

District 16 Scorecard



May/June 2023

Volume 55, No. 3

President's Message



By Betty Starzec
President District 16

From what I have gathered, the NABC in New Orleans was a success with higher table counts than expected. Many friends enjoyed oysters and gumbo at the various great restaurants in NOLA. Just a quick shout out to everyone who did well at the tables but especially to James Zhan and Ying Peng of Sugar Land who won the Golden North American Pairs Flight B. Forgive me for singling them out, but I also live in Sugar Land so it's a win for the home team!

On a sad note, most of you have heard about the passing of Dan Morse. He served our bridge community for decades in various capacities. From District Director on the ACBL board to its President and work on the WBF, Dan supported bridge activities as well as being an expert player accumulating more than 31,000 along with many titles. Our condolences to Dan's family. You can read more about Dan's accomplishments in another article in this Scorecard.

The Longest Day, the ACBL's annual fundraising event to help support the fight against Alzheimer's disease, will occur next month. This is the 10th anniversary of ACBL's partnership with the Alzheimer's Association which has raised almost \$9 million! Per

ACBL: A player, simply playing at a club during the event will raise funds as the sanction fees go directly to the Alzheimer's Association. In return, you'll earn elevated masterpoints in The Longest Day games. Check with your local club for these special games.

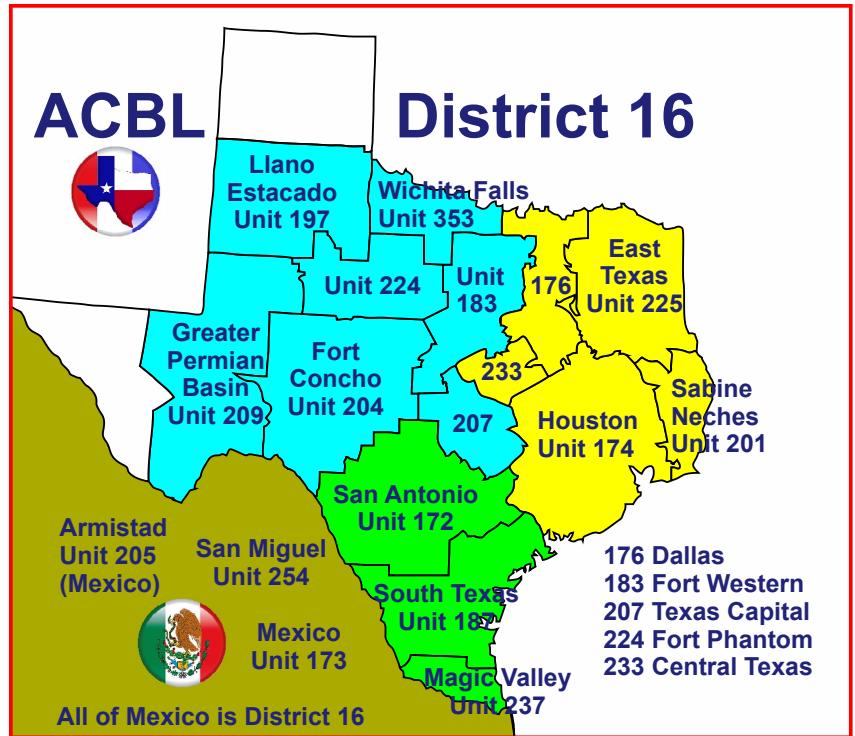
Our Saturday Lecture Series Program, instituted by Nancy Strohmer when she was President, has undergone another change. We welcome James Moody and Linda Griffith who will handle the English beginning and intermediate lectures beginning in May. Patricia Herrera will continue to handle the Spanish lecture. Producing these lectures takes a lot of organization to obtain speakers and materials. We thank James and Linda for taking on the coordination of this important program for the district. Welcome aboard!

As you might have gathered from the first paragraph, I was not at the NABC in NOLA. I broke my right femur doing rehab at Houston Methodist for my second knee replacement in mid-February. It was a serious fracture requiring me to be non-weight bearing for eight weeks minimum. So, my focus is doing rehab for the next few (hopefully) months.

Looking forward to seeing you at the tables.

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Upcoming D16 Tournaments

- May 4-7 Austin Spring Sectional
- May 18-21 Spring (Houston) 499er/NLM Tournament Sectional
- May 30-Jun 4 Fun in the Sun - Acapulco Regional
- June 2-4 Midland Sectional
- [June 7-9 Dallas June Sectional](#)
- [June 9-11 Shriner Houston Sectional](#)
- June 10-11 Austin Summer NLM Sectional
- [July 3-9 San Antonio Fourth of July Regional](#)
- [July 27-29 Tyler Tournament of Roses I/N Regional](#)
- [July 27-29 Tyler Tournament of Roses Sectional](#)
- August 5-6 Austin Summer NLM Sectional
- August 10-13 Houston Awesome Summer Sectional
- [August 10-13 Houston Awesome Summer NLM Regional](#)
- August 17-19 Beaumont 499er Non Life Masters Sectional
- August 30-September 4 Dallas Labor Day Regional

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Tomi Storey

Coordinators

Education

Patricia Herrera

Grand National Teams

Scott Nason

Marketing/Publicity

Rachell Jackson

Intermediate/Newcomer

Sam Khayatt

STaC

Tomi Storey

North American Pairs

Larry Davis

Financial Verifier

Jim Woodward

Recorder

Jack LaVigne

Tournament / Sanction Applications

Scott Humphrey

Lecture Series

James Moody, Linda Griffith and Patricia Herrera (Spanish)

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Scorecard Editor

Evvie Gilbert

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d16editorscorecard@gmail.com

Regional Director's Update



By Paul Cuneo
District 15, 16 Regional Director

By now you've seen that Bronia Jenkins, Vero Beach, Florida was selected to be the next Executive Director of the ACBL. I was very pleased with the Search Committee's presentation of Bronia's background and their assessment of skills as well as her presentation and interaction with the board. I'm helping with her transition and confident that she'll be successful.



In the past few months we've seen some exciting trend changes:

Our membership decline is slowing. This slowdown is driven by fewer members leaving, members rejoining the league, and increases in new member recruiting. I'm more optimistic than ever that we'll be able to stop the decline and then begin to grow.

- Tournament attendance this year is better than 2022, and more tournaments are being held.
- Face-to-face club tables jumped by 12,000 in March. This increase bodes well for future tournament attendance and provides clubs with funds to spend on new member education and recruitment.
- The New Orleans NABC was a success with 7125 tables. Congratulations to James Zhan and Ying Peng, both Sugar Land, who won the North American Pairs Flight B!

- And congratulations to all the D16 winners and top finishers.

Here are some significant board actions from the New Orleans meeting:

- Approved the Capital and Operating Budget which showed net income from operations at \$100,000
- Allowed tournament sponsors to set their own vaccination requirements beginning May 15.
- Proposed a Bylaws amendment to specify that bridge disciplinary hearings will move to the Institute for Bridge Arbitration rather than the American Arbitration Association. While both groups fall under the Federal Arbitration Act, the IBA is better suited for bridge hearings as bridge players have been trained as arbitrators.



I enjoyed my time filling in as the Interim Executive Director for ACBL and am looking forward to resuming my retirement with significantly more personal travel and bridge play.



North American Pairs ♠

By Larry Davis

D16 NAP Coordinator



The North American Pairs (NAP) is an ACBL wide event held annually. Players must qualify to advance to the next level of competition. The event starts each summer with club level qualification.

Players may qualify at any club NAP game in the ACBL with any partner. The club does not have to be in your district or unit. One may play in any number of club level NAP games, even after qualifying.

There are three NAP flights: A, B & C. Flight A is 2500+ masterpoints. Flight B is 500-2500 masterpoints. Flight C is less than 500 masterpoints and not having Life Master status. You don't have to play with someone in your flight, although the flight status of the pair is determined by the player with the higher number of masterpoints. If you earn a Flight A (B) qualification, you automatically earn a Flight B or C (C) qualification, provided that you are eligible for the lower level flight.

Some districts require unit level qualification (District 16 does not). The district level qualification event in District 16 is currently held in January in Austin (odd-numbered years) and San Antonio (even-numbered years), usually in conjunction with an open sectional tournament. It is a two day event (usually, see exceptions below) with two sessions per day. After the first day, about half of the field is eliminated.

At the district level, both players of a pair must play in a flight for which they qualified. The pair may choose to play in a higher level flight if both play-

ers earned a qualification for that higher level flight. (For example, two Flight C players who have earned a Flight B and a Flight C qualification may elect to play in Flight B even though they could play in Flight C.) You may enter only one flight. You do not have to play with a partner with whom you qualified at a lower level competition. Both players must be residents of the district in which they resided on June 1 of the preceding year.

Pairs qualifying at the district level advance to the national level. There are three (occasionally four) qualifiers at the district level. The national level event is held at March Spring NABC. Stipends are paid by the ACBL to help defray player expenses. If some of the district-level qualifying pairs are not able to attend the nationals, the ACBL contacts other district level pairs in order of place and offers such pairs the opportunity to represent their district at the nationals. No stipend is paid by the ACBL to such pairs. Districts and units might still pay stipends to such pairs. Some districts provide additional stipends as District 16 currently does. Some units provide additional stipends. Check with your unit board. District 16 level stipends are paid after the national event is held and might be withheld if the pair had Zero Tolerance violations at the district and/or national levels.

Exception: If 16 or fewer pairs enter the District 16 NAP finals for a given flight, such flight will have a one day, two session play through final to determine the national level qualifiers for that flight.



Grand National Teams ♠

By Scott Nason

D16 GNT Coordinator



It has been several years since we have been able to conduct the District Finals in the Grand National Teams (GNT) in person. But this year we conducted the four-flight event in two venues, Dallas and Houston. The Championship Flight

was competed in Dallas on March 24 between two very strong teams. Last year's District Champions – Hua Yang, Yan Song, Danny Feng and Steve Chen – returned to try to defend their 2022 (online) win. They went head-to-head against the Dinkin team of Sam Dinkin, Bart Bramley, Eric Greco and Finn Kolesnik. The Dinkin team must be close to some record for varied age range: I remember playing against Bart Bramley in Boston nearly 50 years ago and played against a teenage Finn Kolesnik at the NABC just a few years ago.

Yang led after the first and second quarters, but Dinkin came back in the third quarter to nab the lead and held on to win by a score of 137-131. The Dinkin foursome, augmented by Greg Hinze, will represent District 16 in Chicago at the July Summer NABC national finals.

Flight B was competed by a big field of 12 teams. On day one they played a Swiss qualifier to cut the field to four teams for day two. Going into the finals on May 25 the Onsgard team (Kristen Onsgard, Stefanie Scott, Patricia Herrera, and Isaac Stone) led and brought a carryover of 5 Victory Points (VP) into the Saturday finals. The other three teams were Chen (Sarah Chen, Hanchang Wang, Jin Chu, Pingshan Wen, Andrew Chen and Charlie Chen), Langer (Jarek Langer, Lilly Justman, Kalyan Venkat, and Xinpeng Huang), and Peirce (Wes Peirce, Suv Biswas, Christian Stevens, and Peter Hudson). Chen had a carryover of 4 VPs (which would turn out to be very important), and Langer had a 2 VP carryover.

In the finals each team played 16 boards against each other. Onsgard led wire-to-wire and won handily. The second qualifying spot went to Chen, who won big in their final match to qualify by a mere 1.5

VPs over 3rd place Langer, a margin that was slightly less than the carry over differential. Both Onsgard and Chen will represent the district in Chicago.

Flights A and C were competed a few weeks later in Houston. Flight A had seven teams entered and played a 6-match round robin on Saturday, April 15 to cut the field to four teams. These four teams – Rush (Thomas Rush, Eddie Bass, Harry Elliott, and David Goldfarb), Vaughn (Steve Vaughn, Rick Stell, Mike Novack, and Joe Volansky), Nason (Scott Nason, David Ticen, Eric Diamond, and Bob Friz) and Hanus (Pawel Hanus, Ari Sippola, James Zhan, and Ying Peng) – advanced to the semi-finals on Sunday and played 24 board Knockout matches.

In the semi-finals Rush beat Hanus and Nason held on to beat Vaughn by a mere fraction of an IMP. These two met in the finals, with the Nason team beating Rush 60-46 to earn the qualifying spot in Chicago.

In Flight C there were four teams competing on Saturday, with two qualifying for an all-day Knockout on Sunday. Hardcastle (Janice Hardcastle, Nathan Yee, Hua Chen, Kyo Chen, Chris Steele, and Utkarsh Koshti) faced Skeels (Cindy Skeels, Phyllis Louderback, Laura Hayes, and Carolyn Clapp). Hardcastle defeated Skeels and will represent the district at the Summer Nationals. Hardcastle credited their success, in part, to some helpful coaching from Thomas Rush.

