



Unit 174 May 2023 Newsletter



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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

Sam Khayatt Jeff Kroll - Make the Best Bid Available. Then Play...

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

Your Unit 174 Board of Directors has been busy doing some reorganizing while we work on our three upcoming sectional tournaments.

We have made some changes to the Early Summer Sectional Tournament (June 9-11). It is what we did at the April Election Sectional. We will have the 2-session open pair games, but you can play one session if you prefer. Should the table count merit, we can add a separate 1-session game, but we want to avoid a 3 or 4 table game. We have also changed our 299er pair games to 499er pairs games. Again, if we have enough tables, the directors can add a 299er game. We feel that the 300 points+ players having to play in the open pairs game was not in their best interests and their point gap was too wide. Please see the flyer for this tournament below for more information.

Plans are still ongoing for our Shriner Houston Sectional Tournament (Aug. 10-13). This tournament will also be a Non-Life Master Regional (NLM)! It is a great opportunity for players to get their silver, red and gold points.

The same stratification will be used for our U174 Fall Sectional Tournament at Moody Gardens in Galveston (Oct. 27-29) that will also be a NLM regional! Watch the newsletter and the website for more information as we approach the date.

We have two vice-presidents now, Sarah Springer and Dave Becker. They are such hard workers. I have been able to divide the workload between them for the sake of efficiency. I also added Paddy Fiorino as our non-director secretary. So, with the nine Board of Directors, Steve Gordon as our non-director treasurer and Paddy Fiorino, we now have 11 people to get our work done in a timelier manner. We are happy to have Nile Gross, Antoun Henri and Siraj Jiwani join the returning board members, John Dubose, Thomas Rush, Charley Dalton and Karen Nussbaum. That still leaves plenty of room for volunteers! We can't make it work without the rest of you! Thank you for all the support you have shown us. We hope to see you attend our upcoming sectionals. Please let us hear from you if you can help!

Karen Nussbaum
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: Judy Arfa, Steve Broderick, Alan K Churchill, James P Harris, Lesley Kellet, Joan Land, Brian Lord, Clayton McCray, Pat Moore, Rajeshvari Pala, Franelle Rogers

Transfers: Mr. Lunhui Lin

Welcome!



Rank Advancements

Listed below are the Unit 174 Masterpoint Milestones reported by ACBL as of April 7, 2023. An explanation of ranks may be found on the [ACBL website](#).

Junior Master

Mr. Lunhui Lin, Mr. Dan E Morse, Unal Bayram, Mr. Thomas Brown, Margaret R Curlet, Dennis J Palasek, Phyllis Pittman, Gunjan Singh, Ann Starr, Gerald M Stevenson

Club Master

Don Amfahr, Tom Fowler, Mary K Hancock, Mr. Martin P Meer, Winnie Mohsenzadeh

Sectional Master

Beryl T Booker

Regional Master

Dr. Leon J Daily, Lindy Kahn, Mrs. Cynthia Macholan, Mr. Daniel Macholan

NABC Master

Hua Chen, Kyo Chen, Charles H Otto

Life Master

Janice Hardcastle

Bronze Life Master

Gregory Andrews

Silver Life Master

Debbie L Nash

Ruby Life Master

Ms. Mary Lou Fowler, Mr. Jack C Manderscheid, Tonya S McNabb, Mrs. Gulzar Mitha, Mr. Fred Mueller

Gold Life Master

Irene Baker, Mr. Forrest J Gray

Sapphire Life Master

Mr. Kenneth F Cole

!!! Congratulations !!!



Member Profile

We received no new profile for May. Anyone may submit a profile. Please contact Evvie Gilbert at Unit174News@gmail.com.



