



Friendly Bridge Club views Solar Eclipse

Thirty-six players congregated in the Friendly Bridge Club – Plano parking lot to look up and see what they could see. The path of totality for the April 8th eclipse cut across District 16’s bridge playing communities. In Plano, TX totality was expected at 1:41pm. With a bridge game starting at 10:30am, the timing was almost perfect. We would play 24 boards instead of the usual 27, and head out to the parking lot to view the eclipse. At the start of the game, the weather was a bit questionable with a dense cloud cover. But as the morning progressed, the clouds thinned and as the moon started to cover up a portion of the sun, the skies cleared. The players could see the sky darkening through the windows as they finished up their last rounds. When they finished their bridge game, they quickly went outside to their waiting lawn chairs with their eclipse glasses on, and saw the moon finish its path blocking



out the sun, until there was just a corona ring. A hush fell over the parking lot, as even

.....continued on p 2

pic by Jon Plant, son-in-law of Valarie Remmers

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Meet Patty Degenhardt



Few people in the McKinney Duplicate Bridge Club know that Patty Degenhardt is an artist. As with most of us, however, her life took several twists and turns before she arrived at that point. Raised in Staten Island, New York, Patty is the daughter of a minor league baseball player. His first job after baseball was actually in the mailroom at Standard Oil where he rose up the ranks to work in computers and technology. While in the mailroom, however, he and his co-workers learned bridge during their down time. He and his partner developed their own system and were shocked when they played against experienced players and were told they had to announce (i.e., alert) what they were doing.

Patty’s mother was a busy homemaker raising six children, the oldest of whom is Patty. Her grandmother was a dress designer and Patty learned that her great-grandmother died when she was very young along with 145 others in the notorious 1911 Triangle Garment Factory fire. Her aunt, P. Buckley Moss, is a well-known artist and it was these family traits of artistic ability and dress design that led to Patty’s ultimate career down the road.

Patty entered college at Villanova, but at that time the only major they offered for women was nursing. Deciding that nursing was not for her, Patty transferred to St. John’s University and graduated in 1968 majoring in history and elementary education. She worked part-time at a children’s home all through college and found that she enjoyed working with kids. She married Harold Degenhardt in 1967, had three children, and became a homemaker as well as a teacher in a special needs school. After she was married, Patty decided she should learn how to play bridge since it was all around her. She enrolled in an evening adult education course and learned the basics of the game. She then played lots of nighttime bridge when her children were young and her husband was working 70 hours a week.

Harold and Patty moved to Dallas in 1975. When her youngest child entered kindergarten, she finally had time to focus on one of her own interests. *continued on page 5*

Out & About

Friendly Bridge Solar Eclipse continued from p 1...

.....the birds stopped singing. Less than four minutes later, we let out our collective breaths as the light returned and the birds resumed their singing. What a wondrous sight to behold! Perhaps a bridge cruise off the coast of Egypt for the 2027 eclipse?

Friendly Bridge Club loves to celebrate celestial events as a community and will be holding our "Longest Day" Alzheimer's Fundraiser on Friday June 21st at our Plano location. ~submitted by Valarie Remmers

~ Pic to right shared by Jay Gibson



Friendly Bridge Club ~♠♥♦♣

Our regular games are: **Monday, Thursday, and Friday at 10:30am** at Disciples Christian Church - 2001 Independence Pkwy, Plano (NW corner of Park & Independence). Come play bridge, and visit with your bridge friends. You can register on our website at www.bridgewebs.com/friendlyllc, or send to this email planofriendlybridge@gmail.com with your reservation information, or call or text me at 972-814-8801. We look forward to seeing you, and having some fun playing in person bridge in a safe environment.

NOTE: As of November 1st, we will **no longer hold the Tuesday game in Dallas**. Thank you to those of you who did come out and play. We are going to reconsider the best way to serve the Dallas area bridge community. More information will be forthcoming.

~shared by Valarie Remmers, Mike Davis, & Jay Gibson

McKinney Duplicate Bridge Club ~♠♥♦♣

Please join us in McKinney for **10:00 AM Games: Tuesdays & Thursdays**, only \$8 in the Salvation Army gym, 600 Wilson Creek Parkway. Please arrive by 9:45 and park in the rear of building. Bring a snack or small lunch. Coffee and water provided, Reg Watt directing. No partner. No problem. Just come and we will provide a partner for you. You may get lucky and play with Reg.

