

American Bridge Association

The Western Que

Volume 23, Issue 3

March 2009



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Vice President's Message



Dr. Charles W. Townsel, Ph. D.

Since becoming your Vice President, we have held two successful tournaments. All participants were very pleased with the warm hospitality, good food, outstanding room décor, and the beautiful city of Phoenix. A return to Phoenix is imminent based on request to do so. The Fall Sectional in Las Vegas is always outstanding especially if the gaming tables were kind to you!

We will be traveling to Sacramento, the beautiful capital of the Golden State of California. The renovated Red Lion Inn will be hosting our Spring Sectional beginning June 4-8. Let's make this the most successful Spring Tournament in the history of the Section. Y'ALL COME NOW—and bring two tables with you.

Las Vegas will again be the site of our Fall Sectional. The Riviera Hotel and Casino will accommodate us. The PLAYING AREA will be the TOP OF THE RIVIERA. This playing area was chosen for its convenience to players. Make your reservation for the MONACO TOWER. You then need only to catch the elevator and ride to the top.

Two (2) quality issues of the Western Q, three (3) including this issue. Thanks to the skills of Mrs. Gloria Parker. Her job of producing the "Q" becomes stressful when our presidents don't respond to deadlines. Let's do better!!!

Mesdames Gertrude Wright and Ida Simms have submitted to me the work they did on our upcoming Membership Roster. This work is being reviewed by me as well as my trying to find a printer who will not cost an arm and a leg to put it together for us. We hope to have the Directory ready by June.

Members are slow regarding the call for financial support of the Section. The Section is in need of your support. Presidents, please send in your contribution and implore upon your membership to do the same. Officers of the Section have not responded. Committee chairpersons have not responded. Please see my letter to donators regarding the use of funds coming into this account.

Continued on Page 2...

Vice President's Message...
Continued from Page 1

I represented the Section at both the Spring National (Cleveland, Ohio) and the Summer National (Milwaukee, Wisconsin). This representation does not come cheap. The National Organization provides the following allowances for each SVP.

\$800 PAYABLE IN QUARTERLY INSTALLMENTS OF \$200
\$200 TRAVEL ALLOWANCE FROM EACH NATIONAL TOURNAMENT
\$200 ROOM ALLOWANCE FOR THE SPRING TOURNAMENT AND
\$300 ROOM ALLOWANCE FOR THE SUMMER NATIONAL TOURNAMENT
PER DIEM AT THE STAFF RATE FOR OFFICIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS'
MEETINGS

...the only reimbursement for travel and room by the National Organization is for National Tournaments. Some Sections reimburse for card plays, telephone, hotel room, etc. and defray the additional expenses of SVP attendance at National Tournaments." (Official Handbook of the ABA) The above is for information purposes only!

I traveled to the Southern Section's tournament in Orlando this past January. Many of the Southern Section members support our Fall Sectional and I felt it appropriate to reciprocate.

ROD BIAS, a member of Valley of the Sun Duplicate Bridge Club has begun working with students in two Middle School in the Phoenix area. Congratulations to Rod and his Crew!

WE'LL SEE YOU IN SACRAMENTO AT THE BEAUTIFUL RED LION INN

ALERT ! ALERT! ALERT!
NEW PLAYERS

The Western Section of the American Bridge Association is proud to announce that anyone **NEW** to Duplicate Bridge with Master Points of 0-25 will be able to play at the

SPRING TOURNAMENT in Sacramento FREE OF CHARGE
on Thursday, June 4th, 2009.

SEE YOU THERE!!!

RUTH YOUNG, NEW PLAYER CHAIRPERSON

THANK YOU

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the clubs and individual members for responding positively to my call regarding the financial needs of the Western Section/ABA. **MANY, MANY THANKS!!!**

Your contributions will be used as follows:

- A. Financial preparation for our annual tournaments
- B. Assistance in the publication of the Western Que
- C. Postage
- D. Travel (review of tournament locations, etc.)
- E. Printing (tournament schedules, notices, letterhead, etc.)
- F. Reimbursements to members who spend personally
- G. Souvenir journal expenses
- H. Expenses for VP travel
- I. Recruitment and reclamation of members
- J. Rental and/or purchase of equipment and supplies
- K. Payment of expenses of Directors

Our tournament generates funds via playing fees, etc. Often times these fees and income do not cover all of the expenses of the tournaments, hence my call for additional assistance from the membership.

THANKS again!!!

Donations are listed as follows:

| | |
|--|----------|
| • Ace –Hi Duplicate Bridge Club..... | \$100.00 |
| • Ella Hill Hutch Duplicate Bridge Club..... | 100.00 |
| • Sacramento Diamonds Duplicate Bridge Club..... | 100.00 |
| • Margaret Devers..... | 300.00 |
| • Donna Fraxer..... | 200.00 |
| • Robert Olsen..... | 100.00 |
| • Emma Mackel Collier..... | 50.00 |
| • Harriette Johnson..... | 50.00 |
| • Gloria Parker..... | 50.00 |
| • Minnie Poindexter..... | 50.00 |
| • Bernice Clemmons..... | 40.00 |
| • Eugene Neblett..... | 20.00 |
| • Rosemary Lee..... | 10.00 |