Unit News

Coming Tournaments

Date	City	State	Unit	Category	Type
May 4-7, 2023	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	Open
May 8-14, 2023	D16	TX	All	Sectional	Royal STaC
May 18-21, 2023	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
May 20-June 4, 2023	Acapulco Diamante	GR		Regional	Open
Jun 2-4, 2023	Midland	TX	209	Sectional	Open
Jun 7-9, 2023	Dallas	TX	176	Sectional	Open
Jun 9-11, 2023	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
Jun 12-18, 2023	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	STaC
Jun 10-11, 2023	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	Open
Jul 3-9, 2023	San Antonio	TX	172	Regional	Open
Jul 27-29, 2023	Tyler	TX	225	Regional	I/N
Aug 10-13, 2023	Houston	TX	174	Regional	I/N
Aug 10-13, 2023	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
Sep 21-24, 2023	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
Oct 27-29, 2023	Houston	TX	174	Regional	I/N
Oct 27-29, 2023	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
Nov 6-12, 2023	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	STaC
Nov 16-19, 2023	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
Dec 4-10, 2023	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	STaC

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

Early Summer Sectional



Houston Unit 174 Proudly Presents

June 9th thru 11th



2023

Early Summer Sectional

ARABIA SHRINE CENTER

10510 Harwin Dr.
Houston, TX 77036



Stratification

Stratified Open Pairs

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

Stratified 499er pairs

B: 300-500 C: 100-300 D: 0-100

Bracketed Swiss

Brackets of 7-9 teams



Table Fees per Session

Friday, Saturday & Sunday: \$15
(\$4 more for lapsed members)

Table Fees are cashless (credit card only)

TownePlace Suites by Marriott

10610 Westpark Dr, Houston TX 77042
Call Anthony Imes 713-893-1638 for 15% discount

SPRINGHILL Suites by Marriott

5851 Rogerdale Rd, Houston, TX 77072
(832) 300-0200

Covid Safety

Vaccination no longer required to play
Please stay home if ill

Playing Schedule

Friday and Saturday, Jun 9th & 10th

Stratified Open Pairs (may play 1 session) **10 & 2:30**
Stratified 499er Pairs (single sessions) **10 & 2:30**
Side Game (single sessions) **10 & 2:30**
FLM 0-50 Gemini Pairs (single sessions) **10 & 2:30**
Bracketed Swiss **10 & 2:30**

Sunday, Jun 11th

Stratified Open Pairs (single sessions) **10 & TBD**
Stratified 499er Pairs (single sessions) **10 & TBD**
Bracketed Swiss **10 & TBD**

299er games may be added if attendance warrants

Please Be Scent-sitive

No Cologne

No Perfume

No Offensive Odors

Tournament Chairs

Thomas Rush

PlayBridgeWithThomas@gmail.com
(832) 228-7835

John DuBose

jd174biz@yahoo.com
(713) 315-1755

Hospitality Chairs

Nile Gross

nilegross@gmail.com
(832) 913-9318

Partnership

Janice Hardcastle

janice_hardcastle@hotmail.com
(713) 661-8425

Antoun Henri

AntounHenri@gmail.com
(832) 659-2310



Friday: Joe Quinn

Guest Speakers - 2:00 Friday and Saturday
Saturday: 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

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

Special Club Games

- ♦ May 13 at BCOH 299ers
4688 Louetta Rd, Spring
Potluck Lunch at 11:00/Game at Noon
Lunch & Game \$10.00
- ♦ May 22 at APPLE 299ers
3599 Westcenter Dr, Houston
Game at 11:30 \$3.00
- ♦ May 28 at BAWH FLM 199ers
Arabia Shriners 10510 Harwin, Houston
Game at 1:00PM
Snacks & Game \$5.00

FLM welcomes singletons...Partners provided!

499er NonLife Master Tournament

Bridge Club of Houston at 4688 Louetta Rd, Spring
May 18-21
Games \$10-Lunch \$7
Expected Stratification: A=500 B=300 C=100
EARN SILVER POINTS !!!

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





Unit 174 Charity Report

By Nancy Strohmmer, Unit 174 Charity
Chair

If you have the opportunity, I encourage all of you to thank the Clubs listed below for participating in the Charity games. Thanks to their participation, we will be collecting \$644 plus an additional \$758* from *Brigitte Sandifer, Apple II* for Unit 174’s charity, **Houston Food Bank**.