~shared by Karen Roland

Valley View Bridge Club ~♠♥♦♣

Newby Play & Learn at 12:30pm every Wednesday at The King of Glory Church. Criteria: Must have less than 20 MP's to play; Can ask questions of the Director; Will earn MP's as you play; Players play for \$10/pp. Great opportunity to practice what you have learned.

Gerrie and Kathy also offer continuing classes for all levels of players with emphasis on different areas and topics like Defense, Play of the Hand, etc. The next round of Beginner Bridge Classes (in afternoon and evening) begins on Tuesday, Feb 6. Call Kathy with any questions.

Noon Games:

Monday: Open (\$10/pp) 499er (\$10/pp)

Wednesday: Open (\$10/pp) & 499er (\$10/pp)

Free Play for top overall winners in each event

+Wednesday: 12:30 pm Newby 0-20 MP -Play & Learn

Location: King of Glory Lutheran Church

Basement Room LL18 6411 LBJ Dallas, Tx

We have snacks and goodies at all of our games. Hope to see you soon. If you need a partner, we will be happy to get you one. Please contact Kathy Carr at 214-799-7401 or kathy.dbci@gmail.com.

~ shared by Gerrie Owen, Valley View BC

Harp's Bridge Club: jimharp111@gmail.com

Rockwall Community Center 108 E. Washington St
Tues 10:30 am Open

Lariat Bridge Club in Waxahachie:

1st United Methodist Church, 505 W Marvin Ave
Tuesday 6:30 pm Open, please arrive by 6:15 pm.
miketull@sbcglobal.net

BAND at Frisco Library 4140 Legendary Dr

Monday 9:30 am Open & 299

Wednesday 9:30 am Open

Due to limited space, reservations required: email billbosborn13@att.net or call 972-814-2133.

K-S Bridge Studio (BAND) 3030 LBJ Fwy, Ste#300, Dallas

Friday 1:00 pm, 0-20 MP

Sunday 1:00 pm 299er, preceded by 12:40 pm

free mini lesson by Kristen Onsgard

Reservations requested, email

stef4bridge@gmail.com (Stephanie Scott).

Dallas Winter Sectional February 21-24, 2024 *Congratulations to all the Winners!*

Wed AM 749 Flt A
John Red Fern
George Ray



Wed Aft Open Flt AB
Burton Shepherd,
Norman Beck



Wed Aft 749 Flt AB
Debrah Chockley
Mary Huck



Thurs AM Open Flt B
Catherine Tucker
Dorsey Shaw



Th & Fri AM 749 Flt A
Gina Doorn
Susan Henschal



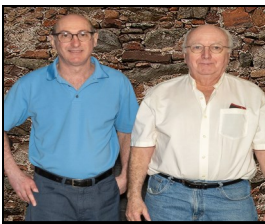
Thurs Aft Open Flt BC
D Lane Mueller
Margaret Cooley



Thurs Aft 749 Flt B
Jim Porter
Eldon Joersz



Fri AM Open Flt A
Eric Diamond
Bob Friz



Fri AM Open Flt B
Nancy Fellman
Jennifer Rao



Fri AM 749 Flt BC
Bonnie Keene
Stephanie Strom



Wed Teams Bkt 1 **Steve Kornegay, Mark Bumgardner, Nancy Kornegay, Sheri Bumgardner**



Wed Teams Bkt 3 **Lucy Buchanan, Glenda Cooper, Gail Wingfield, Janet Meyer, Ken Dingler—not pic**



Thurs Teams Bkt 1
Martha Young, Jay Gibson, Jerry Derby, Gerry McKim



Fri Aft Open Flt A
Steve Sinclair
Michael Murphy



Fri Aft 749 Flt A
Jason Glatzer
Bob Frisch



Thurs Teams Bkt 2 **Brian Gelles, Walter Netschi, Janet Gelles, Charlotte Tunnell**



Thurs Teams Bkt 3 **Judy Thompson, Connie Scott, Jo Ellen Wade, Mary Huck**



Thurs Teams Bkt 4 **Doris Silvernell, Hanuman Goel, Larry Mayo, Robert Neal**



Sat AM Open Flt A
Gerry McKim
Michael Hout



Thank You!

