



Ponder if you will how fast 2010 has gone and what a full schedule Harmony has had all year. Well Bridge Players it is not going to let up so don't get comfortable yet.

November: **Remember Sunday November 7, 2010**

An "Appreciation Day" for William Johnson.

Harmony has been gifted with a Vice President who is not only dedicated to the ABA and the LABU, he is successful as a human being and one of the best things that ever happened to our Harmony Bridge Club. Bill Johnson, yes, our own Bill Johnson is being honored for the fabulous club member he is. Bill Johnson is proven to be a credit to Harmony as a devoted member and also one who has the LABU and the ABA at heart in genuine concern. This is not pop-eyed optimism.

I wanted to ask someone outside of our Harmony Bridge Club what bridge players thought of Bill Johnson. One of the first bridge players I talked with was Doris Ayers. After talking with Doris I did not need to go any further.

Doris had this to say about Bill Johnson:

"Bill is the "Man of War" in Bridge. He goes to battle with all the ammunition needed for victory. He likes to Win. He will play with beginners, intermediate players, advance players and experts. He is a Swell Guy...as Good as Gold...as dependable as the "Air" that we breathe. He will give up his shirt, but he will not give up his bridge hand. We love him very much and I salute him on his day. Bill Johnson deserves the Accolades'."



Now from November let your mind drift back a little too...

The Month of October: Number one activity... The UNCF Game on Sunday October 31, 2010. What a day. All I can say is, great turn out, great food, and a marvelous game of bridge. What more could you ask except that we raised a tidy sum of money for the UNCF with Great support by Harmony. Our own Agnes Snowden stole the show by being so well connected. A Twenty Five Thousand Dollar donation was given to the UNCF in the name of Agnes Snowden. It was impressive. Agnes you deserve another round of applause. I should mention also that one of Shirley Lee's new players, Betty Neal won the fifty / fifty raffle. We should all start standing closer to Shirley when folks are giving away money.

September : Bridge Education Day... thanks to our Education committee it was all we could wish for and next year it just gets better. Shirley Lee did the honors of the food prep, the food was out of site...us Harmony folks know good food.

August: Harmony's Grade B Weekend was first rate and well run. The food was delicious. You can always count on Harmony for a well run affair.

July: The Summer National in Norfolk (Harmony players are always out in force at the Nationals) our members did fantastic and represented the Western Section well. The Summer Nationals 2010 ...Oh Yeah! If you did not go... We were approximately 30 minutes from Buckaroo Beach, the birthplace of the American Bridge Association. It was built up as a great time to be had at the bridge table... And it was. Bill Johnson is from Norfolk and he knew everything about everything when we needed any information about anything.

Patricia Banks, Shirley Lee, Emma L Johnson, Ruby Luke, William Johnson, Linda Wilson, James Green, Gloria Lee Ray, Celestine Tillman, Charlotte Livers, Agnes Snowden, and Gloria Webb, we were all there and made our presence known. You could find a Harmony member at the Outback restaurant every night....seriously...We needed the "Outback" and "Joe's Crab Shack" to keep our strength up. Yes I know there are "Outbacks" and "Joe's Crab Shack" in California but the food had the southern flare of **Norfolk** added in. Hey, they had black cooks, come on now. I found a grocery store that had a restaurant inside and the cook invited me back for breakfast every morning. He touted his fresh biscuits and sausage gravy, then told me to be there at 7:30am sooooo ...every other day my breakfast was grits, hot sausage, cheese eggs, home style hash browns, biscuits (no gravy, I did not want to overdo it, the biscuits I had dripping with butter (hey not my fault)) plus I got milk and orange juice. A generous helping (by now I knew the cook) for 4.99. But, in my defense, you know when you eat well, you play well.

There was a shuttle (a large golf cart for quick runs) that would take you around a 2 mile area for free. But you could walk; most places were within one or two blocks. Or stay friendly with Pat Banks and hitch a ride on her scooter. She made the Crab Shack her second home.

