

Hello March



Unit 174 March 2025 Newsletter



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Contributors

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.



Sarah Springer

President's Message

Max Levit Lone Star Regional

The Max Levit Lone Star Regional (LSR) has come and gone. It was odd to have it in February, but we managed and even had a decent crowd on Super Bowl Sunday. Looks like we had just about the same number of tables as last year, and we didn't lose money. Full reports will be reviewed by the board of directors at our March meeting.

The players attending the LSR appeared pleased with the tournament - many people commented to me that they enjoyed the buzz in the room, having missed it at other tournaments. Once again Clear Lake Bridge Club (CLBC) showed up in force. Ronnie Martin ordered hats for the club members on his teams attending the regional and they had a group photo made while cleaning up on Masterpoints. See the photo below for more about the CLBC participation in the LSR.

Picture Day 2/05/2025



CLBC Highlights from 2025 LSR

 102 Members played at least once

 990 Masterpoints were awarded

 Top Masterpoint winner: Sherry Scoggins 48.09 mps

 Life Master earned: Mary Ellen Vail

 Gold Life Master earned: Dave Glandorf

 Diamond Life Master earned: Nelson Brown

Thank you Ronnie Martin for those CLBC Caps!

Kudos also go to Rob Burrige, also from CLBC, for teaching bridge to his middle school students. Twenty-seven attended the LSR and played in a special 0-5 game. Several of his students returned after their appearance in 2024, so we very well may have a younger demographic thanks to the efforts of Mr. Burrige. (I pronounce his name Mr. Brrrridge!)

Our unit was also honored with the presence of ACBL President Margot Hennings. President Hennings held two meet-and-greet sessions at the tournament, so hopefully many of you got to meet her and get your ACBL questions answered.

The LSR could not happen without the efforts of your unit board and the numerous other volunteers who came out to help make the tournament a success. Heartfelt thanks go out to each and every volunteer – if you see someone who helped out, be sure to acknowledge their invaluable contribution. Thank you also to Lynn Levit for her very generous sponsorship of our tournament in honor of her late husband, Max. Thank you to all of the others who sponsored events in honor of their loved ones or friends. Marsha Bernstein worked tirelessly to make the naming of our tournament a success – and she already has a sponsor to name the 2026 tournament.

March is Blowing In

As March blows into the Unit 174 area, I'm sure all of us are looking forward to the advent of spring, greening trees, flowers, and warmer weather. At the same time, we hope that summer's heat will take a slow start and allow us to enjoy this beautiful time of year. For fun, I looked up sayings and other things connected with March, and I share a few with you here.

Mardi Gras is March 4 this year, so most of the month we will be enjoying the quiet reflection that Lent brings as we wait for Easter. Many people give up chocolate or alcohol or something they enjoy during Lent so that they can fully appreciate and enjoy the return of that treat with the celebration of Easter. Others get ready for Passover by doing thorough spring cleaning and work hard to remove every crumb which might have leavening in it so that the Passover celebration when only unleavened bread is consumed will be pure. Both of these reflective periods allow us to refocus ourselves, to examine areas in which we might improve, and become better people.

We all know to beware the Ides of March. We know that March winds and April showers bring May flowers. A lesser known one is that the first thunderstorm in March wakes up the alligators! March also brings Saint Patrick's Day – did you know that if you plant seeds on Saint Patrick's Day they will grow better? Better yet, sow cabbage seeds in your night clothes on March 17th for better growth. I probably won't be out in my nightgown on March 17th sowing seeds, but it does make a fun thought. I suppose if you were really going to do that, one might call you "mad as a March hare"! They say that frost in March never kills fruit, no matter how full the tree blooms. Be sure to wear green on the 17th to avoid being pinched! (That was a big thing in elementary school, but in the bridge set, I'm sure you are safe to wear any color on the 17th. But green does add to the Saint Patrick's celebration, so wear it anyway.)

March brings the Spring NABC in Memphis, March 13-23. I'm sure there will be many Unit 174 players in attendance. Of course, all of our area clubs will continue to hold their regular games. With the weather improving, it is a good time to get out and come enjoy F2F bridge. Support your club and get away from the computer, see your friends, make new ones and have fun!

