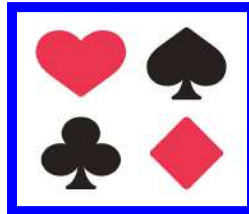


CHATTANOOGA BRIDGE CENTER

JUNE 2026

News and Tidbits

A Publication of ACBL Unit 206



Editor: Mary Robertson

A Message From Richard Spangler, Our President

Our annual event to raise awareness and support to help find a cure for Alzheimer's disease has started!! Every June, ACBL focuses on this important endeavor and Chattanooga has been one of the strongest supporters in the state and the U.S. Thanks to everyone for their strong support!! A variety of games and events will occur in June to help in this effort. The goal is to raise \$14,000 this month. More news to come.

We have new LBIAD (Learn Bridge in a Day) grads. Soon you will hopefully start to see new players from that recent class at upcoming games and they will appreciate your support upfront to help them continue to grow. BridgeTips will start June 6, every Saturday from 10-12, led by Margie and Janie. This will serve as a continuing effort to improve the skills and joy of the game of the LBIAD grads but is also available to ANYONE who wishes to improve their game.

See you at the Bridge Center!! Richard Spangler, President



A Message From Myra Reneau

Our Club Manager

Myra's Box



Well, I hope everyone is ready for a new month. The year is flying by. I am in North Carolina starting my directing for the season up there.

If anyone needs to contact me, texting is best. Phone number 423-503-3266.

There are a lot of great events on the calendar. Please make sure to check it out and play as often as you're able. In June, we have North American Pairs qualifying at the club and a ROYAL STaC. In the royal STaC, you can earn GOLD, silver, red and black. So please, please, please, I hope you can attend and get those golds. Best of luck to you!





HATS OFF TO ANN KEOWN

Hats off to Ann Keown for her leadership and coordination of our Ambassador program!! We will be celebrating 10 years of engaging with this program early in the fall, but wanted to acknowledge Ann's creation and support of the program as we enter Year 11. It is great to give people added confidence that whenever they want to come play at the club, we will have someone in place able to play just in case a partner is needed. Thanks to every Ambassador that has supported the program as well. We appreciate your support of the club and recognize the risk you take of not playing potentially on that day and having to set aside your time accordingly.



It's that time of year again. Our Club will celebrate our annual fundraiser supporting the Alzheimer's Association beginning Saturday, June 13. The following week there will be an opportunity to buy raffle tickets for the chance of winning free bridge games, and there will be a Silent Auction of various art pieces donated by Club members. The highest bidder will be announced on Friday, our last day. Each year our Club has generously contributed to this vital opportunity to help raise money. Susan Rothberger is serving as our TLD coordinator this year, and Mary Robertson will support her in the planning and coordination. Margie Moses has taken on the role as our Treasurer.



Our goal is \$14,000. You may make an online donation at our Club's page: [Unit 206 TLD Page](#). See Margie Moses if you have questions about donations. Look for our purple donations box on our TLD table against the wall by the front door.

Please remember when we participate in **The Longest Day/Do What You Love To End Alz** you are not just raising crucial funds, but we are also championing bridge and brain health in our community. The Alzheimer's Association has changed the official name from our annual fundraiser from The Longest Day to Do What You Love To End Alz. By either name, this initiative is very important and touches many of us. It's a win-win.

Recent advancements in Alzheimer's research highlight significant progress in both earlier detection and risk reduction. Scientists are increasingly focused on identifying biomarkers—such as tau and beta-amyloid—in blood and other fluids, paving the way for simple, non-invasive blood tests that could detect the disease before symptoms appear and improve diagnosis, treatment tracking, and access to care. At the same time, growing evidence shows that individuals may be able to lower their risk of cognitive decline through lifestyle choices that support brain and heart health, including regular physical activity, nutritious diets like the Mediterranean or DASH diets, strong social connections, and ongoing mental engagement. Together, these developments reflect a promising shift toward earlier intervention and proactive prevention—bringing us closer to more effective treatments and, ultimately, a world without Alzheimer's.