Sincerely,
Charles Townsel

**Western Section
Fall Tournament Summary
Las Vegas 2008**

| EXPENSES | |
|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Rooms | \$2,147.33 |
| Director's Fees | 1,855.00 |
| Computer Usage | 190.00 |
| Perdiem | 425.00 |
| Transportation | 1,094.50 |
| Sanction Fees | 2,602.00 |
| Bridge Supplies | 1,260.00 |
| Caddies | 182.00 |
| Miscellaneous | 354.47 |
| Hotel Audio | 307.01 |
| Advertisement | 80.00 |
| Scrip Purchase | 1,275.00 |
| Scrip Awards | 1,324.00 |
| TOTAL | <u>\$13,096.31</u> |
| INCOME | |
| Playing fees: | |
| Cash | \$10,774.00 |
| Scrip | 950.00 |
| 50/50 Raffle | 258.50 |
| Directors' Seminar | 190.00 |
| Hotel Rebate | 368.00 |
| Vendors | 337.00 |
| Scrip | 1,250.00 |
| TOTAL | <u>\$14,127.50</u> |
| INCOME: | \$14,127.50 |
| EXPENSES: | <u>-13,096.31</u> |
| NET PROFIT: | 1,031.19 |

ABA Western Section Financial Summary
For the period of: November 19, 2008 to February 8, 2009

| Income Category | Total |
|--|--------------------|
| Fall Tournament less scrip | \$11,927.50 |
| Memberships | 1,360.00 |
| Donations | 330.00 |
| Scrip purchase | 178.00 |
| Reimbursement-per diem | 150.00 |
| Total Income | \$13,945.50 |
| | |
| | |
| Expense Category | Total |
| Fall Tournament less scrip | \$11,104.31 |
| VP expenses | 1,260.07 |
| Secretary's expenses | 133.57 |
| Souvenir Journal-Houston | 200.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$12,697.55 |
| | |
| Net Profit | \$1,247.55 |
| | |
| | |
| Checking Account Balance as of 1/21/09 | \$4,292.10 |
| Outstanding checks | |
| ACBL | -1260.00 |
| ABA Spring National | -200.00 |
| Outstanding Deposits | |
| Memberships | 810.00 |
| | \$3,642.10 |
| | |
| Scrip Account Balance | \$16.00 |

2009 ELECTIONS

To Western Section Members:

As Chairman of the Elections Committee, this information is just to remind you of the basic rules of the upcoming election for years 2010 and 2011. Offices open for election are:

Western Section Vice President
Western Section Secretary
Western Section Treasurer

All candidates for office shall at the time of nomination have been members in good standing of the ABA for at least three (3) calendar years immediately preceding the year of nomination.

All elected officers shall be active members of the ABA, willing to assume the duties of the office to which he/she is elected.

The names of all candidates for office shall be presented to the Elections Committee during the period of April 1st through July 15th of the election year.

An application for an absent voter's ballot shall be made in writing to the Elections Committee at least thirty (30) calendar days prior to the election. An application for an absent voter's ballot can be submitted by any financial member of the Western Section. The request forms to be used will be provided in the Western Que Newsletter.

Absentee ballots shall be returned, as designated by the Elections Committee, at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the election.

Please circulate this information within your organization and submit the names of nominees to:

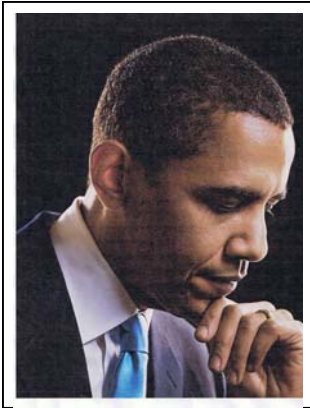
Virginia Fanning
6707 South Land Park Drive
Sacramento, CA 95831

Thank you, hope to see all of you at our next Sectional in Sacramento.

INTERESTED IN A NEW CAREER?

TRY THE HOTEL INDUSTRY! **APRINDA**, A HOTEL TRAINING PROGRAM WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH THE SKILLS AND EXPERTISE THAT WILL CATAPULT YOU INTO THIS NEW AND AMAZING CAREER. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT ME, CHARLES W. TOWNSEL AT charleswtownsel@q.com.

SHARING THE EXPERIENCE



President Barack Obama,

Several Western Section members attended the historic occasion of the inauguration of our first Afro-American President, Barack Obama. Two Ace Hi members share their experience with us.

Montia Chiles and her husband Charles Chiles traveled to the Nation's Capitol for President Obama's Inaugural Speech. To see, feel, hear and experience the acceptance of his confirmation as our next President of the United States of America was an experience they thought they would never witness in a lifetime. "Yes We Can" was in full bloom on the cold winter day of January 20th when over two million people descended upon our Nation's Capitol to witness the event. We witnessed not one arrest or disturbance even though some were turned away; people were definitely in harmony with such a historic event. It was such a thrill to hear the new President say, "I, Barack Obama, accept the

Presidency of the United States of America" January 20, 2009 and with affirmation when he had to say it twice. That is a day my husband and I will never forget.

One thing I suggest to everyone is to read Obama's New York Times Bestseller "Change We Can Believe In." I think for some of us it will bring a new height of awareness; it did for me.

Montia Chiles, Member
Ace Hi DBC

MY REFLECTIONS OF THE INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA JANUARY 20, 2009

I arrived in Washington D.C. on January 15, 2009, five (5) days before the Historic Inauguration of the 44th president of the United States and the first African American President, Barack Hussein Obama.

After receiving my inauguration Silver Ticket from the congressional office, which admitted me to the Capitol Mall Standing, I toured Washington D.C. On January 19, 2009, Martin Luther King Jr's birthday, I attended the Oprah Winfrey Show, and the Kennedy Center featuring Aretha Franklin. For the remaining time, I basked in the excitement of the moment with the rush of other inauguration attendees.

On January 20, 2009, Inauguration Day, I was fired up and ready to attend the biggest presidential event in my entire sixty-three (63) years. It was dark and the temperature was 18 degrees when I left my hotel with my daughter at 5:45 am, for what I thought would be a ten (10) minute walk from my hotel to the Capitol Mall. What I was unaware of was that Silver Ticket holders were being redirected. Unfortunately by doing this, we ran into crowds and gridlocks with far too few police to direct the crowds. But thanks be to God, and after walking for over an hour going through security and getting separated from my daughter, I finally arrived safely at the designated area.