Upcoming April Election Sectional

Coming up in April we have the Election Sectional April 4-6. The tournament will be at the Westchase Marriott this year, and if you are coming from far afield, there is a special \$129 room rate so you can stay with your friends and enjoy the hotel amenities and other highlights of the area. This April your tournament brings our annual election for the Unit 174 Board of Directors. We have six excellent candidates, so read up on them (information is in this issue on the [unit website](#)) and vote early on line, by absentee ballot, or at the tournament. You can vote for one, two, or three, and instructions are on the [website](#). Voting at the tournament will be on Friday before the games, during the lunch break Friday, and on Saturday morning up until game time. The winners of the election will be announced at our Annual Meeting which will take place during the Saturday lunch break.

To entice everyone to come out to vote, and to make sure you don't leave during the annual meeting (we need a quorum!) the unit will be offering breakfast and a buffet lunch on Saturday. The breakfast will be complimentary and the lunch just \$15 for a delicious buffet. We want everyone to participate. No excuses!

Please Support Our Unit

Remember that Unit 174 is our unit. We need to support the unit so that bridge in our area will be a great experience for our players, and that we continue to have competitive tournaments. Please get out and support our area clubs. We ask our clubs to close during our sectionals and the regional

because we need all of our players to come support the unit by playing in our tournaments. Without support and participation, tournament bridge will not survive. We have already eliminated the August sectional, so now we have only three unit sponsored sectionals, when we previously had five.

Membership is in Decline

Our membership is on the decline, unfortunately. In 2020 before the ravages of COVID-19, we had 2562 members in our unit. As of November 2024, we are down to 2,107 members. All of us need to show up. Get your social bridge playing friends to play duplicate. Teach bridge in your neighborhood. If every player in our unit can bring one more player, look at what could happen!

Best wishes to everyone as we approach Easter and Passover. I hope I don't see alligators when the first thunderstorm comes, but I will be looking. I might just sow some seeds on Saint Patrick's Day but no peeking - could be it will be dark and I may be in my green nightgown, mad as a March hare.

Sarah Springer
sarahspringerbridge@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: Yaqub Abdelatti, Barbara Baliff, Jonathan Baliff, Hunter Bulter, Karol Ely, Jaden Fernandes, Joshua George, Youssef Hanidi, Mason Hare, Robert Helm, Elijah Hicks, Thomas Ho, Austin Hoang, Alex Jiang, Daniel Marinov, Sophia Moradi, Asher Navin, Yagna Patel, Nicolae Pierantoni, Joanne Preng, Wyatt Renner, Andra Sammons, Paul Schorfheide, Darsh Shukla, Issac Simonds, Minerva Solano Khatri, Terrelyn Teinert, Andres Torres, Barrett Ward, Hakeem Yakubu, Laurel Yasensky, Karen Ytterberg

Transfers: Mrs. Barbara Robinson, Emily Sparks

Welcome!



Masterpoint Milestones

Listed below are the Unit 174 Masterpoint Milestones reported by ACBL as of February 2, 2025. An explanation of ranks may be found on the [ACBL website](#).

Junior Master

Carol Labreche, Hua Li, Walter Oakes, Jian Tao, Jing Xie

Club Master

Russell Hall, Sharon Hall, Sandra McNeir

Sectional Master

Dmitry Braverman, Ms. Dru Dalton, Mrs. Shirley J Davis, Martha G Hanson, Dianne Hilkemeier, Sherry L Scarborough, Suzanne Sebo

Regional Master

Bob Canobbio, Lynn M Clark, Sally E Ward, Darrell E Way

NABC Master

Mrs. Elizabeth A Eisenach, Mr. Russell Thomas, Mrs. Maria L Turner

Life Master

Betty M Cartmell, Mike Davis

Ruby Life Master

Ms. Donna Frederick

Sapphire Life Master

Mrs, Beth M Coker

!!! Congratulations !!!

Member Profile



We have no member profile this month. If you know someone who we should recognize, please email Unit174News@gmail.com.



