

Newsletter Staff:

Freddie Guess, *Editor*
Dorothy Colley

Rose Carvin
Delores Smith
Eunice Weston

www.abaswsection.com

June, 2008

- **The VEEP SPEAKS.....**

I begin this message with expressions of regret for the loss of two of our beloved members, Mrs. Iris Price Carr of Dallas, TX and Mr. Herman "Tex" Moten of Austin, TX. Both were long time members of the ABA and will be sorely missed by our section and by all whose lives were touched by having known them. Our prayers are offered to their families and in particular to the widow of "Tex", Mrs. Birdie Moten who is an active member of the Austin/Travis County Bridge Club.

I would like to thank the following members for representing the Southwestern Section at the various National Committee Meetings in Cleveland, OH: Opal White, Dr. James Morgan, Thelma Morgan, Bobbie Turner, Lela Wilson and James Mays. Again I will need Committee representation in Milwaukee this summer.

SUMMER NATIONAL 2008

Our section will be responsible for selling T-Shirts (see me) and raffle tickets. Club/units are asked to place an ad in the Souvenir Journal. Our section will also be responsible for handling registration at this tournament. This will involve selling the kits, which will contain the ball/dinner tickets. At least two individuals should be on hand at the desk to handle this responsibility. Thus far, **Veronica Hines** and **Barbara Monroe** have already volunteered to help but more help is needed so that not one will have to be on duty more than one hour. Please lend your cooperation in this effort.



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All players are invited to attend the ABA Summer National Tournament in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 31st thru August 9th 2008. **CONSULT YOUR BULLETIN AND MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!**

SPRING NATIONAL 2009

President Rucker has appointed **Opal White**, (Houston, TX) as the General Chairperson for the 2009 Spring National. I am sure you will hear from Opal soon regarding plans, duties and responsibilities for our members. I ask that you give her your full cooperation as this is an enormous task and we want to make sure the Spring National in Houston is a great experience for everyone.

The tournament will be held at the Westin Galleria/Westin Oaks Hotel, Houston, Texas, April 12-18, 2009. The 2009 Spring National will be hosted by the National body (namely the eight sections), but Houston will be responsible for much of the activities and planning.

CONGRATULATIONS

The SWS has a new Grand Master Player, **Bill Turner**. Congratulations Bill! You have now joined the ranks of the ABA Elite. The SWS is very proud of you. When we include Lionel Barton, Dwight Galley, Mae Clark and Lela Wilson, this gives us more Grand Masters than any other section, hence more to brag about.

Congratulations to **Rev. Charley Handy**, President, Vernon Williams Duplicate Bridge Club, Baton Rouge, LA, on receipt of the ABA Foundation's Small Grant award of \$250. The club will use these monies to recruit and teach beginning student duplicate bridge. All of our clubs are encouraged to do likewise. The Prairie View DBC was the first in our section to receive this award from the abaECF. All of our clubs/units and individual members are asked to support the fundraising efforts of the ABA foundation.

It is early, but be reminded that election of officers for the section must be held at our next sectional, June 2009. **James Mays** is the Election Committee Chair and will facilitate this process. In keeping with our Constitution/By-laws, we will elect the following officers: Sectional Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The Sectional Vice President is NOT eligible for re-election.

Last but not least,

I WISH ALL OF YOU A GREAT JUNETEENTH TOURNAMENT!



Dr. Mary Ann Broussard, SWSVP

• UNIVERSITY DBC

We are approaching the long, hot, dog days of summer and we are urged stay cool, travel light and drive carefully. The members of University Duplicate Bridge Club wish you a very pleasant summer.

In an effort to encourage more players to come out to our games on Fridays , we are reducing our registration fee by \$1.00; We will pay \$3.00 for C games and \$5.00 for B games per person . We have heard the concerns of some who work as well as those who want to get home earlier at night, so we hope that the new time of play 6:00 p.m. (that we were given by the management of our facility), and the new fee, will lend some flexibility to the plans of most. We look forward to seeing you at the Juneteenth Sectional in Houston as well as the Summer National in Milwaukee.

Appointment of Spring National 2009 General Chairman

Thanks to Opal White for accepting a demanding but often misunderstood and thankless job. She will be General Chairman for the 2009 Spring National, here in Houston. Her experience, low key approach, and commitment to duplicate bridge has prepared her well for the mammoth task before her.



