



## Unit 174 June 2026 Newsletter



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This month's newsletter includes the sections listed below:

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*MARIA LUZIA TURNER by Sarah Springer*

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*Pebble Creek Duplicate Bridge Club*  
*Star Duplicate Bridge Club*

**Contributors**  
*More Safety Plays by Jimmy Breihan*

### **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.

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**Brigitte  
Sandifer**

## President's Message

### **The Latest**

Our membership chair, Lauri Laufman and her able assistant Cindy Schaefer had a zoom meeting with ACBL to discuss the 5/5/5 program that is in place to reward units for recruiting new members, retaining members who may have failed to renew their membership and getting lapsed members to rejoin. They will report on their success at the next board meeting.

The unit got a letter from Shriners telling us that their facility is for sale, they had some nibbles, but our contracts for the June and October tournaments will be honored. With that said, here comes Lauri and goes out to scout for possible venues. She had some success, but it will be a step up in expenses, as other venues have much steeper fees than Shriners. That could mean an increase in entry fees.

### **Nearly Summer Sectional**

The Nearly Summer Sectional Tournament will be held at Shriner's once again on June 12 to 14. The Daughters of the Nile (Shriner Lady's) will prepare Box Lunch Sandwiches with cookies and chips, but they reduced the price to \$10 to ease the accounting. The profit they make from those box lunches goes to the Shriner's Hospital for Children. Our flyers were already printed with a cost of \$11, so we all can have a \$1 discount on lunch. The chair for that event is myself, Carol Jewett and one of our new board members.

### **Awesome Summer Sectional Tournament**

The Awesome Summer Sectional Tournament will be held at Bridge Club of Houston on August 14 to 16 and the tournament chair is Fred Gregory and Susan Johnson. You can see the flyer in this issue as well as on the unit's [website](#) for more details.

### **October Sectional/IN Regional Tournament**

This tournament will have a different starting date, October 15 to 17. We're trying a Thursday to Saturday, to see if we can increase in participation. The Chairs are Lesley Kellet and Judi Whaling.

Please make your plans to attend our tournaments, and I thank you for doing so.

Brigitte Sandifer  
[sandiferdb@gmail.com](mailto:sandiferdb@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:**Champa Bhatia, Robert Macleod

**Transfers:** Brian Schaffer, Benjamin Klauder, Debi Covington

**Welcome!**



## Masterpoint Milestones

Listed below are the Unit 174 Masterpoint Milestones reported by ACBL as of May 1, 2026. An explanation of ranks may be found on the [ACBL website](#).

### Junior Master

Tedra Black, Kemberly Warren

### Club Master

Sharon Degnan, Dong Dongs, Doris Fujii, Cynthia Martin, Xingwei Wu

### Sectional Master

Kathy Bailey, Harry Elliott

### Regional Master

Brenda Cunningham, Baines Manning, Frank Marino

### NABC Master

Hao Deng, Meynard Nussbaum, Therese Perez

### Life Master

Zane Bolen, Bill Brady

### Bronze Life Master

Bill Brady, Mark Levy

### Silver Life Master

Lois McCallister

### Ruby Life Master

Karen Baer

### Gold Life Master

Ann Ankrum

### Sapphire Life Master

Debi Balter

## Member Profile



**MARIA LUZIA TURNER**  
*She spreads joy wherever she goes!*

BY SARAH  
SPRINGER

It is hard not to notice Luzia Turner because she is always cheerfully volunteering at various bridge events. She lends a hand at every tournament and she is a steady helper at the Bridge Academy of West Houston. Luzia is like a bright flower with

her shiny black hair, beautiful dark eyes and big welcoming smile.



**Maria Luzia Turner**

### **Background**

Luzia speaks with a delightful accent – she is originally from Singapore but has lived in the United States for most of her adult life and lives in Houston with her husband Pete. Luzia volunteers with her church in addition to her bridge volunteer work and serves as a greeter/usher at the Saturday evening services.



**Luzia & Pete**

Luzia's welcoming and friendly demeanor makes her professional life come naturally – Lucia has worked in hospitality and event planning throughout her career. Her job as Catering Director at a hotel in Singapore brought her together with her husband Pete who stayed in that hotel while on business trips. After dating for two years, they married in Singapore in 1984, and she moved with him to Indonesia where they lived for five years and then they moved to the US, first to Tyler and then to Houston.

### **Houston Career / Bridge**

Luzia worked at the Doubletree Hotel downtown and then moved to the Four Seasons where her former director poached her away to set up the catering department at Rice Epicurean, where she stayed for four years. Then she moved to Sofitel hotels negotiating corporate room rates for various large oil and gas companies. Finally, she tried to retire, but her services are in such demand. She went to a catering company called Culinaire and cut her hours to three days, four hours a day. And when we have more time, what do we do? Play bridge of course! Luzia started off in 1988 with bridge lessons and when her work became less demanding a few years ago, she played party bridge in her neighborhood. She played a little bit at Westside Bridge Academy before COVID-19, then when the clubs opened she tried Tracy Gee's and got creamed. Salvation then came with the Bridge Academy of West Houston – Luzia found her bridge niche! She is well on her way to becoming a Life Master and plans on getting her gold at the upcoming Firecracker Regional in Austin.