It was a great GNT competition with five teams qualifying to represent District 16 in Chicago in July. It was also a heartening victory for the future of bridge, with an amazing array of young players including the aforementioned Finn Kolesnik (just out of his teens and already a world class player) and 10-year-old Andrew Chen (who became the youngest Life Master ever, when he achieved that milestone in 2019 at the age of 8). Andrew's "older" brother (but definitely not old), Charlie, is a mere 13 years old. Also, the Hardcastle team included more of the future of bridge with two more young Chens, Hua and Kyo.

If you didn't play in the current D16 Grand National Teams, make your future plans to play in this exciting



District 16 GNT Winners

Congratulations to the following District 16 Grand National Team (GNT) winners who have qualified to compete in the GNT finals at the Summer NABC in Chicago.



The Most Beautiful Game in the World ♠

By Patricia Herrera

D16 Education Coordinator



Bridge is the ultimate mind and social sport. It keeps us socially active and cognitively challenged. We love the game. We know it. We feel great when we win and intrigued when we don't. We want to learn more; we want to become better. On

top of the game, we make new friends. Even new dates. We get to travel. The list is never ending, yet we constantly hear about the number of players declining and clubs getting smaller.

We have talked about how to help bridge before and there is something that deserves a special column by itself dealing with new players. First, let's acknowledge that we need new players more than they need us. They have plenty of hobbies in the world; but since we already love bridge, what we specifically need are new players. So, let's try to hold onto them like Rose did to that piece of wood from the Titanic.

What are new players in the first place? New players are usually players that are new to our clubs and tournaments. They can be beginners/newcomers or not, but they usually are.

Here is a basic list of some things we can all do to help keep new people that eventually will bring even more new people:

- Welcome beginners every time.
- Make sure they have such a wonderful experience that they want to come back.
- Let them know they can always call you if they need a partner. Yes, we rather play with partners with whom we can win, but we are trying to hold onto new players, right?
- If you can, pay their entry fee once. We all love to be treated and probably that will entice them come back.
- Celebrate their wins and accomplishments as much as you can.
- Talk about it. Nothing is more powerful than word of mouth. Share wonderful stories. Just remember the conversation is not about you and your accomplishments but rather about the game.

- Make sure you also invite them to social events organized by club members. The social aspect of bridge is a huge selling point.
- Also, show them the cool online apps and web sites we have for learning, watching, reading and training bridge. My next two columns will be about the cool gadgets that technology has for us such as BBO, Bridge Winners, CueBids, the ACBP website, etc.
- Don't gossip. Probably one of bridge's worst enemies: people talking bad about one another, politics, rumors, and all sorts of toxic behaviors. Just don't do it, please. You are better than that. You don't like someone? Keep it to yourself.

Learn about it. Some interesting facts and statistics include bridge is the most popular card game in the world. It's played by over 220 million people worldwide, almost twice the population of Mexico. Bridge is an Olympic sport. Yes, it is recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). Famous bridge players include: Warren Buffet, Bill Gates, Thom Yorke (Radiohead), Isaac Mizrahi, Gandhi, Churchill, Martina Navratilova, the agent 007, aka James Bond (read Ian's Fleming Moonraker), and Snoopy.

All studies place bridge benefits on top of other sports like gold and/or chess because bridge includes both the mental aspect and the social one, making it the mind sport.

If you have more ideas, or if you have done something that worked, please share them with me so that I can publish them and we can all keep on promoting the most beautiful game in the world. (heart)

Please join us and encourage others to come and practice in a fun environment with other newcomers (0-50 points) every Monday from 4:00-5:40 pm CET on BBO. Email Kim Brinkman at beginner-20bridge@gmail.com She will follow up and give you instructions about how to find the game.

Patricia Herrera is a Mexican bridge player. She is also the President of the Mexican Bridge Federation. When she is not playing bridge, she runs a nonprofit consulting firm based in Mexico City. You can reach her at: herrerapatricia@gmail.com



Advisory Council Report from New Orleans NABC

By Tomi Storey

D16 Advisory Council Representative



My hometown proved once again to be a fabulous location for a National. Spacious playing areas, excellent lighting, comfortable rooms, and the food! You couldn't walk into a restaurant anywhere

in the city without running into bridge players. Fortunately, New Orleans has a lot to offer, so your appetite for bridge and food was always filled.

The Advisory Council (AC) meeting agenda was full as well. The highlights:

- The major challenges facing the ACBL are stabilizing the membership, getting players back into live play and improving the technology. The total net assets dropped over \$1.8M in 2022. Revenue was down 12.4% over 2021, but tournaments are now showing growth over 25%. Membership continues to drop – down 6.7%, but new membership is up more than 18% – hence the need to keep our existing members as well as bringing in new ones. The guest membership program has had more than 4300 join since the start, and almost half have converted to full membership. It is very encouraging for our clubs that F2F bridge is up strongly. In the span of November 22-January 23, clubs games are up more than 42%! Of course, this comes at the expense of online games. BBO continues to be the dominant online presence with 65% of the tables in play.
- Information technology is still a major issue. I won't go into all the many details discussed, but there is a phased rollout of a new masterpoint engine on the way as well as continued web functionality improvements to MyACBL. There is Marketplace, a new initiative to connect prospects with teachers and assist beginning players to easily find in-person and online classes, as well as newcomer games.
- The ACBL Intro to Bridge – Online is discontinued but is now F2F. There are pilot programs scheduled for Florida, California, and Texas, with

two series for a total of 18, 2-hour classes. The goal is to get prospects to newcomer games at local clubs. This is free to ACBL Best Practices, Online Teacher Certification, and ABTA teachers. Experienced teachers may apply for free access while others must pay a licensing fee (<\$100). This program was scheduled to start sometime in April 2023.

- We're very aware that cheating, particularly online, is a constant topic of discussion among players and it is of utmost importance to the ACBL as well. The National Recorder received 91 complaints that lead to charge letters. Of these, 39 negotiated resolutions, 25 led to OEOC (Online Ethical Oversight Committee) hearings, and five resigned to avoid discipline. All recorder forms are now processed within 24-48 hours, and the time frame from memo-to-charges has been reduced to 10 days. EDGAR, the new technology developed to spot suspicious plays and calls, is being used as an investigation tool.

I hope this information helps to understand the workings of the ACBL. It is the Advisory Council that serves as a liaison between the ACBL Board and the membership. If I can answer any questions for you, please contact me via email at: Skeeter303@yahoo.com or call at 214-244-8333.

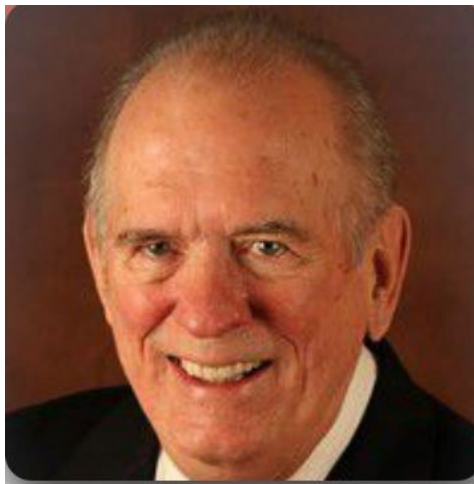
Your other AC representatives are President Betty Starzec, Past Present Nancy Strohmer, and former ACBL president Ken Monzingo.



Dan Morse

February 23, 1938 - March 21, 2023

Dan's Memorial Service was on April 21 at St. Martin's Episcopal's Church in Houston.



District 16 and ACBL is so sorry to hear of the unexpected death of Dan Morse, Houston. He passed following recent surgery. Dan served the membership of the ACBL in many capacities as District 16 Director on the ACBL Board of Directors. During his long term on the national board he served on, or chaired, many important ACBL committees. The highlight of his board career was elected ACBL President in 2007. Internationally, Dan served as a long time (1996-2010) delegate to the World Bridge Federation Executive Council.

A world-class bridge player amassing 31,925 career masterpoints, Dan is credited with 12 North American Bridge Championships wins. His NABC event titles are:

- Truscott Senior Swiss Teams (1) 2013
- Jacoby Open Swiss Teams (1) 2011
- Senior KO Teams (4) 1994, 2002, 2003, 2015
- Reisinger Board-a-Match Teams (1) 2002
- von Zedtwitz Life Master Pairs (1) 1993
- Vanderbilt Knockout Teams (2) 1990, 1993
- Grand National Teams (1) 1977
- Spingold Knockout Teams (1) 1977
- Rockwell Mixed Pairs (1) 1964

Dan was also runner-up in 11 additional North American Bridge Championships events. (Some say it is more difficult to be 2nd than 1st.)

He is survived by his wife Barbara, daughter Julie and grandchildren McKenna and Noah. We send

them and all Dan's friends and colleagues our sincere condolences. Please read further to hear from many of Dan's long-time partners, friends and teammates.



Bobby Wolff

While knowing and playing much competitive bridge with Dan since the early 1960s he was one of my all-time favorite partners. No doubt he was underrated as a player, but I can assure everyone that he could easily compete against the best in the world. Dan was always ready to play, and over a lifetime left very few winnable tricks on the table.

Yes, I also had the pleasure of winning an important bridge World Championship in Europe together as his partner him playing, almost flawlessly. It was also an honor of mine to know him as both a man and a bridge partner.

Bridge has lost a player who will always be regarded as among a privileged group. To say he will be missed is definitely an underbid and already I can envision Dan sitting down to play his favorite game among the toughest opposition in heaven.



Eddie Wold

I met Dan Morse in the early 70s at the Nail Rubber Bridge Club. I was able to learn a lot from Dan by talking to him and playing with him. I also got to play a lot of backgammon with Dan. I had the good fortune to go to the Chicago NABC in 1977 with Dan as my partner and teammate. Our team was able to complete the rare double of winning both the Grand National Teams and the Spingold Knockout Teams.

In addition to playing, Dan was also elected District Director to the ACBL National Board and served District 16 there for many years serving one year as ACBL President.

Dan was a great bridge partner and very tough opponent. He will be missed by all of us in the bridge world.



Kitty Wong

The game of bridge can be nerve-racking, especially when you're among players who are as competitive as they are devoted to this game we all love so dearly. I met one such player in Dan, a world-class bridge competitor. You can imagine

how I felt when I learned he and I would become partners. The night before our first game I hardly slept, fretting over what I would say and how I would perform. Would my skill set be adequate? Would my decisions match his level of play? Would I be a good partner?

At the time I didn't know the answers to any of those questions, but Dan certainly did. He just smiled and gave me my first piece of advice: "Relax, and have fun."

Over the next six years, I played and learned alongside Dan. And in those years, thanks to him, I have improved my bridge knowledge tremendously not only through his advice, but more so his kindness and patience. He never once expressed disapproval or annoyance at any of my many mistakes. When we did well, he'd say, "You played great, Kitty!" And when we did poorly: "It wasn't a very lucky game." Or my favorite: "The other guys just did everything right."

I will miss you, Dan. I promise to carry forward your wisdom, and especially your passion for bridge. And above all, like you would say regardless of the outcome: "We can always do better." I feel so lucky to call Dan my mentor, my partner, and my great friend. Thank you so much for everything you have done for me. We will miss you dearly.



Tom Breed

It was my privilege and pleasure to have been one of Dan Morse's regular partners. I played weekly in the bridge club with Dan and in every Houston tournament. Dan Morse was what every bridge player should strive to be. He was a world-class player, a

supportive and sympathetic partner, teammate and friend. On top of that he was a consummate gentleman who never had an unkind word to say about anyone. I will miss Dan tremendously. His passing is a loss to the bridge world as a whole and to the Houston bridge community specifically.

My thanks go out to Dan for all he did for me

and for the times he supported me when I needed a friend. I am sure Dan is dealing the hands and playing bridge with all who have passed on before him.



Ira Hessel

I played many regionals and nationals with Dan starting in the 1980s. He was a great mentor and partner, always kind and very patient. We were set to play in the New Orleans NABC when he took ill a few weeks before.

Dan had great successes with Bobby Nail, John Sutherlin and Bobby Wolff. He won 13 NABC+ championships and was 2nd 11 times. He won the World Senior Teams in 2000, and was NPC for two Bermuda Bowl champions as well as one Olympiad.

Although Dan had some physical issues the last few years, his mind was still sharp. He played quickly and extremely well. Dan was a natural player. It was always rewarding to me when I put down the dummy and after a short analysis he played with feeling so accurately.

Dan served the ACBL well as a long time Board Of Directors rep, and one term as ACBL President.

Cast a cold eye

On life, on death.

Horseman, pass by!



