



## Unit 174 November 2024 Newsletter



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**Kingwood Duplicate Bridge Club**

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

**Lone Star Bridge Club (LSBC)**

**Pebble Creek Duplicate Bridge Club**

**Star Duplicate Bridge Club**

**Contributors**

**Sam Khayatt & Jeff Kroll - 6-5, Come Alive!**

**Joe Siqueira - Communicating on Defense**

## 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

This year has flown by so quickly and we are already in the holiday season. November, the time we reflect on our many blessings and give thanks for them. I am thankful for bridge! I love the game, and I love all of the things it has brought to me over the years: fun, fellowship, friends, travel, stimulation, excitement...I could go on. Bridge has been an enormous benefit in my life, and I am exceedingly thankful for the game and for the way it has enhanced my life.

Your Board of Directors has been working hard each month to make sure all of you have a good competitive bridge experience. We are still addressing what to do to improve player experience at our sectionals. It is apparent that our current playing site is not attractive to many players and our attendance has suffered. We are looking at many other possibilities for venues not only in Houston but in other regions within our unit. Stay tuned! If you see one of our hard-working board members, please tell them *Thank You* and tell them you appreciate their efforts. We need your support!

We want to encourage our clubs to support the unit's tournaments. We already have a provision in our Policies and Procedures Manual which provides that to be eligible for one party subsidy each year, the club must support the Lone Star Regional by closing that week. The clubs are private entities, and we understand the sacrifice clubs make when they close. We have approved a modification of our policies to provide that the board may consider additional party subsidies for clubs that support the unit. The first beneficiary of this new policy is the Clear Lake Bridge Club (CLBC). This club consistently closes during our sectionals and Clear Lake players turn up to play in significant numbers. Thank you CLBC!

Our Lone Star Regional is coming up the first week of February. After 2025 it will move back to the last week in January. Please mark your calendars for the week of February 3-9 and plan on coming out for an exciting week of bridge. We will have special things planned for each day, so be sure to make plans to attend. We have been updating our flyer so keep checking for the updates which will be posted on the website and in this newsletter. Thanks go out to Betty Westbrook for working with us to create our wonderful flyers, and for her patience as we make amendments.

We are offering the Best Practices Teaching course the weekend prior to the Regional. Please consider attending this course and become a Bridge Teacher. We have a great need to increase our bridge playing population, and each and every one of you can help. I mean You! I took the course last year and have a small class in my neighborhood. My efforts have produced five new ACBL members, one of whom just became a Junior Life Master. In addition to adding five players, I have made five wonderful friends. If each one of us will take the time to take the course and bring even one new player to the game, we can do great things.

Our next sectional is the April Election Sectional when we hold our annual meeting and election of the new Board of Directors. If you are contacted by our nominating committee please consider running for the board. If you are not in the immediate Houston area, you are still eligible, and we can Zoom you in so don't be shy, you won't have to drive. Input from all areas of our unit is valued and welcome. As a treat for our Saturday attendees at the Election Sectional, the unit will be providing a taco breakfast with free coffee. The annual meeting will take place at the lunch hour.

On behalf of the Unit 174 Board of Directors, I wish each and every one of you a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday. May your table be blessed with the presence of family and friends and may your feast be festive and fun.

Sarah Springer



## 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:** Ryo Chen, Jennifer Gottschalk, Carol Labreche, Cookie Mangine, Melissa Martinez, Tracy Meyer, Charlene Paulus, Pamela R Pope, Jaya Thekdi

**Transfers:** Mrs. Myrtle P Dean, Mr. Harry W Elliott, Shirley E Huser, Linda Lewis, Joyce Long, Gordon A Vogel, Gayle Vogel

***Welcome!***



### Rank Advancements

Listed below are the Unit 174 Masterpoint Milestones reported by ACBL as of October 1, 2024. An explanation of ranks may be found on the [ACBL website](#).

**Junior Master**

Faruk Gopalani, Franelle Rogers, Zhijing Wang

**Club Master**

Barbara J Emnett, Ms. Ann P Fleming, Jane Gerber, Ms. Patsy F Lanclos, Lee Macpherson, Jack R Mills, Terri Morrison, Roslyn H Pittsford

**Sectional Master**

Tamara R Fincher, Donald K Steinman

**Regional Master**

Mr. Thomas Brown, Amy S Drexel, Marilyn R Knatz, Meynard M Nussbaum, Jinrong Wang

**NABC Master**

Rathindra N Dutt, Mariah Stopper

**Advanced NABC Master**

Beryl T Booker

**Life Master**

Ms. Barbara D Sweeney

**Gold Life Master**

Linda K Drake

**!!! Congratulations !!!**

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## Member Profile



We have no member profile this month. If you know someone who we should recognize, please email [Unit174News@gmail.com](mailto:Unit174News@gmail.com).