By 12:04 p.m., when President Obama raised his hand to take the oath under a pale winter sky, I recognized that I was one person among the official estimated 1.8 million jubilant people to experience the swearing-in of President Barack Obama. People began weeping, dancing and singing when it was announced by Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr., that Barack Obama was the 44th President of the United States.

As I returned to my hotel, after having been on my feet for at least eight (8) hours, I thanked God for allowing me the opportunity to witness this moment of a lifetime.

Prepared by: Sandra Threadgill
Ace High, Bay Area Bridge Unit Member

**THE SACRAMENTO DIAMONDS MOURNS THE DEATH
of Rose Mary Maring**

Fairwells

Rose Mary Maring, a long-time ACBL bridge player and a Sacramento Diamond Bridge Club member for the past several years passed away

March 4th after a short but serious illness.

Rose Mary was born in Charleston, IL, July 2, 1926. She led a very interesting and accomplished life. In 1948, she became a nurse and was voted the most typical Florence Nightingale of her graduation class. In 1961, Rose Mary started a women's boutique called "The House of Rose Mary" in Toronto, Canada. In 1968 she sold her business and went back to school to pursue a career as a Cyto Technologist. This proved to be a good career choice for Rose Mary because she worked in the field for 30 years, eventually running a laboratory in San Diego, CA.

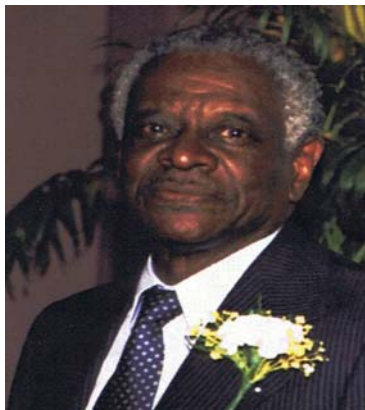


Rose Mary started playing bridge in 1950 and became a Life Master; she ran her own ACBL bridge club in Sacramento, CA for seventeen years. She was an instructor, director and the author of a bridge book, "Let's Play Bridge". In a tribute to her, shortly before her death, Rose Mary's daughter, Paula Vistalli and son, Noel Maring put her bridge book on the internet. It can be found at www.letsplaybridgebook.com.

The Sacramento Diamonds will not only miss Rose Mary at the bridge gatherings, but also the delicious cakes and salads she often contributed to the club.



**ACE HI Duplicate Bridge Club Mourns the Death of
CARL C. MACK, SR.
January 16, 1916 - January 20, 2009**



Carl Clithenese Mack, Sr. was born in Houston, Texas in 1916. He graduated from Texas Southern University in 1937 receiving a BA Degree and graduated from San Francisco State University in 1968 receiving an MA degree. He was married to Valerie Delores Mack for seventy wonderful years. They have two sons, Dr. Carl C. Mack, Jr., and Dr. Philip Mack. He moved his family to San Francisco in 1948 and then to Berkeley in 1950. He worked as an Executive for the Boy Scouts of America; Manager for the City of Oakland Housing Authority; Counselor for Merritt College; Chief Administrator for Grove Street College; and retired as a Counselor for Laney College until his 89th birthday. Carl was respected as a role model for many generations of young black men and women.

For more than twenty years Carl was a member of Ace Hi Duplicate Bridge Club and The Bay Area Bridge Unit. For four years he presided the affairs of the club with pride, dignity, fairness, respect and genuine concern for all bridge players. He was Treasurer of the Bay Area Bridge Unit for over twenty years—keeping accurate and up-to-date records and distributing excellent reports to the Membership. Carl received many awards for his service including the Silver Beaver Award, Boy Scouts of America, the Community Service Award, United States Congress, and upon retirement he was noted in the Congressional Record, June 11, 1985. The Carl C. Mack Learning Center at the West Campus of Berkeley High School was dedicated in his honor by the Berkeley Unified School District. He was a proud member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

Carl's older son informed us that his dad was fully aware that our First African American President, Barack Hussein Obama, had been inaugurated as our 44th President of the United States of America. This was evident by Carl's radiant smile and glowing facial expression once he heard the news. Later that evening, he departed this life. Carl was always delighted playing bridge with his favorite bridge partner Robert (Bob) Lee.

The Bridge World has lost a pioneer and a soldier. "It's nice to be nice" will always be remembered as a part of Carl's legacy to his fellow bridge friends and bridge family.

Emma Mackel Collier, Reporter



Gloria Parker

EDITOR'S NOTE

Congratulations to the Los Angeles Bridge Unit for the recruitment and training of thirty-four (34) new bridge players. This is a remarkable feat and all of the members (of various clubs) who had a part in pulling this off are to be commended. We look forward to seeing all, or most of your new players at the Spring Sectional in Sacramento.

I could "hear" the pride in Andreda Pruitt's voice when she told me about the Unit's successful recruitment; we want to "see" the pride in the LABU members' eyes when they count the number of new players attending the Spring Sectional. How is that for a challenge?

While traveling to the presidential inauguration via train, I played gin rummy with a delightful couple, Linda and Bob Babbitt from Elk Grove, CA (a suburb of Sacramento). Of course I regaled them with the pleasures derived from playing bridge. Two weeks after our return from Washington, Linda had her first bridge lesson with the Sacramento Diamonds. We hope her husband will put in an appearance soon, so you see, you can recruit bridge players anywhere at anytime.