So, get ready to play bridge for a great cause and get your checkbooks out! It's a win win. Our plan is to wrap up the 2026 TLD fundraiser campaign on or before June 30. Thank you all for your generosity.





Look for the purple donation box on the table by the front door—simply leave your donations in this box or give your donation to Margie Moses. Also, please take time to look at the various pieces of art we will be displaying. Instructions on how to bid on these items will be given soon. Thanks to the various members who so generously donated their own art work, or their personal art pieces from their homes.

One Small Thing – Timing

Written By Bruce Antman

Timing is everything, or so they say. If I'm late for an appointment, I may have to come back another day, and maybe pay a fine as well. If I'm too early, I may have to wait – and to me, that can sometimes be even worse.

If someone is late getting to the bridge club, it is inconvenient for everyone – especially when no one knows if you'll get there at all. So we try really hard to be a bit early. But nearly all of us have been late a time or two, whether by our own error or by something we couldn't control. Life is like that.

Once we get to the table, we still have to worry about finishing each round on time. Holding up the game is one of the cardinal sins of duplicate bridge. We are all guilty occasionally. There may be several difficult decisions during the bidding and play of a hand, and that board may cause nearly every table to be slow. But if you are frequently finding yourself behind, look inward. Do you write down the contract when others are waiting for you to play? Do you find something to discuss about every hand? Do you need to set a limit for yourself on how long you will consider a bid or a play? Keeping on time is not only being considerate to the other players, but it makes the game more enjoyable for you and your partner (not to mention the director).

Equally important is the kind of timing we call “tempo” – a term borrowed from music. Just as in a song, there is a natural rhythm to the bidding and play of a bridge hand. It isn't a strict beat like a metronome, but rather a pattern that speeds up and slows down according to the context. [No good song is composed entirely of quarter notes!] Expert players have a highly-developed sense of tempo, and are sensitive to even small variations. In high-level tournaments, even slight variations in rhythm are noticed, frequently taken advantage of, and sometimes even formally penalized. Newer and more casual players aren't expected to keep “in tempo” all the time, and in club games, the rhythm of the game is often irregular. But as our games progress in other ways, we should also be learning to stay in tempo whenever we reasonably can.

During the bidding, the ACBL strongly suggests taking 2-3 seconds for normal bids, and 8-10 seconds after a skip bid. Otherwise, you may be giving your partner “unauthorized information” by indicating that you do (or don't) have a problem. Several examples:



- If you bid or pass the moment your opponent lays down a bid card, you may be telling your partner that your call is totally obvious. Occasionally that's useful to your partner, but she can't ethically take advantage of it. It's unethical to make a "fast pass" on really bad hands and a "slow pass" on marginal ones. If your right-hand opponent opens 1♦ and you bid 1♠ before his bid card hits the table, your partner knows that you have opening points. Not proper, and if you do it, partner must ignore it.

If you're just starting out in duplicate, it's best always to pause at least the two seconds. Experienced players sometimes bid or pass quickly when there is no possibility of helping partner, such as when responding to Stayman.

- To avoid bidding slowly, as soon as your partner bids, start considering what the intervening opponent might do, and how you might respond to each likely possibility. If that opponent bids slowly, you won't compound the problem by being slow yourself.
- If you have several options, first decide whether you want to bid at all, then decide what to bid. That way, you can pass in tempo. A long pause before a pass is the worst, because partner knows you thought about bidding (unless that pass ends the auction). A long pause before a bid or double tells your partner that you had a problem, but it's not as bad. She doesn't know if you were thinking about passing, making a stronger bid, or just bidding a different suit.
- If you have a real problem deciding what to bid, take your time and think. The consequences of slow bidding are not as bad as the consequences of making a bad bid!
- The extra-long pause after a skip bid is frequently ignored, particularly after bids that show strength (2♣ opening, limit raise, Jacoby 2NT, Blackwood). In club play, a pause of 4-5 seconds is plenty in most situations.

