

# San Antonio 4<sup>th</sup> of July Regional Monday Bulletin



**Welcome.** On behalf of ACBL District 16 and the San Antonio Bridge League Board of Directors, welcome to our 4<sup>th</sup> of July Regional. The Omni Hotel provides free parking and a special "Grab & Go" discounted menu for your convenience. Be sure to check the Registration Table to receive your gift bag and to sign up for personalized ACBL labels. Our tournament will offer many opportunities to win gold with many 2-session pair events including Gold Rush Pairs, plus Bracketed Swiss, Knockouts, and a Morning Series, Afternoon Series and Evening Series of side games and more. As part of the Marie Bailey Intermediate-Newcomer Program, we've arranged for bridge experts to speak on various topics in the La Joya Ballroom at 12:45pm on Monday and at 1:45pm Tuesday through Saturday; please see next page for topics and speakers. As a consideration to others, we ask that you observe that we are a fragrance-free tournament and we strictly enforce the ACBL Zero Tolerance Policy.

Some events have been underwritten and named by members of Unit 172 to honor people in the San Antonio Bridge League. Some are memorials for favorite partners who have passed on and others as special recognition to hard-working volunteers for their contributions to our game.

Many folks (all pictured) have worked long hours putting this Regional together. I'm grateful to my committee chairs: Debbie Schweiss (I/N Program), Judy Hoffman (Director Refresher), Lynn Pierson (Name-an-Event), Steve Simpson (Daily Bulletin, and Photography), Paula Warren (Partnership), Everette Lewis (Caddy Master), Rebecca McCutcheon (Welcome Desk and Registration), Bob Otis (Logistics), Ann McMullan (Publicity), Mary Harrington (Prizes), Steve & Stephanie Stevens (ACBL Labels), Beth Gale & Kathy Sinkin-Amor (Hospitality), and Kay Laird & Pat Prichard (Decorations). Also, thanks to Ed Rawlinson who worked tirelessly on the schedule, Steve Hoffman (Historian) and our Unit 172 President, Rebecca Brown, who negotiated hard on our behalf with the Omni and acted as my sounding board throughout the process.

**Jerry Harrington** (jharring123@gmail.com)  
2017 SABL Regional Chair

## Today's Schedule

- 1:30pm** ➔ Pablo Siegal Stratified 299er Pairs (1/1)
  - ➔ Brenda Johnson, Jim O'Connor Afternoon Side Series (1/6)
  - ➔ Gold Rush Pairs (1/2)
  - ➔ Jay Thorne A/X/Y Pairs (1/2)
  - ➔ Ed Rawlinson KO Teams [KO#1] (1/4)
- 7pm** ➔ Lou Ray Stratified 299er Pairs (1/1)
  - ➔ Evening Side Series (1/6)
  - ➔ Sue Ohm Stratified Swiss (1/1)
    - Gold Rush Pairs (2/2)
    - Jay Thorne A/X/Y Pairs (2/2)
    - Ed Rawlinson KO Teams [KO#1] (2/4)



**Today's  
Speaker**

12:45pm  
La Joya



## Partnership

8:30 - 9:15  
1:30 - 2:15  
6 - 6:45

## Prizes

8:30 - 9:15  
1:30 - 2:15  
6 - 6:45

## Photography

1 - 1:45  
6 - 6:45

## Speakers



### Understanding the 2017 Regional Schedule

Monday 12:45pm (La Joya Ballroom)

**Hank Eng** is our Monday speaker. His bridge timeline: 1992 discovered bridge; 1993-97 majored in it at Texas A&M; 1995 ACBL member and Accredited Teacher; 1996 ACBL Director and member of the winning North American College Team Championship; 2014 awarded the Unit's Goodwill Award; innumerable defeats at twelve NABCs; and almost a Gold Life Master. As for his non-bridge history: PhD in Chemistry from Ohio State; did research in Caen, France, and Davis, CA; taught chemistry in Flagstaff, Jacksonville, FL, and San Antonio; and recently switched into the area of personal finance.

**Tue**

### Opening Trump Leads

Donna Swarthout

**Wed**

### Thinking at trick 1, 2, 3, etc.

Mildred Breed

**Thu**

### Balancing

Larry Levin

**Fri**

### Rules: When to use them

Rosemary Kelley

**Sat**

### Hold-Up Plays

Ed Rawlinson

## Honor Roll

Special people deserve special recognition. Naming an event for a favorite partner, mentor, friend or loved one is a great way to honor them. We present our honorees for 2017.

*From left to right, top to bottom: Phil Brown, Doug Cross, Hank Eng, Linda Fisher, Brenda Johnson, Rich Lampman, Laurie Levin, Al Lochli, JoAn & Paul McGaffic, Bob Morton, Jim O'Connor, Sue Ohm, Diane Olson, Ed Rawlinson, Lou Ray, Terry Rice, Bill Scarpero, Pablo Siegal, Steve Simpson, Jay Thorne, Roxana Tom and Gunner Willhelm.*





## **Lou Ray**

Stratified 299er Pairs (Monday 7pm)

Lou graduated from Loyola University with a degree in Commerce and earned his CPA in Illinois. Born and raised in Chicago, Lou's two daughters and five grandchildren still live in the Chicago area.