Comments from Brigitte: “I had 27 tables on 4/28 and we normally would give \$4 per table = \$108, but I will double the contribution to \$216. Then I added the \$20 given to me by a player, plus the \$122 from "Support Your Club" and we have a new total of \$358. With my remittance in March of \$420 my club has given \$758* to the cause.”



Brigitte Sandifer

**A special thanks to Brigitte for her kindness and generosity!*

Receipts as of April 20, 2023 are \$544 for the games that benefited the Houston Food Bank.

The Unit 174 Charity games which benefited the **Houston Food Bank** were held on March 22 and 24, 2023.

The following Clubs participated:

- *Apple II (Houston)*
- Bridge Club of Houston
- Clear Lake Bridge Club
- Kingwood Duplicate Bridge Club
- Lake Conroe Duplicate Bridge Club
- Pebble Creek Duplicate Bridge Club (College Station)
- Star Duplicate Bridge Club (College Station)

Total tables = 106.5
Total contribution = \$426 (106.5 tables X \$4/table)

The District 16 Charity games which benefited the **Houston Food Bank** were held on March 22 and 24, 2023.

The following Unit 174 Clubs participated:

- Bridge Academy of West Houston
- Clear Lake Bridge Club
- Pebble Creek Duplicate Bridge Club (College Station)
- Star Duplicate Bridge Club (College Station)

Total tables = 81
Total contribution = \$324 (81 tables x \$4/table)



April was ACBL Charity month. Virtual games held April 10-16 supported the ACBL Charity Foundation. Face-to-face clubs could also hold games that benefited the ACBL Charity Foundation.

The Unit 174 Charity games which benefited the **ACBL Charity Foundation** were held on March 20 and 22, 2023.

The following Clubs participated:

- Apple (Houston)
- Clear Lake Bridge Club
- Lone Star Bridge Club
- Star Duplicate Bridge Club (College Station)

Total tables = 82
Total contribution = \$328 (82 tables x \$4/table)



The District 16 Charity games which benefited the **Grassroots Fund** were held on March 27 and 30, 2023.

The Following Unit 174 Clubs participated:

- Apple II
- Lake Conroe Bridge Club
- Lone Star Bridge Club

Total tables = 44
Total contribution = \$176 (44 tables x \$4/table)

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 6082 tables since January 1, 2023. The top four club table counts are:

1. Clear Lake Bridge Club - 1526 tables
2. Bridge Club of Houston - 987 tables
3. Bridge Academy of West Houston - 761.50 tables
4. Lone Star Bridge Club - 502 tables

Lets hope that the 2022 downward trend will be reversed this year! Where will your club rank by the end of 2023?



Club News

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

The information must be received by the 22nd of the month to be included in the monthly Unit 174 Newsletter. 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.

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 Game:
A 299 game at 11:30 on the fourth Monday of each month will continue on May 22. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before game time.

Dan Morse Tribute Game and Luncheon will be held on Friday, June 2. Lunch will be served at 11, make your reservations so Brigitte can get a count on the number of people to feed. Player's should not bring anything.

For information, please contact:

Monday – Apple – Susan Johnson
sisbjohnson@gmail.com - 281-536-1451

Friday – Apple II – Brigitte Sandifer
Dan Morse Tribute Game and Luncheon will be held on Friday, June 2.
sandiferdb@gmail.com - 281-494-1464

Results and additional information [here](#).

Per the ACBL recommendations: Beginning May 15, the COVID vaccination requirement will be lifted. Only drinks in bottles or covered containers are permitted. No food is allowed at the tables during play. You are welcome to bring food and eat before the game starts.



Bridge Academy of West Houston

Mentor/Mentee

Our monthly Mentor/Mentee game is held on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 10:30. The next game is scheduled for May 2.

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

Our 8 is enough Swiss Teams game is held once a month on a Sunday at 1:00 pm. The next game is on May 28.

