



American Contract  
Bridge League

# NEWSLETTER

July 2017



## Events and News

### *President's Message*

You may have noticed that qualifying for the North American Pairs Championship has begun at the club level! From there, we will have qualifying at the Unit level and then on to the District level, which will be January 20-21 in San Antonio (finals at Spring Nationals). The District has also voted to promote more participation in the GNT events (finals at Summer Nationals) as well, by adding club qualifying, so this is very exciting.

Unit 174 and District 16 have a new champion for charitable causes. **Nancy Strohmer**, Chair of the District 16 Charity Committee, has resurrected the District Charity Games this year, and charity games were held in March. A total of \$1884 was raised, and 35 of the 156 active clubs in District 16 participated. Thanks to all! We hope for a larger participation next year! The applicants for awards totaled 68, and the recipients of the D16 grants were **Friends of the Family, Denton; Mowat-Wilson Syndrome Family Foundation, Houston; and Sick Children's Clinic, Lubbock**. More details may be found at the Unit 174 Website. Your Unit 174 Board has approved a Unit Charity Week in December after StaC Week, and club managers will soon receive information about it. This is one of our really worthwhile activities, as the extra dollar paid goes to charity, and the games are eligible for higher masterpoint awards. This makes for a Win-Win! The charity of Unit 174 is SEARCH, and information may be found at the Unit Website ([www.acblunit174.org](http://www.acblunit174.org)).

The Board is working hard to prepare for the "**Awesome August**" Sectional, and flyers are posted at the Website. We carefully considered all comments from the June Sectional and made changes based on input from the members. The Sunday entry fee will be only \$10 (reduced from the \$15 stated on earlier flyers) and will *not* include lunch. You may find lunch nearby or from the hotel offerings that will include a concession stand as well as buffet and menu in the dining room. To make things even easier, lunch times will be *staggered*. Complimentary coffee will be offered only at the start of each morning session, and will be in 8-ounce cups (rather than 6). From 11 to 3 daily, coffee will be available at the concession stand for \$1.50.

Our excellent speakers are **Joyce Ryan, Mildred Breed, and Betty Starzec**, so you will definitely want to plan to hear them. Finally, each year the Board runs an experimental event at the August Sectional. This year it will be a two-day, four-session Pairs Championship, to be held on Friday and Saturday, August 11-12. The Unit is holding such an event at the Lone Star Regional, so this will be a test for us to determine the attendance to be expected at the Regional. Half the field advances from the first day to the second, and one pair will eventually be named the Unit 174 Pairs Champion!

**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 head to the August Sectional. See you at the tables!*

**Bill Riley, Unit 174 President**

**Bill Riley, [ichibanbill@gmail.com](mailto:ichibanbill@gmail.com)**

---

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

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

**NEW MEMBERS**

**Zane K. Bolen, Michelle J. Clary, Ken Ellis, Frieda K. Hall, Erica Helgerud, Gerald Jaffe, Debbie L Nash, Eren Selcen, and Linda M. Spiegelhauler** 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**

(5 MP)

**Robert W. Brewer, Teresa A. Clifford, Dru Dalton, Earl R. Godkin, Martin E. Hansen, B Haznedar, Christine P. Mitchell, and Charlotte Shamis.**

**NEW CLUB MASTER**

(20 MP)

**Norman H. Hamady, Mark Levy, Gregory May, Corbin N. Shouse, Christine P. Spalding, Kevin L. Vogel, and Donna R. Walden.**

**NEW SECTIONAL MASTER**

(50 MP)

Pat Chichakli, Phyllis A. Dillard, Jeanne L. Lantz, Carol M. McCord, Amy W. Puchot, Dottie M. Steverson, and Shengliang Zhu.

**NEW REGIONAL MASTER** (100 MP)

Russell B. Chandler, Adrienne H. Juno, and Joan Schnider.

**NEW NABC MASTER** (200 MP)

Susan D. Domsalla and Marion M. McKernan.

**NEW LIFE MASTER** (122 in Unit 174)

Ann Wales.

**NEW BRONZE LIFE MASTER** (315 in Unit 174)

Alan M. Holzberg and N. Patricia Leavitt.

**NEW SILVER LIFE MASTER** (184 in Unit 174)

Barbara A. Courtright, Beverly Fanarof, Linda S. Marlin, and Shi-Lin Yeh.

**NEW RUBY LIFE MASTER** (174 in Unit 174)

Raymond Alexanian and Janice L. Sandberg.