To all the players who participated in this Winter Sectional. There were **1,892.52 points** won by **342 players** at **391 tables** during this four day tournament.

Dallas Winter Sectional February 21-24 continued

Sat AM 749 Flt A TIE
Debrah Chockley
Judy Duval



Sat AM 749 Flt A TIE
Francey Parnell
Marilee Schmelzer



Fri Teams Bkt 1 **Tiger King,**
Donna & William Garrard,
Jianbo Chen



Fri Teams Bkt 2 **Jerry**
Frankel, Carol Murray, Carol
Casey, Mary Lynn Genovesi



Fri Teams Bkt 3 **Bob Clarke,**
Alma Farley, Linda
Jimmerson, Betty Wheeler



Fri Teams Bkt 4 **Susan Moss,**
Lucy Buchanan, Mark
Meiches, Stuart Litwin



Sat Teams Bkt 1 **Ari Sippola,**
Suresh Agrawal, Bob Wilkin,
Pawel Hanus



Sat Teams Bkt 2 **Kate**
Hopkins, Steve Birnbaum,
Bob Butterfield, Jane Kirby



Sat Teams Bkt 3
Noelene Hardy, Jeff Karpeles,
Valarie & Dale Remmers



Sat Teams Bkt 4 **Patty**
Degenhardt, Jyoti Boppana,
Eldon Joersz, Walter Netschi



Top 15 Unit 176 members winning masterpoints were: 39.12 **Mark & Sheri Bumgardner**; 23.30 **Bob Holliday**; 23.06 **Barry Schaffer**; 21.42 **Rich Brandenburg**; 21.19 **William Driscoll & Terrence Wolfe**; 19.08 **Jerry Derby**; 19.07 **Bryan Storey**; 17.77 **Tomi Storey**; 17.28 **Martha Young & Jay Gibson**; 17.13 **Gerry McKim**; 15.69 **Suresh Agrawal**; 15.65 **Burton Shepherd**

The ACBL 5-5-5 Initiative

The ACBL is concerned about the contraction in its membership since the beginning of COVID. Both the ACBL and our Unit are down about 20%. The ACBL returns to our unit a portion of our membership fees to put toward retention and recruitment programs. Under the new 5/5/5 plan a unit may receive up to 15% of the membership fees. The unit will automatically receive 5% - even if we do nothing. Units can earn up to an additional 2.5% for actively contacting lapsing and at-risk members. An additional 2.5% can be earned based on our success rate of the members contacted. The final 5% is earned for successfully recruiting new members into the unit.

Our Unit VP, Bill Higgins, gets a monthly email with the names of members that we should contact. Thanks to our committee of Rosalind Smith, Marcia Messinger, Sarah Warnecke, Sheri Bumgardner, Sue Greims, and David Greims for helping us contact lapsed members. We have had some success with these calls but ultimately, we need to provide programming to attract new members and retain the ones that we have. What can we do to make your playing experience in Unit 176 a better one? We would love to hear from you with suggestions!
~Mary Chaffin, chaf@utdallas.edu.

MDBC's Spotlight on Patty Degenhardt continued from page 1

She opened an art gallery at Olla Podrida in Dallas and ran it for 11 years until she decided to pursue her own path as an artist. Patty went back to school simultaneously with her youngest child starting college. She enrolled at TWU in Denton and earned her MFA (Master's in Fine Arts). She states that she loved the master's program where she was a graduate teacher of record and had the opportunity to study different mediums. Her TWU degree led to her teaching ceramics and art appreciation at Tarrant College in Fort Worth for 12 years.

As Patty and her husband neared retirement, they talked about finding a place to get out of the hot Texas summers. A neighbor had spoken glowingly of Door County, Wisconsin, so they traveled there to look it over and fell in love with the area and its wonderful summer weather. For the next nineteen years they spent 5 months annually in Door County where Patty discovered it was a fabulous place to be an artist. "I had my own studio building where I could paint, sculpt, and make wooden tables." People came to her studio and soon her work was featured in various galleries outside Wisconsin. She has several pieces in both public and private collections in Wisconsin as well.