Unit News

Coming Tournaments

Date	City	State	Unit	Category	Type
February 27 – March 1	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
March 1	San Antonio	TX	172	Sectional	I/N
March 6-8	Beaumont	TX	201	Sectional	Open
March 6-9	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	Open
March 26-29	San Antonio	TX	172	Sectional	Open
March 27-29	San Miguel De Allende	GJ	254	Sectional	Open
April 4-6	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
April 5-6	Houston	TX	D16	GNT	GNT District Finals
April 5-6	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
April 8-12	Longview	TX	225	Regional	Open
April 24-26	Houston [Spring]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
April 30 – May 3	Dallas	TX	176	Sectional	Open
May 1-4	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	Open
May 2-3	Dallas	TX	D16	GNT	GNT District Finals
May 17-18	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
June 6-8	Midland	TX	209	Sectional	Open
June 6-8	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
June 9-15			176	STaC	Open
June 19-22	Houston [Spring]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
June 30 – July 6	San Antonio	TX	172	Regional	Open
August 2-3	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
August 7-9	Tyler	TX	225	Regional	I/N
August 7-10	Houston	TX	174	Sectional	Open
August 26-31	Allen [DFW]	TX	176	Regional	Open
September 4-7	New Braunfels	TX	172	Sectional	Open
September 11-14	Houston [Spring]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
September 25-28	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	Open
October 2-4	Denton	TX	183	Sectional	Local
October 4-5	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
October 15-18	San Antonio	TX	172	Sectional	Open
October 17-19	Fort Worth	TX	183	Sectional	Open
October 29-November 1	Dallas [DFW]	TX	176	Sectional	Open
November 8-9	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
November 13-16	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
December 6-7	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N

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

BAWH 499er Sectional



499er Sectional

Thursday, February 27th 10:30 am & 3:00 pm

Friday, February 28th 10:00 am & 3:00 pm

and Saturday, March 1st 10:00 am & 3:00 pm

Also a 0-10 MPs Game Friday, Feb 28th 10 am

Cost \$10 per Player per Session

**Come out and play and earn SILVER at the
Academy!**

Partnership: Judi Whaling 832-661-1644 judiwhaling@gmail.com

**At the Arabia Shrine
Prairie Room (front right corner)
10510 Harwin Dr
www.bridgeacademyofwesthouston.com**

Election Sectional



HOUSTON

ELECTION SECTIONAL

APRIL 4-6, 2025

MARRIOTT HOUSTON WESTCHASE



Friday & Saturday, April 4-5

10 & 2:30	Stratified Open Pairs	A: 5000+ B: 2000-5000 C: 0-2000	Single Sessions
10 & 2:30	Stratified 299er Pairs	B: 200-300 C: 100-200 D: 0-100	Single Sessions
10 & 2:30	Bracketed Swiss		Two Sessions

Sunday, April 6

10 & 2:30	Stratified Open Pairs	A: 5000+ B: 2000-5000 C: 0-2000	Single Sessions
10 & 2:30	Stratified 299er Pairs	B: 200-300 C: 100-200 D: 0-100	Single Sessions
10 & 2:30	Bracketed Swiss		Two Sessions

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

Accommodations

Marriott Houston Westchase
 2900 Briar Park Drive
 Houston, TX 77042
 (713) 978-7400
 \$129/night
 Reservation link at ACBLUnit174.org

Free breakfast &
 \$15 Lunch Sat, Apr 5

Annual Meeting

Will be held between
 Saturday sessions

Vote one hour prior to each
 session on Friday and on the
 morning session on Saturday.
 Full Voting Instructions
 at ACBLUnit174.org

Partnership Chair

Linda McReynolds
 (713) 819-7812
lindamcreynolds@comcast.net

Game Fees

- Credit Cards only
- \$16 Game fee

District 16 Grand National Teams

Flight A Qualifying Sat, April 5 10 & 2:30
 Flight C Qualifying Sun, April 6 10 & 2:30
 See GNT Flyer for Full Schedule

Tournament Co-Chairs

Hallie (Peaches) Eads Lesley Kellet
 (713) 569-7700 (713) 852-7198
hallieeads@aol.com lellybean@msn.com



BCOH 499er Sectional

499^{er} Sectional
April 24th -26th, 2025

4688 Louetta Rd, Spring, TX | 281-651-6550 | thebridgeclub@sbcglobal.net

<p>Event Schedule <i>Thursday thru Saturday</i> April 24th – 26th Single Sessions ♠ 499er Pairs 10am ♠ 499er Pairs 2pm</p>	<p>Entry Fees <i>(Per Session - Cash Only)</i> Current ACBL Members \$12 Lapsed ACBL Members \$16 ACBL number required to play. 120 day guest membership available free at https://www.acbl.org/membership/</p>
<p>Stratification* A (300-499) B (100-300) C (0-100) <i>* Strats may be modified by Director</i></p>	<p>Snacks / Lunch Free snacks and drinks. Lunch available for \$8 Cash each day if ordered by 10am.</p>
<p>Need a Partner? Contact Zane Bolen 281-813-5448 zbolen@comcast.net Ambassador available for all Sessions.</p>	<p>Lodging SpringHill Suites 20303 Chasewood Park Dr., Houston, TX 77070 has a discount rate of \$105 + tax per night, and free cancellation 24 hours before check-in. Contact hotel directly at 832-953-2228 and ask for Imagine Peels and mention BCOH Bridge Tournament.</p>
<p>Notes ♠ BCOH is a fragrance free facility. ♠ Life Masters with less than 500 pts can play.</p>	
<p>Tournament Chair Zane Bolen zbolen@comcast.net</p>	

Silver Points – Silver Points – Silver Points

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



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 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 99er NITE CLUB game.