The stratifications are:

- Level 1** – 0-1000 masterpoints (1)
- Level 2** – 1000-3000 masterpoints (2)
- Level 3** – 3000+ masterpoints (3)

The members of the team must have a team total of eight or less. 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.

Royal STaC

District 16 is hosting a **Royal STaC** week, May 8 -14. Masterpoint awards for a **STaC** are normally **Silver** but you have the opportunity to win **Gold** and **Red** as well!



District 16 Royal STaC

Wed/Thu, May 10/11

Points Awarded are:

25% **Gold**, 25% **Red**,
25% **Silver** and 25% **Black**

Mini-lesson

Before each Wednesday game there is a mini-lesson beginning around 10:00 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
1:00 p.m.
Arabia Shrine Center

10510 Harwin Dr.

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

Game Calendar

Tue – May 2	Mentor/Mentee Grass Roots Fund	Wed – May 17	Grass Roots Fund
Wed – May 3	Grass Roots Fund	Thu – May 18	Grass Roots Fund
Thu – May 4	Grass Roots Fund	Wed – May 24	Grass Roots Fund
Wed – May 10	Royal STaC	Thu – May 25	Grass Roots Fund
Thu – May 11	Royal STaC	Sun – May 28	Club Championship

Need a Partner?

Contact Linda or Tom Martinsen at 713-398-4907 martinsens@comcast.net or
Joyce Ryan at (713) 301-0624 joyceRyanBridge@gmail.com



Bridge Club of Houston

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

BCOH: Online Choose Houston

Mentor/Mentee Games: 1st and 3rd 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.

BCOH Open Games (Face-2-Face): *Pre-registration **is not** required for our weekly scheduled games.

Monday: 11:55 a.m.
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:30 a.m.

SAVE THE DATES:

Swiss Teams – May 16 at 10:30 a.m. (**Register at the club**)

Mentor/Mentee F2F – May 9 and 23 at 10:30 a.m. Please contact Judy Cupps: judy_n_al@yahoo.com by phone 713-320-5592 for May 9 sign up and Bob Zeigler at 713-829-6928 for May 23. Also contact them with any questions.

May 26 - PIZZA FRIDAY Open game at 10:30 a.m. Enjoy a free pizza lunch.

May 18-21 - 499er Tournament

Memorial Day Hot Diggity Dog

Monday, May 29 - Hot dogs will be served. Bring a favorite dish or dessert to share! Lunch will be at 11:00 a.m. with open game to follow at noon.

TUESDAY TIDBITS

Build a solid foundation with Julie Halperin Diamond Life Master and ACBL Teacher and enjoy a free lesson from 9:30 to 10:10. Game to follow begins at 10:30. 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.**

Saturday F2F

May 13

*****Potluck and Points*******

Extra Extra read all about it! 299R and Open game. This will be a potluck day. Bring a favorite dish or dessert to share! Lunch will be at 11:00 a.m. with both games to follow at noon. 25% **Gold/Red/Silver/Black.**

May 27 - Open game at noon.

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	Monthly, usually second Sat; hand review after the game →					FLM 0-20	flm174.org
10:00 AM	300er						
10:10 AM	Open						
11:50 AM							
12:00 PM							
3:00 PM							
3:05 PM	FLM 0-50						
	↓ First and third Mondays only. Visit www.bridgewebs.com/bcoh for details						
7:00 PM	Mentor	Open		Open			

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



Clear Lake Bridge Club

The Club has Swiss Teams games on Sundays at 1:00 p.m. The game on May 14 is Eight is Enough Swiss Teams. The B players’ upper limit is 2000 to 2500 masterpoints.

CLBC is participating in **Royal** STaC week May 8-14 so you will have an opportunity for multi-color points. All games during that time are STaC so come try to pick up some **SILVER**, **RED**, **GOLD** or **BLACK** points!

Wednesday May 10 - Breakfast, Bridge & Lesson. Breakfast is at 9:00 a.m. The Lesson is at 9:10 a.m. J D Frick will present “My Journey to Precision Today”. The game begins at 10:00 a.m. Reservations are required for breakfast.