All Western Section members are aware that new players are the life blood and the sustaining force of the ABA. We hope all of our new players throughout the section develop the same passion for playing bridge that has kept our section strong. We take this opportunity to WELCOME all new players to the world of bridge.

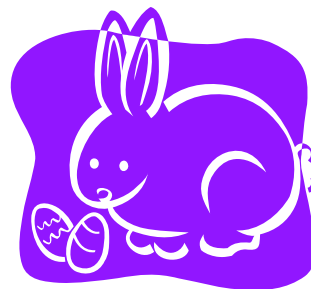
Perhaps some of the new players did not join the ABA in time for their names to be added to the Western Section roster, so I hope that you will read and share your copy of the *Western Que* with any new player who did not receive one.

I am sorry I did not think to ask all club presidents to send me the names and addresses of their new players. Club presidents, in the future when you send me your club articles, please include the names and addresses of all of your new players. It is my opinion that we should let them know how happy we are to have them and what better way to welcome them to the bridge units and individual clubs than to include them in our quarterly correspondence.

I realize that it is a rule that a player must be a paying member in order to receive a Que, but in these hard economic times, some of our new members might not be able to pay the joining fee immediately, or in the case of my new recruit, some might prefer to play a while (to see if they like it) before joining. At any rate, can we take this up at the next general meeting?

Sacramento New Players, you have no excuse for not attending the Spring Western Sectional. It is being held in "your back yard", so you are expected to make a daily appearance. I know who you are and you will hear from me, your instructors, your club president and all of the other Diamond members if you do not appear. Be afraid, be very afraid! Don't be afraid of playing bridge at a tournament (there is really nothing to fear) but "do" be afraid of "not "playing. Don't forget June 4th, you play free.

Happy Easter!



AZTEC DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

In December, Jewel and Tom McDowell hosted their annual Holiday/Birthday bash which was a sanctioned ACBL event.

Thelma Lee's family invited us to help celebrate her birthday at a fun, Casino-style evening.

Aztec's February "A" Game was a great success! We appreciated all who attended, especially our out-of-state players...and as always, the Los Angeles Bridge Unit.

We welcome Archa Glass who recently moved to San Diego from Phoenix, AZ; she is an avid bridge player and we hope she will soon become our newest member.

Club members were saddened by the sudden death of Ramona Walker; recently we celebrated her life at her home in a memorial service hosted by her co-workers at the San Diego Department of Health and Human Services.

Viola Jackson, Reporter

ACE HI DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Our Annual Christmas Party was hosted by Montia Chiles. She surprised us with our first "sit-down" luncheon and a raffle that ensured a gift for one person at each of our ten, festive decorated tables. The food was well prepared. We welcomed the presence of Gertrude Wright (Sacramento Diamonds) to our affair. Thank you, Montia.

Helen Wood and Bruce Lutrell have been certified to join Ace High's other three certified directors. Helen is already performing for us and Bruce will be with us when his work schedule permits. Congratulations to both Helen and Bruce. You are welcomed and appreciated.

Vera Winston is back after spending several months in Gary, Indiana as her brother's care giver. Vera is "cutting up" at the bridge table as she plays with her new partner—Rosemary Turner.

Lillie Marshall continues to bring goodies to munch on in between rounds. Thanks Lillie. Keep on taking good care of us.

We continue to ask for your prayers and thoughts for the members of our bridge family who are facing health challenges. They are Jane Brooks, Bernice Alexander, and Thomas Watson.

C - GAMES

JANUARY 9, 2009

1. Rita Robinson-Emma Mackel Collier
2. Eugene Neblett-Reginald Williams

FEBRUARY 20, 2009

1. Rita Robinson-Emma Mackel Collier
2. Rosemary Lee-Aline Needham

B - GAME

JANUARY 23, 2009

1. Rosemary Lee-Aline Needham
2. Elsie Lessler-Richard Lessler

On January 30, 2009 Rosemary Lee and Aline Neeham had a 72.50% game. WELL DONE LADIES!

Emma Mackel Collier, Reporter

CRENSHAW DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

It's that time of year when Crenshaw Bridge Club prepares for its "Spring Breakfast Game" on April 29, 2009 with promises of a delicious breakfast for all in attendance. We are expecting an even larger number of participants than last year.

We continue to solicit everyone to play with Crenshaw Bridge Club on Wednesdays at 11:00AM. We invite members of the "New Players / Beginner's Class" to join us. Our thanks to Kathy Baker for encouraging Juanita Jefferson to participate in the New Players/ Beginner's Classes. Crenshaw welcomes Juanita as a new member with a free play.

We are pleased to have ACBL players Cecil Cook and William "Bill" Schrieber continue their ABA membership with Crenshaw. We are looking forward to seeing members Ouida Lumpkin, Augustine Geoghagen, and Margaret Devers coming out to play more often.

Members attending Aztec Grade A Weekend in San Diego included Doris Ayers, Willa Johnson, Sara Grimes and others. Willa Johnson came in 2nd overall in the doubles session. It was a very nice tournament.

Crenshaw held its Winter Game on January 28, 2009. The feast was fabulous! The main dish was Jambalaya, prepared by Mignon Benjamin. Great hit!! Just hot enough—Delicious! Sara Grimes artfully decorated the salad as only she can. It was not only tasty, but it was beautiful. Alberta Smith rendered a prayer for love, peace, joy, and thanks for the food. Before everyone dined, all shared a special toast.

A surprise Initiation Game was the welcome for five associate members: Lommie and Gloria Shannon, Ida Simms, James and Andreda Pruitt. They were all good sports participating in the game. Crenshaw presented all of them with a free play. All Winter Game participants took home a nice goodie bag. Mignon Benjamin is a culinary genius par excellence for LABU. Crenshaw thanks all who played in this game and Kudos to Mignon!