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## Unit News

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## Coming Tournaments



Date	City	State	Unit	Category	Type
October 31- November 2	Denton	TX	183	Sectional	Open
November 2-3	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
November 4-10	Marina Vallarta [Puerto Vallarta]	JA	205	Regional	Open
November 4-10	Unit 174		174	Sectional	STaC
November 6-9	Richardson [DFW]	TX	176	Regional	I/N
November 6-9	Richardson [DFW]	TX	176	Sectional	Open
November 14-17	Spring [Houston]	TX	174	Sectional	I/N
November 30 – December 1	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
December 2-8	D16		174	Sectional	STaC
December 2-8	D16		173	Sectional	STaC
January 2-5, 2025	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	Open
January 16-18	Denton	TX	183	Sectional	Local
January 16-19	San Antonio	TX	172	Sectional	Open
January 29 – February 1	Dallas [DFW]	TX	176	Sectional	Open
February 1- 2	Austin	TX	207	Sectional	I/N
February 3-9	Houston	TX	174	Regional	Open
February 6-9	Ajjic	JA	205	Sectional	Open
February 12-14	Puerto Vallarta	JA	205	Sectional	Open
February 15 -16	San Antonio	TX	172	Sectional	I/N
February 25 – March 2	San Miguel De Allende	GJ	173	Regional	Open
February 25 - 27	Fort Worth	TX	183	Sectional	Local

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

## BCOH 499er Sectional

**BRIDGE  HOUSTON**

**499<sup>er</sup> Sectional**  
**Nov 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

4688 Louetta Rd, Spring, TX | 281-651-6550 | [thebridgeclub@sbcglobal.net](mailto:thebridgeclub@sbcglobal.net)

<p><b>Need a Partner?</b>                  Contact Kas Rangan 539-210-1333  <a href="mailto:kas.rangan99@gmail.com">kas.rangan99@gmail.com</a>  <b>Ambassador available for all Pairs Sessions.</b></p>	<p><b>Event Schedule</b>  <i>Thursday thru Saturday</i>  <b>Nov 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup></b>                  ♠ 499er Pairs 10am                  ♠ 499er Pairs 2pm   <b>Sunday, Nov 17<sup>th</sup> Swiss Teams</b>                  ♠ 499er Swiss Team 1:30pm</p>
<p><b>Stratification*</b>                  A (300 to 499) B (100-300) C (0-100)  <i>* Strats may be modified by director</i></p>	<p><b>Hand Review</b>                  On Sunday, Nov 17<sup>th</sup>, from 12:30 to 1:15pm, an expert will answer your questions on tournament hands.</p>
<p><b>Entry Fees</b>  <i>(Per Session - Cash Only)</i>                  Current ACBL Members \$10                  Lapsed ACBL Members \$14  <b>ACBL number required to play. 120 day guest membership available free at <a href="https://www.acbl.org/membership/">https://www.acbl.org/membership/</a></b></p>	<p><b>Notes</b>                  ♠ BCOH is a fragrance free facility.                  ♠ Life Masters with less than 500 pts can play.</p>
<p><b>Snacks / Lunch</b>                  Free snacks and drinks all days.                  Lunch available for \$7 <b>Cash</b> on Thurs, Fri., and Sat. if ordered by 10am. No Sunday meal.</p>	<p><b>Lodging</b>                  SpringHill Suites by Marriott 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><b>Tournament Chair</b>                  John Montgomery  <a href="mailto:jon3mon@gmail.com">jon3mon@gmail.com</a></p>	

Silver Points – Silver Points – Silver Points

**2025 D16 NAP Finals**



**January 11-12, 2025  
(Saturday & Sunday)**

## **Bridge Center of Austin**

6700 Middle Fiskville Austin, Texas 78752  
(near IH-35 & US290E)

\$14.00 / Person / Session  
Free Meal on Sunday for Those Qualifying  
Free Coffee & Refreshments

Game Times: 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.  
Two-Session Qualifying Event on Saturday  
Two-Session Final Event on Sunday

If eight or less tables are in a flight, the  
two-session final event is on Saturday.