Wednesday May 17 - Mentor/Mentee game with lunch and game starts 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](#).

We continue to prepare for The Longest Day. Liz Gorman, with the Alzheimer's Association, visited the club on April 10, 2023, to give a report about the amount raised during the 2022 fundraiser. CLBC raised \$6700.00 last year. She reported that CLBC was the top ACBL fundraiser in the greater Houston area and was 30th nationwide among all ACBL clubs that participated. It was the club’s kick-off for this year’s events.

On Wednesday, June 21 there will be two face-to-face games at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. with all proceeds donated to Alzheimer’s Association. Players can bid to play with our *Stars* in both sessions. A light breakfast will be served before the morning game and lunch between games to those who make reservations. The game fees for this event are \$10.00.

COVID Protocol: Per the ACBL, as of May 15th members or visitors will no longer be required to be vaccinated.

Bobbie Moutz

2nd Vice President
281-546-9199
natcolemed@comcast.net

P.S.

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



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.

Proof of vaccination is required, and masks are optional. 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.

Proof of vaccination is required, and masks are optional. Coffee, tea, and snacks are provided. Regular games are \$3.

For more information, contact Jim Warren at **832/851-4745** or 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



Fort Bend Duplicate Bridge Club

NEW LOCATION!! BEGINNING APRIL 4

OPEN GAME TUESDAY MORNINGS

WE START AT 10 AM

PLEASE ARRIVE BY 9:45 CALL IF YOU WILL BE LATE

- COFFEE AND LITE SNACKS
- WE USE BRIDGE MATE II BRIDGE PADS
- AT LEAST 3 UPGRADED GAMES A MONTH
- HAND RECORDS AFTER EVERY GAME
- NICE BALANCE OF FRIENDLY A, B, & C PLAYERS
- REGULAR & MOST UPGRADED GAMES ARE \$5.00
- FREE LUNCH FOR ALL OF APRIL

ERIC WATSON

ewat2004@aol.com

832 287 9107

NEW LOCATION!!

ARABIA SHRINE CENTER

10510 HARWIN DR

HOUSTON, TX 77036

(AROUND BACK BY THE SIDE DOOR)



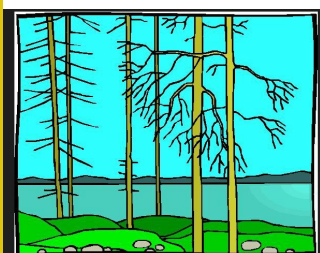
KINGWOOD DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

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.
Bill Riley at (832)289-3833 or ichibanbill@yahoo.com.
Kingwood Community Center Phone: (281)348-2570
Or Visit our [website](#).



LAKE CONROE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

May 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 am. 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.

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

Following is what's happening in May:

- May 5th - Grass Roots Fund
- May 12th - Grass Roots Fund - May Birthday Celebration
- May 19th - Grass Roots Fund
- May 26th - Grass Roots Fund - Pizza Lunc

PLEASE BE AWARE OF THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION ON HWY 105. YOU MIGHT EXPERIENCE SOME DELAYS.

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
czthdaypig@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 am and Thursdays at 10:30 am. All games are stratified.

Proof of Covid vaccination is **no longer** required and masks are optional.

We provide Coffee, bottled water, and only individually wrapped snacks.

Our games are **always** \$5.00.

Our monthly Mentor/Mentee bridge game is on the third Tuesday of every month. (Please Contact Linda Sutton at 936-443-3600 or by email at Lindasutton212@gmail.com if you would like to play as a Mentee.

Monday May 8 and Thursday May 11 - **Royal** STaC games. You have the opportunity to wind 25% **Gold**, **Silver**, **Red** and **Black** masterpoints,

Monday May 29 Memorial Day Potluck Lunch - The club will be supplying cake and ice cream.

Thursday The Longest Day June 22 - Our plan is to have a silent auction for an opportunity to play bridge with one of our “expert” Lone Star Bridge Club members.