Willa Johnson, president of Crenshaw took a 7-day winter vacation to Mexico and the Caribbean that included warm sun and fun. She also attended President Obama's Inauguration in Washington D.C., on January 21, 2009 – witnessing history! She exclaimed it was a wonderful celebration and experience which also included a Broadway show "Phantom of the Opera" and dinner at the "Tavern on the Green".

Willa Johnson, President
Doris Ayers, Reporter
Beverly Carnell, Reporter

HARMONY DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Harmony Duplicate Bridge Club starts the New Year with a New President and claims eleven (11) of the thirty-four (34) new players to the Los Angeles Bridge Unit.

A beginning bridge class with 34 enthusiastic prospective members of The Los Angeles Bridge Unit started on Saturday, October 4, 2008. The class was taught by Shirley Lee (Harmony member and LABU financial secretary) who has been described by one of the members of the class as "The best teacher for beginning bridge that anyone could ever have". The class culminated with a beautiful graduation ceremony on December 28, 2008. Each member received a diploma which indicated that they had completed the beginning class of "Duplicate Bridge". At the graduation an announcement was made stating that an intermediate class would commence on January 10, 2009. Twenty-four (24) of the 34 graduates showed-up eager to continue their thirst for the game of bridge.

Each member of the new player class was given a list of all of the clubs with meeting times, and encouraged to join the club that best met their schedule, or the club that the person who recommended him/her is a member.

Continued on Page 12....

Harmony Duplicate Bridge Club*Continued from Page 11...*

When the membership game (held on January 31, 2009) was announced, the new players were informed that they could only receive points playing in the game if they were members of the American Bridge Association (ABA). They were also told that they would have an opportunity to play in their own section if enough of them would be able to play. The unit had 4 and ½ tables in play at that game.

Our new president Patricia Barnes welcomed all of the new members to Harmony with a letter and a gift (letters and gifts were mailed to their homes). The president also assigned an experienced Harmony member to mentor each new player. The mentor will play with the mentee on the first and third Thursday of the month. Hopefully this mentoring will enhance the skills of the new player at a faster pace.

The members new to Harmony Duplicate Bridge Club are:

| | | |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Sara Cook | Ubirdia Holmes | Irene Sanders |
| Rebecca Davidson | Barbara Jones | Lilly Shaw |
| Clara Harris | Harriett Lott | Theresa Woods |
| Willa Hector | Arlean Mizuno | |

A warm welcome to all of our new members and a sincere “Thank You” to our president Patricia Barnes, Shirley Lee (teacher) and the LABU members who assisted Shirley by volunteering their time on Saturday mornings.

The members assisting were: Zelma Carter, Gayle Dennis, Alva Harris, Ruby Luke, Andreda Pruitt, and Ruth Young.

Andreda Pruitt, Reporter

JOE WILLIAMS DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

The JWDBC welcomes new members: Vennie Liddell, Sue Ann Mc Murray, Christopher Mc Dowell and Betty Porter. They have completed the eight-week beginning bridge class and are now enrolled in the intermediate class. We are looking forward to them being formidable opponents at the bridge table.

We are especially pleased that Melvin Triplett is playing again after an extended illness. Melvin and Geneva Arterberry were considering moving up near our friends to the North, but we are glad that they have chosen to remain in sunny Southern California. Connie Fraser, a long-time member of the Joe Williams Club passed away in October.

The JWDBC remains a functioning club because of the continued support of our members and the “Friday regulars”.

Until the next time!

Gloria Shannon, Club Reporter

KINGS AND QUEENS DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Anticipating and celebrating the national elections of 2008, the Kings and Queens entertained bridge players with food, fun and games on November 3, 2008. Our hostess, Mrs. Doris Dunn prepared barbecued ribs, chicken, hot links, baked beans, coleslaw, and potato salad. Mrs. Annie Thomas contributed collard greens and cornbread. We enjoyed a fantastic vegetable salad made by Dena Aldrige. The meal ended with an assortment of cakes headed by William Crockett’s pound cake. Prizes for games were beautifully wrapped and were contributed by a friend, Mrs. True Bennett. Bridge players were greeted with special place boards containing pictures of Barrack Obama on the cover. These were made especially for our election-action game by our director, Doris Ayers. They are truly collectors’ items.

On December 14, 2008 the Kings and Queens Duplicate Bridge Club celebrated the holidays with a special function designed to thank members for their hard work during the past year and to show all players our gratitude for their support and participation.

Continued on Page 13..

Kings and Queens Duplicate Bridge Club*Continued from Page 12...*

The gathering also marked the installation and recognition of the officers for the next year. Past Sectional President, Harley Wyatt, installed the following officers for 2009:

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| President..... | Faustina Floyd |
| Vice President..... | Robert Dunn, Jr. |
| Secretary..... | Janice Layne |
| Financial Secretary..... | Ruth Young |
| Treasurer..... | Morris White |
| Social Hostess..... | Doris Dunn |
| Parliamentarian..... | Diane Marbury |
| Sunshine Committee Chair..... | Willie Mae Seets |
| Western Sectional Representative..... | Bette Coleman |

For this occasion, Rosa Hawkins took the lead as she and others served ham and chicken. Doris Dunn prepared a pot of string beans that everyone enjoyed. Of course, the players also enjoyed traditional eggnog and desserts.

As we prepared for the inauguration of our 44th president, Barrack Obama, we celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day with a special game. After the day's parade, many players came to the bridge club to participate in a special game directed by Doris Ayers.

We take pleasure in welcoming the following new players to the Kings and Queens Duplicate Bridge Club: Kathleen Carter, June Gray, and Buddy Reynolds. We are also proud to reclaim a former player, Claudett Wirre. We salute Robert and Doris Dunn for opening their home for new player instructions on Wednesdays and we take delight in our players known as the "smiley ladies."