• HARBOR DBC

Its nearing that time again when every one will be heading south to the Sparkling city by the sea. The faces of the Harbor Bridge Club are changing every day and soon we will have all new officers. This is good but only if these officers are ready to step up to the plate and keep the fine tradition going that this Club has been known for. We are happy to report that one of our members has volunteered to begin training for the key position of Director at this Unit. This individual will be given the opportunity to do on-the-job training and then a request will made to the Section for certification.

Recruiting of new members is a very slow process but we will work at it. If we are to survive we need your support this October 10 - 12 when we meet at the Best Western Hotel on the Bay Front. We will provide the same accommodations as always. Hope to see you there.

Carl E. Vaughn, President

Welcome

Eunice Weston is the newest member of the Newsletter staff.

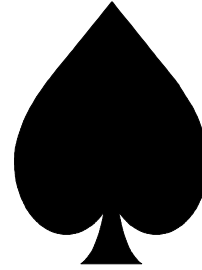
Thanks, Eunice, for joining us!

• METROPOLITAN DUPLICATE BRIDGE UNIT (MDBU)

As we enter the halfway mark, the MDBU can look back upon the past six months with pride. Our per game attendance has increased, our new players are participating in more games (and winning), our new player classes have increased and are going strong, our Unit now has more money for supplies and refreshments with the implementation of the \$5 Unit fee, and the first team game in over three years was held. Because of the success of that game, the Unit will encourage all clubs to sponsor at least one team game in the future.

New officers were elected in February, 2008. They were:

Brenda Metze	President
Bobbie Turner	Vice President
Gloria Tapscott	Secretary
Delores Smith	Treasurer
Ralph Buggs	Financial Secretary
Opal White	Tournament Chairperson



The full body of the Unit wishes to thank Opal White for the spectacular job she did as President. We also would like to thank Ethel Black, Vice President, for her support and for the many hours they spent providing refreshments for participants at all Unit tournaments. And last, but not least, our gratitude to Ralph Buggs for the many years served as Treasurer of the Unit.

We continue to enjoy a high level of enthusiasm for the tournaments. To date, both the Houston and Dallas "A" weekends have been very successful. The Spring National was well attended. We expect the June 18th Sectional and the Summer National to be highly attended and successful as well.

During this period, our own Bill Turner achieved the status of Grand Master with over 20,000 points. James Morgan, Freddie Guess, and Ethel Black gained over 2000 points, another milestone. Congratulations to all.

Brenda Metze
President, 2008-2010

DIRECTOR PLEASE!

Training Seminars
SWS Sectional - Houston, Texas

Thursday, June 19, 2008

9 a.m. – Noon

Cost: \$20.00

Two – 3-hour Seminars

Topics:

Evaluation and Certification
Director Responsibilities, Game Setup and Computer Setup
Second Seminar and Evaluation – TBA
Bring laptop computer if possible

Contact: Henry Irwin, SWS Staff Development Chairman
512-791-4896 (cell) hir-winjr@aol.com

A TRIBUTE OF LOVE TO Iris Price Carr

Elegance at its best

We, the members of the Southwestern Section of the American Bridge Association, pay a special tribute to a very special lady.

Iris Price Carr was a cheerful, distinguished and elegant lady that influenced each of us in so many positive ways. There were no negatives that she didn't accentuate with positives. Indeed, she led a transparent life as she preached her eulogy each day. She would rather see a sermon than to hear one. She lived a life so that others through her would see Christ. A testament to her transparency is the number of people that have traveled from near and far just to say "Goodbye Iris" and "Thank you for being a part of my life."

Now a funeral is a personal matter – one of family – one of faith and one of friendship. We have come together today because we need each other. We have come to the church because we each need God. We are comforted by the peace that surpasses all understanding and we share it with each other. The comfort of God is the presence of Christ and of his friends.

As many of you know, Iris was an avid bridge player and member of the American Bridge Association for over 50 years and we the members are honored to pay tribute to her. Iris traveled to many tournaments. I recently saw and spoke several times with her during the recent week-long Spring National tournament that was held in Cleveland Ohio. Iris not only traveled to the tournaments, she was also an accomplished bridge player. She was on the top 25 players' list for the Southwestern Section in the Silver Diamond Category.

