didn't play bridge until I was in high school when I started playing casual rubber bridge games with friends. I did not encounter duplicate bridge until after I retired when a friend and I started playing in a supervised game with Kay Johnson. These days, playing duplicate bridge is a regular part of my life. In addition to playing, I help with the games sponsored by the Bridge Academy of West Houston and edit the ACBL District 16 newsletter for intermediate and new players. For fun when I am not playing bridge, I play the piano and conduct visitor tours at Bayou Bend, which is the American antiques and decorative objects wing of the Museum of Fine Arts Houston.



LESLEY KELLET

I am an existing board member seeking re-election to continue to work hard for our members and guests to make it better to join in and play the game.

Born and educated in the UK, I married in 1981 and became a widow in 2011. I now live with my daughter in the Memorial area of Houston. My career in the oil and gas construction industry took me to North Africa where I lived for ten years before coming to Houston in 1989. Stateside, I have been active in clubs including the Westside Tennis Club, Houston Accueil, DBE (Daughters of the British Empire), Awty International School Parent Association, IVH, (International Voices of Houston Community Choir.) I became a US Citizen in 2001 and retired from Emerson Flow Division after 25 years with the company.

I am excited to continue to lend my energies to the benefit of Unit 174 as a member of the Board of Directors.



WOLF SCHROETER

I was born in Germany, spent my formative years in Southeast Asia, before moving to Houston for 7th grade. I proudly received my US citizenship during High School. Upon achieving a B.A. in Biology and a J.D. in Law, I spent my career as an attorney and as an administrative landman.

During Freshman Week at Rice, three freshmen needing a fourth asked if I played bridge. "No, but I've played lots of spades and hearts." They asked me to join them and I have been hooked ever since. In 1988 I joined the ACBL. Upon retiring from law, I worked about a decade as a part time ACBL Tournament Director. My favorite part of bridge is its social aspect, enjoying time with your partners and other players in a friendly competition. Our Unit Board has worked hard to help our Clubs and our Tournaments to increase their attendance and viability.

As a Board member, I want to continue the excellent work that so many players have already contributed to our bridge community.



JOE SIQUEIRA

In 9th grade I joined a bridge club that was led by the school principal. There were no books or internet and we just played our own version of Goren. After college I began playing duplicate in India for a few years. Then I came to the US for my graduate degree and didn't play bridge for about 20 years. My friend in Virginia Beach invited me to a duplicate game and I was instantly hooked. The system has changed dramatically and there was so much to learn. We played together, including representing our district at the NAPs, until we moved to Houston.

Now I have the distinct pleasure of playing bridge with my wife, Iris. We like to travel and we visit siblings and relatives in different parts of the world. We have one married daughter who lives in New York. This does interfere with our bridge game, but I am all in to work for the success of our unit board. Bridge is an amazing game. It requires continuous learning and concentration. Also, it teaches us humility.



ANN STARR

I am a native Houstonian. I earned my Electrical Engineering degree from the University of Houston and was a Test Engineer at NASA for over 14 years. I'm also a pilot. I flew for the Civil Air Patrol for many years where we did inspections after hurricanes and we looked for emergency beacons that deployed. Now I fly on occasion to bridge tournaments.

Although I played social bridge since I was 17, I had a long hiatus of many years until 2019. I started Lone Star College's Senior program and took a Bridge class on how to play duplicate. I started playing at the Bridge Club until Covid hit and the Bridge Club closed. I met my husband and together we took Sam Khayatt's "Bridge Basics" class so we could learn how to play duplicate bridge and are continually working to improve our game.

If given the opportunity, I would like to serve the group by giving my time and effort to further enhance the Bridge experience for all.