

# SEPTEMBER



## Unit 174 September 2023 Newsletter



This month's newsletter includes the sections listed below:

### **President's Message**

### **New Members and Rank Advancements**

### **Member Profile**

*We have no profile this month.*

### **Unit News**

***Unit 174 Charity Games: Bridging Hearts for a Cause***

***Coming Tournaments***

***Halloween Sectional and I/N Regional Flyer***

***2024 Lone Star Regional Flyer***

***99er Nite Club***

***199er Nite Club***

***Future Life Masters***

***2023 Club Table Counts***

### **Club News**

***Apple Clubs***

***Bridge Academy of West Houston***

***Bridge Club of Houston (BCOH)***

***Choose Houston - Basic Online Schedule***

***Clear Lake Bridge Club (CLBC)***

***Cypress Northwest DBC & Katy DBC***

***Fort Bend Duplicate Bridge Club - Sugar Land***

***Kingwood Duplicate Bridge Club***

***Lake Conroe Duplicate Bridge Club (LCDBC)***

***Lone Star Bridge Club (LSBC)***

***Pebble Creek Duplicate Bridge Club***

***Spring Branch Duplicate Bridge Club***

***Star Duplicate Bridge Club***

### **Contributors**

***Jack LaVigne - The Real Deal***

### **In Memoriam**

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

Our August tournament was a success, and the table counts were higher than last year, but not by much. The Board of Directors and I would like to know:

1. If you did not play in this tournament we would like to know why. Aside from being on vacation, are there other reasons? As a whole, people have been slow to return to F2F bridge after the pandemic. We would like to turn this around.
2. If you did attend, tell us what you liked-or didn't like-so we can work to improve. We need your input. We have 4 sectional tournaments / year and January we have our Lone Star Regional. Preparing and planning these tournaments is the main job of the Board of Directors.

Every Unit 174 Board Members' email addresses and phone numbers are on the unit's website so please take the time to let us know your ideas.

Our next tournament is our Halloween Sectional, 'witch' is being held at Moody Gardens in Galveston, October 27th-29th. Sarah Springer and Dave Becker are co-chairing this event. To book your room, call 409-741-8484 and request the ACBL rate; (\$156 per night). Request the North Tower as it is close to the playing site. The Saturday night dinner will be enhanced with entertainment. Details are being finalized, so mark your calendars and plan to attend this fun weekend.

Labor Day marks the end of summer and I think we are all ready for this heat wave to end. It is time to start playing F2F bridge again. There is a club game available in every area of Houston, every Monday through Friday, and some weekends. These clubs need our support to stay open. Many levels of bridge classes are starting soon. Check the [Unit 174 web page](#) for times and locations of classes and where to play.

Karen Nussbaum  
[Karenenuss@gmail.com](mailto:Karenenuss@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:** Susan Altschuler, J George Carmichael, Thomas W Davis, Giorgio A Drugovich, Lorraine Miller, Carol A Wheeler

**Transfers:** Betty B Clark, Karen J Hartley, Frederic L Milliken, Frances C Tarbett, Mr. Haskell M Weinberger

***Welcome!***

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### Rank Advancements

Listed below are the Unit 174 Masterpoint Milestones reported by ACBL as of August 1, 2023. An explanation of ranks may be found on the [ACBL website](#).



**Junior Master**

Shayne E Bell, George W Brewer, Branson B Hunter, Jacqueline Sayles

**Club Master**

Elizabeth J Bradley, Mr. Thomas Brown, Pamela A Greenwood, Donald K Steinman, Rita Zwartkruis

**Sectional Master**

Lynn M Clark, Winnie Mohsenzadeh, Mrs. Wynette B Stuntz

**Regional Master**

Barbara Craven, J B Davis, Dan E Egner, Barbara L Hitt

**NABC Master**

Michael W Abbott, Mrs. Ann L Bragg, Mr. Douglas Kincannon

**Bronze Life Master**

Mr. Scott B Cantor, Iris Siqueira

**Silver Life Master**

Mrs. Elisabeth P Cabiness, Mrs. Mary R Nelson, Dr. Dennis Tanner

**Gold Life Master**

Mr. Mark D Howard

**Diamond Life Master**

William B Daniel III

**!!! Congratulations !!!**

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## Member Profile



We have no member profile for September. If you would like to submit one for a future unit newsletter, please email [unit174news@gmail.com](mailto:unit174news@gmail.com)