You'll never learn to play in perfect tempo, and that's not a problem. But it's worth working on, if only because your partners will appreciate speedier play, fewer ethical dilemmas, and fewer director calls. If your partner breaks tempo, don't be tempted to use any additional information that gives you. Bid like your partner didn't hesitate, and you won't get in trouble.



If you may have been hurt by an opponent's bid or pass out of tempo, call the director after the bidding, or at the very latest when the dummy comes down – and then again after the hand has been played. But remember that if your opponents don't take unfair advantage of a break in tempo, there is no injury and thus no penalty.

JUNE CLUB EVENTS

Look for email updates from Margie Moses

For the most current events calendar, follow this link to our club's website calendar for more information: CBC Calendar

[Calendar of Events](#)

Bridge Tips

Saturday, June 6 10 AM - It's back!!!

Janie Hunt and Margie Moses will once again host Saturday classes beginning June 6 to offer lessons related to the 2 Over 1 bidding system. Classes are from 10-12 noon with a short lesson followed by lots of hands relevant to that day's lesson. Table monitors will be available to help with bidding and play of the hands. Class begins promptly at 10 am so arrive in time to pay your \$5.00 fee, get any handouts that might be offered, find a seat and be ready to listen. We both look forward to seeing your smiling faces.

Chat With Joe

Tuesday, June 9 10:30 AM

Do you have a question about a particular hand? How is your defense? Here is a great chance to seek feedback from an advanced player. Just bring yourself and your questions.



Mentor Mentee**Friday, June 26 Noon**

We are back to the “typical” routine, look for the sign-up sheet and let Bruce know if you wish to play.

The Longest Day Game Saturday, June 13**Lunch 12:30 - Open Game 1 PM**

Come and enjoy fried chicken along with delicious side dishes as we celebrate the kick off event for this year’s fundraiser: **The Longest Day/Do What You Love**

Make sure you have our Club’s Fall Sectional on your calendar: October 22-24.

**IN MEMORY OF CLAUDE WALKER****Claude Balker III**

Claude B. Walker III, 84, of Chattanooga, passed away on May 24, 2026.

Born in Atlanta, to the late Claude B. Walker, II and Jayne Greer Walker. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

Claude was a music teacher, accomplished organist, pianist and choir director. He sang in a barbershop quartet, loved golf, playing bridge and was an avid St. Louis Cardinals and Detroit Tiger fan.

He was preceded in death by his children, Claude B. Walker, IV and Shelley Jayne Mason.

Claude is survived by his wife, Sharon K. Walker; son, Dr. Michael D. (Mindy) Walker; siblings, Geri (Bonnie) Walker and Linda Jacobs; grandchildren, Kynlee, Easton, Ander, Maylea and Karma; stepson, Mike (Cyndi) Harper and step grandchildren, Garrett and Rachel Harper.



Cards of condolences may be mailed to: 6689 Hickory Brook Road, Chattanooga, TN 37421.

LOOKING FOR A BRIDGE GAME?

'Nooga East Bridge Club

Every Monday at 12:30 p.m. there's a bridge game at Christ United Methodist Church located at 8645 East Brainerd Road across from Hurricane Creek Shopping Center. Players are asked to arrive no later than 12:15 p.m. so the game can begin promptly. For those of you in Cleveland or North Georgia, this is just a hop, skip and a jump away. We are a very welcoming, fun group and are always looking for new players of all levels. Are you interested? Just email noogabridgeeast@gmail.com to make a reservation. Need help finding a partner or have a question? You can text or call Sue Riddle at 423.509.3583 or Sharon Lewis at 423.240.5360.

The Fairyland Duplicate Bridge Club

The Fairyland Bridge group plays every Thursday at our Club. This group often combines celebrating special occasions along with a delicious lunch and great cards. Stay tuned to upcoming game announcements to make sure you don't miss the fun. Players should be registered before 10:15 to allow play to begin at 10:30. Lunch is provided between 12-12:30, afterward the game resumes. Reservations are appreciated, please reach out to Susie Crouch at 423.443.6889. Don't miss out on their fun holiday gatherings.





