

# **CHATTANOOGA BRIDGE CENTER**

**August 2026**

## **News and Tidbits**

*A Publication of ACBL Unit 206*



Editor: Mary Robertson

## **A Message From Richard Spangler, Our President**

Our Fall Sectional Tournament is just around the corner: October 22-24 (Thursday thru Saturday ). We will soon start the process to fill the various volunteer positions needed to make the tournament a success. Key positions will be Greeters and supporting Mary Duffy in her Food Coordinator responsibilities. Plus, start thinking of your partners for the Pairs and Team game. Now is the time to have them in place.

We are at the halfway point of the year and I wanted to give you a quick heads up of our financial position. Net-we are doing well, with overall funds only down slightly versus year ago but ahead of where we felt we needed to be at this point in time. Key issue: table count is slightly down vs last year. The past few months have been our strongest to date, but even those are slightly down. A key here, besides motivating current players, is getting new players to join the club. Mark your calendars again: on Sept 12, we will start another session of Learn Bridge in a Day. Get the word out. Registration will start shortly.

### **Assisting our Treasurer**

An important role for the Club is being filled by Myra Tatum as our Treasurer. Her added diligence and attention to detail has helped the Club achieve its current strong financial position. To assist in this effort, though, we can help make the job more efficient - PLEASE submit your

receipts for expenses incurred by you for the club to Myra only ONCE per month and by the 25th. Myra is great at turning around the reimbursement to each one of us, but it is more challenging if this has to occur one receipt/one reimbursement at a time. We realize exceptions exist and understand why this would happen, but more often than not, please try to submit multiple receipts concurrently. Much appreciated by Myra and yours truly...Richard Spangler, Club President

## A Message From Myra Reneau

Our Club Manager

Myra's Box



As we all know, Bridge is a game of rules. One of the main ones that a player should learn early is that bridge is a timed event. Sometimes things happen that slow us down, but many things are in our control. As a director, when I hear people discussing a hand or for that matter, discussing anything, I typically know they are going to be 2-3 minutes behind. And for one round, it is no big deal. But as this becomes a pattern or a habit, it can really slow the game down for everybody. Believe me, the directors do not like having to call the rounds or ask players to carefully pay attention to the clock, but, sadly, it is a necessary requirement. Please do not take it personally if you have been asked to speed up. Challenge yourself to try to be finished before the round is called or the timer extinguishes every round. And of course, do all the things: lead before you operate the bridgemate, etc. I recommend circling a particular board on your score sheet that you would like to discuss later. There are many players willing to answer questions at the appropriate time. Myra



## HATS OFF TO MIKE HAYS

Hats off to Mike Hays for his contribution to the Club. Mike early on this year took on helping the team to prepare the hands each week. He has mastered this already, even as we demanded more of the job; for

example, increasing the number of hands prepared each week to ensure enough to take on added tables that have occurred typically on Tuesday and Friday. Plus, we are starting to see enough people show up for the Friday <199 game requiring added boards for that game as well. Finally, whenever we ask Mike to help in various means, like for the tournaments, snacks, or taking on the Ambassador role, he has quickly jumped in. The Club is very fortunate having him join the group.

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## 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](#)



As we plan and prepare to host the October Sectional, figure out how you can help to make this a success. Thanks to Mary Duffy for jumping in right away and volunteering to serve as our Food Coordinator. What duties can

you perform?

### Special Game Saturday, August 15

Lunch-12:30

Game-1 PM

Sign up to bring a side dish. Don't cook? No problem-cash donations are appreciated as well

### Bridge Tips Saturdays, 10 AM

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.

### Chat With Joe Tuesday, August 11 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.

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## Coffee With Joe Written by Joe Viola Playing a 9 Card Trump Suit

When you are declaring in a suit contract, one of the first items that you should check is how many trumps you have.

Recently, I was playing a ♥ contract with 9 trumps.

Dummy: A98

Declarer: KQ7652

I did not need dummy's trumps for any other reason except pulling trumps. Other reasons, for example, would be entries to dummy or ruffing losers in the short trump hand.

Since I had 9 trumps including the AKQ. I could pick up all the opponents' trumps if the suit broke 2-2 or 3-1, but if the suit broke 4-0, I had to be careful.