## Unit News

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## Coming Tournaments

Date	City	State	Unit	Category	Type
Aug 30- Sep 4	Richardson	TX	176	Regional	Open
Sep 7-10	New Braulfels	TX	172	Regional	I/N
Sep 7-10	New Braulfels	TX	172	Sectional	Open
Sep 13-15	Denton	TX	183	Sectional	I/N
Sep 21-24	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
Sep 21-24	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	Open
Oct 5-7	Beaumont	TX	201	Sectional	Open
Oct 11-14	San Antonio	TX	172	Sectional	Open
Oct 13-15	Fort Worth	TX	183	Sectional	Open
Oct 16-22	D16	TX	All	Sectional	ROYAL STaC
Oct 27-29	Houston	TX	174	Regional	I/N
Oct 27-29	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
Oct 28-29	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
Oct 30- Nov 5	Puerto Vallarta	JA	205	Regional	Open
Nov 2-4	Denton	TX	183	Sectional	Local
Nov 4-5	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
Nov 6-12	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	STaC
Nov 15-18	Dallas	TX	176	Sectional	Open
Nov 16-19	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
Dec 2-3	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
Dec 4-10	STaC U174		174	Sectional	STaC
Dec 4-10	StaC U176, U183, U225, U254		176	Sectional	STaC

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

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## Halloween Sectional and I/N Regional



# Houston Unit 174 Bewitches Bridge

October 27-29, 2023

Friday, Saturday, Sunday

## Halloween Sectional and I/N Regional\*

GALVESTON, TEXAS

MOODY GARDENS HOTEL, SPA, AND CONVENTION CENTER

**\*GOLD POINTS AVAILABLE FOR PLAYERS 750 & UNDER!**

### STRATIFICATION

#### Stratified Open Pairs

A: 3000+ X: 750-3000 Y: 0-750

#### Gold Rush Pairs

A: 750-500 B: 200-500 D: 0-200

#### Bracketed Swiss

Brackets of 7-9 teams

### Be Scent-sitive

*This is a fragrance-free tournament—no offensive odors!*

### MOODY GARDENS HOTEL, SPA & CONVENTION CENTER

Call 409-741-8484 and request the ACBL rate (\$156/night); North Tower is closest to playing site

Boxed Lunches available daily at a reduced cost of \$10 (please order ahead); concessions available on site. Catered luncheon on Sunday.

### Guest Speakers 2:00 PM

**Friday:** TIMO ERKOC "Bidding Over Preempts—The Monster Mash"

**Saturday:** MELODY EULER "Trick or ...Director! (please)"

### DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT

FRIDAY NIGHT—Tickets \$30 per person. Comedian Neal Rosen will enliven the evening. Don't miss it!  
SATURDAY NIGHT -- TBA

### Playing Schedule

#### Friday and Saturday, October 27 & 28

Ghostly Ghouls Open Pairs (2 sessions) 10:00 & 2:30

Hayride Haunting Gold Rush Pairs\* 10:00 & 2:30

Spooky Side Game (Single Session) 10:00 & 2:30

Bewitching Bracketed Swiss (2 sessions) 10:00 & 2:30

\*Players May Play One or Both Sessions

#### Sunday, October 29

Ghostly Ghouls Open Pairs (Single Session) 10:00 & TBD

Hayride Haunting Gold Rush Pairs 10:00 & TBD

Bewitching Bracketed Swiss (2 sessions) 10:00 & TBD

### TABLE FEES PER SESSION

ALL DAYS, \$15.00 (\$4 more for non-ACBL/lapsed members)  
*Table fees are cashless—credit cards only.*

### Tournament Chairs

Sarah Springer

(281)904-5791

[sarahspringerbridge@gmail.com](mailto:sarahspringerbridge@gmail.com)

Dave Becker

[dbecker03@hotmail.com](mailto:dbecker03@hotmail.com)

(214)274-2978

### Partnership

Eric Watson

(832)287-9107

[ewat2004@aol.com](mailto:ewat2004@aol.com)

### I/N Chairs

Mike and Joy Cowan

(409)939-4634 - Joy

(409)939-1678 - Mike

[joymaycowan@comcast.net](mailto:joymaycowan@comcast.net)

[gmcowan@comcast.net](mailto:gmcowan@comcast.net)

### Hospitality/Awards

Edna Rice

713-594-0140

[edna@ednarice.com](mailto:edna@ednarice.com)

Come in a costume for a chance to win a prize! One winner each day.  
**Happy Halloween** to all of our Spooky Bridge Players! May your tricks be treats! May your scores be high and slams be nigh.