Luzia's philosophy is why frown when it is so much easier to smile? Luzia's beaming face lights up the room as she cheerfully welcomes people to the game of bridge. She has been active in welcoming our newer players to the game and making everyone feel comfortable and happy not only at the bridge academy but at our tournaments as well.



### **Love of Asian Food**

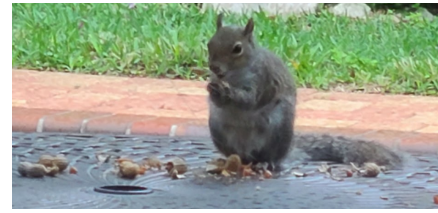
Luzia loves to eat out at Asian restaurants – Indian, Chinese, Vietnamese, Thai. She also prepares Asian food for her guests at her numerous dinner parties. One of her favorite dinners to serve is a Japanese fondue called Shabu Shabu\* – guests cook their own thinly sliced beef and shrimp in a hot beef stock and dip their skewered delicacies in a delightful ponzu-sake sauce.



Luzia and Pete entertain at their home frequently – at least once per month and usually more! She has a group of eighteen Singaporean friends she eats out with and cooks for and she also hosts the annual Clergy and Usher dinner for her church at her home, hosting twenty-four appreciative diners.

One would think that with Luzia's active bridge life, her volunteering at her church, the Bridge Academy, at tournaments, and her frequent entertaining, that would be enough, but no... Luzia line dances too! Her teachers are 86 and 90 and she line dances once a week with great joy. She adds that this activity helps with balance.

As skilled as Luzia is at making people feel welcome, happy, well fed and entertained, that is not all... She takes care of squirrels too! She feeds her backyard squirrels two pounds of roasted unsalted peanuts in the shell every day. Making other people and fellow creatures comfortable and content makes Luzia Turner happy.



**Well Catered to Squirrel!**

**\*Shabu Shabu Sauce**  
(Serves 4)

- |  |                         |  |
|--|-------------------------|--|
| ½ cup vinegar                                |                         |  |
| ½ cup Kikoman Soy Sauce or ½ cup Ponzu Sauce | 2 cups sake             |  |
| 1 tsp. Sesame oil                            | Pinch chili             |  |
| 1 and ½ inch ginger, grated                  | 6 pods garlic, grated   |  |
| 2 spring onions, finely chopped              | 1 Daikon radish, grated |  |

Sarah Springer is the immediate past Unit 174 president, the Unit 174 Scorecard reporter and a Ruby Life Master. She is a retired Family Law Attorney.



## Unit News

## Class Flyers

### Unit 174 Free Class - Learn Bridge in a Day



### Can You **Learn Bridge in a Day?**

**YES!**

<b>DATE:</b>	June 14, 2026
<b>TIME:</b>	1:00 pm to 6:00 pm
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Bridge Club of Houston 4688 Louetta corner of Kuykendahl Spring, TX 77388

**FREE!!!**

Sponsored by ACBL Unit 174



**Pre-registration Required**  
[www.bridgewebs.com/bcoh/](http://www.bridgewebs.com/bcoh/)

## LSBC Beginner Bridge Lessons

# BEGINNER BRIDGE LESSONS

(No card playing experience necessary), or  
(Upgrade from Goren or social to MODERN methods)

**WHEN:** 6 TUESDAYS -- MAY 5 - JUNE 9 -- 10 AM - NOON  
(Bring lunch, discussion time will be available)

**WHERE:** St. Paul Methodist Church, 1100 Semands Dr., Conroe, Texas  
(Home of the LONE STAR BRIDGE CLUB)

**REF. GUIDE:** "BRIDGE BASICS 1", BY Audrey Grant

**GUIDES:** TERRY SUCHER, RUBY Life Master. Assisted by GOLD Life Masters

**COST:** \$20 FOR THE BOOK, AND \$20 FOR SIX LESSONS, OR \$5 PER LESSON

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED:**

MARY McDONALD, 281-964-7212, TERRY SUCHER, 936-582-4921

**OUTLINE:**

**LESSON 1 THE BASICS**

- \* Trick Taking in No Trump and Trump Suit
- \* Opening Lead and Third Hand Play
- \* Auction Bridge
- \* Hand Evaluation and Opening the Bidding
- \* Selected Deals

**LESSON 2 NO TRUMP OPENING BIDS and RESPONSES**

**LESSON 3 MAJOR SUIT OPENING BIDS and RESPONSES**

**LESSON 4 MINOR SUIT OPENING BIDS and RESPONSES**

**LESSON 5 REVIEW, QUESTIONS, and PRACTICE PLAY**

**LESSON 6 SCORING and PRACTICE PLAY**



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## Coming Tournaments

Date	City	Unit	Category	Type
June 5-7	Midland	209	Sectional	Open
June 6-7	Georgetown	207	Sectional	I/N
June 12-14	Houston	174	Sectional	Open
June 25-27	Fort Worth [DFW]	183	Sectional	Local
June 29- July 5	Austin	207	Regional	Open
July 20-26	STaC U174 (D16)	174	Sectional	STaC
July 23-25	Tyler	225	Regional	I/N
July 30 - August 1	Plano [DFW]	176	Sectional	I/N
August 8-9	Austin	207	Sectional	I/N
August 14-16	Spring	174	Sectional	Open
August 17-23	STaC D16		Sectional	STaC
September 2-7	Richardson [DFW]	176	Regional	Open
September 10-13	New Braunfels	172	Sectional	Open
September 17-20	Spring [Houston]	174	Sectional	I/N
September 24-27	Austin	207	Sectional	Open
October 1-3	Denton [DFW]	183	Sectional	Local
October 10-11	Austin	207	Sectional	I/N
October 15-17	Houston	174	Sectional & I/N Regional	Open & I/N
October 15-17	Fort Worth	183	Sectional	Local
October 19-25	STaC D16		Sectional	STaC
October 29- November 1	San Antonio	172	Sectional	Open
October 31- November 1	San Antonio	0	GNT/NAP	NAP District Fi...