Her love for the game of bridge and for the ABA family was demonstrated in many ways. Her home was often open for bridge games and for teaching bridge classes. She often assisted in directing games. Her love for the game was surpassed only by her love of God and family. Her late sister, Jewel, always traveled in identical dress with her. It was as if to say – God made us sisters, but love made us friends.

Iris served the ABA in many capacities including membership on the National Merit/life Committee and the Sectional and National History and Archives Committee. As a supporter of scholarships for students, she was a spokesperson and advocate for the American Bridge Association's Educational and Charitable Foundation. She stood ready and willing to work in the organization whenever and wherever needed.

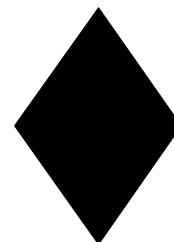
Iris loved life and lived it to the fullest. She was a well respected woman of distinction, always dignified, immaculately dressed and with a genuine smile. She was a joy to talk to often engaging in wise cracks, jokes AND a type of wisdom that only comes with age. Many of us are knowledgeable but all of us do not have wisdom. Iris had wisdom.

Iris's presence and smiling face will be sorely missed by the bridge community in general and throughout the Southwestern Section specifically.

Therefore, on behalf of the Southwestern Section of the American Bridge Association, we say, **"GOODNIGHT MRS. CARR, WE WILL SEE YOU IN THE MORNING."**

Respectfully submitted,

Southwestern Section ABA
Dr. Mary-Ann Broussard,
Sectional Vice-President



• HEARTS AND DIAMONDS

Our club is about to take a summer break so that our members can travel, and enjoy their families and friends. Play will resume in September.

Our newly elected officers,

Fredrick Todd President

John Archie Sanders Secretary

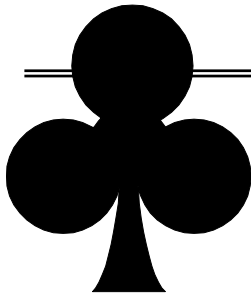
Shirley Douglas

Treasurer, are doing an outstanding job. We are averaging six tables at our games each Monday with Alma Johnson as our Director. Thanks also to our Director, Percy Milligan.

Bridge will not be the same without our dedicated and loyal member, Iris Carr. She will be deeply missed. We pray that she will rest in peace, joining her sister, Jewell McKenzie, who preceded her just about a year ago.

May the Lord keep His loving arms around us all. Enjoy your summer.

John Archie Sanders, Secretary



• Jet Setters DBC

A majority of the club members voted to make food service optional at our games.

The new officers are:

President

Ethel Black

Treasurer

Naomi Manuel

Tournament Chairman

James Mays

• PARK MANOR DBC

The Park Manor Duplicate Bridge Club's monthly bridge game is held at the Evelyn Churchill Community Center, located at 1508 Hunter Street, Galena Park, TX 77547.

Our game is held on a Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m. The date will be published on the SW web-site every month. We will also e-mail the information to all the members a week before the game.

We are striving to build up our membership to increase our games each month.

We have an excellent instructor, who is holding classes at the beginner and intermediate levels. Anyone who is interested in joining one of his classes can contact BILL TURNER at 713-721-2881.

Club officers are:

Evelyn Thompson

President

Marian Womack

Treasurer

Bill Turner

Tournament Chair

We invite all our Houston Bridge players to join us at our games. We will provide a delicious luncheon each month.

Here's looking forward to seeing all of you at our games each month.

• YOUNG PROFESSIONALS DBC

Submitted by, Clarena Richardson

To say that we, the Young Professionals, are F-a-m-i-l-y is a fact of reality. More recently we have demonstrated our love and admiration for our family members.

Firstly, to our own Freddy Rhodes, whose first born daughter, Mrs. Sheryl Jones, after weeks of illness and eventually transition, stunned us.

At the same time, we were embracing our own, Dorothy Colley, whose brother was seriously ill and in ICU.

At this writing we are praying for the best for our long time member, Lillie Hall, who is infirm and in the hospital.

It is no doubt that we are fragile creatures, but “Max Lucado” tells we get tossed around, knocked down, and blown off course by a sudden breeze we didn’t see coming; but at every turn, God is there... there to guide our spirits and comfort our troubled hearts.

We are in His hands and there is no safer place to be. He has shown that He never fails. That’s what makes God – God!

In Prayer for

Members who are sick.....



Earline E. Winn
Floyd Tate
Yvonne McCree
Evelyn Churchill

Lillie Satterwhite
Mother of *Mary Lowery*
Mattie Hilliard
Freddie Guess’ daughter “Mickie”

Odessa Sales
Rancye Brown

Members who have lost loved ones....