## 2024 Houston 62<sup>nd</sup> Lone Star Regional

# Houston Unit 174 proudly presents the 62nd annual



**Complementary ACBL entry labels**  
 (with your name and ACBL #)  
 Click here for form to pre-order.

**Be Scent-sitive**  
 this is a fragrance-free tournament  
 No offensive odors



**HOUSTON MARRIOTT WESTCHASE**  
 2900 Briarpark Dr., Houston TX 77042  
 (713) 978-7400  
**Room Rate: \$129.00**  
 Reservation codes  
 ACBACBF - King ACBACBA - 2 Queens  
**Cutoff Date: Jan 11, 2024 or until block filled**

**Tournament Chairs**  
 Karen Nussbaum  
 (832) 524-5233  
 Karenunit174@gmail.com  
 Sarah Springer (281) 904-5791 sarahspringerbridge@gmail.com  
 Dave Becker (214) 274-2978 dbecker03@hotmail.com

**Best Practices Teacher Workshop**  
 Registration fee \$50  
 Certification fee is an optional \$25  
 Sat/Sun - Jan 20/21  
 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
 For information or to register  
 Sarah Springer - (281) 904-5791  
 sarahspringerbridge@gmail.com

**Hospitality**  
 Hallie Eads (713) 569-7700 HallieEads@aol.com  
 Patti Mullendore (713) 467-1026 chmullendore@msn.com  
**Event Naming**  
 Jane Armstrong (281) 798-3342 littlebit9@comcast.net  
**Intermediate/Newcomer**  
 Janice Hardcastle (832) 643-1704 janice\_hardcastle@hotmail.com  
**Partnership**  
 Harry Selldin (713) 899-3163 hselldin@me.com  
 Antoun Henri (832) 659-2310 antounhenri@gmail.com

**Cashless Tournament** - credit cards only  
 Purchase in Advance with Entry Express  
<https://tournaments.acbl.org>  
**Table Fees** (per session)  
 Monday thru Friday \$15  
 Saturday (\$1 for NABC) \$16  
 Sunday (lunch included w/2 session entry) \$18  
*\$4 more for lapsed member*

**LSR Speakers**  
 Mon-Sat at 2:00





### Future Life Master Games

(Single session)

#### 299er Pairs

Mon – Sat: 10:00 & 2:30

#### 99er Pairs

Tue 10:00 & 2:30

Session and overall awards will be **red** points



Please note new schedule change.  
1st game will be Monday at 10:00 am.

### 0-750 Gold Rush Schedule

(Double session - Gold & Red points)

(Single session - Red points)

Mon – Sat: 10:00 & 2:30

### Team Games

(Double session)

#### MON - SAT - JANUARY 22-27

Bracketed Teams ..... 10:00 & 2:30

#### TUE/WED - JANUARY 23/24

Handicapped Swiss (2 sessions) ..... 7:00

#### THU/FRI - JANUARY 25/26

Handicapped Swiss (2 sessions) ..... 7:00

#### SUNDAY - JANUARY 28

A/X Swiss Teams ..... 9:30 & TBA

Bracketed Teams ..... 9:30 & TBA

(No player with > 3000 MPs)

### Pair Games

(Double session unless noted)

#### MON - SAT - JANUARY 22-27

A/X/Y Pairs ..... 10:00 & 2:30

Morning Side Pair Series (Single session\*) ..... 10:00

Afternoon Side Pair Series (Single session\*) ..... 2:30

Evening Side Pair Series (Single session\*) ..... 7:00

(\*These games may be merged into the double session games at the director's discretion, but a player may still choose to play a single session)