Chris Compton

Eddie Wold goes back to Dan in the very early 70s. Earlier, my guardians played with Dan, George Rosenkranz, John Gerber, and Paul Hodge. Legend has it that Dan

opened his pharmacy with money made playing professionally – paid in Syntex company stock (Dr. George's Syntex company was the first to market the birth control pill).

I recount one hand from our early rubber bridge days at Bobby Nail's Rubber Bridge Club in Houston. Dan was sitting in fourth seat holding something like ♠AQ98x and 19 HCP when, directly in front of him in third seat, I impetuously opened 1♠ non-vul vs. vul.

Dan said double, and the auction continued:

Chris Dan

Pass Pass 1♠ Dbl

Redbl Pass Pass* ?

*An egregious error by me.



Dan thought a while and passed out 1♠xx! I took a mere two tricks for -2200 @ \$2 a hundred! More of my hard-earned money for his pharmacy and Julie's education.

Our best to Barbara, Julie and the rest at this sad time.



Bart Bramley

I never partnered with Dan that I can recall but we were teammates from time to time, including the last two Senior World Championships: Wuhan in 2019 and Salsomaggiore in 2022. We won the trials for both of those events. Dan was terrific in both trials, first with Gaylor Kasle and later with Pratap Rajadhyaksha (a first-time partnership). The latter was especially impressive, as we were just four-handed in the trials. Dan was wonderful as a teammate, and as a friend.



Shawn Quinn

My good friend Dan Morse passed away unexpectedly March 21 after complications from an intestinal surgery. Dan took me under his wing when we moved to Texas and my husband was overseas. We

had fun times playing in the Sunday jackpot games and spending dinner hours with Joan. He was one of the fiercest competitors I ever knew and he will be sorely missed.



Nancy Strohmer

I owe so much to Dan. Dan & Ken Monzingo were responsible for getting me on the Charity Foundation as a trustee – I am forever grateful to both. Dan encouraged me in so many areas of bridge administration as well. He was an exceptional person and an exceptional bridge player.

Sending my heartfelt condolences to Dan's family and Barbara.



Some Morse Humor at the table

I had several occasions to kibitz Dan, or might I say, his feet. I was intrigued that his right toe would tap twice and stop tapping, tap twice and ... I quickly discerned the purpose was to have a consistent rhythm of two taps when taking his turns, but was puzzled what the motivation was. My original supposition was fair play and that he wanted to be an example of good deportment. But the anecdote suggests there might have been a bit more to it like curtailing over eagerness.

Roger Pewick

In the last senior trials we played against Dan and Pratap. Their Blackwood and Stayman, plus good judgment and card play, destroyed our "superior" methods.

David Caprera

Here's a story Boris Baran told me about Boris and Mark Molson played against Dan Morse - John Sutherland. Baran-Molsson could have made 7♦, 7♥ or 7♠. But after a forcing-pass misunderstanding Boris bid 7NT over their 7♣ sacrifice. Morse doubled and led the club ace out of turn (Molson had bid 4NT earlier). Boris screamed "It's not your lead!"

But Mark tabled his dummy.

Buddy Hanby

(There is a fable going around that the same contract was bid at the other table since both sides cue bid their club void!)

NABC NOLA



By Stefanie Scott

D16 NABC Correspondent/Reporter



New Orleans (NOLA) abounds with energy! Being at the Marriott on Canal we were 24/7 immersed in the exuberance that is New Orleans. When you stepped out of the hotel on Canal and turned right you were on your way to Bourbon

Street. But if you turned left you were on your way to Harrah's Casino. What a great place to spend St. Patrick's Day! If you happened to make it out of the hotel and away from the bridge tables you might have run into the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. Normally in NOLA you spend time catching beads, but during St. Pat's I guess cabbage throwing is a thing? The day was also celebrated by many bridge players and directors as the playing area was a flood of green. I sadly only got to hear about this event. I guess I need to go back to NOLA on St. Pat's.

NOLA is intoxicating with great restaurants, night life going on 'til dawn, fascinating people, and some of the best music in the country heard everywhere in the quarter. I had the privilege of eating at one of New Orleans oldest and most famous restaurants, Commander's Palace, with Mike Passell and other good friends. The food was divine!



Some of the other top restaurants many of our District 16 members enjoyed were: GW Fins, Bren-



Melody Euler, Tournament Director

nan's, La Petite Grocery, and Acme Oyster House. One restaurant I heard mentioned many times was Compère Lapin; and some even got to meet Top Chef winner Nina Compton.

The Spring NABC did not disappoint in the bridge department, either. While Covid has affected our table count numbers in regionals, sectionals, club games and other NABCs, this New Orleans national had 920 ½ tables more than the 2022 Spring NABC in Reno. We are continuing to get back bridge that is lively and engaging – and most importantly, fun!

So many star performances from D16 members occurred: Mike Passell came in 2nd in the Silver Ribbon Pairs. He was the top District 16 winner with 224.63 masterpoints. He also made it to the round of four in the Vanderbilt. Mike Kamil was 2nd in the Vanderbilt – Congratulations, Mike K! Bart Bramley's team was the runner up in the Jacoby Open Swiss Teams. In the Golder North American Pairs Flight B, D16 members won three of the top five places. Including 1st by Sugar Land's James Zhan and Ying Peng, 2nd Eric Goff and Neil Cohen, and 5th Gregory Andrews and Scott Cantor.

Two D16 teams finished in the top 10 in the 0-10,000 Swiss Teams. Two of our youngest players, brothers Andrew (10) and Charlie Chen (13), placed 7th. The rest of their



great team was Steve Chen, Yan Song, and Hua Yang. Recently retired director Wolf

Schroeter with Ann McDougal came in 5th with Tony Haddad and Jimmy Breihan. Congrats to all our great players who represented D16!

New Orleans was a great way to kick off the nationals for 2023! Can't wait until July to see everyone in Chicago for the Summer NABC.

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Masterpoint Milestones

February 2023 - March 2023

Junior Master (5 MPs)

172 Bertina Schreiber
173 Silvia Hintze
173 Barbara C Nader
174 Unal Bayram
174 Mr Thomas Brown
174 Margaret R Curlet
174 Lee Emnett
174 Ms Ann P Fleming
174 Tom Fowler
174 Carol R Ince
174 Fred Infortunio
174 Mary D Johnson
174 Winnie Mohsenzadeh
174 Dennis J Palasek
174 Phyllis Pittman
174 Jeffrey W Sheets
174 Mrs Patricia Ann Sheets
174 Gunjan Singh
174 Ann Starr
174 Martha B Stern
174 Gerald M Stevenson
174 Therese A Tilley
176 Patricia Booker
176 Ms Jan Davis
176 Barbara J Fox
176 Virginia S Panter
176 Marlys J Platt
176 Sidney M Snively
183 Kamal Das
197 Renee Hester
204 Lois R Harrison
207 Paul A Alford
207 Pam Beck
207 Gerald P Clarke
207 Glenda F Conley
207 MacDonald Kempf
207 Marcia A Lepore
207 Charlotte A Liddy
207 Petra F Moher
207 Dana Springs
209 Mary A Blair
225 Emily Tarr
353 David W Dodson

Club Master (20 MPs)

172 Sue J Dullnig
172 Trudy Moore
173 Mr Bernardo Elosua
174 Don Amfahr
174 Hua Chen
174 Tom Fowler
174 Mary K Hancock
174 Ahmet Kalkan
174 Marilyn R Knatz
174 Mr Martin P Meer
174 Winnie Mohsenzadeh
174 Mr David E Preng
174 Mariah Stopper
183 Robert Muldrow
183 Brenda J Schrader
197 Connie Pugh
201 Patricia M Lavelle
204 Troy D Harvey
207 Cheryl K Burnaw
209 Thomas M Knox Jr

Sectional Master (50 MPs)

172 Gloria Harkey
172 Cathy E O Connor
174 Beryl T Booker
174 Kyo Chen
174 Robert C Domsalla
174 Mrs Maria L Turner
174 Richard J Wasser
176 Nicole J Hansard
176 Doris P Sivernell
183 Mr Jerry B Bradley
183 John Burgess
183 Brenda Gray Martin
183 Mr Thomas G Mairs
201 Michele N Domec
207 Michael L Atchison
207 Mr Jonathan E Bellin
207 Tim Mulkey
207 David Sechrest
207 Dan Sondgeroth

Regional Master (100 MPs)

173 Mrs Armandina Garza
174 Mary Ann Boerner
174 Mrs Pat Chichakli

174 Dr Leon J Daily
174 Rathindra N Dutt
174 Beverly J Gebhart
174 Lindy Kahn
174 Mrs Cynthia Macholan
174 Mr Daniel Macholan
174 Charles H Otto
174 Christine P Spalding
176 Athena Leung
183 Diana R Clive
183 Brenda M Darby
183 Kay Schrieber
183 Charles M Stenholm
183 Michael M Tully
183 David Urbel
187 Eddie C Mange
187 Mary G Knopke
207 Susan Angle
207 Mr Gary Koenig
207 Mr Don L Warner

NABC Master (200 MPs)

172 Kay Dabney
174 Pushpa A Bharani
174 Ms Sherry A Deal
174 Mrs Penny A Dougherty
174 Hua Chen
174 Kyo Chen
174 Gretchen Y Lindquist
174 Charles H Otto
174 Mr Brian A Schaffer
183 Ms Maitland W Dade
183 Kim Satterfield
187 Marjorie Norton
209 Juanice J Welsh

Advanced NABC Master

(300 MPs)

172 Ronald K Perkowski
173 Mrs Sylvia Kaufer
174 Marcia Chambliss
174 Mike Davis
174 Mr Bill F Farrar
174 Mrs Judy Farrar
174 Mr Ian W Fetterley

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New Members

February 2023 - March 2023

 **WELCOME** 

172 Zella Cook	174 Zachary Oliva	204 Janice V Izzard
172 Courtney Mayer	174 Rajeshvari Pala	204 Sandra Love
172 David A Mayer	174 Franelle Rogers	207 Jay C Amin
172 Gwynne S Mayer	174 Diane Wattengarger	207 Kim Bunch
172 Russell J West	176 Marsha J Bressler	207 Ann Conrad
173 Marcela Vergara	176 Tom Connors	207 Michael J Duggan
174 Deborah Anderson	176 William L Etie	207 Diana Gorman
174 Judy Arfa	176 Cynthia M Holliday	207 Cliff Haigler
174 Shayne E Bell	176 Jean S Kent	207 Sylvia G Kehle
174 Steve Broderick	176 Peggy Lacy	207 Robert Kratochvil
174 Alan K Churchill	176 Robert Neal	207 Jan Lamonte
174 Robert L Erwin	176 Marilee Schmelzer	207 Luke A Obermann
174 James P Harris	183 Lynne Butler	207 Ellen B Schaeffer
174 Aaron Hurd	183 Kamal Das	207 Carolyn Sharbaugh
174 Lesley Kellet	183 Nancy J Finley	207 Nancy Wagner
174 Pradeep Kohli	183 Quintin A Finley	
174 Joan Land	183 Karyn A Jones	
174 Becky S Lanier	183 Debra Salge	
174 Brian Lord	187 Eddie C Mange	
174 Clayton McCray	201 Keeley T Fairchild	
174 Pat Moore	204 Linda	



Royal STaC Week

May 8-14

The ROYAL STaC operates like a normal STaC, but you now have the opportunity for multi-color point awards. Results from all clubs will be combined for higher overall awards. Awards are 25% **GOLD**, 25% **RED**, 25% **SILVER** and 25% **BLACK**.

ALL face-to-face games at clubs in District 16 are eligible to be part of the **ROYAL** STaC. Check with your local club director to ensure that they are participating and what games they plan to run.

D16

70% + Club

Terri Tedford and Marty Simpson 77.08%
San Angelo – Teri and Marty Wednesday Bridge Club

David Hertzog and Margaret Kirkland 75.5%
Wichita Falls – Suite 16 Bridge Club

Norma Walker and Suzanne Dorris 75.33%
San Angelo – San Angelo Duplicate Club

Max Walton & Gavin McGown 75%
Nacodoches – Nacodoches DBC

Gay Roach & Judy Fuller 75%
Nacodoches – Duplicate Bridge Club

Gloria Rowland and Bonnie Magee 74.50%
Athens – Dottie Pirkle DBC

Anne Halsell and Margaret Kirkland 73.96%
Wichita Falls – Bridge Club of Wichita Falls

Debbie Conly & KC Evans 71.88%
Midland – Permian Bridge Club, Inc.

Ann Servatius & Kay Sewell 71.43%
Midland – Permian Bridge Club, Inc.

Belle Harris & Greg Keys 71.08%
Midland – Permian Bridge Club, Inc.

Flo Curry & Marlene Blumentritt 71%
Midland – Permian Bridge Club, Inc.

Belle Harris & Mary Burkholder 70.63%
Midland – Permian Bridge Club, Inc.