In May, Fairyland celebrated Mother's Day with a free day on May 14th. Don't worry guys, we will have a free Father's Day game as well! In May we also celebrated Margie Moses' birthday. The Fairyland group loves to celebrate the holidays and special occasions. Don't miss out on the fun. Check it out.

Partnership Coordinator

If you need a partner, our Partnership Coordinator can help. Contact Anne Donnovin at 423.605.2996.

Our Club's Facebook Presence

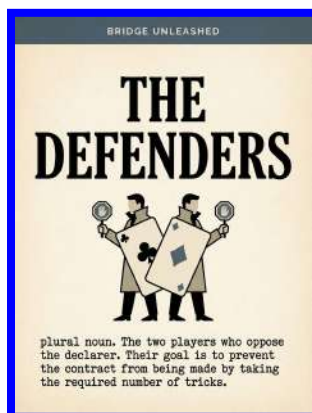
The private Facebook group is all about bridge -- ask a question, comment on a club or other bridge event, or find a partner, and more. It is for all CBC club members, including our two sister bridge clubs.

To join, just enter your Facebook app, find the group by name: ChattDuplicateBridge), and ask to join by clicking on the blue join button.

Administrators Bruce Antman or John Hubbard will approve you, usually within a day. Then join the conversations.

Here's a quote from Alan Sontag, a multiple World Champion: "It is not the handling of difficult hands that makes the winning player. There aren't enough of them. It is the ability to avoid messing up the easy ones."





BRIDGE UNLEASHED

CHECK OUT THIS GREAT WEBSITE [Bridge Unleashed](https://www.bridgeunleashed.com)

DAY 18: SUPPORT DOUBLES:
Showing Exactly 3-Card Support

MINI-BIDDING

Auction: 1♣ - (P) - 1♥ - (P) - 1♠ - Double

1 THE AUCTION

- You open a suit (e.g. 1 Club)
- Responder bids a new suit (1 Heart)
- RHO overcalls that suit (1 Spade)
- Opener DOUBLES = exactly 3 Hearts

2 WHAT IT MEANS

- Double = exactly 3-card support
- Simple raise = 4+ card support
- Preserves precision of support raises
- Do NOT double with 4+ cards in partner's suit

3 WHY IT MATTERS

- Responder knows EXACTLY how many cards opener has
- 3-card support = invite via 2NT; 4+ = game try
- Prevents overbidding or a missed game contract

Meanwhile, you're thinking:

- Do I have exactly 3 of partner's suit?
- Did RHO overcall partner's suit?
- Is my Support Double range correct?
- What does Responder need to know?

BridgeUnleashed.com

The Bridge Journey

From there to here and here to there, bridge is a journey—so fun to share! Learn a little, play a lot, mistakes are lessons—never forget! Keep smiling, keep practicing too—With BridgeUnleashed, there's so much you can do!

BRIDGE TIP:
Be patient with yourself. Every hand is a chance to learn and improve. Enjoy the journey—we're all in this together!

Facebook Twitter LinkedIn Instagram YouTube

Do you have a bridge question or tempted to hire a bridge tutor? Bridge Unleashed has a wide offering of resources to help all bridge players strengthen their game. Check it out.





BRIDGE: THE MAGIC OF DEFENSE

A bridge book recommendation by Barbara Seagram

In the world of bridge, defense is where the real excitement lies. It's a game within the game, where every card played by your partner is a clue, a hint at what they hold and what your next move should be. Watching your partner's signals is like solving a puzzle in real time—every subtle gesture, every discard, and every lead is a piece of the bigger picture. The thrill comes from anticipating the opponents' strategy, making the right decisions based on those signals, and, together with your partner, outmaneuvering the declarer. It's not just about following the rules; it's about intuition, teamwork, and the sheer joy of outsmarting the opponents. Defense in bridge is a dynamic dance of wits and strategy, and there's nothing quite as satisfying as getting it just right.