#### SUNDAY - JANUARY 28

A/X/Y Pairs ..... 9:30 & TBA

Side Pairs (Single sessions) ..... 9:30 & TBA

### STRATIFICATION & FLIGHTING

A/X/Y Pairs ..... A: 5000+ X: 2000-5000 Y: 0-2000

Gold Rush Pairs ..... C: 300-750 Z: 0-300

Side Pairs ..... A: 3000+ B: 750-3000 C: 0-750

299er ..... A: 200-300 B: 100-200 C: 0-100

99er ..... A: 50-100 B: 20-50 C: 0-20

Strats may vary at the director's discretion

Bracketed Teams ..... grouped by average MP

A/X Swiss ..... A: 4000+ X: 0-4000

Sunday Bracketed Teams ..... B: 0-3000

(No player with > 3000 MPs)

Team or pair average used for all stratified events

### DAILY START TIMES

Monday - Saturday ..... 10:00 & 2:30 & 7:00

Sunday ..... 9:30 AM & TBA

## 99er Nite Club

**THE 99ER NITE CLUB**

**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 player—  
**the "99er Nite Club"!**

When: 6pm, 7 days a week  
Where: Your Online Club\*

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 Nancy Strohmer at:  
[nastrohmer@yahoo.com](mailto:nastrohmer@yahoo.com)

## 199er Nite Club



**199ER NITE CLUB**

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

**D16's 199ER NITE CLUB GAME  
ON BBO IS YOUR NEXT STEP!**

**7 DAYS A WEEK AT 6:05 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 to 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 99's NITE CLUB game.*

*Contact Nancy Strohmmer for details:  
nastrohmmer@yahoo.com*

*New Game in Town*



## Future Life Masters



**Future Life Masters of Unit 174**  
**[www.flm174.org](http://www.flm174.org)**

### Special Club Games

◆ **Sept 17th at BAWH FLM 199ers**

Arabia Shriners 10510 Harwin, Houston  
**Game at 1:30 PM -> NEW TIME**  
Snacks & Game \$5.00

◆ **Sept 16th at BCOH 299ers**

4688 Louetta Rd, Spring  
Potluck Lunch at 11:00/Game at Noon  
Lunch & Game \$10.00

### 499er tournament for NonLife Masters!

**Hosted by Bridge Club of Houston**

**Sept 21 - 24**

**BCOH Website for more information**

**[WWW.BridgeClubofHouston.org](http://WWW.BridgeClubofHouston.org)**

**Apple welcoming  
beginning bridge players every day!**

**Mondays & Fridays at 11:30  
Tracy Gee Community Center**



**We invite our Open Players to bring a player with less than 100 MPS and  
BOTH WILL PLAY FREE! THAT'S RIGHT:**

**Both Play Free....We hope our regulars bring out our Newer Players!**

### Regular Club Games

**Face-to-Face**

**199er Games**

- Clear Lake Bridge Club WEDNESDAYS at 2:00 PM

**299er Games**

- Clear Lake Bridge Club MONDAYS at 2:00 PM
- Bridge Academy of West Houston THURSDAYS at 10:30

**Online at BBO**

- **0-49er FLM Tuesdays at 3:05**
- **0-300 CHOOSE HOUSTON Weekdays at 10 AM**





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## 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

The 25 clubs in the unit have played a total of 11,176,5 tables since January 1, 2023. The top 10 club table counts are:

1. Clear Lake Bridge Club - 2696.5 tables
2. Bridge Club of Houston - 1709 tables
3. Bridge Academy of West Houston - 1508 tables
4. Lone Star Bridge Club - 934.5 tables
5. Apple II DBC - 682 tables
6. Apple DBC - 571 tables
7. Star DBC - 474 tables
8. Kingwood DBC - 366.5 tables
9. Cypress NW DBC - 297.5 tables
10. Ft. Bend DBC - 292.50

Where will your club rank by the end of 2023?



## 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 am sharp at the Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 Westcenter Dr. 77042. Please plan to arrive by 11:15. All games at \$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 than 50 pts.

*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

On Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a 299 Game.

[sisbjohnson@gmail.com](mailto:sisbjohnson@gmail.com) - 281-536-1451

Friday - Apple II - Brigitte Sandifer

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.

*EARLY WARNING:* Apple Clubs will be closed October 23<sup>rd</sup> - November 3<sup>rd</sup> because of early voting.