Lou joined the ACBL in 1975 and has been playing bridge ever since. When he retired, he moved to Las Vegas for golf, bridge and poker. In 2013 he moved to San Antonio due to the economy, the weather (no snow shoveling required), and the friendly people. He found all three, especially the friendly people at Fiesta Bridge Club where he can be found most days.

Lou is a certified financial planner, and while he is retired, he did not quit helping friends and family with their financial goals. He is also helpful at the bridge table when reviewing hands and providing guidance. He has a wealth of experience, both in life and bridge.



## **Jim O'Connor**

Stratified 299er Pairs (Saturday 9:30am)

Afternoon Side Series (Monday 1:30pm and Tuesday thru Saturday 2:30pm)

Jim O'Connor, born and raised in Scituate, MA, has spent his life in service to others. Four years in the U.S. Coast Guard and 25 years with the Massachusetts State Police. 22 of those years were serving as a detective. A great golfer his entire life found him shooting 2 strokes BELOW his age when he was 68. His newest fascination, bridge, centers around new friends and the never ending challenge that the game provides. A wonderful sense of humor serves him well.



## **Pablo Siegal**

Stratified 299er Pairs (Monday 1:30pm)

In every aspect of life, including the bridge table, Pablo Siegal was a gentleman. Born in Mexico City, Pablo moved to San Antonio to raise his family. He was a civil engineer and a successful real estate broker. After retirement, he and his wife, Eleanor, played frequently at our local clubs.



## **Ed Rawlinson**

KO#1 (Monday 1:30pm and 7pm, Tuesday 9:30am and 2:30pm)

Ed is first and foremost an educator and that is the driving force in all that he does. He has served on the Unit 172 Board for many years and is the corporate memory for the Unit. If you have a question regarding play of the hand or cost sodas for a sectional, "just ask Ed." In addition to the nuts and bolts of contributing to the operations of the Unit, he also feeds us. He is a regular host for celebrations and special games. One of Unit 172's coveted door prizes is dinner and bridge at Ed and wife Bobbie's home. Winning a dinner at Ed and Bobbie's is as close to winning the lottery as any of us will ever come! Of all his virtues, his most enduring legacy will be the mentoring of less experienced players. Ed's passion for the game goes well beyond playing and winning. He truly promotes the game with his example of selflessness and his willingness to teach. Most recently he has partnered with NISD Community Education where he will teach 'newbies' the game of bridge this fall. Ed is a teacher in best sense of the word and so much of what he teaches is by the example of how lives and how he gives.



### Sue Ohm

Stratified Swiss (Monday 7pm)

To Sue Ohm ... a wonderful partner, mentor and director.

The more one does and sees and feels, the more one is able to do, and the more genuine may be one's appreciation of fundamental things like home, and love, and **understanding companionship** [Amelia Earhart].



### Jay Thorne

A/X/Y Pairs (Monday 1:30pm and 7pm)

Everyone in Unit 172 knew Jay Thorne as the guy who set up and broke down for sectionals and tournaments, no easy job. If you are an early bird, you would have seen Jay with the measuring tape mapping out where each table should be and hauling in tables, boxes and boards so the games could begin! A behind-the-scenes guy who made your day go smoothly. This year will be our first Regional without Jay's presence and expertise and he is missed. He made things appear easy and that included bridge. He was born in Vermont and arrived in San Antonio in 2002. His father later joined him and taught him to play bridge. He earned well over 1500 master points and helped many new players gather the silver and gold needed to become life masters. His other interests were wide and varied and included model airplanes, astronomy, arcade games and photography. He focused his talents on photographing birds and celestial occurrences. His significant other, Paula Wissman, described him as "the guy who can fix anything with an on/off switch."



### Brenda Johnson

Afternoon Side Series (Monday 1:30pm and Tuesday thru Saturday 2:30pm)

Brenda was born and raised just south of the panhandle in Paducah, Texas. She grew up watching her parents, mother in particular, playing bridge. Often Brenda was called upon to substitute. And that is how it all started.

Brenda attended the University of Texas and graduated in three years as a registered nurse. After nursing school she married and moved to Corpus Christi. Later, she and her children relocated to Lubbock to be near family. In 1978 Brenda moved to San Antonio and worked as an OR (Operating Room) nurse until she retired.

Coming from a family of Life Masters increased Brenda's determination to follow suit. In 2015 Brenda achieved her goal in Gatlinburg when she simultaneously earned the titles of Life Master and Bronze Life Master.

In addition to bridge and family, Brenda is an avid reader and active participant in several book clubs. She loves art and old movies and helping others. Combining two of her loves, reading and helping others, Brenda became a reading mentor at Dellview Elementary School where she loved reading to students, especially **her boys**.

Brenda is a gracious, delightful partner and opponent. She has spent a lifetime playing the game of bridge and is proud to have accumulated 644.79 points.

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