In USA order at

<https://storeus.barbaraseagram.com/collections/all-bridgebooks/products/new-2023-bridge-book-the-magic-of-defense>



Did You Miss This?

Hope you enjoy these fun pictures from our Sunday, May 24th Stardust lunch and game.



2026 CBC Board of Directors

President:	Richard Spangler
1st VP:	Bruce Antman
2nd VP:	Janie Hunt
Secretary:	Mary Robertson
	Marian Creighton
	John Prescott
	John Hubbard
	Sharon Lewis
	Joe Schatz



Supported by our Club Treasurer: Myra Tatum
Club Manager: Myra Reneau

Arnie's Angle - For Those Who Wish To Learn More About The World In General The Bonobo - My Story

Warm Greetings! My name is Kanzi and I am an adult female bonobo. Kanzi is the name of a female bonobo ape who became famous for learning to communicate with humans, and passed away in 2025. I am happy to take her name and also learn to communicate with humans for we have a lot in common. We have a DNA that is 98.8% identical to that of humans. And I want to share with you what I know about our biology, behavior and intelligence so that you have understanding, respect, and empathy for us bonobos, who share with you our beautiful planet.

Our Evolutionary History: Bonobo evolutionary history traces back to an African common ancestor shared with humans, chimpanzees, orangutans, and gorillas, diverging around 6-8 million years ago. The common ancestor was neither a bonobo nor a human, but something different that is now extinct, and bonobos, chimpanzees, orangutans, gorillas, and humans have been evolving as separate branches for millions of years going their own way, down paths shaped by time, climate, chance, and adaptation. We bonobos are one of the most fascinating species of primates, for unlike chimpanzees, orangutans, and gorillas, whose groups are male-dominated and aggressive, bonobo communities are led by females and emphasize cooperation, empathy, and conflict resolution through social bonding and sexual behavior. These traits have earned us the nickname "the peaceful ape."

We bonobos live in a Society Led by Alpha Females: In most primate societies, including human, chimpanzee, gorilla, and orangutan, males tend to run the show. The bonobo society flips the script entirely. Bonobo females are the dominant force in our society, shaping a matriarchal world where our leadership and social alliances guide the group. In bonobo society, alpha females maintain their leadership through close-knit alliances with other females. If a male bonobo gets too aggressive, we female bonobos band together to stop aggressive behavior. It's a masterclass in "stronger together." Other females rally around the dominant female to maintain peace and order. The bonobo matriarchal structure ensures a more balanced distribution of power and discourages violent competition.

Our Habitat: We bonobos live only in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, south of the Congo River. Our range is restricted to 93,000 square miles within the Congo Basin, which provides the dense, swampy rainforests where we bonobos thrive. This limited range kept us isolated and "undiscovered" by Western science until 1929.

Our Food: Our diet is primarily fruit, but also includes leaves, seeds, flowers, and occasionally insects or small animals. At research sites, wild bonobos have even been spotted washing their food before eating, a behavior that sets us apart from our great ape cousins - the chimpanzees, gorillas, and orangutans. When fruit is scarce, we forage for whatever the forest provides.



Threats and Conservation: Researchers suggest there are between 10,000 and 50,000 bonobos remaining in the wild. This makes us endangered, a status that reflects a high risk of extinction in the near future. We face 3 big threats: 1) habitat destruction, driven by subsistence agriculture and logging. As human encroachment increases, our habitat shrinks; 2) Commercial logging operations create new roads that facilitate hunting and capture of us bonobos; and 3) Bushmeat hunting: despite being a “taboo” meat in some human communities, the bushmeat trade and bonobo meat consumption have increased due to food insecurity; and 3) Disease Transmission: Because we bonobos share 98.8% of our DNA with human beings, we are susceptible to human respiratory viruses and other pathogens. As the human population expands, pressures on bonobo habitats intensify, making conservation efforts even more challenging. By supporting bonobo conservation initiatives and spreading awareness about our endangered condition, we can ensure that the Congo River continues to echo with the calls of our peaceful sisters and brothers. The bonobo is a mirror for the best parts of humanity: empathy, cooperation, and the power of community.

