



### ***Meet Athena Leung***

An energetic dynamo; that's Athena Leung! Born and raised in Hong Kong, Athena earned a bachelor's degree in physics from the University of Hong Kong. This accomplishment was followed by a master's in computer science from UT Arlington with an offer to remain in the United States and accept a job with Ericsson. It was never her goal to immigrate to America, but she ended up adopting the U.S. as her home and spending her entire career as a software engineer in the telecom industry.

It was during her undergraduate years that her friends taught her how to play bridge. While she loved the game from the start, it cost her some embarrassment. She was so addicted to bridge that she was soon staying up all night to play and cutting her classes. The end result was that she actually failed a class and had to carry it over to her final semester of college in order to satisfy her degree plan! *[Note from the author: This is why I resisted learning bridge in college!]*

After coming to the United States, Athena wisely decided to put bridge aside and concentrate on her family and career. She only took the game up again a few years ago after retirement. She confesses that after not playing for 30 years, "I had to read the Wikipedia bridge page to refresh my memory of the game"! She then studied "Bridge ABCs" online and played with robots before regaining enough confidence to go out and find live games with real people.

The refreshers worked well. Soon she was playing several times a week and found her way to the McKinney Duplicate Bridge Club. She and her Swiss team won first place on two different days at last year's Dallas Labor Day Regional. She has quickly become a sectional master in less than two years.

Athena is married and has two sons. When not playing bridge, she loves to travel and explore new places.

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