Unfortunately some of our new members have had health challenges: Velma Davis, Lila Riggins, Diane Malbury, and L. Wyatt, husband of Harley Wyatt. Joe and Velma Williams, Bernice Everett and William Crockett have been hospitalized and we are praying for all of them.

The day finally arrived for the February 28, 2009 first mentor/mentee game initiated by Ruth Young. More experienced players were paired with new players to foster continued interest and greater skills in duplicate bridge. Ruth Young worked continuously and diligently to develop this game designed to help new players and new directors. This was a long day that began with the regular new player's class, continued with lunch and ended with our mentor/mentee game. Kudos to you, Ruth Young! All players, new and experienced, had a great time and many expressed their pleasure and asked for more games of this nature.

Ruth Young is our National New Player Chairperson of the Kings and Queens and the New Player Chairperson of the Los Angeles Bridge Unit.

Faustina Floyd
President, Kings and Queens Bridge Club

NORMAL DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

The Normal Bridge Club is now meeting every Thursday at 12:00 noon. Leroy Wilson said that meeting only once a month was not in the best interest of the Unit. He cooked for the club for several weeks while in Los Angeles. Everyone enjoyed his Gumbo. He will be missed when he returns to Savannah.

Normal welcomes three new members: Cleo Barnes, Jo Ann Sanders, and Monique Mc Daniel. We are very happy to have them join with us. Normal raised \$1,050 for the UNCF Drive. We were proud of that, since we are a very small group.

While visiting with her daughter in Chicago, Edna Williams had an opportunity to attend the Oprah Show. Our traveling member, Zelma Carter, took another trip to the Panama Canal. She cruises at least once a year. She and partner, Alva Harris, did well at the Aztec Game in San Diego.

Continued on Page 14..

NORMAL DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB*Continued from Page 13...*

Whenever you meet Gayle Dennis at the bridge table, you will notice that she will be knitting. She is so creative, doing a lot of things with her hands. Charlene Carodine is back in the swing of things after a long illness. She is seen often at the bridge table looking good. She attended the AKA Regional in Phoenix and also the 50th Anniversary of an AKA club in Sacramento. Yours truly has also been out of commission for a couple of months, but is now on the mend.

Helen Jordan, Reporter

Marion Hubbard, President

**VALLEY OF THE SUN DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB'S
TRIBUTE TO
HARRIETTE E. JOHNSON**

By: Charles W. Townsel, Ph. D.

At twenty-six years old (1939) Harriette Esters Johnson began playing bridge. Seventy years later she is a powerful force at the bridge table. She is a bit slow in her play, but there is nothing slow with her mind. Harriette, and her late husband Bert love the game of bridge and the ABA. Harriette organized the Wolverine Bridge Club in Detroit some fifty odd years ago.



Born in 1913 in Mississippi, her family moved to Detroit where Harriette received her formal education. Graduating from the Detroit High School of Commerce, a school for the gifted and talented, she enrolled in Detroit City College where she majored in book-keeping and accounting. This training landed her a job with the Federal government as an adjudicator. She worked with the government in this capacity for fifty-nine years before retiring with distinction.

Harriette and Bert were bridge partners for years. She thought Bert was stronger as a player than she, but people I know rank her heads and shoulders over Bert. I am one of them!!! They moved to Phoenix in 1991 and became members of the Valley of the Sun Duplicate Bridge Club. Harriette has been an avid financial supporter of the ABA/Western Section.

The Western Section of the American Bridge Association honors Harriette's acumen, her commitment, her dedication, her playing prowess and her unfailing support of the ABA/Western Section and the game of bridge.

SACRAMENTO DIAMONDS DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

Greetings from the Sacramento Diamonds DBC! We are pumped and ready to engage in a good time at the Western Section Spring tournament right here in our fair city. There are references to the tournament throughout the newsletter, but we can't say enough about it. We will take every opportunity to promote it.

The Diamonds are excited to be your host for this event. So please come. We know you have heard of the extremely hot weather in Sacramento, but June is usually one of our most pleasant months.

Since Sacramento is the capital of California with hundreds of lawmakers and businessmen descending on the city daily, and millions of tourist jockeying for hotel accommodations, good hotel rooms are always at a premium. Tournament Chair, Gertrude Wright did a commendable job in negotiating and securing the Spring Sectional location at a reasonable price. Special consideration was given to locating the tournament near lots of food and shopping choices.

The location of the Red Lion Inn is ideal. It is in walking distance of the Arden Fair Mall with food courts and a zillion other enticing eateries. Directly across the street from the mall are several gourmet delight restaurants such as Olive Gardens, Elephant Bar, and (don't laugh now) Hooters. Just a few blocks away we have Applebee's Chiles and many others. We may not be Las Vegas, Los Angeles or the delightful city of San Diego, but we have our own special ambience.

OTHER SACRAMENTO DIAMOND DUPLICATE NEWS:

The Diamonds' Christmas Party chaired by vice president, Margaret Ware, was outstanding as usual. The entertainment was special with beautiful songs, rendered by a duet from Margaret's church, Jesse Shavers and Alexandria Stokes. They were accompanied on the keyboard by Margaret's daughter, Danetta Jackson. The songs and music were excellently executed and thoroughly enjoyed by all.

We had eleven tables and the food was just too abundant and delicious to describe. I think some of the best cooks in the country are members of the Diamonds. We missed our Bay Area friends this past Christmas, but due to illness and unusually bad weather, they were unable to come. This was the first Christmas in years they did not share the party with us. Bay Area buddies, we are looking forward to seeing you back at our tables this Christmas.