---

## Bound for Toronto!

On behalf of our Flight A Grand National Team that will be traveling to Toronto in a few days to compete in the national finals, I want to extend a huge "Thank You" to all the members of our Unit and District, to the boards of directors of Unit 174 and District 16, and to the wonderful ladies at Support Team Bridge who contributed to our fundraising efforts. Thanks to all of you, we have raised our target amount and now we can concentrate on bridge. We will make our best effort to bring home another GNT title for our District. Thanks again!

*-Daniel Jackson*



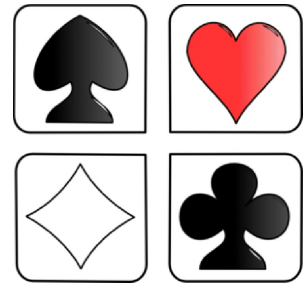
Front: Tony Haddad (l.), Daniel Jackson (Team Captain, r.);  
Back: Jimmy Breihan (l.), Mike Doyle (r.).

---

## FEEDBACK & FODDER

### Unit 174 News and Club News

#### News from Clubs



**Walter Arnold** reports that the Southwest DBC will continue games at Congregation Brith Shalom, 4610 Bellaire Blvd., through Wednesday, August 9. The club will return to the Merfish Youth Center on Tuesday, August 15. Both Tuesday and Wednesday games will remain there until further notice.

**Joyce Ryan**, assisted by **Ann Harvey**, has two series of classes on Tuesdays at **St. Martin's Episcopal Bridge School** beginning 9/12: Competitive Bidding from 10-12 and Beginning Bridge from 1-3. For information, contact Joyce at [jryan9620@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jryan9620@sbcglobal.net) or 713-977-3360.

**Bridge Club of Houston** will be holding a Special Memorial Game for **Pete Hanson** on Friday, July 21, and Pete's daughters will attend. Pete and his many contributions to the club, including as a director, will be sorely missed. On Labor Day, September 4, they will hold another of their very successful events, "Hot Diggety Dog" Day (reservations required, as they expect *another* sell-out. Then September 7-10 they will hold a 299r Tournament.

**Westside Bridge Academy** just completed a successful 299r Tournament, with 9 tables in each of 2 sections Thursday morning, 7/13, 11.5 tables Thursday afternoon, 9 tables in each of 2 sections Friday morning, 9 tables Friday afternoon, 15 tables Saturday morning, 12 tables Saturday afternoon, and 5 teams in the Sunday Swiss game. Congratulations! WBA is offering a 0-20 game on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. and Sunday afternoons at 1 p.m., each with a free mini-lecture before the game.

**Sugar Land DBC** has supervised play every Thursday in Richmond until Labor Day, and classes will resume after Labor Day.

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](http://www.acblunit174.org)) for 2017. Their calendars will also have news of all scheduled events. This month's newsletter contains this well-worth-repeating quote from **Alfred Sheinwold**: "*The real test of a bridge player isn't in keeping out of trouble, but in escaping once he's in it.*" We are all encouraged to continue to think and adjust once things don't go the way we had planned, aren't we?

## **Final Thoughts . . . .**

Feedback from the idea of sorting all hands before passing them on during club play: We didn't get a lot of feedback, so I think most of us just don't have an opinion one way or another. I have noticed that the players who are asked to sort for the next person need a reminder (such as the yellow card under the guide card) and it's easily forgotten—especially in games with a Howell movement. Other comments were that they would become unsorted when the next person counts anyway, if done in threes, as some of us do. What would you like to toss out next for feedback? Please let me hear about it.

I didn't get to attend the July 4 Regional in San Antonio this year, but Unit 174 was WELL represented! In looking over the results as they were posted online each day, I couldn't help but wonder how successful that regional would have been if it were not for our unit! And not only were we there, we were *winning*! Congratulations to all those who gathered up many MPs in the San Antonio Regional!

In closing, I need to mention that deaths of Unit 174 members are reported in *The Scorecard*, published every other month by District 16, but we lost two very special members recently that I feel compelled to mention here. **Carolyn Peters** and **Pete Hanson** meant so much to the unit and both went above and beyond in their contributions to the Unit 174 bridge community. They will be missed very much, but we know those who have gone before were pleased to welcome them to Heaven. Carolyn fought a courageous battle against cancer, and Pete was felled by a heart attack during a game at BCoH. Our prayers and thoughts are with their families and loved ones.

For the July, and all other newsletters, please send your news, ideas, articles, comments, and suggestions, to [carolwilson@earthlink.net](mailto:carolwilson@earthlink.net), or leave a message or text me at 281-642-4050 or find me at work, 281-600-6000x2.

That's all for now! Keep on biddin'!  
*Carol Ann Wilson, Unit 174 Newsletter Editor*