Over the last two decades when Patty was not in Door County producing art, she was picking up the game of bridge again. She quickly saw how much the game had changed since she first learned so she enrolled in some classes and learned new conventions. Her teacher was a strict Marty Bergen devotee, but Patty gradually came to believe that she prefers the Barbara Seagram strategies and philosophy. Patty joined the McKinney Duplicate Bridge club four years ago and it was there she was first exposed to sanctioned games. She now plays in that club on a weekly basis.

Patty has been married for 56 years and attributes her fulfilling life as an artist to the moral and financial support of her wonderful husband since she could never have pursued art or sent three kids to college while running an art gallery. She is very proud of her three children for choosing helping professions—law enforcement and teaching. She also has six grandchildren whom she has attempted to teach bridge. So far, though, they have only grasped how to count points and how many points are required to open! They are all in college or grad school, however, and still have plenty of time to learn bridge later.

Other than family and bridge, Patty states that her passions include painting, sculpting, working with wood and metal, dress design and sewing, as well as dabbling in jewelry design. She has her own website at pattydegenhardt.com if you want to check out some of her work. This kind and modest woman has continued the heritage of talented artists within her family.

~Submitted by **Nancy Connors**, Secretary McKinney Duplicate Bridge Club

Unit Game March 10 results:

Open: 20 tables

AB 61.11% **Nancy Fellman, Elaine Wood**

C 59.49% **David Salem, Rebekah Hahn**

749: 6 tables

AB 59.58% **Louise Shanley, Gari Martin**

**See March 31st Unit game results reported in STac results below.*

Unit 176 Royal STaC March 25-31

Mon 3/25 Aft Open: based on 72 tables

ABC 69.05% **Paramjeet Ahluwalia,**

Karim Abuhamad VV BC

Wed 3/27AM Open: based on 80 tables

BC 67.00% **Georgia & Bob Serfling,**

BAND F2F Duplicate

Wed 3/27 Aft 0-500: 11 tables

AB 60.83% **Fred Carver, Gary**

Cunningham VV BC

C 53.75% **Sarah Warnecke, Jose**

Portela, VV BC

Thurs 3/28 AM Open: based on 60 tables

B 64.26% **Walter Netschi, Bob Bender,**

MDBC

Fri 3/29 AFT Small Games: 4 tables

ABC 62.11% **Loralee Berg, Barbara**

Pittenger, VV BC

Sun 3/31 AFT Open: 10 tables

A 61.11% **Tomi Storey, Scott Nason,**

Dallas Unit

BC 58.80% **Debra & Michael Chockley,**

Dallas Unit

Unit Game May 5 Results

Open: 18 tables

AB 65.87% **Brent McDaniels, Chuck**

Eastin

C 53.53% **Heather & H. Norville**

499: 4 tables

A 65.48% **Fran Shelton, Barbara**

Pittenger

B 52.98% **Jose Portela, Sarah Warnecke**

Dallas Spring Sectional April 17-20, 2024 Congratulations to all the Winners!

Wed AM & AFT Open &
Th Aft Open Flt A
Gerry McKim
Jerry Derby



Th AM Open Flt A
Cathie Tucker
Dorsey Shaw



Th Aft 749 Flt AB
Evelyn & Greg
Werbaneth



Th Aft 749 Flt C
Susan Henchel
Rod Goree



Fri Aft Open Flt AB
Bonnie & Ed
Yetter



Fri Aft Open Flt C
Chuck Eastin
Sarah Warnecke



Sat AM 749 Flt ABC
Bonnie Keene
Stephanie Strom



Sat Aft Open Flt ABC
Gail Wingfield
John Saylor



Sat Aft 749 Flt AB
Cheryl Bradford
Susan Clarkson



Thank You

To all the players who participated in this Winter Sectional. There were **1,567.42 points** won by **269 players** at **285 tables** during this four day tournament.