Several Diamonds attended the Aztec's "Grade A" weekend. A good time was had by all. Those who attended were: Margaret Ware, Verlyn Baker, Mattie Jett, Virginia Fanning and Robert "Bob" Olsen.

Bob Olsen is one of our newer members from the ACBL; he is extremely generous. Shortly after joining the ABA, Bob made a handsome donation to the Western Section and recently gave a large bag of food to our playing center for a program to help the needy. Mr. Olsen also attends all of our local games and has attended the Sectional and other tournaments since joining us last year.

Congratulations to Nadia Shahadah, granddaughter of Teresa Lilly. She will be leaving in May to teach English for a year in Japan. Does Verlyn Baker ever stay at home? She recently returned from a trip to Atlanta, GA, Alabama and San Diego, CA. I am sure she is getting ready to leave again soon. Way to go Verlyn. Gertrude Wright is spending a month with her daughter and other family members in Detroit, MI. Daniels Seymour attended the inauguration of our first Black president.

The Diamonds extend our deepest condolences to Pat Walker who recently lost her husband. We also send prayers and best wishes to our sick and shut in namely: George Dunams, Florine Washington, Helen Scott, Marie White, Dorothy O'Neal, Verna Lewis and Alma Johnson. It is great to have Madelyn Boyden back with us each playing session.

Gloria Parker, Reporter

**A PERSONAL INVITATION TO THE SPRING SECTIONAL
FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SACRAMENTO DIAMONDS BRIDGE CLUB**

HELLO, from the Sacramento Diamonds, DBC. We are pleased and feel honored to have been chosen to host the Western Section Spring Sectional, June 4 through June 8, 2009 in Sacramento, CA.

Preparations are underway to make sure that you will have a wonderful experience. Sacramento, the State Capital, is rich in tradition and natural beauty and your visit should be enjoyable. Hopefully, during your visit to Sacramento, you will be able to tour some of the historic places in the city.

If you do not know much about the Sacramento Diamonds, let me tell you a few things. Our club is made up of a very congenial group who loves nothing better than to play bridge. Quite often we share visits with the bridge clubs in Northern California. We meet at least twice a month and always have fantastic games. Seldom do we have less than seven tables.

If you are in the Sacramento area any time during the year, you have a very special invitation to visit with us. A free lunch is always provided for our members and guest. We have a dynamite club and are fortunate to have our games at a great location, Sam Pannell Community Center, 2450 Meadow View Road, Sacramento, CA 95832.

The center provides social, recreational, educational, and cultural programs and activities for youth, teens, and seniors. The Diamonds are very happy to make individual and club donations to the center for those activities.

Please make arrangements to attend the Western Section Spring Sectional in Sacramento this June. You will be glad you did. We **Welcome** you and look forward to seeing you there.

Heman Smith, President.



WESTERN SECTION SPRING SECTIONAL

June 4, 2009 – June 8, 2009

Red Lion Inn

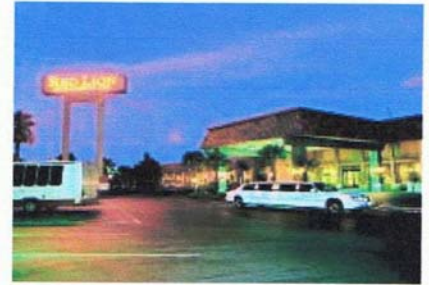
1401 Arden Way
Sacramento, Ca 95815

Room Rates: Single/Double \$79.00 Thursday - Monday

Reservations: (916) 922-8041 / (916) 922-0386

Deadline May 10, 2009

Ask for ABA Western Section Group Rate



New Players (0-299) Opposite All Sessions

| | | | |
|----------|------|---|--|
| Thursday | 6/04 | 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon 3:00 PM 7:00 –8:30 PM 9:00 PM | Director's Seminar Open Pairs (Stratified) Sectional Comm. Meeting Open Pairs (Stratified) |
| Friday | 6/05 | 9:00 AM 2:00 PM 8:00 PM | Open Pairs (Stratified) Modified Round Robin 1/2 Side Game SG1 Modified Round Robin 2/2 Side Game SG2 |
| Saturday | 6/06 | 9:00 – 11:00 AM 1:00 PM 7:30 PM | Sectional Open Meeting Open Pairs 1 st (Stratified) Side Game SG3 Open Pairs 2 nd Session Side Game SG3 |
| Sunday | 6/7 | 9:00 AM TBA (~2:30 PM) 8:30 PM | Swiss Teams 1 st Session Stratified Side Game SG5 Swiss Teams 2 nd Session Side Game SG6 Zip Swiss Teams (Stratified) |
| Monday | 6/8 | 9:00 AM | Get-A-Way Pairs (Stratified) |

Section Vice President: Dr. Charles W. Townsel
(602) 254-2267 charleswtownsel@q.net

Treasurer: Gloria LeeRay
(323) 737-5342

Tournament Chairs: Lomie Shannon/Gertrude Wright
(323) 931-2439/(916) 395-3267

Secretary: Ida Simms
(323) 225-8983

Partnership: Della Willis
(702) 254-7819

Director-In-Charge: Anthony Lawson
(951) 570-8625 tolaws9@aol.com

Playing Fees \$8:00 per person per session. Registration begins 1 Hour before game time and closes 15 Minutes before game time. KO Registration ends at 7:00 PM on Thursday June 4, 2009. Check cashing policy is limited to the amount of entry fee only. Prize Awards: Trophies for 0-299 players only. Scrip for all other winners. Awards schedule to be posted and announced.