November 4-6	Georgetown	207	Sectional	Local
November 4-7	Dallas	176	Sectional	Open
November 9-15	Puerto Vallarta	205	Regional	Open
November 9-15	STaC U174 (D16)	174	Sectional	STaC
November 21-22	Austin	207	Sectional	I/N
December 5-6	Austin	207	Sectional	I/N
December 10-12	Spring [Houston]	174	Sectional	I/N

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

## Nearly Summer Sectional

# NEARLY SUMMER SECTIONAL

## Houston Unit 174



# June 12-14, 2026

**Arabia Shriners**

10510 Harwin Dr.  
Houston, TX 77036

### Stratification

#### 499er Pairs

A: 300-499 B: 100-299 C: 0-99

#### Open Pairs

A: 4000+ B: 2000-3999 C: 0-1999

**Note:** Stratifications for all events are based on average MPs. If an event has an upper MP limit, every player must fall within that limit. All Strats may be adjusted by the director to balance for strength of players"

### Friday & Saturday, June 12-13

10 am & 2:30 pm	Stratified 499er Pairs	Single Sessions
10 am & 2:30 pm	Stratified Open Pairs	Single Sessions
10 am & 2:30 pm	Bracketed Swiss Teams	Two Sessions

### Sunday, June 14

10 am & 2:30 pm	Stratified 499er Pairs	Single Sessions
10 am & 2:30 pm	Stratified Open Pairs	Single Sessions
10 am & 2:30 pm	Bracketed Swiss Teams	Two Sessions

**Note:** Smooth traffic flow will be assisted by a policeman directing traffic out of the parking lot on Friday after the games.

*This is a fragrance-free tournament.*

### Hospitality

Box lunches \$11  
\$1 coffee & sodas  
Cash Only  
Free bottled water

### Fees

\$17 per Session  
Cashless Tournament  
Credit Card only

### Nearest Hotel

**Springhill Suites by Marriott**  
5851 Rogerdale  
Houston, TX 77072  
(832) 300-0200

### Tournament Chair

Brigitte Sandifer  
(713) 703-1319  
sandiferdb@gmail.com

### Partnership

Paddy Fiorino  
(713) 417-5985  
pfiorinounit174sec@gmail.com

### I/N

Lesley Kellet  
(713) 852-7198  
lellybean@msn.com

Judi Whaling  
(832) 661-1644  
judiwhaling@gmail.com

## BCOH Online Mentor/Mentee Games

# BRIDGE HOUSTON

*Do You want to Improve Your Bridge Game?  
Those Mentored must have less than 300 Masterpoints.  
Mentor's must have greater than 300 Masterpoints.  
Everyone in the ACBL with these qualifications can join the*

### BBO MENTOR GAME



First and Third Monday nights monthly at 7:00 p.m. Central Time

18 Boards

On BBO, go to "Competitive"

"ACBL e-Clubs" & click "Choose Houston"

You invite your mentor by checking appropriate box on BBO,  
saying you will pay for both games, a total of \$10.00.

- You get individual feedback from your mentor however & whenever the two of you decide.
- A Diamond Life Master discusses the boards you just played immediately after the game on Zoom.

Need help finding a mentor? Or would you like to mentor?

Email Mike: [minkins@swbell.net](mailto:minkins@swbell.net)



## Awesome August Sectional

# Awesome August Sectional

ACBL Unit 174

August 14-16, 2026

Bridge Club of Houston

4688 Louetta Road (corner of Kuykendahl)  
Spring, Texas 77379

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## FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 15 and 16

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10 & 2:30	Stratified Open Pairs	A: 4000+ B: 1500-4000 C: 0-1500	Single Sessions
10 & 2:30	Stratified 299er Pairs	B: 200-300 C: 100-200 D: 0-100	Single Sessions
10 & 2:30	Bracketed Round Robin Swiss Teams		Two Sessions

*All Strats may be adjusted by the director to balance for strength of players.*

*Seating is limited, pre-registration is recommended, please contact Susan.*

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**Fees**  
\$17 per session  
Credit Card Only

**Lunch**  
\$10 – Cash Only  
Free Water, Coffee, and Sodas  
*Donations Gladly Accepted*

**Accommodations**  
Holiday Inn Express and Suites  
21606 Spring Plaza Drive  
Spring, Texas 77379  
(281) 824-7723

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<b>Tournament Chairs</b>	<b>Partnerships</b>	<b>Hospitality</b>
Fred Gregory (832) 315-7721 <a href="mailto:fhgregory777@gmail.com">fhgregory777@gmail.com</a>	Susan Banks-Johnson (281) 536-1451 <a href="mailto:BCOHEvents@gmail.com">BCOHEvents@gmail.com</a>	TBD
	TBD	TBD