Stacey Tessler and Phyllis Pruett 70.37%
Corpus Christi – Corpus Christi DBC

Dale Linton & Lonnie Yee 70.09%
Midland – Permian Bridge Club, Inc.

Tomie Johnson and Lois Roberson 70%
Wichita Falls – Bridge Club of Wichita Falls

Reporting D16 70% + Games

The D16 70% + Club recognizes members who have scored 70% or higher scores in one of the district's club masterpoint game that is open or non-restricted. (For example, masterpoint-restricted games or country club games restricted by membership do not qualify. Nor do cruise games, sectional or regional games.)

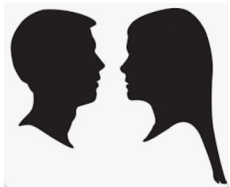
At least four tables with at least 16 boards must be in play.

70% + Games must be reported to the Scorecard. These results are not automatically picked up from club files. The club director, manager or any player may send an email to:

D16EditorScorecard@gmail.com with the subject: **D16 70% + Club.**

A game recap file or an online link to the posted results must be included in the email. Be sure to include the club's name and location. Games will be reported on a first come first served basis as space is available.





Member Profiles

Joyce and Norm Gautier Unit 174 Conroe

By Penny Grassetonio

Joyce and Norm Gautier played their first duplicate bridge over six decades ago in the days before Zero Tolerance, frequently in smoke-filled rooms. Joyce started playing in college and “taught” Norm shortly after their marriage in 1961.



After earning a whole three masterpoints, they took a couple of decades off from sanctioned games but thoroughly enjoyed their Shell bridge group that started in Wood River, Illinois. The group migrated, one by one, to Houston with Shell’s corporate relocation in the early 70s.

They pride themselves in how well they get along at the bridge tables (and otherwise). Early on, when Norm was “sharing his newfound bridge knowledge” with Joyce at the bridge table, he was quickly “taught” by Joyce that was acceptable and not a component of a great partnership and - he was a quick learner.

Over the last 40 years, they played at local Houston clubs, traveled the country playing tournaments and more recently also play in online games. In addition to playing lots they taught bridge, Norm directed at multiple clubs, and they ran two clubs, one in April Sound and one in The Woodlands. Norm previously served as

President of the unit 174 board and facilitated annual Unit Board planning meetings for over 10 years. They achieved their Gold Life Master status during the COVID pandemic.

Most recently, they play in the April Sound game held Friday’s at 10:30 am which Norm is directing. They regularly play at the Lake Conroe Duplicate Bridge Club and are also frequently seen at Lone Star Bridge Club on Mondays and at Bridge Club of Houston on many occasions. Their interest in online bridge continues but they say they the club games are much more enjoyable and hope the clubs will thrive over time.

Norm retired from Shell Oil in 1993, where he served as Controller and Treasurer the last 10+ years of his 31 year career.

Joyce continues with her art passion, specializing in abstract paintings (check out her art at joycegautier.com).

Both enjoyed a number of volunteer opportunities. In recent years, they served as mediators at Dispute Resolution Center of Montgomery County.

The Gautiers reside in The Woodlands with their cat “Dixie.” They are the proud parents of two children, have five grandchildren and four great grandchildren with one on the way.

Penny Grassetonio is manager of the Lake Conroe Duplicate Bridge Club.



Jonah Raychev

Unit 225 Nacogdoches

By Gay Roach

Jonah Raychev, an extra special 14-year-old, joined ACBL when he was 12 and whenever his time permits he plays in open games at the Nacogdoches Duplicate Club. Jonah is the son of Dr. Evgeni Raychev and Dr. Jennifer Dalmas, members of the Steven F. Austin State University music faculty, and the grandson of John and Thelma Dalmas, who taught him to play bridge. Just an aside: he reminds me of his grandfather at the bridge table.



Jonah also excels on the violin and just recently returned from a national competition in Reno, Nevada. His Grandmother wrote this tribute to him, and there is no way I can improve on it: 'Speaking as a' purely

unbiased grandmother" (and have you ever met any other kind?), Jonah is a pretty amazing kid. He earned a black belt in Taekwondo last year, he plays chess at a pretty high level (won 1st prize in the University Interscholastic League Regional Middle Schools), plays both piano and violin, and has played bridge since he was 12. I could also mention that he has earned all A's the entire time he's been in middle school. Perhaps the most amazing thing he has accomplished is that he has practiced his violin for 2988 consecutive days! I am pretty sure that I have done nothing (other than breathe) every single day for over eight years.

Shortly after he turned six, he started marking the calendar every day after he practiced, he carries the calendar with him when he travels, and, of course, he is now working on his eighth calendar. I stand in awe of his commitment."

The enthusiasm he brings to our game is infectious!

Gay Roach is manager of the Nacogdoches Bridge Club and serves on District 16 Board of Directors for Unit 225.

Meet Truett Cates - Sherman, Texas

Unit 176 McKinney

By Nancy Connors



Born in Commerce, Texas "baby boomer" Truett Cates graduated from Spring Branch High School in Houston in 1964. Truett picked up bridge at the biennial Cates Family Reunions in

the 1950s. He learned from observing and was mainly self-taught (or, "making it up as I went along," he confesses). It was 1962 when he first played duplicate in a game for high school students. He went on to Princeton University where he earned a degree in German. When he arrived at Princeton he found lots of bridge played in the dorms. At that point he played intramural bridge where he won championships his junior and senior years.

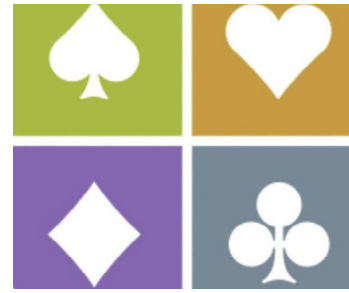
Bridge was put on the shelf during his US Army years where poker prevailed. Following training at the Army's Officers Candidate School, Truett spent four years in the service including 25 months in Germany. He returned to the U.S. to complete a Ph.D. at UT Austin in 1976, followed by teaching at Williams College for three years.

During his studies in the 1970s, he only had a few opportunities to play bridge. Truett joined the faculty at Austin College in 1979. For the next 43 years he taught a variety of classes, filled various roles, and even coached men's varsity soccer for 11 years.

A move to Sherman led to Truett reviving his love of the game and by 1995 he was playing bridge regularly. In 1998 his team of four won Flight B in the district GNTeams, and they advanced to the ACBL finals in Los Angeles.

Especially noteworthy is Truett designing and offering a course in contract bridge for undergraduates between 2000 and 2010. He called it “Bridge for Scholars” and designed the three-and-a-half week intensives class as an immersion experience with lectures in the morning, guided play in the afternoon, and club games or BBO at night. It was a great success and lots of fun.

Truett is now retired and still resides in Sherman. He and his wife of 57 years have two sons and three grandchildren. Truett plays twice a week at the McKinney Bridge Club where he and his partner, John, often come in 1st!



Nancy Conners is secretary of the McKinney Duplicate Bridge Club.

Betsy Smith

Unit 353

By Marsha May

Betsy Smith was born in Wichita Falls to Bob and Madeline Nolen. Her father was relocated to Tyler when she was two, and they moved to Midland 10 years later. In 1944 Betsy and her family moved back to Wichita Falls where she graduated from Wichita Falls High School in 1946. Betsy attended Texas Woman’s University in Denton for a year but decided she’d rather stay home and go to Draughton’s Business College.

Betsy married Ted Smith in 1949 and they both worked in the oil industry just like her father. Ted and Betsy have five children (Scott, Ted, Susie Albert, Blair and Ellen Timberlin), 14 grandchildren and 31 great grandchildren. She was a stay-at-home mother, loved singing in the choir at Floral Heights United Methodist Church and played a little party bridge. Betsy became a widow in 2004 after 55 years of marriage to Ted.

Betsy was introduced to duplicate bridge at the Zone, a Senior Citizen Center in Wichita Falls. Most of the bridge players at the Zone played party bridge but a couple of people played duplicate. They began teaching Betsy – she really liked it started playing in Unit 353 around 2017. In 2019 Betsy, at 90 years old, traveled to first bridge tournament going to Denton with her partners Suzanne Sosa, Tuck Harvey and Carole Tucker. I don’t know how many points she won at that tournament but a time line on her Unit 353 progress: won the Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs and Mini-McKenney Awards in 2017 (0-5), 2018 (20-50), 2019 (50-100), 2020 (100-200), 2021 (100-200) and

2022 (200-300). Betsy plays like a pro and is one classy lady who always has a smile on her face. It is such a privilege for Unit 353 to have Betsy Smith as our oldest active member.



Marsha May is the Unit 353 Scorecard Reporter.

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NABC NOLA Top Masterpoint Winners

1. Mike Passell, Plano	224.63
2. Bart Bramley, Dallas	161.56
3. Greg Hinze, San Antonio	117.89
4. Finn Kolesnik, Austin	107.31
5. Sam Dinkin, Austin	106.72
6. Eric Greco, Frisco	78.09
7. Venkatrao Koneru, San Antonio	72.51

8-9. Ying Peng, Sugar Land	68.77
8-9. James Zhan, Sugar Land	68.77
10-11. Yan Song, Plano	66.91
10-11. Hua Yang, Plano	66.91

For more winner information, click [NABC Nola](#).

continued from 14



- 174 Mrs Elizabeth G Giroir
- 174 Rony Klein
- 174 Mr Wolfie Kotzen
- 174 Mr Mark Levy
- 174 Susan Morrow
- 174 Madhu Moza
- 174 June K Poplack
- 174 Ronald J Randleman
- 174 Joan Schnider
- 174 Mrs Susan D Smith
- 174 Ms Barbara D Sweeney
- 176 Jean Scott
- 187 Jerry Eaton
- 187 Terri Eaton
- 207 Nora K Fallon
- 207 Mrs Pam I Pannel

Life Master (500 MPs*)

- 174 Mr Joseph S Baker
- 174 Janice Hardcastle
- 174 Martin J Hrachovy
- 174 Kay D Marechek
- 174 Mr Sadashiv G Pethe
- 174 Mrs Scherry K Sprague
- 174 Mrs Roslyn L Wallace
- 174 Mrs Debbie E Zimmer
- 176 Carol Arthur
- 176 Tony Arthur
- 176 Nancy C Campbell
- 207 Ms Janet P Daniel
- 207 Mrs Billie L Ogens

**Bronze Life Master
(750 MPs**)**

- 172 Mr Yao-Hui Hsiao
- 173 Ms Patricia Cantu
- 174 Gregory Andrews
- 174 Hasin F Jinna
- 174 Rosalind Kokolis
- 174 Kay D Marechek
- 174 Richard McGaughy
- 174 Mrs Scherry K Sprague
- 174 Mrs Roslyn L Wallace
- 176 Nancy C Campbell
- 176 Mrs Barbara A Ching
- 176 Mrs Lisa A Smith
- 183 Dr James L Atteberry
- 183 Ms Marjorie A Feldmann
- 207 Dr Mark I Alpert
- 207 Ms Janet P Daniel

**Silver Life Master
(1000 MPs)**

- 172 Cindy F Cummins
- 174 Richard A Jackson
- 174 Debbie L Nash
- 174 Ms Danuta Parzych
- 176 Beach W Aten
- 176 Mr Michael Chockley
- 176 Mr Mark Estes
- 207 Mrs Marlene L Golden
- 207 Mr Stuart L Litwin
- 225 Ms Jo Ann Parten

**Ruby Life Master
(1500 MPs)**

- 174 Kathy G Baldwin
- 174 Ms Mary Lou Fowler
- 174 Anne N Knott
- 174 Mr Jack C Manderscheid

- 174 Tonya S McNabb
- 174 Mrs Gulzar Mitha
- 174 Mr Fred Mueller
- 174 David B Richard
- 174 Mr Gary W Shepley
- 176 Mary C Chaffin
- 176 Dr Barry Cooper
- 176 Richard A Page
- 183 Diane Atteberry
- 183 Mrs Wende Keirsey
- 205 Lane Galloway
- 207 Mr Phillip A Jaeger
- 207 Mr Ronald L Kunkel
- 207 Brett Leach
- 237 Wayne E Tindall

**Gold Life Master
(2500 MPs)**

- 173 Ms Patricia Herrera
- 174 Irene Baker
- 174 Mr Alfred J Fortier III
- 174 Mr Forrest J Gray
- 174 Mrs Joanna C Heebner
- 174 Mr Carlos N Pace
- 201 Mr Robert M Echols

**Sapphire Life Master (3500
MPs)**

- 174 Mr Kenneth F Cole
- 174 Ms Hallie B Eads

**Platinum Life Master
(10000 MPs)**

- 174 Mr Buddy Hanby

*Prior to January 1, 2010 - 300 MPs

**Prior to January 1, 2010- 500 MPs

The Longest Day June 21, 2023



District 16 is kicking off the 2023 The Longest Day Fundraiser by telling our membership about one of our members who received the Linda Powers Award for Excellence in Fundraising. Please read further. Enjoy!