Aztec Grade A San Diego

| Friday 2PM Open Pairs 12.0 Tables | | | |
|--|------|---------------------------------------|--------|
| MPs | Rank | Names | Score |
| 7.45 | 1 | Anita E. Troy - Thelma L. Lee | 63.20% |
| 5.59 | 2 | Verna Scott - Shirley Lee | 62.07% |
| 4.19 | 3 | Kathie Angione - Bob Shapley | 60.71% |
| 3.14 | 4 | Charles W. Townsel - Valerie H. Moul- | 57.67% |
| 2.89 | 5 | William A. Johnson - Mary R. Bell | 57.64% |
| 2.07 | 6 | James Lee - Anthony Lawson Jr. | 55.23% |

| Friday 8PM Open Pairs O/1200 12.0 Tables | | | |
|---|------|-------------------------------------|--------|
| MPs | Rank | Names | Score |
| 8.25 | 1 | Leroy Wilson Jr. - John Lyddon | 67.73% |
| 6.19 | 2 | Verna Scott - Shirley Lee | 65.80% |
| 4.64 | 3 | Annette B. White - Emma L. Johnson | 60.61% |
| 3.48 | 4 | Harley B. Wyatt - Betty C. Peterson | 55.64% |
| 2.61 | 5 | Emma M. Collier - Lillie Marshall | 55.34% |
| 1.96 | 6 | Anita E. Troy - Thelma L. Lee | 54.32% |

| Friday 8PM Open Pairs U/1200 4.5 Tables | | | |
|--|------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| MPs | Rank | Names | Score |
| 5.18 | 1 | James Forde - June Dumas | 55.00% |
| 3.89 | 2 | Marjorie M. Johnson - Julia Ann Lee | 52.51% |
| 2.91 | 3 | Ruth Hall - Rose Warren | 52.00% |
| 1.69 | 4/6 | Celestine Tillman—Linda Hines Wilson | 50.00% |
| 1.69 | 4/6 | Sylvia Beaton - Inez V. Petty | 50.00% |
| 1.97 | 4/6 | Vivian Johnson - Mildred Hanley | 50.00% |

| 2 Session Open Pairs O/1200 | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--|--------------|
| 13.0 Tables | | | |
| MPs | Rank | Names | Score |
| 19.34 | 1 | Leroy Wilson Jr. - Robert J. Friend | 133.65% |
| 14.51 | 2 | Sherry Polk - Willa J. Johnson | 113.14% |
| 10.88 | 3 | Anna B. Friend - John Lyddon | 112.02% |
| 8.16 | 4 | Shirley Lee - Patricia Banks | 111.54% |
| 6.45 | 5 | Barbara Dicker - Verna Scott | 110.10% |
| 5.53 | 6 | Charles W. Townsel - Valerie H. Moultrie | 109.46% |
| 4.84 | 7 | William A. Johnson - Mary R. Bell | 108.49% |

| 2 Session Open Pairs U/1200 | | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| 6.5 Tables | | | |
| MPs | Rank | Names | Score |
| 9.56 | 1 | Sylvia Beaton - Inez V. Petty | 105.03% |
| 7.17 | 2 | James Forde - June Dumas | 102.93% |
| 5.38 | 3 | Zelma Carter - Alva J. Harris | 101.54% |
| 4.03 | 4 | Viola M. Jackson - Carrie L. Johnson | 98.07% |
| 3.19 | 5 | Robert Olsen - William T. Johnson | 95.71% |

| Modified Round Robin Flight A | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|---|--------------|
| 7 Tables | | | |
| MPs | Rank | Names | Score |
| 16.68 | 1/2 | Leroy Wilson Jr. - Robert J. Friend- John Lyddon - Thelma L. Lee | 5.00 |
| 16.68 | 1/2 | Shirley Lee - Patricia Banks - Verna Scott - Barbara Dicker | 5.00 |

| Modified Round Robin Flight B | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|---|--------------|
| 7 Tables | | | |
| MPs | Rank | Names | Score |
| 13.52 | 1/2 | Emma M. Collier - Lillie Marshall- Delores Hale - Guy H. Williams | 5.00 |
| 13.52 | 1/2 | Linda Hines Wilson - Glenda S. Williams - William T. Johnson - Celestine Tillman | 5.00 |

| Modified Round Robin Flight C | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|--|--------------|
| 5 Tables | | | |
| MPs | Rank | Names | Score |
| 11.06 | 1/2 | Jewell Daniels McDowell - Tom McDowell- Flora Hazzard - Archa Glass | 3.00 |
| 11.06 | 1/2 | Inez V. Petty—Mary Knoll - Marjorie M. Johnson - Sylvia Beaton | 3.00 |

| Get Away Open Pairs | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|--|--------------|
| 14 Tables | | | | |
| MPs | A | B | Names | Score |
| 9.00 | 1 | | Robert Shapley - Kathie Angione | 63.53% |
| 6.75 | 2 | | Shirley Lee - Verna Scott | 61.17% |
| 5.06 | 3 | | Anthony L. Lawson Jr. - John Lyddon | 61.07 |
| 3.80 | 4 | | William A. Johnson - Mary R. Bell | 60.80% |
| 3.15 | 5 | | Willa J. Johnson - Sherry Polk | 59.88% |
| 5.06 | 6 | 1 | Elaine Chan - Paul Alesu | 56.78% |
| 2.25 | 7 | | Charles W. Townsel - Valerie H. Moultrie | 56.44% |
| 3.80 | | 2 | Inez V. Petty - Sylvia Beaton | 53.34% |
| 2.85 | | 3 | William T. Johnson - Celestine Tillman | 49.40% |
| 2.13 | | 4 | Janice L. Layne - Doristine Barbee | 48.57% |

AMERICAN BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

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The Western Section

The Western Que

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www.americanbridge.com

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