We Are Highly Empathetic: In captive settings, such as the famous “Lola ya Bonobo” sanctuary, studied bonobos have shown remarkable levels of empathy. We have been observed helping strangers obtain food, even when there is no direct benefit to ourselves. This “prosocial” behavior is a trait we often think is unique to humans, but bonobos prove that kindness is an ancient evolutionary strategy.

Reproduction and Family Life: How often do bonobos have babies? Not very often. A female bonobo reaches sexual maturity when she is about 12 years old. Once she does, she only gives birth every five to six years, typically after a gestation period of around eight months. This slow birth rate means that if a population is hit by bushmeat hunting or a disease outbreak, it takes decades for the numbers to recover. Adult females spend years nurturing our young, and female bonobos form strong bonds with their offspring. Young bonobos stay close to their mothers for several years, learn social skills through play, and develop within a nurturing, female-led society. While fathers generally don’t participate in child-rearing, they do remain within the group and provide food and protection for all members.

Our Environmental Importance: We bonobos are the “Gardeners” of the Congo Basin. At sunrise, I climb through the forest canopy with my family, searching for ripe fruit while listening to the songs of birds echo across the Congo Basin. Because we consume massive amounts of fruit, we play a vital role in seed dispersal. Many plants in the Congo Basin rely on bonobos to pass their seeds through their digestive tracts to germinate. Without us, the structure of the rainforest would change dramatically. Bonobo conservation isn’t just about saving one species, it’s about preserving an entire ecosystem.

Fascinating facts you May not Know About Us Bonobos:

1) **We bonobos are friendly to humans:** In wild bonobo populations, we are generally shy and avoid human encroachment. In captive settings, we are known for being highly interactive and emotionally intelligent, though we are still powerful great apes that require respect. The reality is that humans are currently the biggest threat to our survival. With habitat destruction and the pet trade still looming, the future of the “hippie ape” is under threat.

2) **How long do we live?** In the wild, we typically live into our 30s or 40s. In captivity, with medical care and a steady diet, we can live into our 50s or even early 60s.

3) **Our Size and Weight:** Standing upright, male bonobos are 3 feet, 9 inches and females are 3 feet, 5 inches. Adult males weigh from 79-99 lbs, and the adult female average weight is 82 lbs.



4) **The Origin of the Bonobo Name?** The scientific name for bonobos is *Pan paniscus*. We are part of the Hominidae family, which also includes chimpanzees, orangutans, gorillas, and humans. The origins of the name 'bonobo' are unknown, but there is one theory that it could be a misspelling of the Congolese town of Bolobo. This name was written on a crate carrying a bonobo to Germany in the 20th century, and scientists advocated for the name, assuming that it was how local communities referred to us.

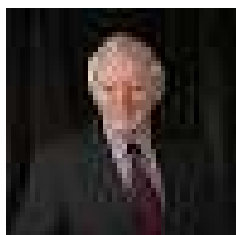
5) **One of the most unusual things about us bonobos is how we reduce conflict:** You've probably heard that we bonobos are "hyper-sexual." It's true that sexual behavior is the glue of our society, building bonds, and diffusing tensions. Unlike other great apes, who use violence to resolve a dispute over food or territory, we bonobos use sexual contact between males and females and between members of the same sex to promote bonding, to ease tensions, and to resolve conflicts. For a bonobo, sexual contact is like grooming among gorillas or hugging among humans. It builds community, and prevents the lethal warfare seen among other primates.

My personal appeal to humans: If you would choose compassion over destruction, the forests of the Congo basin will continue to echo with the voices of bonobos for generations to come.

Thank you for reading my story. I trust it has given you an understanding of our evolutionary history and how we developed several unique traits including our peaceful and matriarchal social structure. Please share my story with your friends.

Your friend, Kanzi, the female bonobo. Your friend, Kanzi, the female bonobo.

Email; ajmeagher@aol.com



[ajmeagher](mailto:ajmeagher@aol.com)