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

Our new Board of Directors has been seated and includes Lynn Clark and John Erickson. Newly elected officers are President Deb Alexander, Vice President Carol Atkinson, Secretary Julie Halperin, Treasurer John Erickson and Club Manager Linda Sutton.

Intermediate bridge lessons will begin the end of May and a class on the 2/1 Game Force System is scheduled for this summer. Please contact Linda

Sutton for additional information 936-443-3600.

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.

For more information, contact Linda Sutton, Club Manager at 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 am. For further info, contact Richard Duble at 979-324-8421 or richard.duble@yahoo.com or visit our [website](#).



SPRING BRANCH DUPLICATE CLUB

Games are now on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 10:30.

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. Charity games, STaC, and other special games. Totally non-profit in accordance with County rules.

Manager & Director
Judith Hoffing
713-467-5805
hoffing2007@comcast.net
[website](#)



STAR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Games are on Mondays and Fridays at 9:30 am and are **now \$5** per person.

Masks are no longer required or encouraged, and you must have a partner.

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



BY [Sam Khayatt](#)
& [Jeff Kroll](#)

Make the Best Bid Available. Then Play...

Make the best bid available.

D

8

W

Robot

♠K95

♥73

♦K10962

♣J75

3NT North

NS: 0

EW: 0

N

Robot

♠J102

♥AQ

♦J87

♣A10986

S

texashe

♠A63

♥J54

♦A543

♣KQ3

WEST	NORTH	EAST	SOUTH
Pass	1♣	2♥	3♥
Dbl	3NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

E

Robot

♠Q874

♥K109862

♦Q

♣42

West	North	East	South	Comments
P	1♣	2♥	3♥	1♣ Standard. 2♥ Weak jump-overcall; 4-9 HCP and six hearts. 3♥ Asks for heart stop. (Details below)
X	3N			X Two or more hearts; 7-12 HCP. 3N Happy to have two stops in hearts (the lead will be coming to North).

3♥— The original plan was to respond 3N to partner’s 1♣. 3N is the textbook bid: 13-15 HCP and a flat hand. However, after East rudely bid 2♥, South is not quite brave enough to bid 2N with only half a stopper. South knows they are still going to game; since it has 14 HCP and three quick tricks opposite an opening partner. But where? The best bid available is a 3♥ cue bid, asking partner to bid 3N with a heart stop. Unfortunately, the 3♥ bid also indicates four-card club support for North’s suit. ♣KQ3 will have to do if partner does not have a heart stop.

Then Play for things to go your way.

East leads the ♥T and North wins the Q. Next, North leads to dummy’s ♣KQ; when both opponents follow, North knows that the suit splits 3-2 and there are five club tricks. So, the contract is secured: in addition to the five club tricks, there are two heart tricks, a diamond and a spade coming. North can also afford to lose the lead as all the suits are stopped.

North leads a low spade from dummy hoping West will rise with the ♠K. West does pop up with the ♠K. North now knows that East has the ♠Q as West would win with the lower of touching honors on defense. Playing the ♠K denies the ♠Q. So, North finesses against the ♠Q in East to get a valuable overtrick at matchpoints.

West plays its last heart, knocking out the ♥A and then takes the marked finesse in spades.

North takes the three spade winners and the rest of the clubs, ending in the North hand.

Below is the position at trick 11:



North plays small to the ♦A and watches the ♦Q fall from East.

Another round of diamonds is played and is won by North’s ♦J, giving a second valuable overtrick.

Sam Khayatt and Jeff Kroll are frequent contributors to the Unit 174 Monthly Newsletter, co-authors of the ACBL Bulletin Notes since 2015 as well as a former co-editors of this Newsletter for 3 1/2 years. Sam is also the District 16 Intermediate / Newcomer Coordinator. Both Sam and Jeff teach bridge.



In Memoriam

George Feng



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 Karen Nussbaum, Unit 174 Board President - 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.

Evvie Gilbert
Editor
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♠ ♥ ♦ ♣