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## 99er Nite Club



# THE 99er Nite Club East

**GREAT PLAY, LESSONS  
& LOADS OF FUN!**

**And...It's only for you, New Players!**

District 16 now has a BBO game just  
for the 0 to 99 players

**the "99er Nite Club East"!**

**When: 6pm, 7 days a week**

**Where: ACBL Clubhouse\***

**Perks:**

✓ **More Masterpoints**  
(cross club scoring)

✓ **Mini-Lessons**  
by Lynn Berg at 5:30 pm

\*Check to make sure your club is participating.  
If your club has questions they should  
contact Janice Rush at:

[janice\\_hardcastle@hotmail.com](mailto:janice_hardcastle@hotmail.com)



**199er Nite Club**

# 199er Nite Club East

*Ready to Graduate from  
the 0 to 99 Game?*

## **D16's 199er NITE CLUB EAST GAME ON BBO IS YOUR NEXT STEP!**

**7 DAYS A WEEK AT 6:00 PM CST**

- ✓ Recent graduates of the 0 to 99 group can play in a game with players of the same ability.
- ✓ Work during the day? Graduates continue go grow skills at a time that's "worker friendly".
- ✓ Safe environment where no sharks are allowed, because the game is limited to 199 mpts.
- ✓ Clubs benefit too and continue to receive payments for their participating players.

*Clubs must be signed up to participate, just like for the 99er NITE CLUB game.*

*Contact Janice Rush for details:*

*janice\_hardcastle@hotmail.com*

*New Game in Town*



## **Club Table Counts**

**Yearly Totals:**

<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
2024	16,900.00	24
2025	16,840.00	21

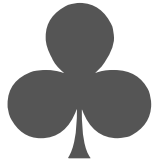
**2026 Table Counts by Club:**

<b>Club</b>	<b>Jan 1-May 28, 2026 Table Counts</b>
Clear Lake BC	1681.5
BC of Houston	1277.5
BA of W. Houston	1271.5
Lone Star BC	620.5
Star DBC	305.5
Apple II DBC	272
Apple DBC	255
Northside BC	233
Cypress N/W DC	199.5
Kingwood DBC	132
Pebble Creek DBC	130.5
Sugarland DBC	120
Houston Raquet Club	59
Forest Club	91
Houston Racquit Club	75
Houston Country Club	64
La Grange BC	61.5
Gulf Coast	56.5
Galveston DBC	55
Lakeside Country Club	47.5
River Oaks Country Club	37.5
Les Match Bridgeurs	37
Buckingham DBC	4.5
<b>Total:</b>	<b>7087</b>

Unit 174 still has two of the top three clubs in District 16: Clear Lake Bridge Club with 1681.5, Bridge Center of Austin with 1515.5 and Bridge Club of Houston with 1255.5.

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## Club News



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

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## 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 Apple games are \$3.00 / person. Apple II games are \$4.00 / person.

### Clubs' Policy:

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

*APPLE II **upped** the offer:* The normal game fee of \$3.00 / person will be *waived* if the pair has less than 100 MP's on average, so all of you FLMs should come on out on Friday and test your skill at *no cost!* In addition, any player who pairs up with someone under 100 points plays for *FREE!* Since many of our 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!

### Apple DBC Game Schedule

June 1 & 8 Games will be held at Shriner's  
June 15 & 22 Games held at Tracey Gee Community Center

### Apple II May Game Schedule

June 5 No game, but watch the Apple [website](#) for possible changes.  
June 12 Closed - Unit 174 sectional at Shriners  
June 19 Federal holiday and the center is closed.  
June 26 Next scheduled game. Club CC#2 This has been reserved and confirmed with the community center.

*Also Note:* The scores from Fridays at Apple II can now be viewed on the [Unit 174 website](#). Click on scores and look at Fridays. Every Friday will have a space, but only those dates that a game is held will have scores. When posted, the color will be **blue**. If a scoring change required re-posting, the color will change to **purple**.

For information, please contact:

Monday - Apple - Susan Banks-Johnson  
[sisbjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:sisbjohnson@gmail.com) - 281-536-1451

Friday - Apple II - Tom Jahnke  
[tomtomj211@yahoo.com](mailto:tomtomj211@yahoo.com) - 713-777-0333

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.

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### **Tom Jahnke - Sapphire Life Master Party**

Tom serves as our regular Tuesday director and also directs a number of our other games throughout the week. One of the highlights of each month is our Mentor/Mentee game, held on the first Tuesday. In May, that special game took place on May 5. Tom is an outstanding director who is greatly appreciated by our players, not only for his excellent directing skills, but also for his calm and friendly demeanor.

On May 5, we took the opportunity to celebrate Tom's achievement of attaining the rank of Sapphire Life Master. In addition to being a talented and respected director, Tom is also an accomplished bridge player. He and his regular partner, Greg Andrews, are frequent winners whenever they play at the Academy.



**Tom Jahnke**

### **Debi Balter - Sapphire Life Master Party**

On May 6, another celebration was held - this time honoring Debi Balter for achieving the rank of Sapphire Life Master, along with Tom. Debi is an outstanding player who is a frequent winner both at our club and in ACBL tournaments.