Wed & Fri Teams Bkt 1 **Mike Penick, Kimmel Jones, Nancy Passell, Bill Staats**



Wed Teams Bkt 2 **Stuart Litwin, Leonard Epstein, Susan Moss, Alan Josephson**



Th Teams Bkt 1 **Brian & Janet Gelles, Don & Ginny Hixson**



Th Teams Bkt 2 **Mark Meiches, Randy Patterson, Stuart Litwin, Leonard Epstein**



Th Teams Bkt 3 **Walter Netschi, Al Joersz, Jyoti Boppana, Patty Degenhardt**



Fri Teams Bkt 2 **Hassan Kasseba, Larz Smith, Bob Clarke, Alma Farley**



Fri Teams Bkt 3 **Stuart Litwin, Mark Meiches, Susan Moss, Leonard Epstein**



Sat Teams Bkt 2 **Dale Remmers, John Luebemann, Valarie Remmers, Feza Buyukdura**

Sat Teams Bkt 3 **Burton Shephard, Jan Trumbello, Anne Goodman, Joseph Trombello**



Dallas Spring Sectional April 17-20, 2024 continued from p 7



Top 15 Unit 176 members winning masterpoints were: **Nancy Passell 50.16**
Michael Penick 29.98 Milton Neher 26.24 Mark & Sheri Bumgardner 24.90
Gerry McKim 23.57 Petra Hamman & Kristen Onsgard 20.18
Leonard Epstein 19.65 Bob Holliday 18.37 James Bauer 17.76
Barry Schaffer 17.41 Peter Hudson & Jin Chu 15.76 Walter Netschi 15.21

Mini McKenney 2023 Winners: L to R
Walter Netschi, Bob Holliday, Milt Neher,
Sheri Bumgardner, Hassan Kasseba,
Jyoti Boppana, John Luebke



Ace of Clubs 2023 Winners: L to R
Bob Holliday, Patty Stille, Walter Netschi, Mark & Sheri
Bumgardner, Milt Neher, Hassan Kasseba



Modern Bidding Classes for Beginners or Players that just need a refresher class!
Beginning Tuesday May 7th from 9:30 to 11:30
There Will Be a Total of 9 Classes

Intermediate Classes
Beginning Tuesday May 7 th from 12:00 to 2:00

- May 7 th Basic Bidding Review
- May 14 th Learning how to Bid Logically
- May 21 st Overcalls and Takeout Doubles
- May 28 th Bidding Distributional Hands
- June 4 th NT Opening Bids and Responses
- June 11 th Texas Transfers and Minor Suit Transfers
- June 18 th Ace Asking Bids
- No Class on June 25 th Church is closed
- July 2 nd Defense against Opponents Opening NT Bids
- July 9th Defensive Carding

Advanced Classes
Beginning Tuesday May 7 th from 2:30 to 4:30

- May 7 th Takeout Doubles, Negative Doubles, Support Doubles, Balancing Doubles
- May 14 th Bidding Distributional Hands
- May 21 st New Minor Forcing and Fourth Suit Forcing
- May 28 th Opening Leads against Suits and NT and Defensive Carding: Standard and Upside Down
- June 4 th Advanced Play of the Hand Techniques
- June 11 th Cue Bidding: Michaels, Control Showing, Splinter Cue Bids
- June 18 th 1430 and Key Card Gerber
- No Class June 25 th
- July 2 nd Defensive Bidding Over Opponents NT Bids
- July 9 th Hands to Play on Topics Studied

New Bridge Lessons Taught by
Gerrie Owen

All Classes will be held at King of Glory Lutheran Church. For more information contact Gerrie:

214-477-4181 or
gerrieowen@sbcglobal.net

Classes on Thursdays

Beginning May 9th from 12:30 to 2:30

Intermediate: Topics Same as Listed for Tuesday at 12:30

Refresher/Beginner Classes

Beginning May 9th from 2:45 to 4:45



Dallas Memorial Day Sectional

May 22-26, 2024

Holiday Inn Dallas-Richardson

1655 N Central Expwy

Richardson, TX 75080

Wednesday, May 22

Stratified Open and 499er Pairs (Single Sessions)

10:00 am & 2:30 pm

Open Bracketed Swiss Teams (2 Sessions)

10:00 am & 2:30 pm

Thursday, May 23

Stratified Open and 499er Pairs (Single Sessions)

10:00 am & 2:30 pm

Open Bracketed Swiss Teams (2 Sessions)