Carmond Fitzgerald, Unit 183 and director of the Granbury Bridge Club, received the 2022 Linda Powers Award for demonstrated leadership in the annual Alzheimer's Association's The Longest Day (TLD) fundraising campaign. This award is presented nationally to one person who made measurable progress in advancing The Longest Day community, and the Alzheimer's Association mission.

"Fitz," as he likes to be called, along with the members of Granbury Bridge Club and the Granbury community, raised more than \$22,800 during the 2022 campaign. ACBL (American Contract Bridge League) is an inaugural partner in The Longest Day campaign and sanctions the Granbury Bridge Club that ranked 8th in the nation amongst all ACBL bridge clubs for TLD funds raised – quite an accomplishment for a small bridge club averaging only seven tables once a week!

Make sure to read the Unit 183 Report below to see all of the activities planned for this year's TLD events.





Unit 173- Mexico

By Ariel Smid

Unit 173 has been quite active in 2023 with several events and initiatives aimed at promoting and improving the game of bridge. One of the highlights early in the year was the successful San Miguel de Allende Regional, also known as the "Mexican Nationals." This tournament drew an attendance of 25% higher than last year, and included players from all three ACBL Units in Mexico plus "snowbirds" from the USA and Canada. We had many of the top players from the three countries including Grand Life Master Greg Hinze, adding to the excitement and competitiveness of the event.



If you are looking for an exciting tournament to attend next year, we invite you to mark your calendars for the next San Miguel de Allende Regional (February 27 – March 3, 2024). Not only is this tournament a chance to showcase your bridge skills, but it is also an opportunity to explore the beautiful and historic city of San Miguel de Allende. With its cobblestoned streets, colonial architecture, and vibrant cultural scene, the lovely city is a favorite destination for travelers worldwide. We hope you will join us next year.



In addition to major tournaments, the unit is working hard to encourage participation in duplicate bridge among players who need more experience. One such initiative is the bi-weekly BBO sessions for players with fewer than 200 masterpoints. After 10 hands a teacher reviews and explains the best bidding and playing strategies, helping players to improve

their skills and confidence at the table. A total of 59 players responded positively to this call for participation.

Looking ahead, the unit plans to host a sectional tournament in Mexico City in August (watch for the date), to help aspiring players complete the silver points requirements necessary to reach Life Master status. This event promises to be another exciting opportunity for bridge enthusiasts to test their skills and compete with other players from around the region. Stay tuned.



Unit 173 is committed to promoting and improving the game of bridge through major tournaments and smaller initiatives to encourage participation and skill-building. Whether you are a seasoned pro or a newcomer to the game, there is something for everyone in this renewed, vibrant, and dynamic community of bridge players.



Unit 174 - Houston

By Jack LaVigne

Message from President –
Kathy McDougall

The unit board visited the Star Duplicate Bridge Club in College Station on March 31 for a "Club Connection" to play in their Friday morning game run by Richard Duble and his wife Shirley. Seven board members attended as well as Nancy Strohmmer. Two of the board members partnered with local club players to make a 12-table game. The hospitality was awesome and the view from the Country Club was spectacular! We are looking forward to visiting again.





Future Life Masters (FLM)

The Future Life Masters of Unit 174 is a board-sponsored program with the mission to support and develop the newest players (0-99 masterpoints) in Greater Houston Bridge.

FLM is a resource center featuring information about classes, games and tournaments with a free-standing [website](#).

Upcoming Sunday FLM 199er games will be on

- May 28th
- June 25th

These games are hosted by the Bridge Academy of West Houston located at the Arabia Shriners Center, 10510 Harwin. 199ers from all over the metroplex are encouraged to participate!

FLM 199er Sundays feature an Ambassador so singletons are encouraged to attend. We have had as many as *nine* singletons arrive. Many of the singletons who were paired, have developed regular partnerships.

Additionally, FLM hosts an Online BBO game every Tuesday at 3:05 for 0-50 masterpoint players. In all, we have had over 300 tables of bridge and continue to grow.

Players from all of District 16 are welcomed! Please contact us the day before the game if you've never played in the game...or never played online...we will help you get set up!

Email or call Mary Ellen Vail: mevail48@gmail.com. 678-910-6402

News from Unit 174 Clubs

[Bridge Academy of West Houston](#)

Mentor/Mentee

Mentor/Mentee games are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 10:30 am. The next games are scheduled for Tuesdays, May 2 and June 5.

If you have not yet registered, you can register online by clicking [here](#). Mentees must have fewer than 300 masterpoints.

Eight is Enough Swiss Teams

The Eight is Enough Swiss Team is held once a month on a Sunday at 1:00 pm. The upcoming games are May 28 and June 25.

Future Life Masters

The Bridge Academy of West Houston hosts a Future Life Master game once a month on Sunday. Next games are scheduled for April 23 and May 28 at 1:00 pm.

The Longest Day

The club will be hosting The Longest Day game on June 22 to raise money for the Alzheimer's Association.

Weekly Game Schedule

The Bridge Academy of West Houston has an Invitation Pairs every Wednesday and combined Open and 0-299 Pairs every Thursday at 10:30 am. The games are held at the Arabia Shriners.

Grass Roots, STaC, NAP and Unit Championships are scheduled for May and June.

[Bridge Club of Houston](#)

Tuesday Tidbits -- Build a solid foundation with Julie Halperin Diamond Life Master and ACBL Teacher and enjoy a free lesson from 9:30-10:10 am. The game follows and begins at 10:30 am. We will set up partnerships for those who need. Text Julie at 713-857-8004 with questions or concerns. Lessons are open to all!

Mentor/Mentee F2F -- Second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 10:30 am. Sign up at club or contact Judy Cupps at

judy_n_al@yahoo.com or by phone 713-320-5592 or Bob Zeigler 713-829-6928 with any questions.

Swiss Teams games -- Fourth Tuesday of each month at 10:30 a.m. Register at the club, check the website calendar for more information.

Saturday F2F open game once every month - check [BCOH website](#) for details.

Save the date for our next 499er/NLM Tournament on May 19- 21, 2023.

[Clear Lake Bridge Club](#)

Clear Lake Bridge Club (CLBC) is located at 16614 Sea Lark Road, Houston 77059. Phone number is 281-480-1911.

We welcome visitors to most of our games which include Open games seven days/week, and I/N games on Mondays - Thursdays. Swiss Teams games are held every Sunday with an Eight is Enough game on the second Sunday of each month. Advanced registration is required for team games.

The club attendance continues to improve. We had 21.5 tables on a Wednesday morning open game in mid-March. The Breakfast, Lesson and Bridge events are always on the second Wednesday of each month. The Mentor/Mentee games are held on the third Wednesday afternoon each month. However, this game is limited to club members only due to the luncheon costs.

Effective May 15, 2023, the COVID vaccination requirement is removed to be consistent with the ACBL COVID policy.

We will be hosting [The Longest Day game on June 21](#) to raise money for the [Alzheimer's Association](#).

Keep your eyes on our website for updates about classes offered for the club by Dave Glandorf.

Come visit us. We have a nice variety of games. And the price (\$5/members, \$6 visitors) is right. Visit the [CLBC website](#) for details about our games and additional information.

[Fort Bend Bridge Club](#)

New location and starting time!

Open game every Tuesday at 10:00 am at Arabia Shriners, 10510 Harwin Drive, Houston, TX 77036:

- Free coffee and snacks
- Bridge Mate II
- Upgraded games
- Hand Records
- Nice balance of friendly A, B, & C players
- Regular & most upgraded games are \$5

Eric Watson
ewat2004@aol.com
(832) 287-9170



Unit 176 - Dallas

By Scott Nason

The unit hosted its most successful post-pandemic sectional in March at the Lover's Lane Methodist Church. Attendance continues to increase and the tournament ran very smoothly, coupled with the unit's hosting of two flights in the 2023 GNTs (flights Championship and B.) The results are published in this edition of Scorecard.

Unit awards were also presented at the sectional. Joe Gill, recently retired board member and former unit president, was awarded the Unit Star for

his service to bridge in Dallas. The Unit's Goodwill Award was presented to Adrienne Feuer and Michael Chockley, for their attitude and promotion of friendly bridge. Finally, the winners of the Mini-McKenney and Ace of Clubs races received their medals and certificates.

The Unit 176 2022 Mini-McKenney Winners are: 0-5 Hanuman Goel, 5-20 Athena Leung, 20-50 James Smith, 50-100 Walter Netschi, 100-200 Susan Henchal, 200-300 Donna Beatty, 300-500 Gail Wingfield, 500-1000 Amy Schumacher, 1000-1500 Mary Lynn Genovesi, 1500-2500 Robert Bender, 2500-3500 Scott Nason, 3500-5000 Hua Yang, 5000-7500 Milton Neher, 7500-10,000 James Bauer. and over 10,000 Mike Passell.

Most of the Mini-McKenney winners also won the Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs. Those who won the Ace of Clubs but not the Mini-McKenney were: 20-50 Richard Eshelbrenner, 50-100 David Proctor, 3500-5000 David Nurenberg, and over 10,000 Marion Gebhardt.

The unit was well-represented at the NABCs in New Orleans. Mike Passell led the delegation winning more than 200 platinum points, including a 3/4 finish in the Vanderbilt KO and a 2nd place in the Leventritt Silver Ribbon Pairs. Other high finishes in NABC+ events included Bart Bramley's 9/16 in the Vanderbilt KO and 2nd in the Jacoby Swiss Teams. Eric Greco took 8th place in the Kay Platinum Pairs. Hua Yang and Yan Song finished in 12th place in the Baldwin North American Pairs. Jeffrey Juster and Bob Hamman were 14th in the Jacoby Open Swiss Teams. Norman Beck was 12th in the Fast Pairs.

We continue to run nearly-monthly unit games and/or Pro-Ams that have been running at capacity. The January Pro-Am had 20 tables and was won overall by the pair of Bill Higgins and Joseph Bindo. The C strat was won by Fran Shelton and Barbara Pittenger, while A was won by Valerie Remmers and Dan Boylan. The February unit game hosted an impressive 28 tables in two flights. The Open game was won by Suresh Agrawal and Kathy Carr by the narrowest of margins (.17 matchpoints) over Jay Gibson and Martha Young. Janet Borg and Maria Gregorat won the B strat and Joni Antweil and Charles Gollernek won strat C. The 999er game was won by George Conant and Sylvia Chavez in all three strats. Our thanks go to Debor Cassen, who left the unit board and to Cheryl Rider who agreed to succeed her

and finish out Debor's term.

By the time this comes out our April unit game will have been played and we will not have another until July 9 (which will either be a unit game or a Pro-Am, TBD.) We will host the Dallas June Sectional at the Lover's Lane Methodist Church on June 7-9 and hope to see you there.

The two largest clubs in Dallas – Valley View and Friendly – will each hold a fundraiser for Alzheimer's during The Longest Day week in June. Valley View's game will be on Wednesday, June 21, while Friendly's will be on Saturday, June 24, at their usual times and places.



Unit 183 - Fort Western

By John Robbins

Unit clubs are putting final touches on their schedules for our annual The Longest Day fundraising effort to support Alzheimer's research. All designated games the week of June 18-25 will pay extra black points and send increased sanction fees to ACBL, which will pass the funds directly on to the American Alzheimer's Association. See the article about Granbury Bridge Club Director, Carmond Firzgerald, in this issue.

Over the last 10 years of The Longest Day events, bridge has raised and donated almost \$9 million to Alzheimer's research. Choosing the week of the longest day of the year (June 21) for fundraising was intended to emphasize the difficult journey of those living with Alzheimer's, and seems to be a pretty apt choice for some of us older players trying to keep our mental wheels reasonably well oiled while having a little fun (sometimes).

Granbury Bridge Club

This year the Granbury club will again go beyond the second mile by placing local ads requesting donations from the community, sending out letters to friends, and asking for player donations of \$25 at two designated games.

[Arlington Duplicate Bridge Club](#)

For reasons perhaps known only to the card gods, bridge players – though often generous – also appear to be extremely receptive to virtually any kind of freebie. So spring bridge roared off fast in Arlington with

a sellout house of 52 showing up for an exceptional offering of free food, free bridge, free jackpot and free door prizes – in the form of the Second Annual Jeff's Birthday Bash, provided courtesy of Jeff Newman and his wife Kimberly.



Jeff came up with the idea for his first bash last year after the passing of popular local bridge player Mickey Tryon. Mickey was

facing a diagnosis of terminal illness several years ago when he decided to throw a "Last Birthday Party" at the club for himself and his friends.