**Debi Balter & Joe Quinn**

Debi is also well known for her culinary talents, which Academy players have enjoyed on many occasions through the wonderful dishes she prepares and brings to our games. On this occasion, however, she was given the day off from the kitchen. Her husband, Kerr Godfrey, provided a delicious spread that included vegetable and fruit trays, sandwiches, and a wonderful cake enjoyed by all.


In the figure, Joe Quinn describes Debi's journey to becoming a Sapphire Life Master.

### **Dianna Gittelman - Diamond Life Master Party**

A party was held for Dianna Gittelman on Wednesday, May 20. Dianna is one of the most beloved players at our club. Over many years, she has been a tremendous volunteer and leader within Unit 174, serving multiple terms on the unit's board, chairing numerous tournaments, and helping guide new board members as they took on the often-daunting responsibility of being the tournament chair.

The celebration was a resounding success, drawing a sellout crowd. Many players who no longer play regularly at the club returned specifically to honor Dianna and show their appreciation for all she has contributed over the years. Some even came solely for the ceremony and festivities before departing prior to the game.

Marsha Bernstein led a host of volunteers - far too many to name individually - in putting together a wonderful feast enjoyed by all. Clif Rice entertained the crowd with a humorous limerick dedicated to Dianna, and Betty Starzec created a special banner in her honor that was proudly displayed on the wall. Below is a photograph of that banner.



# Dianna Gittelman Diamond Life Master

## Congratulations!

### Upcoming Events...

**DO WHAT YOU  
LOVE TO END ALZ**

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

ALZHEIMER'S  
ASSOCIATION

PROUD  
NATIONAL TEAM

#### **Do What You Love to End Alz (formerly The Longest Day)**

Our **Do What You Love to End Alzheimer's** event will be held on Thursday, June 18. When you play, your table fees will be donated to the Alzheimer's Association. In conjunction with the event, we are also conducting a fundraising campaign. Raffle tickets are being sold for \$5 each or 5 for \$20. The winners will receive 10 free plays.

We are also holding an online auction. Unit players and teaching pros have generously agreed to donate either a future playing session or a lesson with the auction winners. The auction items may be viewed and bids placed by clicking [here](#).

Bidding ends at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 17.

#### **Mentor/Mentee**

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

*June 7 - 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.

#### **8 is enough Swiss Teams**

The 8 is enough Swiss Teams games are held monthly on a Saturday at 1:30 p.m. The next game will be held on:

*June 26 - 8 is enough Swiss Teams*

The stratifications for the Swiss Teams game are:

**Level 1** - 0 to 1000 masterpoints

**Level 2** - 1000 to 3000 masterpoints

**Level 3** - 3000+ masterpoints

For example, a Level 3, Level 1 and two Level 2 players would add up to eight, as would four Level 2 players.

Another example would be one Level 1 and three Level 2 players. That adds up to seven; it is okay to be less than eight.

The Swiss Team has become an extremely popular event. For help in getting teammates contact:

Linda McReynolds at (713) 819-7812 or [lindamcreynolds@comcast.net](mailto:lindamcreynolds@comcast.net)

### Mini-lesson

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

### Game Schedule

**Tuesday - Mentor/Mentee**  
**Tuesday - Open**  
**Wednesday - Open & 299'er**  
**Thursdays - Open & Beginner Pairs**  
**10:30 a.m.**  
**Sunday - 8 is Enough Swiss Teams**  
**1:30 p.m.**  
**Arabia Shriners Center**  
**10510 Harwin Dr.**

- \$7.00 per person
- Coffee & Snacks are provided
- Tom Jahnke, Janice Rush & Marty Hrachovy, directors

### Game Calendar

Tue – Jun 2	Charity Game	Wed Jun 17	
Wed – Jun 3	NAP	Thu Jun 18	
Thu – Jun 4	NAP	Tue Jun 23	NAP
Tue – Jun 9	Club Championship	Wed Jun 24	Charity Game
Wed – Jun 10	NAP	Thu Jun 25	Charity Game
Thu – Jun 11	NAP	Sun Jun 28	Club Championship
Tue Jun 16		Tue Jun 30	Club Championship

### Need a Partner?

Contact Linda or Tom Martinsen at 713-398-4907 [martinsens@comcast.net](mailto:martinsens@comcast.net).



## Bridge Club of Houston

Please consult our monthly calendar online for updates and complete listings: [BCOH Calendar](#).

### Lessons

- Beginner Bridge classes with Susan & Andy – New Class begins Saturdays, July 18, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m., cost \$130. Information and Registration: [BridgewithSusanandAndy@gmail.com](mailto:BridgewithSusanandAndy@gmail.com), 281-651-6550.
- Tuesday Tidbits – Build a solid foundation with Susan Banks-Johnson, Life Master and ACBL Teacher. Enjoy a free lesson for all from 9:30-10:10 a.m. A game follows at 10:30 a.m. Email Susan at [sisbjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:sisbjohnson@gmail.com) for more information.
- Learn Bridge in a Day – The Unit 174 board-sponsored the program, Learn Bridge in a Day encore on June 14 at BCOH. Make sure to check out the flyer in this issue for more details.

### Practice for Intermediate/Newcomers

- FLM 0-99 Game – Sundays at 1:30 p.m., \$5 fee. For more information, please contact [BridgewithCarol@gmail.com](mailto:BridgewithCarol@gmail.com), 936-650-8180.
- F2F Mentor Games – 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 10:30 a.m. To be matched

with a mentor, for 2nd Tuesday call or text Judy Cupps, 713-320-5592, for 4th Tuesday call or text Bob Ziegler, 713-829-6928.