10:00 am & 2:30 pm

Friday, May 24

Stratified Open and 499er Pairs (Single Sessions)

10:00 am & 2:30 pm

Open Bracketed Swiss Teams (2 Sessions)

10:00 am & 2:30 pm

Saturday, May 25

Stratified Open and 499er Pairs (Single Sessions)

10:00 am & 2:30 pm

Open Bracketed Swiss Teams (2 Sessions)

10:00 am & 2:30 pm

Sunday, May 26

Stratified Open and 499er Pairs (Single Sessions)

10:00 am & 2:30 pm

Open Bracketed Swiss Teams (2 Sessions)

10:00 am & 2:30 pm

STAY AT THE HOLIDAY INN!
\$99 Per night
WITH FREE BREAKFAST BUFFET!

Limited number of rooms available!

Go to <https://shorturl.at/pz489>
to reserve today!

The District 16 GNT Finals will run
concurrently with the Sectional on
Saturday and Sunday.
See the ACBL website for more details.

Stratifications:

Open Pairs: A: 4000+, B: 1500-4000,
C: 0-1500 (By average masterpoints.)

499er Events: A:300-500, B:200-299,
C: 0-199 (By average masterpoints.)

NOTE: Stratifications may be adjusted
by director.

Entry Fees: ACBL members \$14 per session;
Unpaid Members: \$18. For non-members a
120 day free guest membership is available

Tournament Chairperson: Bill Higgins
wlhiggins@sbcglobal.net

Partnerships: Truett Cates

(email: PartnershipU176@gmail.com)

Director in Charge: Kevin Perkins

Snacks and Drinks Every Day! Cashless Payments Only!

Unit 176 Board Update:

2024 Unit 176 Board

President: **Connie Scott**

Vice President: **Bill Higgins**

Treasurer: **Bob Holliday**

Secretary: **Paul Taylor**

Board Members: **Truett Cates, Mary Chaffin,
Bill Driscoll, Milt Neher, Cheryl Rider**

Business Manager: **Ed Yetter**

*The Unit 176 Board serves the members of Unit 176.
If you have any ideas, please let us know.*



Welcome to Unit 176

NEW: Theodore Bartholow, Ken Boatman, Guy Buchner, Virginia Crowe, Helen Dlugosz, Mimi Drew, Norma Vardeman, Rodney Welch, Joellen Whittinghill, Tom Whittinghill

TRANSFERS: Janice Anchell, Kathryn Austin, Barbara Bovard, Sally Curtis, Dr. Wojciech Szalecki

Looking for a Bridge Instructor Unit 176 has several bridge instructors for hire. Here is an alphabetical list of those who requested to be included:

Susan Bates: susanbates6630@gmail.com

Mark Bumgardner: Bumgardner.mark@gmail.com

Jay Gibson: Jgib181@outlook.com

Preston Morrow: Prjr17@gmail.com

Kristen Onsgard: onsgardk@gmail.com

Bill Osborn: BillOsborn13@att.net

Gerrie Owen: gerrieowen@sbcglobal.net

Randy Patterson: hellorandyman@gmail.com

Jack Schober: jackschober@icloud.com

Stefanie Scott: stefaniescott58@gmail.com

Please contact **Connie Scott** if you want to be added to this list.



In Memoriam
William Blackstone
Tina Epstein
Nagy R. Kamel
Ronald M. Mankoff
Keith Mond
Stu Nelan

Message from the President



Thank you to all who attended our Dallas Spring Sectional! Thank you to Milt Neher, Debor Cassen, Bob Holliday, Rosalind Smith, and Mary Lynn Genovesi for their hard work! With our trailer and supplies being stolen a week before the tournament Cheryl and Jim Rider scrambled to purchase our needed supplies. Thank you, Gerrie Owen for donating bidding boxes. Thank you, Chuck Eastin and Ed Yetter for finding a secure location for our new supplies.

Congratulations to all who won their category for Ace of Clubs and Mini- McKenney races! Certificates and medals were awarded during the Spring Sectional. If you were unable to attend, yours will be mailed.