*Please Note:* These events are **NOT** held in conjunction with  
the previous week's Austin sectional tournament.

Event Chair: Larry Davis (larrysdavis@att.net, 512-343-6942)



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## **2025 Lone Star Regional**





# LONE STAR REGIONAL FEBRUARY 3-9, 2025



## Tournament Chairs

- ♥ Sarah Springer  
(281) 904-5791  
sarahspringerbridge@gmail.com
- ♥ Dave Becker  
(214) 274-2978  
dbecker03@hotmail.com
- ♥ Linda McReynolds  
(713) 819-7812  
lindamcreynolds@comcast.net

## Partnership Chair

- ♣ James Sells  
(281) 785-5295  
jamesells@live.com



## Tournament Hotel

**Marriott Houston Westchase**  
2900 Briar Park Drive  
Houston, TX 77042



- ♣ \$129 Room Rate
- ♣ Call (713) 978-7400
- ♣ Ask for ACBL Bridge rate
- ♣ Cut-off Date: Jan 12, 2025
- ♣ Reserve Early before it's sold out!
- ♣ <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1694898652688&key=GRP>

## Hospitality

- ♥ Complementary ACBL labels
  - Email in advance to lslabels@gmail.com
  - Include Name, City, State, ACBL #
  - Pickup at Hospitality Desk
- ♥ Awards at Hospitality Desk
- ♥ Welcome gift
- ♥ Daily Breakfast items
- ♥ Hot Dog lunch on Friday
- ♥ Ice Cream on Saturday
- ♥ Buffet Lunch on Sunday

## Future Life Masters



- ♦ New 0-20 game on Tues & Sat
- ♦ 1 Free play on Tues or Sat for 0-99ers

## Game Fees

- ♣ Mon-Fri \$16
- ♣ ACBL Charity Game \$17
- ♣ Saturday \$17 (\$1 for NABC)
- ♣ Sunday \$18 (lunch included w/2 session entry)
- ♣ Cashless = cc only



## Best Practices Teacher Workshop

- ♦ Sat-Sun Feb 1-2 9:00-3:00
- ♦ Registration Fee \$50
- ♦ Contact Karen Nussbaum  
(832) 524-5233  
karenunit174@gmail.com







# LONE STAR REGIONAL 2025



Houston Marriott Westchase Convention Center

## Monday, February 3

ACBL Charity Fund Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Morning Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	10
99er Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
299er Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Gold Rush Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Bracketed Swiss Teams	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Afternoon Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	2:30
Evening Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	7:00

## Tuesday, February 4

Morning Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	10
0-20 Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
99er Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
299er Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Open Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Gold Rush Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Bracketed Swiss Teams	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Afternoon Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	2:30
Evening Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	7:00

## Wednesday, February 5

Morning Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	10
99er Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
299er Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Open Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Gold Rush Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Bracketed Swiss Teams	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Afternoon Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	2:30
Evening Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	7:00

## Stratification & Flighting

Open Pairs:	A: 3500+	X: 1250-3500	Y: 0-1250
299ers:	B: 200-300	C: 100-200	D: 0-100
Gold Rush:	B: 500-750	C: 300-500	D: 0-300

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

## Hospitality Chair

▶ Peaches Eads  
(713) 569-7700  
hallieeads@aol.com

## Event Naming

▶ Marsha Bernstein  
(713) 857-6088  
marshabernstein@att.net

## Thursday, February 6

Morning Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	10
99er Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
299er Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Gold Rush Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Open Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Bracketed Swiss Teams	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Afternoon Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	2:30
Evening Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	7:00

## Friday, February 7

Morning Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	10
99er Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
299er Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Gold Rush Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Open Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Bracketed Swiss Teams	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Afternoon Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	2:30
Evening Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	7:00

## Saturday, February 8

Morning Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	10
99er Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
0-20 Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
299er Pairs	.....	Two Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Gold Rush Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Open Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
ON-LINE Open Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30 *
Bracketed Swiss Teams	.....	Double Sessions	.....	10 & 2:30
Afternoon Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	2:30
Evening Side Pairs	.....	Single Session	.....	7:00

\* Instructions on the Unit 174 website at [acblunit174.org](http://acblunit174.org)

## Sunday, February 9

Open Pairs	.....	Double Sessions	.....	9 & 1:30
Bracketed Swiss Teams	.....	Double Sessions	.....	9 & TBA

\* Early start to finish in time for Super Bowl LIX.

## I/N Chair

▶ Tracy Meyer  
(910) 685-5615  
tracy.meyer.tx@gmail.com

NOTE: Be scent-sensitive - this is a fragrance-free tournament.  
No offensive odors.