## Bridge Academy of West Houston

### Mentor/Mentee

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

*September 5<sup>th</sup> - 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 and 8 is enough Swiss Team games are held once a month on a Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

*September 17<sup>th</sup> - FLM & 8 is enough Swiss Team*

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.

### Mini-lesson

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

### Game Schedule

**Tuesday - Mentor/Mentee**  
**Wednesdays - Invitational**  
**Thursdays - Open & 299'er**  
**10:30 a.m.**  
**Sunday - Future Life Masters & Swiss Teams**  
**1:30 p.m.**  
**Arabia Shriners Center**  
**10510 Harwin Dr.**

- \$5 per person
- Coffee & Snacks are provided
- Jennifer Breihan, Susan Kaplan and Catherine Brown directors

### Game Calendar

Tue – Sep 5	International Fund	Sun – Sep 17	International Fund
Wed – Sep 6	International Fund	Wed – Sep 20	International Fund
Thu – Sep 7	International Fund	Thu – Sep 21	Club Game
Wed – Sep 13	International Fund	Wed – Sep 27	Club Championship
Thu – Sep 14	International Fund	Thu – Sep 28	NAP/Club Game

## Need a Partner?

Contact Linda or Tom Martinsen at 713-398-4907 [martinsens@comcast.net](mailto:martinsens@comcast.net)  
or  
Joyce Ryan at (713) 301-0624 [JoyceRyanBridge@gmail.com](mailto:JoyceRyanBridge@gmail.com)

BRIDGE  HOUSTON

## Bridge Club of Houston

Please consult our monthly calendar online: [BCOH Calendar](#).

**BCOH: Online Choose Houston** - Tuesday and Thursday 7:00 p.m.

**Mentor/Mentee Games:** 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:mlinkins@swbell.net).

**\*\*\* Proof of Covid vaccine is no longer required to play at BCOH \*\*\*\***

**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\*\*\*\***

\*\*\*\*Please note the time change.\*\*\*\*

Saturday F2F 299er and Open games - check BCOH [website](#) for details each week.

### SAVE THE DATES:

8 is Enough Swiss Teams - September 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. (**Register at the club.**)

**Mentor/Mentee F2F:** September 12<sup>th</sup> and September 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.

Please contact Judy Cupps at [judy\\_n\\_al@yahoo.com](mailto:judy_n_al@yahoo.com) by phone 713-320-5592 for September 12<sup>th</sup> and Bob Zeigler@713-829-6928 for September 26<sup>th</sup>. Also contact them with any questions.

### TUESDAY TIDBITS

Build a solid foundation with Julie Halperin, Diamond Life Master and ACBL Teacher, and enjoy a free lesson from 9:30-10:10 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.**

September 4<sup>th</sup> Labor Day game - Hotdogs provided by BCOH. Bring your favorite side to share and come join the fun! Lunch at 11:00 a.m.

September 8<sup>th</sup> - Pizza Friday! Enjoy a free pizza lunch

September 16<sup>th</sup> - RANK CELEBRATION

12:15 p.m. POT LUCK (Please bring dish) 1:00 p.m. Open game and 299er Pairs.

September 21<sup>st</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> - 499er Tournament. Check website for details.

**NEW:** *Twenty-Table Saturday game at BCoH on October 14<sup>th</sup>*

Taco Lunch provided by host team at 12:15 a.m., game at 1:00 p.m. with extra points

Reservations requested to balance food, but not required. 50/50 raffle Sign up [here](#).

## 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	<i>Monthly, usually second Sat; hand review after the game</i> →					<b>FLM 0-20</b>	<i>flm174.org</i>
10:00 AM							
10:10 AM							
11:50 AM							
12:00 PM							
3:00 PM							
3:05 PM						<b>FLM 0-50</b>	
						<i>↓ First and third Mondays only. Visit <a href="http://www.bridgewebs.com/bcoh">www.bridgewebs.com/bcoh</a> for details</i>	
7:00 PM	<b>Mentor</b>	<b>Open</b>		<b>Open</b>			

*Check the club and FLM websites for the most up-to-date information.*

*Check the club and FLM websites for the most up-to-date information.*



## 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 and Thursday at 10:00 a.m.

Swiss Teams: Sunday at 1:00 p.m. September 10<sup>th</sup> is 8 is enough. The B players' upper limit is 2000 - 2500 masterpoints.