Please come join us for the Memorial Day Sectional May 22-26 at the Holiday Inn Richardson; new location for Sectional and an extra day, Sunday! Please consider staying a night or two at the Holiday Inn for only \$99 a night with free breakfast buffet included. Go to <https://shorturl.at/pz489> for reservations. We need your support for a successful tournament.

The GNT District Finals for Flights A and C will be in conjunction with the Memorial Day Sectional on May 25-26. The DBA Board encourages everyone to put together a team, and we will cheer you onto Toronto! Contact Scott Nason for more information.

New location for our Unit Games, King of Glory. Thank you to Valley View Bridge Club and Friendly Bridge Club for hosting our Unit Games. Dates and time will be posted in the Bulletin and also the website for Unit 176.

Your Dallas Bridge Association Board works hard to provide many playing opportunities in the Dallas area. Many volunteers are needed for each event. Please reach out to any one of us and offer your help in any capacity. Also, we welcome any and all suggestions to improve your playing experience.

~ *Connie Scott* at connievanpatter@yahoo.com

Grand National Teams by Scott Nason

The GNTs 2024 are coming soon. Once again, we are going to dispense with the Unit qualifying and proceed straight to District Finals. So, get your team together and meet us in Houston or Dallas in the Spring.

There are four levels that will compete in the GNT's District Finals. The four winners of that event (or possibly more – see below) go on to compete at the GNT Finals in Toronto in July. The top flight – the Championship Flight – is open to anyone who is an ACBL member in good standing and who resided in District 16 as of September 1, 2023. In order to play in Flight A, each member of the team must also have had fewer than 6000 Masterpoints as of the August 6, 2023 posting. For Flight B the cutoff is 2500 points. And Flight C is limited to non-life masters with fewer than 500 points. Each team may consist of 4, 5 or 6 players, but each player must be eligible for the flight in which the team is competing.

The District Finals will be split into two venues. The Championship and B Flights will be held in Houston on April 6-7. Flights A and C will be held in Dallas at the Holiday Inn Dallas-Richardson on May 25-26. The winners from each flight will advance to the National GNT Finals in Toronto in July and will be eligible for an expense stipend if they actually play in Toronto. Note also that if Flights B and/or C have eight or more teams, then the top **two** teams will qualify for Nationals. For more information, you may consult the event flyer (below) and the Conditions of Contest, which are posted on the D16 website.

District 16 Grand National Teams: 2024 District Finals

Results for April 6-7 in Houston

Sunday, April 7th Championship Flight Final Results – 1st Place Team

Hua Yang, Yan Song, Plano; Danny Feng, Frisco; Steve Chin, Austin.

Note: 217.76 masterpoints were earned by 30 players. The Top 5 Unit 176 Winners were: *23.45, Robert Holliday & Mary Lynn Genovesi; 16.00, Hua Yang, Yan Song, Danny Feng;*

May 25-26 in Dallas

at Holiday Inn, 1655 N Central Expressway, Richardson

Saturday, May 25th Flight C qualifying: 10:00am and 2:30pm

Flight A qualifying: 10:00am and 2:30pm

Sunday, May 26th Flight C finals (if necessary): 10:00am and 2:30pm

Flight A finals (if necessary): 10:00am and 2:30pm

Formats for each flight will be based on the number of teams entered. See the Conditions of Contest for the planned formats. **Stratifications/Eligibility:** Every player must be an ACBL member in good standing and must be a resident of D16 as of September 1, 2023. Masterpoint limits for each Flight are as follows:

Championship Flight – open to anyone

Flight A – open to players with less than 6,000 masterpoints, as of August 6, 2023

Flight B – open to players with less than 2,500 masterpoints, as of August 6, 2023

Flight C – open to non-life masters with less than 500 masterpoints, as of August 6, 2023

All teams must pre-register with Scott Nason at sdnason@sbcglobal.net **no later than April 1** for Championship and B and by May 20 for A and C. You must supply the names of the players, ACBL numbers and the Flight in which you will compete. Card fees will be \$60 (\$15x4) per team per session.

Tournament Chair: Scott Nason sdnason@sbcglobal.net

Tournament Director: Melody Euler (Dallas) and Kevin Perkins (Houston)



Masterpoint Races

Congratulations to Unit 176's newest **Diamond Life Masters:**

There are now 24 Unit 176 players at
this level.