## 2025 Lone Star Regional Event Naming

# Naming Opportunities



## LONE STAR REGIONAL Houston



### FEBRUARY 3-9. 2025

The Lone Star Regional provides an excellent opportunity for you to honor a friend, loved one, another bridge player, or someone significant who has left us. You can purchase an event, an entire day, or the entire tournament to honor your person. There will be a poster at the playing site with your honoree's photograph and a write up, and the same information will be in the Daily Bulletin on the day of your named event. Your honoree's name will be the name of the event, such as "Winston Churchill Open Pairs" and the FastResults will report the games as they are named.

- Entire Tournament ..... \$7,500
- All Games For Entire Day ..... \$1,000
- Charity Fund Pairs ..... Single-Session ..... Monday ..... \$125
- 0-20 Pairs ..... Single-Session ..... Monday ..... \$125
- 99er & 299er Combo ..... Single-Session ..... Mon thru Sat ..... \$125
- Side Pairs - Morn/Aft/Eve ..... Single-Session ..... Mon thru Sat ..... \$125
- Open Pairs ..... Double-Session ..... Mon thru Sat ..... \$200
- Gold Rush Pairs ..... Double-Session ..... Mon thru Sat ..... \$200
- Bracketed Swiss 1-day ..... Double-Session ..... Mon thru Sun ..... \$200
- Evening Swiss ..... Double-Session ..... Tue/Wed or Thu/Fri ..... \$200
- Braketed Swiss ..... Double-Session ..... Sunday ..... \$200
- Sunday Side Games ..... Single-Session ..... Sunday ..... \$75

If an entire day is named, then all one-day events will be part of that package including the Side Games, 49er/299er, Gold Rush and Swiss games.

Make checks payable to Unit 174. Please provide a picture and write-up (about 100 words) of your honoree for the Daily Bulletin and Poster Board.

Sponsoring Corporate or other promotional gifts for Hospitality will be handled on an individual basis.

**Event Naming**  
 Marsha Bernstein  
 (713) 857-6088  
 marshabernstein@att.net

## D16 0-50 Game





# SHOWTIME

ACBL in association with

**District 16 and  
Denton Bridge Studio**

**Presenting 0-50 MPs Game Starring YOU**

Every Monday at 4:00 PM (CST) on BBO

\$5/12 boards

Producer: Jack LaVigne

Director: Ken Javor

For help signing into BBO ([click here](#)) or contact  
Ken Javor at [KDJavor@yahoo.com](mailto:KDJavor@yahoo.com).

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**99er Nite Club**





# THE 99er Nite Club East

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

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

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

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

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

**Where: ACBL Clubhouse\***

**Perks:**

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

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

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

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



**199er Nite Club**

# 199er Nite Club East

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

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

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

- ✓ Recent graduates of the 0 to 99 group can play in a game with players of the same ability.
- ✓ Work during the day? Graduates continue 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**





Please join us for a

# SPECIAL FLM 99er GAME

**THE FUN IS JUST BEGINNING!**

Sunday

# NOVEMBER 10



12:30 Social Hour

1:30 pm GAME TIME \$5



## ARABIA SHRINERS

10510 Harwin Dr.  
Carpeted Back Room  
NW Corner - side entrance  
Look for the red balloons!

# PRIZE | FOOD | FUN

**NO PARTNER NEEDED!**

This is a great game for newcomers to bridge to try  
Duplicate in person. It's a relaxed, fun, friendly  
environment for everyone.

## 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

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 - October 26, 2024:

Total Tables:	12,357
Total F2F:	11,067
Total Online:	537
Total Swiss Teams:	749

The number of clubs in our unit dropped by one to 24. The top 15 club table counts are:

1. Clear Lake Bridge Club:	3,315 Tables, all F2F
2. Bridge Club of Houston:	2,111 Tables, 1,477.5 F2F, 500 Online
3. Bridge Academy of West Houston:	2,079 Tables, all F2F
4. Lone Star Bridge Club:	1,356 Tables, all F2F
5. Apple II DBC	203 Tables, all F2F
6. Star DBC	647 Tables, all F2F
7. Apple DBC	568 Tables, all F2F