Contact Janice Rush for details:

janice_hardcastle@hotmail.com

New Game in Town



Future Life Masters



Future Life Masters of Unit 174

www.flm174.org

The fun is just beginning!

Weekends are perfect for new bridge players!

Saturdays at 1:00 PM

99er Game

Clear Lake Bridge Club

CLBC: 16614 Sea Lark, Houston, Tx

Sundays at 1:30 PM

49er Game

Bridge Club of Houston

BCOH: 4876 Louetta, Spring, Tx

BOTH GAMES WELCOMING SINGLETONS!

EVERYONE PLAYS!

Regular Club Games

Face-to-Face

299er Games

- Bridge Academy of West Houston WEDNESDAYS at 10:30
- Bridge Club of Houston SATURDAYS at 12:00
- Clear Lake Bridge Club MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS at 2:00

Mentor-Mentee Games

Contact the following clubs to explore playing in the FABULOUS Mentor-Mentee Programs! Each club offering is a little different...but the experience is the same: playing with a knowledgeable player, learning about stronger competition, getting to know the better players at the club. **These fun programs will improve your game!**

- Bridge Academy of West Houston
- Bridge Club of Houston
- Clear Lake Bridge Club
- Lone Star Bridge Club

Meet the Candidates

The nominating committee worked hard and found six great candidates who agreed to run for the three Unit 174 board positions that will need to be filled in April. Watch for details about how you can vote in the next issue. In the meantime, get to know all of the candidates.



Fred Gregory worked as a chemical engineer for the past 40+ years. He retired from his current position as Process Safety Manager and Technical Fellow at Lubrizol's Deer Park facility at the end of 2024. Fred is looking forward to having more time to devote to hobbies such as playing bridge at the local club and at tournaments. He says, "It has been a challenge to balance work with my bridge life!"

Fred started playing bridge at age six with his grandparents and parents using the traditional Goren methods. His parents had the same group of friends playing bridge at each others' homes for over fifty years. Fred took a bridge hiatus when he got married and had children (three) but picked it back up in 2015 when his son suggested he try it once again.

Since resuming the game, Fred plays regularly at the Bridge Club of Houston. He hasn't missed a single Lone Star Regional and has attended almost all the local sectional tournaments as well. During the past decade, Fred says, "I have met some of the nicest and friendliest people ever and look forward to contributing to the bridge community in the greater Houston area."



Joe Quinn has been playing bridge since graduating college in 1972 with a degree in Chemical Engineering and an MBA. His career took him all over the world working as a project director with Fluor. Joe spent 16 years working overseas mostly in Europe (UK, Denmark, Poland and Switzerland) with a couple of years in Saudi Arabia. The rest of his career was divided between Texas and California. He went to part time employment in 2020 and with his extra time he started teaching bridge part time. Joe enjoys teaching bridge especially seeing the enthusiasm of his students.

Joe is a Grand Life Master with two national championships and numerous high placings in other national championships. His favorite bridge partner is his wife, Shawn, who has won several world championships and over 20 national championships. They don't get to play together as much now as they have a twelve-year-old daughter with whom they enjoy spending time.



Cindy Schaefer is a native Houstonian who grew up in New Jersey before returning to the University of Texas to study chemical engineering. She worked in the chemical industry, focusing on process safety for the last 25 years of her career.

Cindy first learned bridge from Geoff and Wilma Booth. After retiring, she took several classes from Dave Glandorf, Education Director at Clear Lake Bridge Club (CLBC), and admits that she has repeated at least one class. Cindy appreciates playing with and learning from the friendly people at the CLBC. She says, "Now I'm somewhat addicted."

Aside from bridge, Cindy's hobbies include playing clarinet in Gulf Coast Concert Band, reading (she's in two book clubs), and walking. With her husband, Alan – who also plays bridge, they have a son, a daughter and three wonderful grandchildren.

Cindy is interested in helping to encourage more people to play bridge and join this wonderful community.