Turned out it wasn't his last birthday at all and Mickey lived to throw four more birthday parties at the club, along the way seeing his

daughter get married and a grandchild born.

Jeff says he was inspired by Mickey and, having survived a few health scares himself, decided to honor him and celebrate his own life, "While I'm still around to enjoy the party." Over the years, Jeff's career as a medical financial analyst has taken him from Virginia to New Orleans and then on to this area. In the future he'll be spending more time back in Virginia helping his aging father.



"You're my family away from Virginia," he told the assembled players, "And I thank you all for being here." And we thank Jeff for his generosity in

helping us celebrate his birthday in style along with our own good fortune to be around and enjoy the day with him. Door prizes for winners of their strats went to several of the usual suspects and yes, card sharks Kim and Jeff Newman themselves.



Four newly-elected board members are shouldering the responsibility of keeping bridge afloat and on course for another year in Arlington. First-time board member Julie Dahlquist will join re-elected members Judy Floyd, George Morey and Dorothy Moore.



Julie Dahlquist, Judy Floyd,
George Morey, Dorothy Moore

The board's annual report shows the Arlington Duplicate Bridge Club in solid financial shape for the duration of the current lease on its new space. Special kudos to Wayne Corbett, Chuck Burke and George Morey for many hours spent making the relocation go smoothly. Others credited with exceptional volunteer efforts in 2022 include Rosalie Hacker for her professional review of the books and Nancy Kornegay for just about everything. And, oh yes, the anonymous members who donated thousands of dollars this year to support a club and a game they care about.



Unit 187 - South Texas

By Mary Anne Wilkinson

Corpus Christi Duplicate Bridge Club has settled into its new home at the First United Methodist Church on South Shoreline in Corpus Christ events. The hardy among us does "church walks" during restroom breaks or sit-outs! The club is averaging about five tables per game and hosts many special events. The hardy among us does "church walks" during restroom breaks or sit-outs!



On Monday after Easter the church was closed, so we had an off-site game at a lively condominium on Ocean Drive. There were five tables and we had a pair score 70.37% game: Phyllis Pruett and Stacey Tessler. Congratulations to them!



STaC games are planned at the club in May but the exact schedule is not yet known. Other than the STaC dates, the following special games are scheduled for May and June:

- May 1: Grass Roots Fund
- May 5: Unit Championship
- May 10: Grass Roots Fund
- May 20: Grass Roots Fund
- June 5-9: Club Championships
- June 14: Unit Championship
- June 21: *The Longest Day Charity Game*

We welcome traveling and visiting bridge players who come for the summer season. Call 361-944-1421 to register.



Unit 204 - Fort Concho

By Neal Perlman

Spring is obvious at the Sue Barber Bridge Center. Carol Diminnie, Michelle Hester and Sally Solomon did the landscaping renewal with plants and flowers. What a wonderful change, very beautiful! Another spring forward, Teri Tedford initiated some serious, deep cleaning in the kitchen and a few others did their customary contributions.

The new game on Tuesday afternoon in San Angelo has had a steady start. New players to our area or duplicate can contact directors for info about games: Marifrances 325-277-9959, Teri at 325-365-0263 or Sue Henry 325-656-0473.

Congratulations to Joy Foster for achieving Life Master with the last chunk of gold won at the Longview Regional in April. Joy and Nancy Harris won eight gold the first day and then added on to make to make 14 total. Regular partners Carol Diminnie, Barbara Wright and Jerre McAfee and



Nancy Harris (L) celebrates with New Life Master Joy Foster

other occasional ones have been witness to her growth as a player. Congratulations from 204.

Carl McGill showed up in Longview with partner Jo Smith to win 35+ points by 1st place in two teams events. Teammates were Dave and Donna Swarthout in one, and Alan Copeland and Jimmy Justice in the other.



Unit 207 - Texas Capital Bridge

By Barbara Clements

Quite a few Austin area unit members played in the Grand National Teams held at the Dallas Sectional at the end of March. Congratulations go to Sam Dinkin, Finn Kolesnik and their team who came in 1st in the A/X Flight. The 2nd place Flight B team includes Sarah Chen, Charlie Chen, and Andrew Chen. The 3rd place team was made up of Jarek Langer, Lilly Justman, Kalyan Venkat, and Xinpeng Huang.

Good luck at the NABC!

We are gearing up for our Austin Spring Open Sectional, May 4-7 at the Bridge Center of Austin (BCA) located at 6700 Middle Fiskville Road, near the intersection of I-35 North and Highway 290 East. While we do not have special room rates, there are numerous hotels in the area near the BCA. Barbara Clements is the tournament chair, feel free to contact her for more information at bsclements69@gmail.com

Upcoming Events at BCA

May 8-13 Royal STaC games

June 10-11 0-750 NLM Sectional

June 17 City Championship

June 21 The ACBL's Longest Day Alzheimers fund raising date. Three games at the BCA have been designated charity games to raise funds for Alzheimer's Association.

Unit 207 continues to welcome back bridge players to our local face-to-face games. The number of tables is increasing with each month. We are lucky to have ACBL members moving into the Austin area, and we encourage them to find a bridge home in one or more of our excellent clubs. We are also lucky to have numerous members moving to Life Master and higher. We honor them at a quarterly Milestone Luncheon.

Chris Steele is a member of the Hardcastle Flight C Team that won the District 16 GNT to head to Chicago for the Summer NABC finals.



Unit 209 - Great Permian Basin

By Ann Parish

The players in Unit 209 (Midland and Odessa) had a great time playing bridge in March and April. We started on March 5 with a unit meeting, at which President Scott Vaughn handed out the unit awards. The Mini-McKenney Award goes to the player in each point category who has earned the most points overall, including points in STaC games and tournaments, in the previous year. The Ace of Clubs Award goes to the player in each category who earned the highest number of black points (usually the points in your home club). This year in the 0-5 category Sandra Harwell won the Mini-McKenney, and Mary Anne Blair won the Ace of Clubs. All winners in the 5-1000 categories won both awards.

Players in the 0-1000 point range are listed here, higher point winners are posted on the club bulletin board.

5 to 20	Robin Hughes
20 to 50	Mark Beckstrom
50 to 100	Bob Reimers
100 to 200	Travis Woodward
200 to 300	Bonnie Hubbard
300 to 500	Lonnie Yee
500 to 1000	Linda Buzan

After the meeting a game was held on March 5, the overall winners were: 1st Debbie Conly & KC Evans (Strat A), 2nd Scott Vaughn & Shirley Davenport (Strat B), 3rd Kay Arrell & Patti Heard (Strat C), and 4th Paula Bayley & Bill Brooks (Strat C).



Belle Harris celebrating St. Pat's

On March 16 we celebrated St. Patrick's Day with an "All-Desserts Party." We had cookies, cakes, candy and puddings (two people sneaked in meatballs and a chips-&-dip tray).

North-South winners were: 1st Ann Servatius & David Hudson, 2nd Bob Reimers & Mary Truex, and 3rd Sonya Hopkins & Georgia Temple

East-West winners were: 1st Bill Brooks & Ann

Parish, 2nd Sarah Wright & Patti Heard, and 3rd Flo Curry & Travis Woodward



Sandy Hill
Queen of
Hearts

On March 21 the Tuesday afternoon group had their monthly salad luncheon. Several people brought healthy, tasty dishes – the afternoon favorite was the delicious chocolate cake! This group would like to invite more players to join them on Tuesday afternoons at 1:00.

The March 21 winners were: 1st Travis Woodward and Debbie Conly, 2nd Lonnie Yee and Linda Buzan, 3rd Bill Brooks and Sandy Hill and 4th Kay Arrell and Patti Heard.

At the ACBL-Wide Charity Game #1 on March 28 we had six tables. Belle Harris & D'Ann Norwood won 1st in the club, and 4th in the district. KC Evans & Debbie Conly won 2nd in the club, and 6th in the district.

Birthday Night was Wednesday, March 29. Players with March birthdays got a free play, and all players shared birthday cake (or cookies).

The March 29 winners: 1st Sandy Hill & Janice Welsh, 2nd Ann Servatius & Charlie Grimes, 3rd Patti Heard & Kay Arrell, 4th Flo Curry & Marlene Blumentritt, and 5th Mark Beckstrom & Sarah Wright.

The Easter Party was held on April 13 with eight tables. We were happy to see the new Easter decoration up all over the bridge house. Thanks, Paula! The winners:

North-South: 1st Marlene Blumentritt & Mary Anne Blair, 2nd Douglas Jeffrey & Mark Beckstrom.

East/West: 1st Sarah Wright & Patti Heard, 2nd Gwin Jamerson & Kelly Jamerson.

We also had a several 70%+ scores among our members, some in small games of three or four tables. See the D16 70%+ Club for the details.

We are happy to see some new players in our regular games. We hope that spring and summer bring us more players and more points!



Unit 225 - East Texas

By Susan Ford

The highlight of the last quarter for our unit was the East Texas Regional Tournament in Longview, April 4-8. We cannot say enough about the tournament. The venue
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was terrific, the staff at the hotel were very accommodating, the free breakfast buffets every day were wonderful, and there were super snacks, and great places to eat within walking distance. Kudos to Mike Graham and Shirley Shelton for masterminding a smooth-running, fun, and stress free (for the attendees) event.

Thursday was Pittsburg Duplicate Bridge Club's hosting day and the snacks were fabulous at the tournament. The Food, Hospitality, Health/Safety and Partnership committees all pitched in with help from local clubs. Special thanks to Demaris Hart and the Texarkana Club for sharing with PDDBC the Demaris' delicious baked goods. Mary Ramsey, food chair, did a terrific job getting the food out timely. Thanks to everyone who contributed and participated. Special thanks to the ACBL Tournament Directors, Scott, David and Kevin who kept the tournament running smoothly. The caddies did a terrific job too!

Remember that Tyler has a Non-Life Master Regional combined with an open sectional July 27-29. Hope to see you all there.

[Pittsburg Duplicate Bridge Club \(PDDBC\)](#)

Not only did PDDBC shine on Hosting Day, but many of our players and friends won MPs with lots of gold: Tommye Hall, Hilda Hahn, Debra Hippler, Mark Reynolds, Melba Lee, Ellen Hollis, Gay Roach, Susan Jennings, Steven Jennings, Bonnie Todd and Carroll Schoenewolf all came home with pigmented points. Top PDDBC winners were: Karen Bell and David Worall with 28.63, Dotsy Miller & Jackie McElhaney with 19.51 (this was enough gold to get Jackie and Dotsy their Life Master!).



David David Worall, Karen Bell,
Dotsy Miller, Jackie McElhaney

[Van Zandt County DBC](#)

On January 27 there was an ACBL-wide Junior Fund Game. Charles and Susan Ford with a 65.28% game earning 7.5 masterpoints came in 10th overall

out of all participating ACBL clubs, and 2nd in the district.

Congratulations, Susan and Charles, we're proud of you!

Dottie Pirkle DBC

We are still playing bridge at the Senior Citizens Center in Athens. They are doing some renovations, but it has not caused problems for us.

Congratulations to Gloria Rowland and Bonnie Magee on their 74.50% game on April 13. Join us on Thursdays at 1:00.

Rose City DBC

Advancements: Ramarathnam Shreedhara and Martha Taft got their Ruby Life Master status. Mary Bartley ascended to Diamond Life Master with success at the recent Longview Regional.

Shelia Bell DBC

Shelia Bell bridge players had fun at the Tournament of Stars Regional in Longview.

Congratulations to all.



Gail Cogbell,
Brenda Williams &
Molly Chambers



Unit 353 - Wichita Falls

By Marsha May

Our new members are a breath of fresh air, and we enjoy them so much. Unit 353 has been getting smaller since the pandemic and so we are very grateful for the five new members.

1. Dana Clay played several years ago and has returned to play with her brother, David Dodson. David and Dana drive approximately 50 miles from Bowie, to play.
2. Carole Shelby is a Life Master who recently moved to Burkburnett, to be closer to her daughter, Anne Hoover. Carole introduced duplicate to Anne and they play at both the Bridge Club of Wichita Falls and Suite 16 Bridge Club.

3. Jan Papesh, is another who recently moved to Wichita Falls. The move here to be closer to his son and is now playing bridge at the Bridge Club of Wichita Falls and Suite 16 Bridge Club.

Winners and Awards

Dana Clay and Jan Papesh are winners of the 2022 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs award and the Mini-McKenney award.

Other members who won both awards for 2022 are Carolyn Bell, Jody Elgin, Betsy Smith, Marsha May, Nell Lister, Julia Lucas, Margaret Kirkland and Anne Halsell.

Carolyn Bell and Lois Roberson recently received the Goodwill Awards.

Marsha May received the Star Award for Unit 353.

Congratulations to all.