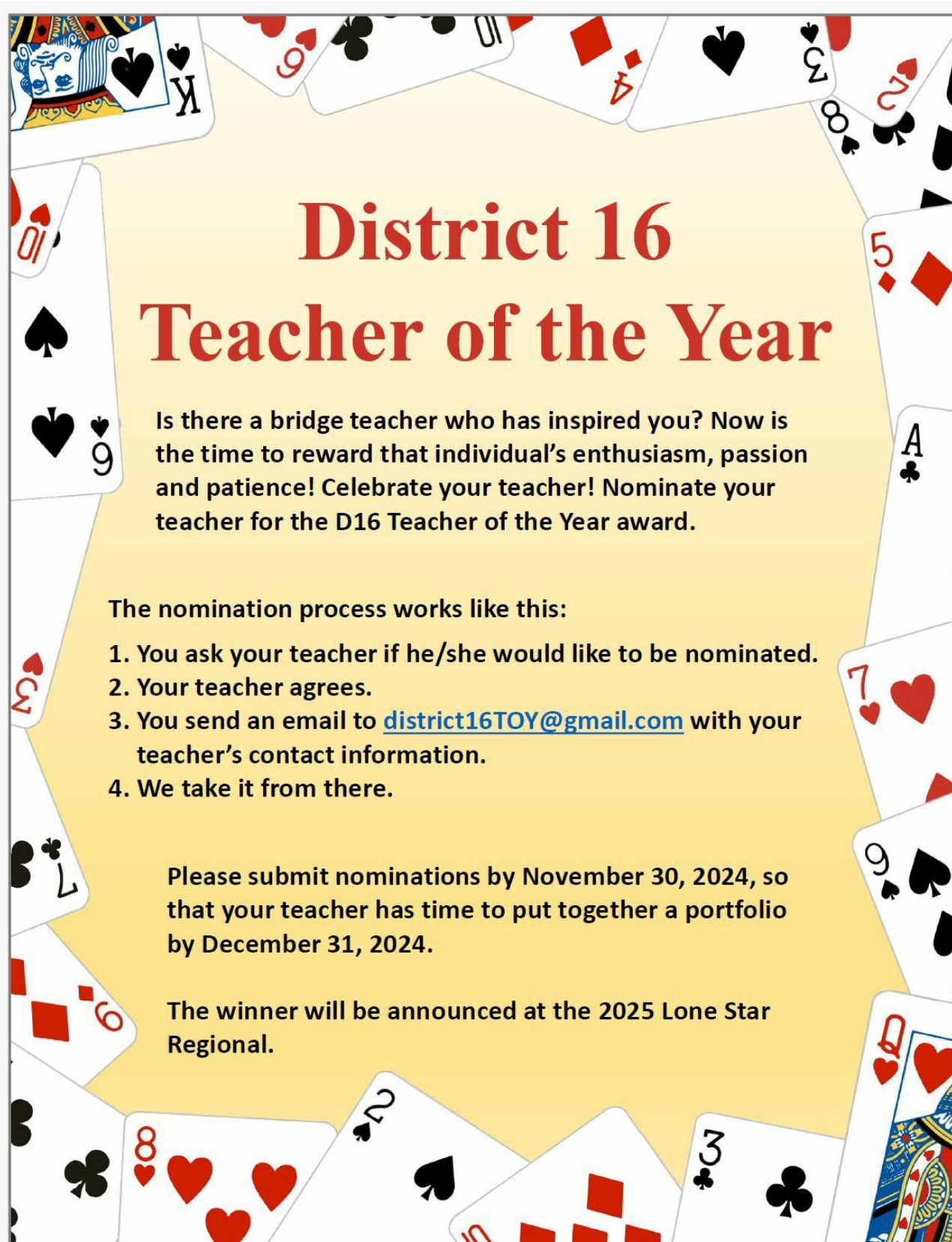


8. Kingwood DBC	447 Tables, all F2F
9. Lake Conroe DBC	357 Tables, all F2F
10. Fort Bend DB	339 Tables, all F2F
11. Cypress Northwest DBC	325 Tables, all F2F
12. Sugarland Bridge Club	255 Tables, all F2F
13. Pebble Creek DBC	246 Tables, all F2F
14. Gulf Coast	159 Tables, all F2F
15. Houston Racquet Club	146 Tables, all F2F

One other bit of information, Unit 174's Clear Lake Bridge Club is still the District 16 leader for F2F tables followed by Bridge Center of Austin with 2,568 tables and Arlington DBC with 2,139.

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## D16 Teacher of the Year Nominations



# District 16 Teacher of the Year

Is there a bridge teacher who has inspired you? Now is the time to reward that individual's enthusiasm, passion and patience! Celebrate your teacher! Nominate your teacher for the D16 Teacher of the Year award.