Lisa Z. Sommer was born and raised in China. She attended Beijing University and earned her BS in business. Lisa taught at Beijing Institute of Economics for six years as an associate professor. She worked for a British satellite television and communication company as sales manager for four years.

Lisa moved to Houston in 1994 with her husband, Charles. She worked for Upstream (Norwegian company) as sales manager, and Tidewater (New Orleans company) as a market analyst. Since 2003, Lisa works an independent consultant for the oil and gas industry with her focus on upstream technology between United States and China. This work allows her to travel internationally but also provides lots of free time to play bridge and golf.

Lisa learned bridge from her husband about 30 years ago and they played lots of party bridge. She started playing duplicate bridge in 2000 and is now a Gold Life Master. Lisa says, "I truly love the game and greatly appreciate the club owners' and directors' contribution to the game. If elected, Lisa would, ".like to focus my efforts on attracting new people to the game."



John (Eric) Watson played bridge socially from age 13 and duplicate from 1990 when he joined the ACBL. He is currently a Silver Life Master. Eric worked as a director for Houston Bridge Studio and Sue Williams' Sugarland Duplicate Bridge Club. He purchased her club in 2015.

Eric has a BS in education from UNC Chapel Hill and an MBA from the University of Houston in Marketing and Finance. He served three years as an artillery officer in the US army and worked both as a banker and paralegal.

He has over 25 years of experience as a director and 10 years as a club owner and manager. Eric currently owns, manages, and directs Fort Bend County Duplicate Bridge with an open game every Tuesday morning at Arabia Shriners in Houston.

Eric was appointed to the Unit 174 Board of Directors in 2023 and immediately applied his years of experience to the difficult task of bringing the unit back to pre-COVID levels of membership and open game participation. He has the time, energy and experience to help the unit continue to grow.



Judi Whaling is an Olympian who competed under the name Judi Genovesi in the 1976 Olympics in Ice Dancing, placing 15th. She was the 1977 National Champion and placed 9th in the world. Judi graduated from Boston College (cum laude) with a degree in business. She ran and finished the Boston Marathon in 1981 and won a local women's golf championship in 2003. Judi owned and operated an interior design business for over 25 years.

After retirement, Judi decided to learn how to play bridge because she, "Wanted to give my brain exercise by learning something new, difficult, and hopefully enjoyable." She fell in love with bridge and met a lot of new friends!

If elected to the board, Judi would like to help grow the game of bridge and promote a welcoming and nurturing culture in Unit 174. She recognizes that it can be very intimidating for a newcomer to play in a duplicate club game.

Club Table Counts

Unit 174 has many ACBL-sanctioned clubs so that means many games both Face-to-Face (F2F) 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	30,401.00	28
2021	30,365.00	24
2022	20,451.00	24
2023	18,183.00	25
2024	16,900.00	24

The ACBL website is still broken however, ACBL Executive Director, Bronia Jenkins was able to provide a tool that she is using to gather this information. The following numbers are the Unit 174 table counts from January 1-February 25, 2025:

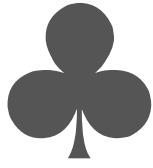
Total Tables:	2,451
Total F2F:	2,165
Total Online:	107
Total Swiss Teams:	174

We are down to 19 clubs from 24 at the end of 2024. The top five clubs are:

1. Clear Lake Bridge Club:	657 Tables, all F2F
2. Bridge Club of Houston:	425 Tables, 283 F2F, 107 Online
3. Bridge Academy of West Houston:	316 Tables, all F2F
4. Lone Star Bridge Club:	229 Tables, all F2F
5. Apple II DBC	153 Tables, all F2F

One other bit of information, Unit 174's Clear Lake Bridge Club is still the District 16 leader for F2F tables with 657, followed by Bridge Center of Austin with 503, and Bridge Club of Houston with 425 tables. So, Unit 174 has two clubs in the top three for District 16.

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.

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 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 \$3.00 / person.

New 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!

For information, please contact:

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

Friday - Apple II - Tom Jahnke
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.



Bridge Academy of West Houston

499er Sectional

The Bridge Academy is hosting a 499er Sectional through Saturday, March 1st. The Saturday games are at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. We will report about the tournament in the April issue.

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

March 4th - 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

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

March 30th - 8 is enough Swiss Teams

The Swiss Teams 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.