Unit 172 - San Antonio

By Everett Lewis

Awards for 2022 were as follows: The George Gray Award for most points in a San Antonio Sectional by a male was given to Greg Hinze. The Cisse Horton Award for most points in a San Antonio Sectional by a female was given to Patty Hinze. The Paul Lewis Award for most points in a San Antonio Sectional by a Non-Life Master under 300 was given to Nancy Tom. The Texas Star Award was given to Everett Lewis. The Goodwill Awards were given to Lynn Pierson and Evelyn Pitman.

Things are coming along for a successful regional this July. John Hilbig and his team of committee chairs are doing a bang up job.





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 299er Pairs

B: 200-300 C: 100-200 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

Guest Speakers -2:00 Friday and Saturday

Friday: Joe Quinn

Saturday: TBA





Intermediate / Newcomer Resources

Games and Classes for Newer Players - Come Join us!

Zoom Beginner Lecture Series - Second Saturday of every month at 12:30 pm.
Zoom Spanish Lecture Series - Third Saturday of every month at 12:30 pm.
Zoom Intermediate Lecture Series - Fourth Saturday of every month at 12:30 pm.

0-50 masterpoint game: Every Monday at 4:00 pm

District 16 is offering to all 0-50 masterpoint players a 12-board game on BBO for \$3.00 every Monday at 4:00. You can ask a partner to play, or sign in at the partnership desk and pick up a new partner.

Practice, practice, practice. Your experiences at the table can be your best teacher. A director and assistants will be on hand to offer guidance during the game

For more information, email Beginner20Bridge@gmail.com

0-99 masterpoint game: Every day at 6:00 pm (CT)

The "99er Nite Club!" games are offered seven days a week at 6:00 pm CT. If you are a 99er, ask your club if they are participating. Your club must "opt in". If your club has any questions, ask them to contact Nancy Strohmer, nastrohmer@yahoo.com

Lynn Berg provides mini-lessons @ 5:30 pm and these are bigger games offering more masterpoints!

0-199 masterpoint game: Every day at 6:05pm (CT)

The "199er Nite Club!" games are offered seven days a week at 6:05 pm CT. If you have any questions, contact Nancy Strohmer, nastrohmer@yahoo.com

For additional newcomer information, click: [D16 Intermediate/Newcomer Info](#).

For all tournament information, click: [D16 Calendar](#).

For the comprehensive newcomer game schedule. [Click Here](#). Contact information is also provided, if you have questions.

2023 Tournament of Roses



The 2023 Tournament of Roses will be held July 27-29 at the Holiday Inn South Broadway in Tyler.

The tournament is not only a Sectional but also a Non Life Master Regional for those players with 750 or less master points.

Mark your calendars now for this special event! If you have any questions or want to volunteer to assist in the tournament's success, contact Tournament Chairs Rathnam and Sandy O'Bannon.

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

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 99ER NITE CLUB game.

Contact Nancy Strohmer for details:
nastrohmer@yahoo.com

New Game in Town

The FUTURE LIFE MASTERS of Unit 174 is a Board sponsored program for 0-99ers

FLM provides resources for new players by:

- Maintaining a website for FLMers about Houston bridge.
- Providing information regarding local classes and teachers.
- Working with area clubs and facilities to offer entry-level games that are competitive, social and relaxed.
- Assistance in navigating local Sectional and Regional Tournaments.

FLM also provides services for our beginning bridge players:

- Sponsoring a Sunday afternoon 199er game for all Houstonians.
 - Once a month in Central Houston
 - **Sunday, May 28th at Arabia Shriners; 1:00pm**
 - **Sunday, Jun 25th at Arabia Shriners; 1:00pm**
- Offering online BBO games 'Choose Houston FLM'
 - **0-49ers**
 - **Tuesday afternoon at 3:05**
 - **0-20 Supervised Play**
 - **Second Saturdays at 9:00**
- Assisting in partner-search for the many players who launch their bridge journeys as singletons.

Visit our website to learn more about our programs, games, players, and teachers.

www.FLM174.org



Houston Unit 174

AWESOME AUGUST TOURNAMENT

Aug 10th - Aug 13th

Gold for NonLife Masters!

I/N NonLife Master Regional Tournament

Awarding Gold/Red Masterpoints for the following games only:

Gold Rush NLM Pairs

Aug 10-12(Th/Fr/Sa) at 10 & 2:30

Gold Rush NLM Swiss Teams

Aug 13, Sunday at 10 & TBD

Table Fees per Session - Cashless (credit card only)

Thur-Sun \$15 all games (add \$4 for lapsed members)

Tournament Chairs

Chair: **Sarah Springer** (sarahspringerbridge@gmail.com) 281-904-5791

CoChair: **Byron Fackenthall** (cfackenthall@hotmail.com) 281-493-0294

FLM Chair: **Cindy Cox** (bridgecindy5@gmail.com) 832-985-8734

Hotels

HOUSTON MARRIOTT WESTCHASE
2900 Briarpark Dr, Houston,
713-978-7400

SPRINGHILL SUITES by Marriott
5851 Rogerdale Rd, Houston
832-300-0200

Please be Scent-sitive: No Cologne, No Perfume, No Offensive Odors

**Unit 174 presents a Golden Opportunity for NonLife Masters
with under 750 Masterpoints**

**as part of the August Sectional at Arabia Shriners Center
10501 Harwin Dr, Houston, TX**

COVID Safety: See Unit website for current requirements: www.ACBLunit174.org

In Memoriam



Bari Hart, 87, passed away on Monday, March 20 after being in poor health for the last several years. Bari was an avid bridge player attaining the rank of Gold Life Master while playing at the Dottie Pirkle DBC. J. Lynn Allen was

her longtime regular bridge partner and they were a formidable pair, and always very kind towards newcomers. After Bari's death J. L. partnered with Judy Adams, Nell Velvin, Theresa Brantley and Bonnie Magee among others.

Bari grew up in Baltimore, Maryland attending Bryn Mawr High School, then college at Sweet Briar. She moved to Athens in the late 50s following her marriage to husband Bill. Bari was preceded in death by both Bill and her son, Lindsay. She is survived by

her two children Heather Wilkerson of Rhode Island and Baker Hart of California who were with her when she passed. Bari is also survived by a daughter-in-law, a son-in-law and four grandchildren.

Bari had a long career in education starting with Christian education, teaching second grade, fifth grade math, music and art. She returned to college for another Masters to finish her career as a diagnostician. She loved training show dogs, singing and playing music. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Jean Roach: "J. Lynn Allen was Bari's longtime regular bridge partner and they were a formidable pair, but very kind when playing against newcomers. Noelene Hardy and I looked to them as a great pair to emulate in our own partnership, not only their expertise, but especially their bridge etiquette."

Beryl Cobb: "As a newbie playing in the unit game or tournament you knew you were probably going to get a couple of zeroes when you got to Bari and JL's table. But they were so nice about it that you didn't mind that much. A lovely lady!"



Contributors

Neuroscience in Sports and Bridge

Excerpts from New York Times (NYT) article and letter submitted by Jerry Frankel MD (retired), Plano, Texas, Unit 176.

According to Dr. Frankel, the NYT sports section recently had an article about two neuroscientists whose research deals with dementia. These two scientists are also sports fans interested in evaluating the levels of cognition of elite athletes. The neuroscientists developed a test for the level of speed to spot numerous pieces of information, process the information, and make the best decision. The computer could measure the response time, and rate the individual athlete. Elite athletes are able to process the information multiple times faster.

The Times article mainly focused on football. If you follow professional football, the San Francisco 49ers chose a quarterback, Brock Purdy of Iowa State



University, as the last player of the NFL 2020 draft. (The final pick of the NFL annual draft is known as “Mr. Irrelevant.”) During his professional tryouts Purdy’s arm strength and running speed were rated average, but, unexpectedly, in his rookie year by season’s end Purdy became the team’s starting quarterback. Brock Purdy’s test results were off the chart because of his ability to quickly process the information.

For the past decade the test has been given to all NFL draftees with follow up testing the rest of their careers. The elite quarterbacks are also off the chart, but the highest score is held by an All-Pro safety for the Kansas City Chiefs. There are also linebackers and defensive backs with very high scores. These gifted athletes are fast processors of information so they in-

variably make the best possible decision quickly.



Bridge

In Dr. Frankel’s opinion: “The results of this research will help us understand much about bridge, and maybe other aspects of life. Here is the possible connection to bridge: I postulate that elite bridge players are fast processors. Besides bridge and mathematic skills, they process a huge amount of information quickly: the bidding, cards played, points played by defense, etc. Thereby make the fewest mistakes. What does this mean for the non-elite player? When teaching bridge, go slow. We may not be elite players but most good players and teachers probably are a notch or two just below the elite processors. Be patient teaching and playing, the slower players are most likely slower processors. Currently, we don’t have ways of speeding players up, but the game is for fun. Ridiculing people drives them away and hurts the game. Be thankful you have been given a gift to process faster than many.”



Card Reading

By Jack LaVigne

Double dummy means that the hand is declared and defended perfectly and that all cards are known by both the declaring and defending side. Card reading is an attempt to play double dummy as though you can see the whole hand, either as declarer or defender.

It happens as you learn the distribution and high card location of cards from the bidding, leads and signals, and then inferring the location and distribution of the unseen cards.

Example:

Dealer: East

North has: ♠Qxx ♥Kx ♦Axx ♣Kxxxx

South	West	North	East
			1♦
Pass	Pass	1NT	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All Pass

You have completed your Bracketed Swiss Teams-match early and decide to kibitz a hand from the top bracket. The bidding is as shown above. North's 1NT is a balancing action showing approximately 11-14 HCP. South invites with the 2NT bid and North with 12 HCPs and a five-card suit with lots of 10s and 9s accepts the invitation.

The opening lead is the ♥2, and dummy (South) comes down with:

♠KJx ♥Jxx ♦Jxx ♣AJxx

West wins with the ♥A and returns the ♥3.

A count of the tricks shows one heart, one diamond and two spades. If declarer assumes that the club suit comes in for five tricks, that is nine tricks.

From the opening lead and return, it looks like hearts are breaking 4-4 so declarer can afford to knock out the ♠A after winning the next five clubs and will only lose four tricks.

The play goes ♣K from North, all following suit and a low club is led toward dummy's ♣AJx.

South now holds:

♠ KJx ♥ J ♦ Jxx ♣ AJx

You mentally say, "Eight ever. Nine never," so you expect declarer to play the ♣A. You are surprised the ♣J is played and wins the trick when West shows out!

Why did declarer make this play?

The actual hand was:

North

♠Qxx

♥Kx

♦Axx

♣Kxxxx

West

♠xxxxx

♥Axxx

♦xxx

♣x

East

♠Ax

♥Qxxx

♦KQxx

♣Qxx

South

♠KJx

♥Jxx

♦Jxx

♣AJxx

Declarer did some card reading. From the opening lead and return, declarer places ♥Axxx in the West hand. If West held the ♣Qx, the hand's HCP would have been six and would have warranted 1♥ or possibly 1♠ response to partner's opening 1♦ bid. Since West passed, declarer sees the ♣Q in the East hand and West with a stiff club.

If declarer had played the ♣A the contract would end up down two: the opponents would get one club, three hearts and then drive out the ♦A before declarer established spades.

Declarer makes three notrump by hooking the ♦J.

Summary

Card reading is an attempt to play double dummy as though you can see the whole hand. It takes experience, practice and the ability to fully concentrate on the hand before you. The benefits are well worth the effort. You will take more tricks and score better as you master this skill.

Jack LaVigne is a Platinum Life Master, District 16 Recorder, past president of Unit 174 and volunteer at the Bridge Academy of West Houston. Jack can be contacted at jacklavigne@att.net

♥ Fort Western Spring Sectional Winners ♦

Unit 183

(Omission from March/April Scorecard.)

February 10-11 - Friday & Saturday - NLM Pairs



A - Friday
Lori Slocum,
Debbie Greenslade



C - Friday
John Burgess,
Brenda Darby



A - Saturday
Ron Hollister,
German Valtierra



B - Saturday
Brenda Martin,
Sue Ragsdale

February 10 -11 - Friday & Saturday - Open Pairs



A - Friday
Steve Kornegay,
Nancy Kornegay



B - Friday
John Luebke,
Jerry Frankel



C - Friday
Dick McGaughy,
Gloria Fields



A - Saturday
Mary Jane Orock,
Billy Leeper



B - Saturday
Dick McGaughy,
Gloria Fields



A - Saturday
Steve Kornegay,
Nancy Kornegay



B - Saturday
Hal Schultz,
TR Sartor

February 12 - Sunday - Bracketed Swiss Teams



Bracket 1
Sheri Bumgardner,
Mark Bumgardner,
Nancy Kornegay,
Steve Kornegay



Bracket 2
Ellen Dutcher,
Michael Tiernan,
Kathy Coleman,
Tom Knute



Dallas June Sectional June 7-9, 2023

Lovers Lane United Methodist Church
9200 Inwood Rd. Dallas, TX 75220

Snacks and Drinks Every Day!