- Online Mentor Game - 1st & 3rd Mondays, 7:00 p.m. (Protege should invite and pay for game of mentor.) Make sure to check out the flyer in this issue if you missed it. Contact Mike Linkins if you have any questions: [mlinkins@swbell.net](mailto:mlinkins@swbell.net)
- Online 0-99 Game - 2nd Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. (usually). See [FLM website](#).
- F2F 399er Game - Saturdays at 12 p.m. (noon), for a partner or to register contact Kas Rangan, [kas.rangan@gmail.com](mailto:kas.rangan@gmail.com), 539-210-1333
- I/N Game less 1000 - 5th Tuesday of any month at 10:30 a.m.

For more information about the games, please see [BCOH website](#).

#### F2F Open Pairs Games

- Mondays 10:30 a.m.
- First & Fifth Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.
- Wednesdays & Fridays 10:30 a.m.
- Saturdays - 12:00 p.m. (noon)

#### F2F Swiss Teams

- First Sunday 1:30 p.m.
- First or Third Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.

# DO WHAT YOU LOVE TO END ALZ

## ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

Do What You Love to End Alz (formerly known as The Longest Day) Special Event on June 20. We will have lunch at 11:15 a.m. with ham provided by BCOH. Please bring sides and desserts to share. Then let the games begin with the Open and our 399er at noon. You can preregister for either game on our [website](#) to allow our director to set up the games for a quicker start! Also check out the many advanced and expert players who donate their time when you donate your money to End Alz!



99 June 1-6, 16, 22, 24, 26-27  
June 7

Sectional June 7, 8, 10, 20, 30  
June 12-14

June 20  
Lunch - Ham  
sides and desserts to  
June 30

NAOP Qualifier  
"8 is Enough" Team Game & Open 0-

Grass Roots Fund  
CLOSED for Nearly Summer

"Do What You Love to End Alz" -  
provided, please bring  
share

Limited Pairs Under 750 pts.

#### Good Times with Good Friends



**Houston at Fort Western Regional  
(Everyone We Could Find & Rope In!)**

Check the [BCOH Website](#) for more including details, potlucks and points each week.

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## 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.

### **Mentored Pairs**

1st & 3rd Monday @ 7:00 p.m.

### **Open Pairs**

Thursday @ 7:00 p.m.

### [SE Carolina Consortium](#)

### **Future Life Masters**

Tuesday (0-50) @ 3:05 p.m.\*

2nd Saturday (0-99) @ 9:00 a.m.\*

\*usually - see [flm174.org](#) for dates

Next game is on May 9.



## Clear Lake Bridge Club

Clear Lake Bridge Club (CLBC) is located at 16614 Sea Lark, Houston, Texas 77062.

The game fees are \$6.00 for members and \$7.00 for guests. Games are held every day of the week. The club closes for Unit 174 tournaments, Christmas and Thanksgiving. You can reach us by phone at 281-480-1911.

### **Weekly Game Schedule:**

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

0-299\* Games: Saturday at 10:00 a.m. (Free lesson starting at 9:30 a.m.  
with a Q&A after the game.)

0-499\* Games: Monday & Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.

0-499 Games: (Played in Conjunction with Open Games)

Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. &

Thursday at 1:00 p.m.

Swiss Teams: Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

**\*Please, note the changes.**

To start games on time, registration closes *10 minutes before game start time*. Late arrivals are not accepted. If you are coming to a game and find

that you cannot arrive on time, please call the club to alert the director to hold your seat.

### **Teams Stratification & Registration**

The B players' upper limit is 2000 - 2500 masterpoints. If you are interested in playing in a Sunday afternoon Teams Game, please register *at least one day prior* so that the director can have the set up done on time. Plan to arrive no later than *10 minutes before game start time*.

### **8 is Enough Swiss Teams**

Game is held on the second Sunday each month. Due to the Unit's Nearly Summer Sectional the next game will be moved. Check the club's bulletin board to find out when the next game will be held.

The 8 is Enough Swiss Teams stratifications are:

**Level 1** - 0-749 masterpoints (1)

**Level 2** - 750-1999 masterpoints (2)

**Level 3** - 2000+ 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.

### **Partnership/Team Building:**

Chuck Ensor will assist anyone to organized a team for any of the Sunday Swiss Teams games. You can either call Chuck at 713-502-0282 or [email](#) him. (Email is best when Chuck is traveling.)

### **Mentor/Mentee Game:**

The Mentor/Mentee game is held on the third Wednesday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. However, because of the [Alzheimer's Fundraiser](#), the next game will be held on June 10. Reservations must be made in advance by noon on the prior Monday.

Sandwiches are served for lunch prior to the game.

Mentees must be Non-Life Masters with less than 500 masterpoints. The Mentee pays the game fee for the Mentor. For information and to submit a contact form, please visit the [CLBC MM site](#). You can alternately contact Susan Hanna at [s.l.hanna@gmail.com](mailto:s.l.hanna@gmail.com) if you are interested in becoming a mentor or a mentee.

### **Bridge Labs (Supervised Play):**

Sunday and Tuesdays from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Bridge Lab table fee is \$8.00.