The Swiss Teams has become an extremely popular event. For help finding teammates contact:

Linda McReynolds @ (713) 819-7812 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
Wednesday - Open & 299'er
Thursdays - Invitational
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
- Jennifer Breihan, Janice Hardcastle Rush and Tom Jahnke directors

Game Calendar

Tues – Mar 4	Club Championship	Wed – Mar 19	Club Championship
Wed – Mar 5	Club Championship	Thu – Mar 20	Club Championship
Thu – Mar 6	Club Championship	Wed – Mar 26	Charity Game
Wed – Mar 12	Charity Game	Thu – Mar 27	Charity Game
Thu – Mar 13	Charity Game	Sun – Mar 30	Club Championship

Need a Partner?

Contact Linda or Tom Martinsen at 713-398-4907 martinsens@comcast.net.



Bridge Club of Houston

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

Lessons

- Tuesday Tidbits - Build a solid foundation with Julie Halperin, Diamond 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. Text Julie at 713-857-8004 for more information.
- Beginning Bridge with Susan Banks-Johnson & Andy Remson - Saturdays through April 17 at 9:30-11:30 a.m., F2F at BCOH club, \$130

for the course. For more info: BridgewithSusanandAndy@gmail.com, 281-651-6550.

- Beginning Bridge with Sam Khayatt – Saturdays through April 17 at 9:00 am to 11:30 am, Online, \$130 for the course. You will also need Zoom & BBO accounts. For more info: 4notrumplessons@gmail.com

Practice for Intermediate/Newcomers

- FLM 0-49 Game – Sundays at 1:30 PM, \$5 fee. For more information, please contact 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 fourth 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.) Contact Mike Linkins if you have any questions: minkins@swbell.net
- Online 0-20 Game – 2nd Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. (usually).
- F2F 299er Game – Saturdays at 12:00 p.m. (noon), for a partner or to register contact Kas Rangan, kas.rangan@gmail.com, 539-210-1333.
- I/N Game less 1000 – Fifth Tuesday of any month.

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

F2F Open Pairs Games

- Mondays 11:55 a.m.
- 1st & 5th Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.
- Wednesdays & Fridays 10:30 a.m.
- Saturdays – 12:00 p.m. (noon)

F2F Swiss Teams

- 3rd Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.

Online - Choose Houston! (BBO®)

- Thursdays 7:00 p.m., [SE Carolina Club of Clubs](#)

Coming Attractions

- March 7 – Pizza Friday, Open Pairs, 10:30 a.m.
- March 9 – Open Swiss Teams, 1:30 p.m.
- March 10 – ACBL Senior Silver Pairs, 11:55 a.m.
- March 11 – Mentor/Mentee Team Game, 10:30 a.m.
- March 28 – Betty Cartmell Life Master Party, Open Pairs 10:30 a.m.

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

Welcome the 2025 BCOH Board of Directors

Janice Rush – president, Bob Ziegler – vice president, Kathy L'Hommedieu – treasurer, Susie Dittman – secretary with returning members are Mike Linkins, Charles Woody, Kas Rangan and new members Kathy Naylor and Baines Manning.

Emerald Life Master Party

Congratulation Dolores Aquino on becoming an **Emerald Life Master!** Celebration on March 1 at 11:00 a.m. Game begins at noon. Register [here](#) to join the celebration!



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 PM

Open Pairs

Thursday @ 7:00 PM

Future Life Masters

Tuesday (0-50) @ 3:05 PM*

2nd Saturday (0-20) @ 9:00 AM*

*usually - see flm174.org for dates

SE Carolina Consortium

<https://sites.google.com/view/se-club-of-clubs/home>



Clear Lake Bridge Club

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

Games are held every day of the week. The club closes for Unit 174 tournaments, Christmas and Easter. You can reach us by phone at 281-480-1911.

PREVIOUSLY...

Our January Mentor/Mentee Winners are:

Volunteer Spotlight



Cindy Cox

It is a treasured experience and pleasure to work with Cindy Cox who immerses herself in her volunteer role, and gives to our club, unit and district a great deal of her time and energy.

Cindy is a native Texan who worked in the chemical Industry for most of her career. After receiving her MBA, Cindy worked as general manager at several chemical companies throughout the USA and traveled globally, most frequently to Southeast Asia. In 2016, she retired after 12 years as company president in Philadelphia. Cindy then returned to Houston to start her new career as a WannaBe Bridge Player and volunteer.