Congratulations to Unit 176's newest **Sapphire Life Masters:**

Congratulations to Unit 176's newest **Gold Life Masters:** **N. J. Tripode**



Congratulations to Unit 176's newest **Ruby Life Masters:** **Deborah Armstrong, Allan Chernov, Jean Higgins, Nancy Morse, Rebecca Page, R Randall Smith, David Speer, Janice Trombello**



Congratulations to Unit 176's newest **Silver Life Masters: Kathleen, Aten, Lorri Brockman, Jack Hartel, Jacqueline Jones, Carol Murray**



Congratulations to Unit 176's newest **Bronze Life Masters:** **Jeanne Wyatt**

Congratulations to Unit 176's newest **Life Masters: Cheryl Bradford, Dr. Philip Brown, Cheryl Paul, Calvin Winchester**



Looking for a partner for a Unit Game or a Unit 176
Tournament? Our online Partnership Desk is available
for you!

Send an email to: PartnershipU176@gmail.com

A special thank you to the following people who con-
tributed information/pictures/statistics/names which
were used in this edition of Table Talk: **Mary Chaffin,
Nancy Connors, Eileen Davidson, Mike Davis,
William Eads, Jay Gibson, David Greims, Bill
Higgins, Bob Holliday, Scott Nason, Gerrie Owen,
Valarie Remmers, Connie Scott, and Ed Yetter.**

2024 Helen Shanbrom Ace of Clubs

(updated 5/6/24; includes points won at club level only)

0-5 **TIE Terry McComas & James Williams** 5.34
 5-20 **Raymond Hamilton** 7.55 **Marilee Schmelzer** 6.89
 20-50 **Elliott Orr** 12.55 **Sarah Warnecke** 11.30
 50-100 **Mary Huck** 12.47 **Richard Eshelbrenner** 10.64
 100-200 **Robert Neal** 32.92 **Athena Leung** 27.62
 200-300 **Julie Holloway** 15.36 **Loralee Berg** 11.82
 300-500 **Walter Netschi** 40.87
 500-1000 **Patricia Stille** 27.38 **Larry Mayo** 25.99
 1000-1500 **Michael Chockley** 27.33
 1500-2500 **Robert Bender** 50.01 **Robert Holliday** 34.72
 2500-3500 **Carol Calkins** 39.43 **Nancy Fellman** 31.84
 3500-5000 **Preston Morrow** 31.86 **Florence Beaird** 27.30
 5000-7500 **Jerry Derby** 35.22 **William Chan** 34.27
 7500-10,000 **Milt Neher** 45.503 **James Bauer** 31.41
 Over 10,000 **Mark Bumgardner** 30.98
Michael Murphy 13.85

2024 Mini-McKenney (updated 5/6/24)

0-5 **TIE Terry McComas & James Williams** 5.34
 5-20 **Marilee Schmelzer** 12.01 **Raymond Hamilton** 8.90
 20-50 **Elliott Orr** 15.28 **Sarah Warnecke** 12.83
 50-100 **Mary Huck** 27.94 **Doris Sivernell** 19.95
 100-200 **Robert Neal** 41.34 **Hanuman Goel** 39.30
 200-300
 300-500 **Walter Netschi** 65.19 **Paramjeet Ahluwalia**
 41.65
 500-1000 **James Bishop** 55.35 **Gail Wingfield** 48.42
 1000-1500 **Burton Shephard** 71.83 **Valarie Remmers** 57.90
 1500-2500 **Kristen Onsgard** 132.06 **Bob Holliday** 85.01
 2500-3500 **Sheri Bumgardner** 87.11 **Randolph Worsham**
 82.76
 3500-5000 **Jeffrey Juster** 175.23 **Pawel Hanus** 70.65
 5000-7500 **Tomi Storey** 89.68 **Norman Beck** 59.22
 7500-10,000 **JMilton Neher** 143.68 **Bill Osborn** 70.44
 Over 10,000 **MiKe Passell** 478.63 **Eric Greco** 317.84

Table Talk Editor & Publisher: **Sue Greims**
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 McKinney DBC: **Nancy Connors** Valley View BC: **Gerrie Owen**
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