*Please arrive no later than 15 minutes before the game start time.*

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.

*There will be no labs on both September 19<sup>th</sup> and September 26<sup>th</sup>.*

Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> is the Mentor/Mentee Game at 2:00 p.m. This game is reserved for members only. For more information and to submit a contact form, visit the [CLBC Mentor/Mentee site](#).

Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. we resume our Bridge, DoNuts and Lesson with Anita Goldman - Review of Directors' Calls, Etiquette towards Director and your Opponents. DoNuts at 9:00 a.m. with lesson at 9:20 a.m. Open game follows at 10:00 a.m.

What's coming up? Mark your calendars and watch for further information:

Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, Bridge, DoNuts and a Lesson with Rick Stell - Topic to be announced.

Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, Halloween Party - Bobbie Moultz and Johnell McKee are the party coordinators.

Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, Thanksgiving Party in conjunction with our Mentor/Mentee game. Katie Gardner and JoAnn Pierce are the party coordinators.

Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Party again in conjunction with our Mentor/Mentee game. Darlyn Dusek and her committee will serve as party coordinators.

*Note: September is International Fund Month for all games unless noted otherwise.*

Bobbie Moutz  
2nd Vice President  
281-546-9199  
[natcolemed@comcast.net](mailto:natcolemed@comcast.net)

P.S.

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

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## 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, with sign-up beginning at 11:00.

Coffee, tea, and snacks are provided. Games are \$3.

**Katy DBC** meets every Wednesday. Sign-in starts at 11:00, and the game begins at 11:30. 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](mailto: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](mailto:jwarren7602gmail.com)

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## Fort Bend Duplicate Bridge Club

### **Open Game Mondays in Greatwood**

Please Arrive by 9:45 a.m. to start at 10:00 a.m.  
COMMUNITY CENTER  
7225 Greadwood Parkway  
Sugar Land, TX 77479

*Note:* Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> - Hot Dogs will be served after the game to celebrate Labor Day.

The club is open on Monday Holidays.  
Entries for regular and upgraded games are \$6.00.

### **Open Games Tuesday**

Arabia Shrine Center  
10510 Harwin Dr.  
Houston, TX 77036  
Please arrive by 10:15 a.m. Games starts at 10:30 a.m.

Entries are normally \$5.00.

**FOR ALL GAME AND LOCATIONS:**

- 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.

**CALLING AHEAD WILL FACILITATE STARTING GAMES ON TIME.  
CONTACT:**

John Eric Watson  
[ewat2004@aol.com](mailto:ewat2004@aol.com)  
832 287 9107



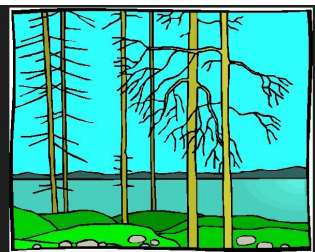
## KINGWOOD DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

**Kingwood Duplicate Bridge Club has added a second game on Thursday starting September 8!**

Both games (Wednesday and Thursday) start at 10:00 am 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 AM. 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](mailto:jrsimmons2102@gmail.com).  
Bill Riley at (832)289-3833 or [ichibanbill@yahoo.com](mailto:ichibanbill@yahoo.com).  
Kingwood Community Center Phone: (281)348-2570  
Or Visit our [website](#).



## LAKE CONROE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

**September 2023**

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 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.

Game days: Fridays

No Partner?? No worries! Call Gerry Earnest, 936-447-6958, and she will do her best to find you a partner.

**The road construction on Hwy 105 has finally become bearable.  
However, there might still be some delays.  
I really appreciate all of you hanging in there with us to play on  
Friday  
through all that mess. You are very appreciated.  
We invite you to join us on Friday's at LCDBC and look forward to  
seeing all of you at the table.**

Penny Grassedonio  
Club Manager  
832-361-4577  
[czthdaypjg@gmail.com](mailto: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.

Our Mentee/Mentor game is the third Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. The next scheduled date is September 19<sup>th</sup>. Please contact our new coordinator Anita Rothfuss if you would like to play as a Mentor or a Mentee. Mentees will pay a \$5 entry fee and Mentors play for free. All games award ACBL masterpoints. A sign-up list to play is also available at the club. You can reach Anita at 936-537-5039 or by email at: [larryandanita@gmail.com](mailto:larryandanita@gmail.com)

Please join us for FREE Pizza on the second Thursday of every month.