Cindy's volunteer accomplishments and contributions are noteworthy:

- An initiator of the Clear Lake Bridge club (CLBC) Mentor/Mentee (M/M) program. She planned, set up and ran the program. The M/M program is a tremendous success that continues today. It is an accomplishment that has and continues to benefit many of our Intermediae/Newcomer club players.
- Manages the Pianola e-mail site for CLBC's communications and, along with Sherry Scoggins, set up the PartnerFinder on Pianola which has made finding game partners easier.
- Was CLBC-GBC Virtual Club Manager and played a significant role on the team who worked to keep the CLBC running during the COVID-19 shutdown. Cindy, along with Greg May, spearheaded a joint effort with Galveston to launch the CLBC-GBC Virtual Club sponsored by ACBL and hosted on BBO® which kept many of us playing online rewarded with points and revenue.
- Established an alliance with other Houston area clubs to protect the integrity of the Online Virtual Club concept during COVID-19 shutdown.
- CLBC webmaster and custodian which garners high praise for content and value.
- Collaborated with Rick Stell and Katie Gardner to get more F2F bridge players back in our club when the COVID-19 shutdown ended. Thus, Breakfast, Bridge and a Lesson program was established, a worthwhile program still in existence.

Additionally, Cindy is involved with other clubs, Unit 174 and District 16 activities:

- A former Unit 174 board member
- Instrumental in the development and launch of the Unit 174 Future Life Masters' program to which she continues to devote a great deal of time and effort,
- Spends her Saturday mornings as a table host for Sam Khayatt's (Bridge Club of Houston) beginning bridge online courses. Cindy's contributions play a huge part in the growing number of new bridge players in the Houston area.

Cindy Cox is a dedicated volunteer who works for the betterment of bridge not only for CLBC but for other area clubs, Unit 174 and District 16.

When you see Cindy Cox, thank her for her contributions and continuing commitment to the CLBC and the Houston Bridge Community.

Written by Katie Gardner (past CLBC president) with contributions from Bob Dowlen (past Unit 174 and CLBC president), Linda Dellsperger and Joy Cowan (CLBC members).

Club News

The Annual Meeting was held Saturday, February 22nd. The 2025 board of directors were elected. Welcome our new and returning board members:

Sherry Scoggins - president
 Jim Ochsner - 1st vice president
 Judith Rebman - 2nd vice president (new)
 Penny Dougherty - secretary
 Bill Churchman - treasurer

Special thanks to Bobbie Moutz for serving the last two years as 2nd vice president.

Our February Mentor/Mentee Winners are:



UPCOMING...

Starting March 1st:

CLBC launched a 0-99er game to be held every Saturday at 1:00 p.m. The first game starts March 1. We hope to see you there. This game will be separate from the open game that starts at the same time.

ACBL membership is not required to play in this game, however, if you want to earn masterpoints membership is required.

Mentor/Mentee Game:

The Mentor/Mentee (MM) game is Wednesday, March 19th at 2:00 p.m. For information and to submit a contact form, please visit the [CLBC MM site](#) or

contact Susan Hanna, MM Director, who has taken over for Marcia Chambliss.

Special thanks to Marcia who did an amazing job of matching pairs and coordinating the games. Thank you Marcia for your dedication to the MM games for the last two years.

Due to costs, only members may participate in this game however we welcome all visitors to any of our other games.

Partnership/Team Building:

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

Weekly Game Schedule:

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

0-299 Games: Monday and Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.

0-749 Games: Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. and Thursday at 1:00 p.m.

0-99 Game: Saturday 1:00 p.m.

Swiss Teams: Sunday at 1:00 p.m. March 9th is 8 is Enough. The B players' upper limit is 2000 - 2500 masterpoints. We ask that anyone interested in playing in any of the Sunday afternoon Team Games to please register before you come so that the director can have the set up done on time.

The 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.

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

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.

Check out www.clearlakebridgeclub.org/bridge-education for new classes offered in 2024.

Bobbie Moutz
Immediate past 2nd Vice President
natcolemmed@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 a.m., with sign-up beginning at 11:00 a.m.

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

Katy DBC meets every Wednesday. Sign-in starts at 11:00 a.m., and the game begins at 11:30 a.m. 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.

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
jwarren7602@gmail.com



Fort Bend Duplicate Bridge Club

Open Games Tuesday

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

Let's Make Bridge Fun Again

- No Game will be held during the Max Levitt Lone Star Regional.
- The game is in the Prairie room every Tuesday, *not* the Oasis room.
- Most games are upgraded.
- 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 are available immediately.
- Our directors are all fully qualified, gentle and experienced.
- All games including upgraded are \$8.00.