We all had a **GRE-A-A-AT** Summer National. Next year the Summer National is in our own back yard and I can hardly wait.

June : The Grade A weekend in Los Angeles - nice turn out by Harmony as always. This is always an outstanding event.

May: Western Sectional ... OK it was hot, and the heat was oppressive in that Sahara of the west they call Phoenix. However we didn't know this. We were inside a hotel that treated us extraordinarily well. (The Radisson at 59.00 per night) We were

close to whatever kind of food we needed to keep satisfied and we were hungry for more Bridge than you could ever get at home over the weekend. If you are a "diners drive-ins and dives" fan from the Food Network you knew the #3 Chinese Food Restaurant in the United States was a stone's throw away from the hotel in Phoenix and the hotel would take you and pick you up. Many of us went twice over the weekend and wanted to go three times. It was that good. It deserved the billing of best Chinese food in the west. And remember when you eat well, you play well.

Hopefully we are all looking forward to the Summer Nationals 2011 in Scottsdale. Finally a national in our back yard. What more could you ask.



Travel bugging: Looks like everyone is coming down with the travel bug.

Not only do many of our players travel to the National Games of the ABA but I think some Harmony members for example Carlos Jones, Barbara Jones, Ubirdia Holmes, Emma Johnson, and soon Carnell Wingfield and Janet Wingfield have found out a very special secret. You can play your favorite card game on a wonderful cruise. Leave the sailing to the Captain, the cooking to the chef, and the cleaning to the cabin boy. Spend your time traveling, playing bridge, dinning and being pamper. Carlos Jones, Barbara Jones and Ubirdia Holmes, (The Three Amigos) were off again in October...to the Cruise life in the Caribbean.

Emma Johnson and her spouse felt the call of Hawaii. Hawaii with its shopping, food, beautiful beaches, breathtaking views and that ever glorious time with on board the ship bridge games.

arnell Wingfield and Janet Wingfield are looking forward to their cruise of the Caribbean in December.

Stephanie Young, yeah she **went** on a cruise, but it was during the Summer Nationals...so she gets no props for that. (We will not hold her indiscretion against her this time.)

Bill Johnson still in hot pursuit of the ever elusive points has continued his traveling ways....including the very popular Midwest Sectional in Shumberg Illinois. I also found out the folks in the Midwest call him Highway Bill.



Bridge Education:

The Education committee is doing an excellent job under the leadership of Pat Banks. There are a lot of good people on that committee doing a lot of good things that they never get recognized for. A lot of loving works goes on behind the scenes. They surely deserve "props" for their dedication and caring. They are on a mission to help us upgrade our skills.

There was a Saturday workshop of bridge teachers that went very well and hopefully only the first of great ideas to come.

Shirley Lee's classes are going great and very much worth going to... matter who you are. In addition the Mentor-ship games on Thursday nights under the leadership of Shirley Lee are thriving. I personally love the Third Thursday of each month. It is a terrific opportunity to play with our Harmony members who know the game.

Misc:

Sherry Polk, glad you are doing better and getting out with us again.

Andreda Pruitt is the "Ways and Means Chairperson" and responsible for the "Appreciation Day" for Bill Johnson. This was a fabulous idea. Andreda is very humble but she is a great "go to person" for anything. She has endless energy, shows excellent leadership and is always on top of any project she takes on.

The Las Vegas Sectional is around the corner

If you still want or need a roommate say something now. If you are looking for a ride this is the time to get it together. And most of all if you have not decided yet

if you want to go...that means you need to go. This Sectional can be done on a shoe string, literally. Don't forget there is a partnership hot line...use it now. No one should ever say they did not get to a game, a sectional, or any bridge event because they did not have a partner.

Finally:

From Harmony's President Patricia Barnes



Remember drink 8 glasses of water a day and a little more after the wine (Smile.)

and for sure Kudos to Bill Johnson from all of Harmony.