**The nomination process works like this:**

1. You ask your teacher if he/she would like to be nominated.
2. Your teacher agrees.
3. You send an email to [district16TOY@gmail.com](mailto:district16TOY@gmail.com) with your teacher's contact information.
4. We take it from there.

Please submit nominations by November 30, 2024, so that your teacher has time to put together a portfolio by December 31, 2024.

The winner will be announced at the 2025 Lone Star Regional.



## 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](mailto:unit174news@gmail.com).

Additional information about all of the clubs can be found on the

[Unit 174 website](#). Or, click a club name to jump to their website.

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## Apple Clubs

Our games begin at 11:30 a.m. sharp at the Tracy Gee Community Center, 3599 Westcenter Dr. 77042. Please plan to arrive by 11:15 a.m. All games are \$3.00 / person.

### Temporary Move for Apple DBC

Apple DBC is excited to move temporarily to the Arabia Shriners (10510 Harwin Dr.) for the Monday, November 4 while Tracy Gee will be closed to accommodate voting in the Presidential election.

Since there will be a site-use fee, the per person cost will temporarily be raised to \$5.

We hope to see you at the Shriners!

Apple II will be closed on the following dates:

November 1 - Tracy Gee early voting.

November 29 - Tracy Gee is closed for Thanksgiving.

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

Friday - Apple II - Brigitte Sandifer  
[sandiferdb@gmail.com](mailto:sandiferdb@gmail.com) - 281-494-1464

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

### Emerald Life Master Party

On Wednesday, October 16th, an **Emerald** Life Master party was held to celebrate Joyce Ryan achieving the rank of **Emerald** Life Master.

Joyce, a very fine player, is known as a bridge teacher. Her students hosted the party. There were 33 tables which is a record number for the academy. Joyce was thrilled when she was presented with **emerald** earrings!



Joyce Ryan & her **Emerald** Earrings and **Emerald** Achievement.

**H a p p y B i r t h d a y !**

On Wednesday, October 23rd, a birthday



party was held for Harry Selldin, Shirley McKee and Linda Rensi. Sherry Withers hosted the party. Everyone had a great time.

**H a p p y 9 0<sup>th</sup> !**

On Thursday, October 24th, Sandy Clark celebrated her 90th birthday with a party hosted by Rick Barret. What a milestone for Sandy!



### **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

*November 5th - 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 (FLM) and 8 is enough Swiss Teams games are held monthly on Sunday at 1:30 p.m. The next games will be held on

*November 10th - FLM & 8 is enough Swiss Teams*

*Note:* This FLM game is *Special* where the upper limit is 99 masterpoints. It will be held separately in the Oasis room (Northwest corner of the facility).

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](mailto:lindamcreynolds@comcast.net)

### **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**  
**Wednesday - Open & 299'er**  
**Thursdays - Invitational**  
**10:30 a.m.**

**Sunday - Future Life Masters & 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



**Game Calendar**

Tue – Nov 5	STaC	Thu – Nov 14	Charity Game
Wed – Nov 6	STaC	Wed – Nov 20	GNT Fund Raiser
Thu – Nov 7	STaC	Thu – Nov 21	GNT Fund Raiser
Sun – Nov 10	STaC	Wed – Nov 27	Club Membership
Wed – Nov 13	Charity Game		

**Need a Partner?**

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



## Bridge Club of Houston

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

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

**BBO - Mentor/Mentee Games:** First and third Mondays at 7:00 p.m. (Protege should invite and pay for game of mentor.) Contact Mike Linkins if you have any questions: [minkins@swbell.net](mailto:minkins@swbell.net).

**BCOH Open Games** (Face-2-Face):  
Monday: 11:55 a.m.  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday: 10:30 a.m.

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

**SAVE THE DATES:**  
8 is Enough Swiss Teams – November 19th at 10:30 a.m. (Register at the club.)

**Mentor/Mentee F2F:** November 12th and 26th 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 or Bob Zeigler@713-829-6928. Also contact them with any questions.

**TUESDAY TIDBITS**

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

Pizza Friday - November 1st - Come and enjoy a free pizza lunch,

November 14-17- 499er Tournament.