Cashless Payments Only!

Wednesday, June 7

Stratified Open and 299er Pairs (Single Sessions)	10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Bracketed Swiss Teams (2 Sessions, No player over 2000 MPs)	10:00 am & 2:30 pm
AXY Stratified Swiss Teams (2 sessions)	10:00 am & 2:30 PM

Thursday, June 8

Stratified Open and 299er Pairs (Single Sessions)	10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Bracketed Swiss Teams (2 Sessions, No player over 2000 MPs)	10:00 am & 2:30 pm
AXY Stratified Swiss Teams (2 sessions)	10:00 am & 2:30 PM

Friday, June 9

FREE LUNCH SERVED ON FRIDAY!

Stratified Open Pairs (2 Sessions)	10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Stratified 299er Pairs (Single Sessions)	10:00 am & 2:30 pm
Bracketed Swiss Teams (2 Sessions)	10:00 am & 2:30 pm

Stratifications:

Open Pairs: A: 3000+, B: 750-2999, C: 0-749 (By average masterpoints)

299er Events: A: 300-200, B: 199-100, C: 99-0 (By average masterpoints)

AXY Swiss Teams: A: 6000+. X: 5999-3000, Y: 0-3000 (By average masterpoints)

Note: All stratifications may be adjusted by director.

Entry Fees: ACBL members **SUMMER SPECIAL! \$12 per session**; Non-members \$15

Tournament Chairpersons: Ed Yetter (eyetter@sbcglobal.net and
Milt Neher (miltneher@tx.rr.com))

Partnerships Email: PartnershipU176@gmail.com

Tournament Director in Charge: Scott Humphrey

Hotel Info: Embassy Suites, Love Field, 3880 W. Northwest Hwy, Dallas, TX 75220; Phone:
214-358-6911; Rate: \$159. Includes complimentary breakfast! Reserve by May 20.

*Local bonus point game will be held on Tuesday, June 6 at the same location and times.

COVID VACCINATION IS REQUIRED

♥ Dallas Spring Sectional Winners ♦
Unit 176

Wednesday March 22 - Saturday March 25 - Pairs



Wed Open - B
Jim Porter,
Charlotte Tunnell



Wed Open - A
Alberto Fernandez,
Patricia Cantu



Thu 299 - A & B
Pamela Elizondo,
Magda Sojo



Thu Open - A
Don Hixson,
Ginney Hixson



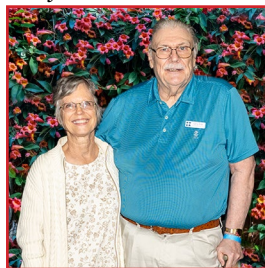
Fri Open - C
Darrel VanDyke,
Carolyn Henderson



Fri Open - A
Sheri Bumgardner,
Mark Bumgardner



Fri Open - C
Michael Blanchard,
Brian Eaton



Sat NLM - A
Anne Fritz,
Larry Fritz



Sat Open - A
Mercedes Barker,
Laura Jones

Wednesday March 22 - Saturday March 25 - Teams



Wednesday - A
James Bauer, James Thurtell,
Sheri Bumgardner,
Mark Bumgardner



Wednesday - X
Bob Holliday, Dan Kahn,
Rich Brandenburg,
Bill Driscoll



Wednesday - Bracket 1
Janet Borg, Linda Harley,
Judi Mairs,
Tom Mairs



Wednesday- Bracket 2
Dee Norris, Gay Nell Ball,
Laura Kelley,
Ann Haynes



Thursday - A (Tie)
Bill Driscoll, Terry Wolfe,
Rich Brandenburg,
Bob Holliday



Thursday - Bracket 1
John Luebke,
Ross Ramsey,
Mary Chaffin,
Erica Walker



Thursday - Bracket 2
Ken Melvin,
Walter Netschi,
Bill Brooks,
Charlotte Tunnell



Friday - A
Kimmel Jones,
Bill Staats, John Bramberg,
Barry Schaffer



Friday - Y
J Tony Pellegrini,
Mark Hatkoff,
Rich Brandenburg,
Randall Smith



Friday - Bracket 1
Carol Murray,
Jane Canning,
Carol Casey,
Bonnie Arnold



Friday - Bracket 2
Steve Conover,
Pam Tharp,
Judi Mairs,
Tom Mairs



Saturday - A
Tomi Storey,
Scott Nason,
Jeff Dater,
Milt Neher



Saturday - Bracket 1
Janet Borg,
David Clegg,
Linda Harley,
Linda Walton



Saturday - Bracket 2 (Tie)
David Branch,
Mike Frederick,
Randy Eads,
Cynthia Benton



Saturday - Bracket 2 (Tie)
Judy Bouska,
Loise Shanley,
Jackie Carroll,
Gari Martin



Saturday - Bracket 3
Bob Dixon,
Kamal Das,
Gloria Schuford,
Doug Berke

Nominations are Open for the 2023 Jacoby Award

The *Oswald and James Jacoby Service Award* was established in 1982. It is designed to honor those volunteers who have worked diligently at the unit level and risen to recognition at the district level after many years of outstanding service.

It is *District 16 Premier Service Award*. The Awards Committee only considers volunteers nominated by a unit. Although the district only presents one award annually, qualified nominations of those not selected in a current year are still available for consideration in the future.

Nominations for the 2023 Oswald and James Jacoby Award must be received by the Awards Chair, Sandy Potts

(sandy.potts5@yahoo.com), by July 1, 2023. The Jacoby Award will be presented at the Dallas Labor Day Regional on Saturday before the second session.

Tyler Tournament of Roses

Sectional & Non Life Master Regional

July 27, 28 & 29, 2023

Holiday Inn South Broadway
5701 S. Broadway
Tyler, TX 75703
903-561-5800



Bridge Rate \$89.00—Code B29

Stratified & Non Life Master Pairs

Thursday & Friday

10:00 & 2:30

Bracketed Swiss Teams

Saturday

10:00AM and TBD (lunch provided)

Stratifications

Open Pairs: A 2500+, B

1000-2500, C: 0-1000

NLM Pairs: A: 300-750 B:

100-300, C: 0-100

(Based on average master points
of pairs/teams)

Tournament Chairs

Shreedhara "Rathnam" Ramarathnam

svr7503@yahoo.com — 903-561-0398

Sandra O'Bannon

sobann715@suddenlink.net — 903-561-1724

Partnership Chair

Nancy Green

nancy@tcrtyler.com — 903-574-4241

Entry Fees

\$14 per session

Swiss Teams

\$128 (Including lunch)

ACBL Tournament Director

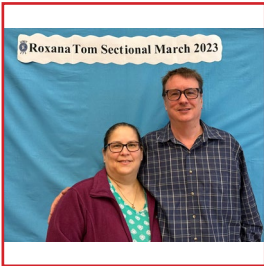
Scott Humphrey

scott.humphrey@acbl.org

All ACBL COVID protocols to be followed. Fragrance free please.

♥ Roxana Tom Sectional Winners ♦
Unit 172

Wednesday March 29 - Saturday April 1 - Pairs



Wed Open A
Patty Hinze,
Greg Hinze



Wed Open B
Barbara Morgan,
Buddy Ellisor



Wed Open C
Jim Roff,
Don Marcott



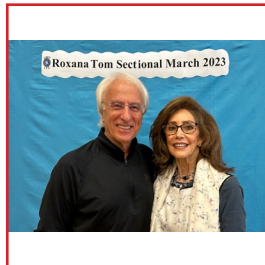
Wed Open A & B
Richard Curtin,
Kay Laird



Wed Open C
Louise Beldon,
Michael Beldon



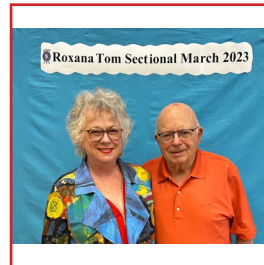
Thu Open A
Rosemary Kelley,
Forrest Gray



Thu Open B
Victor Press,
Sandra Press



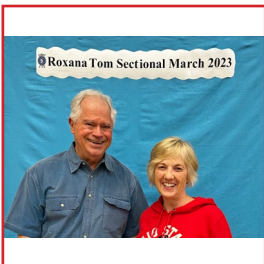
Thu Open C
Jim Roff,
Don Marcott



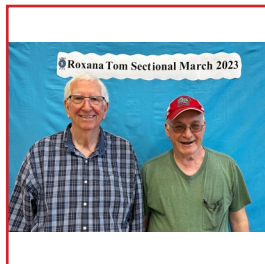
Thu Open A
Carolyn Riely,
Terry Riely



Thu Open B
Bob Otis,
Beth Gale



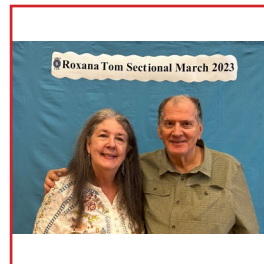
Thu Open C
Peter Doyle,
Mary Massey



Fri Open A
Martin Hester,
Samuel Williams, Jr



Fri Open B & C
Nancy Tom,
Sharon Evans



Fri Open A
Ellen Hessel,
Ira Hessel

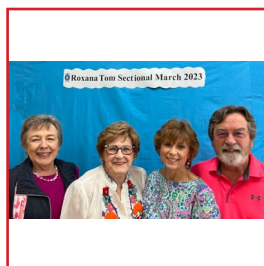


Fri Open B & C
Robert Thornton,
Richard Day

Saturday April 1 - Stratified Swiss Teams



A
Daniel Jackson,
Roxie Tom,
Rosemary Kelley,
Bill McCarty



B
Jeanne Dawley,
Tessa Bodnar,
Kathy Sinkin-Amor,
Forrest Gray



C
Lelia Jackson,
Sharon Evans,
Brian Bankler,
Nancy Tom



SAN ANTONIO REGIONAL **July 3-9, 2023**

TEXAS

HOST HOTEL

The Westin San Antonio North
9821 Colonnade Blvd

Direct: (210) 691-8888 • Toll free line: 888-239-0803

Room Rate \$130 • Book by June 12, 2023 (for advance rate)

Online: The booking link is available on Unit 172's website:
www.d16acbl.org/U172 in the Calendar Tab.

Use Code: San Antonio Bridge League - 2023 Regionals



TABLE FEES

Monday – Friday \$14.00 / Person

Saturday \$15.00 / Person

(\$1.00 extra for District 16 NABC)

Sunday \$148.00 / Team

(\$6.00 extra per player after 4) (includes lunch)

\$4.00 additional per session for unpaid ACBL members

\$5.00 for full time students

For FREE 120-day Guest Membership,
go to acbl.org/membership

OPEN PAIRS – Double Session

Monday, July 3 * *(may play 1 session)

Open Pairs 1:30 pm & 7:00 pm

Gold Rush Pairs 1:30 pm & 7:00 pm

Tuesday – Saturday, July 4 - 8

Open Pairs 10:00 am & 3:00 pm

Gold Rush Pairs 10:00 am & 3:00 pm

SIDE GAME SERIES – Single Session

Tuesday - Saturday, July 4 - 8

Morning 10:00 am

Afternoon 3:00 pm

TEAM GAMES – Double Session

Monday, July 3

Bracketed Swiss 1:30 pm & 7:00 pm

Tuesday - Saturday, July 4 - 8

Bracketed Swiss 10:00 am & 3:00 pm

Sunday, July 9

A/X Swiss Teams 10:00 am & TBA

Bracketed Swiss 10:00 am & TBA

All Open Pair Games

are Strati-Flighted A/X/Y

A: 3000+ X: 0-3000 Y: 0-1500

Stratifications may be changed at the Director's Discretion

Gold Rush Pairs

A: 500-750 B: 0-500 C: 0-250



Sunday

A/X Teams

A: 4000+ X: 0-4000

Bracketed Swiss

0-2500

Any player with 2500+MP's, the entire team plays in A/X Swiss



Guest Speakers
Tuesday – Saturday
2:15 pm

Newcomers -- FREE GAME for 0-25 MP's

On Saturday, July 8 at 10:00 am

A partner will be provided with 12-hours advance request



*This tournament follows all ACBL protocols.
Proof of COVID-19 complete vaccination is required.*

Tournament Chair

John Hilbig
(210) 587-9888
ladyl@gvtc.com

Tournament Co-Chair

Jerry Harrington
(210) 906-6301
m_jharrington@yahoo.com

Partnership Chair

Debbie Schweiss
(210) 862-9706
debschweiss@satx.rr.com