If LHO had all 4 trumps, I could not pick up the trump suit for no losers. After I played one of my high trumps and discovered the bad news, LHO would still hold JT4 for a sure trick. But if RHO had all four trumps, I can still pick up the suit with no losers. I need to start with the ♥A. When LHO shows out. I will lead the ♥9 for the marked finesse. When RHO covers with the T, I win the Q. Then I return to dummy in order to lead the ♥8. If RHO covers, I win with the K and draw the last trump with the 7. If RHO ducks, I let the ♥8 win. Then I enter my hand and draw the ♥J with the K.

I came across another 9-card trump fit with ♣ as trump.

Dummy: K762

Declarer: AQT93

Again, you do not need trump for any other purpose than drawing the opponents' trumps. Since you have 9 trumps including the AKQ, you can handle all the 2-2 and 3-1 breaks. But now you have the T9 of trumps. On the hand above, you were missing the JT of trumps.

In this case, if you play a high honor from the hand with two trump honors, you can pick up Jxxx in either opponent's hand. When the opponent who is void in trumps shows out, you can draw the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of trumps with the honor in front of the opponent who has all the trumps. Then you can take a marked finesse against this opponent.

In this article, I used the term "marked finesse". When an opponent fails to follow a suit, you know exactly how that suit is distributed. You see your hand and dummy, so once an opponent has failed to follow to a suit, you know that whatever cards in that suit that you cannot see are in the other hand. This may allow you to take a finesse with complete confidence that it will succeed. Such a finesse is said to be marked.



## WE RAISED \$22,412

Dear Unit 206 Bridge members: I am so excited to announce that you all were our #3 fundraising event in all of Tennessee for the 2026 The Longest Day/Do What You Love to End ALZ season, and the #1 Bridge event in Tennessee! A huge congratulations to you all for this record-breaking year, and thank you all so much for the time, care and energy you put into this initiative. The generosity of your club is truly incredible. It is an honor to work with you all in this mission and such a joy to see the event and its support grow each year.

Another congrats for both being on the top fundraisers list and ACBL taking the #1 spot for National Teams in the state! You all continue to raise the bar in amazing ways, and your leadership in the state is something to be so proud of!

I will be making a Chattanooga trip on Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> and would love to celebrate and thank you all in person.

See you in September, Abigail Cox

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## WHAT IS YOUR PET PEEVE?

The CBC Board is interested in learning what your pet peeve is while playing bridge. How about this one?



**DOUBLE DIPPING:** When someone goes through a buffet line and uses the same cracker or chip and dips multiple times into the dip or sauce.

It's ok to use 2 chips or crackers while enjoying a delicious dip or sauce. Really.

Share your favorite Pet Peeve with a Board member. We will post these in upcoming newsletters. Awareness is 50% of the solution.

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## 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](mailto: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, or if you need to cancel, please reach out to Susie Crouch at 423.443.6889. Don't miss out on their fun holiday gatherings. Check out this picture from their July 4th celebration.



## Partnership Coordinator

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

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## Our Club's Facebook Presence



## Sharing Some Great Memories

Myra calls these NOW AND THEN photos:



## 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

**IN MEMORY**  
**David Zachariah Walley, Jr.**

**Superbly Gifted Pianist And Played Competitive Tennis And Bridge**



David Zachariah Walley, Jr. went to be with the Lord on Sunday, July 26, 2026.

He is survived by his two sons, Zach Walley (Auburn), and Ned Walley (Kurt), and four grandchildren, Lizzy, Zachary, and Allie Walley, and Lilly Andrews-Edwards.

David was born on May 24, 1938, in Chattanooga. His parents, David Zachariah Walley, Sr., and Betty Haymore Walley, predeceased him.

He graduated from the Baylor School in Chattanooga, and next graduated from the University of Miami in Miami.

David was a superbly gifted pianist, entertaining audiences from when he was a high schooler at Baylor, to Carnegie Hall in his 60s, all the way up to his final few years at his Morning Pointe home in Flintstone.

David's other major passions in life consisted of leading the junior church Sunday school class at Chattanooga's First Presbyterian Church for many years, playing competitive tennis most of his life, and as well as competitive bridge from high school up until a few weeks ago.

The Walley family would like to extend their deepest gratitude to all the staff at Morning Pointe for the wonderful and loving care they provided.