Check out [www.clearlakebridgeclub.org/bridge-education](http://www.clearlakebridgeclub.org/bridge-education) for new classes offered in 2025.

## **PREVIOUSLY...**

### **Club's Saturdays for 0-299ers**

The club's Saturday morning offering for 299ers continues to be well attended, but there is always room for more! At 9:30 a.m., Dallas and Donna Moore present a lesson, often a topic requested by the players.

After the lesson, there is a sanctioned game, followed by an opportunity to review boards and ask questions. Sometimes there are even muffins (to go with free coffee!).

Bring a partner, bring a gang of friends, or come alone. Everyone is welcome. Everyone plays!

## **UPCOMING...**



**DO WHAT YOU  
LOVE TO END ALZ**

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION | PROUD NATIONAL TEAM



**CLBC is participating in the ACBL's Do What You Love to End ALZ (formerly The Longest Day) on Wednesday, June 17. Both games will be in support of the Alzheimer's Association.**

**Silent auctions are already underway to allow our membership to play with one of our Stars. Options are available for play on the 17, at a**

later date and even online on BBO®.

Three of our local restaurants (Carrabba's, Pomodoro's and Tommy's) have donated gift cards so not only can you donate but you can enjoy a meal as well by bidding for those items.

Many of our generous members donated nice bottles of wine. For a \$10 donation, you might just win a pretty pricey bottle to enjoy. You'll be able to review the wines at the club and take your chances. The more donations you make, the better your odds.

Snacks will be available all day and sandwiches will be served between the morning and afternoon games.

Moore Fabrication has again donated their parking (even under their shade tarps). Shuttles will be run from/to before and after both games.

Please plan to attend the entire day. Enhanced masterpoints will also be awarded. Game fees (\$10.00/person) and any other donations are all charitable.

Look forward to seeing you then!

Judith Rebmann  
secretary

P.S.

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



## CYPRESS NORTHWEST 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 \$3.00  
For more information, contact Jim Warren at **832/851-4745** or [jwarren760@gmail.com](mailto:jwarren760@gmail.com).



## KINGWOOD DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

### Games:

Wednesday 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.

For information, contact any of the following:  
Bill Riley at (832)289-3833 or [ichibanbill@yahoo.com](mailto:ichibanbill@yahoo.com)  
Sam Khayatt at [kwbridge1430@gmail.com](mailto:kwbridge1430@gmail.com)  
Kingwood Community Center Phone: (281) 348-2570  
Or Visit our [website](#).

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## LONE STAR BRIDGE CLUB

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

### Open Games:

Mondays at 11:45 a.m.  
Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

Snacks, coffee & bottled water are provided.  
Game fee is \$5.00.

### Upcoming Events...

Monday, June 1 - June Birthdays will be celebrated. Cake will be served. Jeff Kroll will give a free lesson at 10:50 a.m.

Jeff's lessons can be viewed on our [website](#) or on [YouTube](#).

Thursday, June 11 - Free Pizza Lunch

### June Game

June 1 - Monday	Club Championship
June 4 - Thursday	Club Championship
June 8 - Monday	NAP
June 11 - Thursday	NAP
June 15 - Monday	Alzheimer's Game
June 16 - Tuesday	Mentor-Mentee Club Championship
June 18 - Thursday	Club Championship
June 22 - Monday	Club Championship
June 25 - Thursday	NAP
June 29 - Monday	NAP

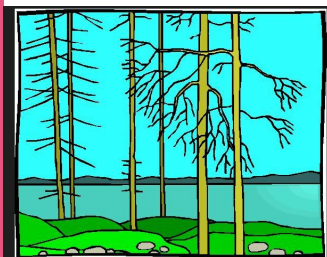
### Mentor/Mentee Information

For information about the Mentor-Mentee game, please contact Chair Anita Rothfuss at [larryandanita@gmail.com](mailto:larryandanita@gmail.com) or 936-537-5039.

### Need a partner?

Contact our partnership chairman Sandra Maalouf at 832-283-1674 or [smaalouf@icloud.com](mailto:smaalouf@icloud.com)

Please visit our website by clicking [here](#). You may also contact Mary McDonald, club manager at [maryemcdonald22@yahoo.com](mailto:maryemcdonald22@yahoo.com) or 281-964-7212 for more information.



## NORTHSIDE BRIDGE CLUB LLC

Northside holds stratified open games Fridays starting at 10:30 a.m. and ending no later than 2:30 p.m. Game fee \$5. Games are held at Restoration Church, 107 Fish Creek Thoroughfare, Montgomery.

We take a short mid-day lunch break so bring your lunch. There is a microwave, ice maker and refrigerator available.

### June Game Schedule:

June 5 North American Pairs  
June 12 Club Championship  
June 19 Charity Club Championship  
June 26 North American Pairs

If you need a partner, contact Carol Meade at 281-543-4541 or email her at [meadecm@icloud.com](mailto:meadecm@icloud.com) and she will do her best to assist you in getting a partner.

We are blessed with volunteers who are generous with their time and scrumptious food offerings and we are proud to continue the decades-old tradition of a friendly duplicate bridge club in the April Sound area.

For further information, contact Norm Gautier (281-795-6665) or Joyce Gautier (713-249-8767) or email at [gautier39@comcast.net](mailto:gautier39@comcast.net)



## 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](mailto:richard.duble@yahoo.com) or visit our [website](#).



## STAR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Games are on Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 am and are \$5.00 per person.