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](mailto:smaalouf@icloud.com).

For more information, contact Linda Sutton, Club Manager at [lindasutton212@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:richard.duble@yahoo.com) or visit our [website](#).



## SPRING BRANCH DUPLICATE CLUB

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  
Judith Hoffing  
713-467-5805  
[hoffing2007@comcast.net](mailto:hoffing2007@comcast.net)  
[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](mailto:richard.duble@yahoo.com) or visit our [website](#).



## Contributors



## The Real Deal

BY JACK LAVIGNE

This month I am stealing the title from Larry Cohen's Bridge Bulletin article, "*The Real Deal*."

The following hand occurred at the San Antonio Regional. Six out of seventeen pairs bid a Grand Slam in clubs, but only three made it.

North is in 7♣ holding:

Dir: West  
Vul: N - S

North  
♠ -  
♥ 2  
♦ AKJ972  
♣ AKJ1087

South  
♠ AK863  
♥ A54  
♦ 10  
♣ Q432

West	North	East	South
2♥	3♦	Pass	3♠
Pass	5♣	Pass	5♥
Pass	6♣	6♥	7♣
All Pass			



East's opening lead is the ♠J. This hand looks like a great 7♣.

Declarer's initial plan is to draw trumps, pitch two diamonds on the ♠AK and ruff two in dummy.

Declarer wins the ♠A in dummy (West plays small) and leads the ♣2 to North's ♣A. West follows with the ♣5 and East shows out.

Whoa! If you draw trumps, you will not be able to ruff two diamonds in dummy.

Please plan the play with the information at hand before proceeding.

The secret of this hand is to visualize West's distribution.

Assume that West has six hearts. We know that West has three clubs. From the opening lead when West plays a low spade, we assume that West has the ♠Q and thus at least two spades.

So how many diamonds does West have?

The answer is two or fewer. If that is true, you can make the hand by drawing trumps and taking a ruffing finesse through East for the ♦Q.

The actual hand was:

	<u>North</u>	
	♠ -	
	♥ 2	
	♦ AKJ972	
	♣ AKJ1087	
<u>West</u>		<u>East</u>
♠ Q42		♠ J10975
♥ KQ10876		♥ J93
♦ 6		♦ Q8543
♣ 965		♣ -
	<u>South</u>	
	♠ AK863	
	♥ A54	
	♦ 10	
	♣ Q432	

The declarers who failed, played the ♦A and a diamond ruff with one of dummy's small trumps. West overruffed resulting in down one. This plan is good and will make as long as diamonds break no worse than 4-2.

The successful declarers drew three trumps. Then they played a heart to dummy's A, pitched their second small diamond on the ♠A and ruffed a spade, West following with the ♠Q.

Then declarer played ♦AK. When West shows out the hand became an open book.

	<u>North</u>	
	♠ -	
	♥ -	
	♦ J9	
	♣ 108	
<u>West</u>		<u>East</u>
♠ -		♠ 109
♥ KQ108		♥ -
♦ -		♦ Q8
♣ -		♣ -
	<u>South</u>	
	♠ 86	
	♥ 5	
	♦ -	
	♣ Q	

Declarer took the proven ruffing finesses through East.

### Summary

This hand is not easy. Don't be discouraged if you didn't find the successful line of play. The lesson is that after making an initial plan, it pays to take a second look (and even a third) look when new information is gathered. When East shows out of clubs, declarer must abandon the original plan of ruffing two diamonds in dummy. The successful declarers applied card reading and counting to infer that West has two or fewer diamonds so a ruffing finesse (if the ♠Q didn't drop) through East would work.

Jack LaVigne is a regular contributor to the Unit 174 Newsletter. He is Platinum Life Master, past president of Unit 174, District 16 Recorder and volunteer at the Bridge Academy of West Houston. Jack can be contacted at [jacklavigne@att.net](mailto:jacklavigne@att.net)

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## In Memoriam

Harold L. Task  
Bonn Tanner  
Gulzar Mitha

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## From the Editor

**SEPTEMBER**

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 - [Karenenuss@gmail.com](mailto:Karenenuss@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)