November 23rd - Thanksgiving Potluck Celebration: Bring a favorite dish to share. Lunch is at 11:15 a.m. and the 299er/Open Games begin 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						FLM 0-99	flm174.org
10:00 AM							
10:10 AM							
11:50 AM							
12:00 PM							
3:00 PM							
3:05 PM	FLM 0-99						
	↓ First and third Mondays only. Visit <a href="http://www.bridgewebs.com/bcoh">www.bridgewebs.com/bcoh</a> for details						
7:00 PM	Mentor				Open		

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



## 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...

October Mentor/Mentee (M/M) Game

Congratulations to the October Mentor/Mentee Winners:

# Mentor Mentee Winners!

**Overall Winners**  
George Wieland & Mentee Millie Perner

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**E/W Winners**  
Chuck Ensor & Mentee Russ Hall

**10/2024**

### UPCOMING...

November 4-10 is Unit 174 STaC week and CLBC is participating for all of their games.

Another opportunity for **Silver** & **Red** points.

Monday - Sunday, November 11-17 are all Grass Roots games.

Monday, November 18 - Sunday, November 24 are Unit Club Championship Games.

The Thanksgiving feast will be held on Wednesday, November 20 between the morning open game and the Mentor/Mentee game. The club will provide the turkeys and members are asked to bring side dishes and desserts to share.

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

**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.

Swiss Teams: Sunday at 1:00 p.m. September 8th 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.

*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](http://www.clearlakebridgeclub.org/bridge-education) for new classes offered in 2024.

Bobbie Moutz  
Vice President  
[natcolemed@comcast.net](mailto: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 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](mailto: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





## 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**

- We are in the Prairie Room every Tuesday. Not the Oasis Room.
- We use Bridge Mate II Bridge pads.
- We do not use slippery plastic cards.
- 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 gentle, fair and experienced.
- All games including upgraded are \$7.00.

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

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

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## 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.

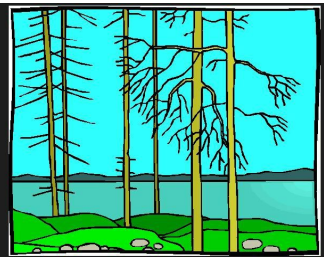
On Thursday mornings, Bill Riley will be giving a short 20-30 minute presentation on various topics, conventions, etc., starting at 9:20 a.m. A schedule of topics will be published shortly. Coffee is available.

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](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](#).

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## LAKE CONROE DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

### November 2024

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 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.

While Gerry Earnest is recovering from surgery, Carol Meade is taking over the partnership desk. If you need a partner, please contact Carol and she will do her best to assist you. Her phone number is 281-543-4541 and her email is [meadecm@icloud.com](mailto:meadecm@icloud.com).

The following is what's happening in November:

- November 1 - Charity Fund
- November 8 - Unit 174 STaC
- November 15 - Unit Club Championship
- November 22 - Club Championship - PIZZA LUNCH PROVIDED
- November 29 - CLOSED for Thanksgiving Holiday

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](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](#).

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

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

November Calendar of Events

Monday, November 4 - Unit 174 STaC game & Free bridge lesson with Diamond Life Master Jeff Kroll at 11:00 a.m. Game begins at 11:45 a.m.

Jeff's will discuss when opener should support with 3 cards in responder's suit when responder may only have 4 cards in it. He will cover the Spiral Convention. Jeff will then show hands that:

- Good Defenders set and others don't
- Good Declarers make and others don't

Tuesday, November 5 - Unit 174 STaC game beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, November 7 - Unit 174 STaC game beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Monday, November 11 - Junior Fund Game - In honor of Veterans' Day, *all veterans play free.*

Thursday, November 14 - ACBL Charity Game & Free pizza for lunch!

Monday, November 18 - Grass Roots Fund Game.

Tuesday, November 19 - Mentor/Mentee Game which is also an International Fund Game.

Thursday, November 21 - Educational Fund Game.

Monday, November 25 - Local Charity Game for St. Paul Church & Thanksgiving luncheon. Food will be served at 11:00 a.m. Due to space restraints, reservations are required.

Thursday, November 28 - **Happy Thanksgiving** - club closed.

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](mailto:lindasutton212@gmail.com) or 936-443-3600.

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](#).



## STAR DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

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

You must have a partner.