You must have a partner.

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



## Contributors



### More Safety Plays

BY **Jimmy Breihan**

My last article discussed the importance of safety plays and when to use them. Below are some more safety plays that you can put into your arsenal but be careful when to use them and when not to.

#### What are Safety Plays?

“Safety Plays” are a counter-intuitive technique used as a form of insurance to make your contract even when there are bad breaks or a finesse is offside. The “Safety Play” may not be the optimal way to play the suit for no losers, but it gives you the best chance of making your contract, and sometimes your contract is assured if you make one. “Safety Plays” should be used in team games, where the goal is to just make your contract, when overtricks are not important. They can also be used in matchpoint scoring when you know you are in a great contract that others may not be in, but you need to use your judgment if playing matchpoints.

Lets look at the following cases that assume there are plenty of entries between your hand and dummy's.

**Case 1:**

You hold nine cards in the suit, missing the J and 10. You can make a safety play against an opponent holding all the missing cards in front of the hand with two honors.

- 1) Axx      2) K8xx   3) KQ9xx  
    KQ9xxx    AQ9xx    A8xx

Start with the honor that is by itself. In example 1 the A, in example 2 the K, in example 3 the A. This assures no losers if J10xx is in front of the hand with two honors. If the J10xx lies behind the hand with two honors, you always have a loser.

**Case 2:**

You hold ten cards in the suit missing the K and 10 with the Q and J in separate hands.

- 1) J9xx      2) AQ9x   3) Q9xxx  
    AQ8xxx    Jxxxxx    AJ8xx

Once again, start with the honor by itself planning to finesse if not covered. This caters to K10x onside. In examples 1 and 2, play the J. In example 3, play the Q. If the K is onside, you will take all the tricks. If you start by playing low to the Q in 1 or 2, or low to the J in 3, you will lose a trick unnecessarily if it was K10x onside.

**Case 3:**

This time you hold nine cards in the suit missing the K109x with the Q and J in separate hands. Your goal is to hold your losers to at most one.

- 1) J8xxx   2) AJ8xxx   3) Jxxx  
    AQ76    Qxx        AQ8xx

As before, you must start with the honor by itself intending to finesse if not covered. In the first example play the J, the second the Q, and the third play the J. This assures no more than one loser against all adverse holdings except K109x behind the hand with two honors in it, in which case you always have two losers.

**Case 4:**

You hold nine cards in the suit missing the A109x with two honors in one hand and one honor in the other.

- 1) K7xxx   2) Q8xx    3) KQ8xx  
    QJ8x    KJ7xx    J7xx

The correct play is to start with the honor on its own. In example 1, start with the K, in 2 the Q, in 3 the J. This is a safety play against AT9x in front of the hand with two honors. If A109x is behind the hand with two honors, you always have two losers in the suit no matter how you play it.

**Case 5:**

You hold nine cards in the suit missing the QJxx and can afford to lose one but not two tricks.

- 1) A109xx   2) KTx      3) A9xx  
    K8xx      A98xxx    KT8xx

To ensure at most one loser, play low from either hand and cover the card your opponent plays. While this guarantees you a loser in the suit, it also guarantees you don't lose more than one trick in the suit! You would not necessarily make this play at matchpoints, but you should make this play in a team game.

**Case 6:**

This time you hold eight cards in the suit with AK8x(x) in one hand and 10xx(x) in the other. The goal is to lose no more than one trick.

- 1) AK8xx    2) 10xxx  
    10xx      AK8x

Begin by playing the A. In example 1, if the Q or J is played from West then your next play is low to the 10. This is a safety play against left hand opponent (LHO) holding Q9xx or J9xx. If on the lead of the A, LHO plays the Q, J, or 9, similarly, lead low to the 10. This time the safety play caters to right hand opponent (RHO) having QJxx, Q9xx, or J9xx. In example 2, if LHO plays the Q or J on the A, next lead low to the 10, making a safety play against RHO holding Q9xx or J9xx. If RHO plays the Q, J, or 9 on your A, lead low to the 10 as a safety play against LHO holding QJxx, Q9xx, J9xx.

## Recap

Remember these "Safety Plays" are best used when playing team games where your goal is to just make your contract and overtricks are not as important. They should be used judiciously when playing matchpoint games.

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Jimmy Breihan is a professional bridge player and Emerald Life Master with over 8000 masterpoints. He first learned to play bridge while living in Austin in 1998. Jimmy was one of the owners of Westside Bridge Academy in Houston until it closed down post COVID-19. He won the GNT Flight B, partnering with his wife, Jennifer, at the Las Vegas NABC in 2014. Jimmy is happy to answer any questions, just email [jimmybreihan@comcast.net](mailto:jimmybreihan@comcast.net) or ask him next time you see him playing.

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## In Memoriam

- \* Geoff L. Booth, Houston
- \* Mrs. Susan K. Stubinski, Houston
  - \* Mrs. Darlene R. Thompson, Houston
  - \* Paul Wear, Houston

\*Life Master

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## 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 Brigitte Sandifer, Unit 174 Board President - [sandiferdb@gmail.com](mailto:sandiferdb@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](mailto:unit174news@gmail.com).

Evvie Gilbert  
Editor  
[unit174news@gmail.com](mailto:unit174news@gmail.com)