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

John Eric Watson
ewat2004@aol.com
832 287 9107



KINGWOOD DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Games:

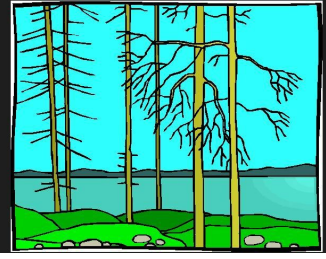
Wednesday and Thursday at 10:00 a.m. at the Kingwood Community Center, 4102 Rustic Woods Drive, Kingwood, TX 77345. Entries are still \$2 and \$3 for upgraded games.

On Thursday mornings, Bill Riley will be giving a short 20-30 minute presentation on various topics, conventions, etc., starting at 9:20 a.m. A schedule of topics will be published shortly. Coffee is available.

On Thursday, October 24th and 31st, the game will not be held due to early voting.

However, the games will be held on Wednesday.

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

March 2025

Our Bridge Club is a very welcoming and friendly Club. We have players from all levels, so players new to duplicate will feel comfortable; and seasoned players will find a challenge. We would like to invite you and your bridge friends to join us every Friday. We meet at the Restoration Church, [107 Fish Creek Thoroughfare, Montgomery](#). When you enter the parking lot, drive around to the back of the property to the new sanctuary building. 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. We will take a break midday, so please bring your lunch. There is a refrigerator and a microwave for your use if needed.

If you need a partner, please contact Carol Meade at 281-543-4541 or email her at meadecm@icloud.com and she will do her best to assist you to get a partner.

The following is what's happening on Fridays in March:

- March 7 - Club Championship
- March 14 - Local Charity
- March 21 - Grassroots Fund
- March 28 - Club Championship - Pizza Day

We welcome you to join us on Friday's at LCDBC and look forward to seeing all of you at the table.

Please contact me either by phone or email if you have any questions regarding playing at our Club.

Penny Grassedonio
Club Manager
832-361-4577
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](#).

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

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

Please Note:

March begins our 2025 Membership Drive. Yearly membership is \$5.00 per person and gives the member full voting rights in our next Board of Directors Election. Three positions will be available and the slate of candidates will be posted by March 15. Voting will take place on line. If you are interested in running for a position, please see a member of the nominating committee as soon as possible.

March Calendar of Events

Monday, March 3 – Game & Free bridge lesson with Diamond Life Master Jeff Kroll at 11:00 a.m. Game begins at 11:45 a.m. Jeff's class will cover:

1. Equal Level Conversion (ELC). This is expert standard which allows you to double 1♥ or 1♠ with club shortness with a moderate opener.
2. When to use Stayman, what it shows and the appropriate responses to it.
3. Garbage Stayman and Crawling Stayman both used by Larry Cohen.
4. When to duck on defense.

March birthdays will also be celebrated and the game is a Club Championship!

Thursday, March 6 – Junior Fund Game begins at 10:30 a.m.

Monday, March 10 – ACB Wide Silver Senior Pairs Game (72% sectionally rated black points) begins at 11:45 a.m.

Thursday, March 13 – District 16 Grass Roots Fund Game begins at 10:30 a.m. & Free Pizza Lunch.

Monday, March 17 – Unit 174 Charity Game begins at 11:45 a.m.

Tuesday, March 18 – Mentor/Mentee & Club Championship Game begins at 10:30 a.m. Please contact Anita Rothfuss at 936-537-5039 or [email](#) her. If you want to play as either a Mentor or a Mentee, Anita will be happy to help you and arrange a partner. A Mentee is a Non-Life Master.

Thursday, March 20 – Club Championship Game begins at 10:30 a.m.

Monday, March 24 – Grass Roots Fund Game begins at 11:45 a.m.

Tuesday, March 25 – ACBL Wide Charity Game (81.8% sectionally rated black points) begins at 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, March 27 – Local Charity Game for St. Paul Game begins at 10:30 a.m.

Monday, March 31 – Regular Game begins at 11:45 a.m.

If you would like to be added to the email list for our weekly newsletter to keep up with our club news as well as a weekly lesson from DLM Jeff Kroll, please contact Linda Sutton at: lindasutton212@gmail.com or 936-443-3600.

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 a.m. For further information, please contact Richard Duble at 979-324-8421 or 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 or visit our [website](#).



Contributors

We have no contribution for this issue.



In Memoriam

- * Cherry K. Schwarz, Houston
- Edward J. Smith, Houston

*Life Master



From the Editor

Hello
March



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 Sarah Springer, Unit 174 Board President - sarahspringerbridge@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
unit174news@gmail.com