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



## Contributors



## 6-5, Come Alive!

BY **SAM KHAYATT**



So, we've all heard the adage but do we really understand what it means?  
Take a look at the following hand:

Dlr: North  
Vul: East/West

	<u>North</u>	
	♠J53	
	♥KJ9743	
	♦J2	
	♣K2	
<u>West</u>		<u>East</u>
♠108		♠974
♥82		♥Q105
♦AK9874		♦Q10653
♣A105		♣Q4
	<u>South</u>	
	♠AKQ62	
	♥A6	
	♦	
	♣J98763	

<u>West</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>South</u>
	2♥*	Pass	2♠**
3♦§	2♠†	Pass	4♠‡
Pass	Pass	Pass	

\* Weak 2

\*\* Rebiddable spade suit, 14+ points and forcing

§ Good suit and wants a diamond lead

† Shows three spades

‡ Worth a shot

South's clubs aren't great but there are six of them. If North (partner) has clubs we might expect to run them after giving up a trick or two. If partner is short on clubs, they might be able to be run after ruffing one or two. That thought is sound reasoning given that opening 2♥ shows six and supporting spades shows three. With that bidding South knows nine of North's hand.

South has ♥A6 in partner's six-card suit. That, too, could be a source of tricks.

The play is straightforward. After drawing trump, end in south's hand. Lead a club toward the ♣K and lose only the A. Makes 6♠.

Summary

Now you should understand the adage "6-5, Come Alive!" 6-5 is a powerful holding. Take some kind of action with it.

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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. Sam and Jeff have both been recipients of the District 16 Teacher of the Year award. Both Sam and Jeff teach bridge.

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BY JOE SIGUEIRA

## Communicating on Defense

<b>Board 33</b>		♠ K Q J 7	
North Deals		♥ Q 9 2	
None Vul		♦ 10 8 2	
		♣ 10 8 5	
♠ 6 4	N W      E S	♠ 8 2	
♥ K J 7 5 4 3		♥ A 6	
♦ A		♦ K 9 4 3	
♣ J 6 4 3		♣ A K Q 9 2	
		♠ A 10 9 5 3	
		♥ 10 8	
		♦ Q J 7 6 5	
		♣ 7	

EW 4♥; EW 5♣; EW 2N; NS 1♠;  
Par -420: EW 4♥=

East opens 1NT. South overcalls 2♠ (showing spades and a minor). North bids 4♦ - Texas Transfer to Hearts. North bids 4♠. Should East bid? If East passes what should West do? Right or wrong West doubles.

West has the opening lead. How do you plan the defense and communicate with each other to set declarer down 3. If you only set declarer down 2, you'll have bottom board in match points because 4♥ can make.

Opening Lead: ♦A. Playing standard signals, East plays an encouraging ♦9 but West does not continue diamonds and instead plays the ♥3. West wins the ♥A.

What now? Time to count. West did not continue with diamonds even though East encouraged the suit. Why not? West must not have any more so declarer must have five diamonds including the ♦QJ. Playing the ♦K will set up declarer's diamond tricks. Play ♦3 and to let partner know to return a club after the ruff.

West ruffs the diamond, returns a club, East wins with the ♣Q showing the ♣AK. East follows with the ♦4 setting up another ruff by West. A second club is returned which declarer ruffs. After removing trumps declarer has the ♦QJ remaining but East has the ♦K. So declarer can only pitch one heart and has to lose a heart to West's ♥K.

Defensive tricks: ♦A, ♥A, ♦ruff, ♣Q, ♦ruff and ♥K. Down 3.

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Joe Siqueria plays regularly with his wife at the Apple DB and Apple II Clubs. He teaches bridge to family and friends online and his articles are aimed at I/N players. Joe is a Ruby Life Master.

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## In Memoriam.

- \* Margie Beegle, Houston
- \* Nadia Branisa, Houston
- David S. Finger, Houston
- \* J. N. Gittelman, Houston
- \* Virginia A. Zilic, Houston

\*Life Master

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### Virginia A. Zilic 1938 | 2024

Virginia Ann Zilic passed away peacefully under the care of hospice on September 13. She is survived by her husband of 53 ½ years, John Zilic. Virginia was an avid bridge player with more than 7400 masterpoints and enjoyed playing at Bridge Academy of West Houston and the Apple clubs in Unit 174. Per Virginia's wishes there will be no service or memorials. [Her obituary may be read here.](#)

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## From the Editor



Thank you to all of the people who contribute to the Newsletter. It takes a team of fellow bridge players to bring this information to you. Unit 174 runs on volunteers' energy.

*If you are interested in volunteering for Unit 174 events and activities, please contact Sarah Springer, Unit 174 Board President - [sarahspringerbridge@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:unit174news@gmail.com).

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