Freddye Rhodes - Daughter
Dorothy Colley – Brother
Sandy Fitts – Mother
Birdie Moten – Husband
James Woodard - Sister



Final Grand Slammers

Iris Carr
Lillie D. Hall
Herman “Tex” Moten

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MARCH 2009 ABA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

1. **The Board Approved the Contract for the 2009 Summer National, with recommended changes, for Memphis, Tennessee Thursday August 6-Saturday August 15.**
2. **Voted to reduce the non-ABA member player fee from \$5 to \$2 per session to play at all ABA National events.**
3. **All members At-Large, including those joining via the internet, shall pay both National and Section dues effective January 2009.**
4. **Independent Clubs/units may hold Grade A tournaments on any day without including a weekend as long as it does not exceed four (4) days effective January 01, 2009. ___ Handbook change required.**
5. **Contracts for National Tournaments negotiated 2010 and after will no longer begin on Easter Sunday nor the Monday immediately following Easter. The number of days may also be adjusted.**

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ACTION

1. **The immediate past president will serve as ex-officio member of the Board of Directors for full term of the seated President two (2) years, effective immediately.**

SWS JUNTEENTH 2008 SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

WEDNESDAY JUNE 18	
Sectional Committee Meeting	3:00pm
Open Pairs (single session)	4:00pm
Open Pairs (single session)	9:00pm
THURSDAY JUNE 19	
New Players Seminar	10:00am
Modified Round Robin 1 st session	1:00pm
HOSPITALITY	5:00pm
SW SECTION GENERAL MEETING	7:00pm
Modified Round Robin 2 nd session	8:00pm
REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR KNOCK OUT	12:00pm
Story Telling Competition	After Play
FRIDAY JUNE 20	
K.O. Teams (1 st session)	9:30am
K.O. Teams (2 nd session)	2:00pm
Open Pairs	2:00pm
HOSPITALITY	5:30pm
K.O. Teams (semi-finals)	8:00pm
Open Pairs	8:00pm
SATURDAY JUNE 21	
K.O. Teams (Final session)	9:30am
New Players Seminar**	10:00am
TWO SESSION Open Pairs (1 st session)	2:00pm
HOSPITALITY	5:30pm
Open Pairs (2 nd session)	8:00pm
SUNDAY JUNE 22	
Swiss Team (1 st session)	9:30am
Swiss Team (2 nd session)	TBA

The EE Winn DBC

Judith Glasco

Earline Winn, president and namesake of the EE Winn DBC, is in a hospital in Baytown. Members of her family have been letting us know how she is doing. Earline, you are in our prayers for a full recovery.

Lionel "Oscar" Barton, our sectional tournament chair, is recovering at home after a hospital visit and he is looking forward to playing in our annual Southwest Juneteenth sectional. Oscar, we are all looking forward to seeing you there.

Yvonne McCree has been having problems with her legs and can't get to play bridge at this time. Yvonne, we hope and pray that you are doing much better real soon.

Rancy Brown, our club assistant secretary, isn't physically able to get out to the games as she would want to, so we will just have to bring some games to her. She is having a birthday party at Augustana Lutheran Church (located on Wheeler @ 288) on Saturday the 22nd of June. The party will be hosted by her son Larry. The party will start following the last service, which should be somewhere between noon and twelve-thirty. I understand that there will be some bridge being played. So stop in for a quick hello or for a few rounds of bridge. Rancy, we all love you and I will see you soon.

I have been hearing that Roosevelt Jones has stepped up to help the tournament directors whenever and however he can. Roosevelt, you are an inspiration to use all.

Floyd Tate has returned home after spending some time in a long-term care facility. We all wish you well Floyd.

Opal White's success at putting on tournaments in the last two years as unit president has made her the natural choice to be selected as The General Chair for the Spring National, which will be held in Houston in April of the year 2009. As capable as Opal is, she will need all of our assistance to make the national "as good as can be". So, when you are asked, please make yourself available and be willing to work. Okay Opal, I've done my part.

Mary Ford, sister of Betty Johnson, is in the hospital. Please keep her in your prayers.

Other club members that we haven't seen in a while are Agnes Galley and Dorothy Patterson. Ladies we miss you.

Welcome to new member, Angela Hester.