



# THE CONSUMER

## WITH ALL THE MBU NEWS FIT TO PRINT

[www.mbuinc.org](http://www.mbuinc.org)

Metropolitan Bridge Unit, Inc.

January 2022



## President's Message

By Lynda J. Straker

I hope this message finds you all well and enjoying the best parts of this holiday season. Many of us are yearning for some semblance of how our bridge world used to be. Despite all we have been through, some things have remained the same. We belong to a bridge community that cares for one another, we enjoy playing bridge and when the time is right, we believe we can move forward using determination and common sense.

The year 2021 was a difficult one, not just for the MBU but worldwide. Health concerns and safety protocols continue to be at the top of our minds and our vision of the future is clouded by emerging COVID-19 variants and community spread. While some of our members have begun playing bridge at the table, travelling by plane, train and automobile to different parts of the country and cruising to different parts of the world, others have adopted a more restrictive lifestyle. As of December 2021, the Omicron variant has emerged as a threat that the MBU must recognize.

Our annual membership meeting will take place on January 15, 2022 via ZOOM. This will mark the second year we have made this accommodation due to COVID-19 concerns. Please attend this meeting to stay informed about what's happening in the MBU. Unfortunately, two of our clubs are closing (Astro and Co-op City) and we need to discuss how best to grow despite the negative health trends and uncertainties we face.

If you are satisfied with the safety protocols that will be in place, plan ahead to attend the Spring National in Baltimore, Maryland at the Sheraton Inner Harbor from March 24 through April 1, 2022 and the Eastern Section's "Spring Fling" at Resorts in Atlantic City from May 23 through May 26, 2022. And don't forget our "AAA" scheduled for Monday, December 5 through Thursday, December 8, 2022 at the Resorts Hotel & Casino in Atlantic City.

As we welcome in the new year, let's decide to use our combined MBU energy to shape a future filled with opportunities. And although we live in a new world where pandemic worries will shadow our aspirations, hopefully we can all find a path to personal fulfillment, satisfaction and contentment.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2022, and I hope to meet you at the tables as soon as possible.

## Twenty Twenty-Two Has Arrived

By Dolores Watson

January 1, 2022 denotes a measurement of time. How do you perceive time? Is it real or illusionary? Time is a bridge from one moment to another which allows us to remember, plan, make changes, achieve, and use it wisely. Happy New Year!

It is a tradition of the Metropolitan Bridge Unit to acknowledge the members who passed away during the year. Our special name for them is "Grand Slammers"—each one unique with one commonality, they enjoyed the game of bridge.

Please take a moment to remember our Grand Slammers while you read the lyrics to "Oh, Happy Day," a classic from The Edwin Hawkins Singers, or view and listen to the performance by Anthony Brown with the First Baptist Church of Glenarden combined choir. [Click here](#). It will surely lift your spirits. Keep our Grand Slammers in your prayers while viewing their photos later in this issue.





## Astro DBC

By Doris White

This is a difficult article to write because I must inform you of the demise of our beloved Astro Duplicate Bridge Club. We are officially disbanding as of December 31, 2021. It has been a great ride. Astro is one of the older clubs in the Metropolitan Bridge Unit having joined, along with Co-op City and Springfield, with "B" weekends and holiday parties.

Accolades to Julia Rinehardt for her long-term presidency and dedication. We thank her and associate member Edna Boothe who worked diligently to keep the club afloat. Others who helped us along the way include John Demos, our erstwhile director, as well as associate members Dr. Errol Grant, Dorothy Smith, Cheryl Jones, and Barbara Wingate. We will certainly see you at the bridge tables again and, fortunately, there are other clubs for us to join.

Dianne Edgerton-Norman, Calvin Hewitt, Martha Hewitt, Julia Rinehardt, Doris White, and, of course, Edna Boothe, thank everyone who joined us on Thursdays for delightful bridge and camaraderie.

small groups wearing masks and using lots of sanitizer on hands and boards. All players showed proof of vaccinations. Winners were awarded points which the ABA is now doubling until December 31, 2021.

Thanks to Jawanza Phoenix, we have many boxes of boards, cards and bidding boxes to share for free with anyone who calls our club president to request them. We also have a case of Bridgemates II, compliments of Jawanza. They arrived on time as our Bridgemate Pro server was rendered inoperable.

The Brooklynites will turn seven years of age in 2022. We're praying for the end of the pandemic and hoping to have a big bash to celebrate lucky seven. Of course, you are all invited to join in the celebration.

Brooklynites are delighted to welcome 27 returning members, 2 new members, and 14 associate members. Despite the pandemic, membership grew due to our club president teaching bridge across the U.S. on Zoom and in teams on BBO. Happy birthday to Patricia Williams, one of our new members, who celebrated her birthday in December.

Please join our Friday games at 625 Quincy Street, Brooklyn. Enjoy snacks and drinks from 12 noon. Game time is 1 pm.

## Bayview Breeze

By Valerie Brooks

Happy new year, bridge family! I would like to thank our members for hanging in during this past, difficult year. In 2022, we wish all of you:

A Great Start in January  
Love in February  
Peace in March  
No worries in April  
Fun in May  
Joy in June through November  
Happiness in December

Have a fantastic and blessed year! See you at the tables.

## Co-op City DBC

By Lorelei Blackman

The members of the Co-op City Duplicate Bridge Club send joyous holiday wishes to all bridge players and their families. Please make every effort to enjoy each day as much as possible, spread and share the warm feelings of the season, then dance as if no one is watching!

We're sending belated birthday wishes to Patricia Cobb, Queenie May, Georgianna Rodriguez and Susie Polite who celebrated in November. The new year is almost here so why not get ready to enjoy 2022 in a peaceful and loving fashion.

As Co-op City closes its doors, it has been a pleasure sharing and playing bridge with you as a club. Enjoy!

## Brooklynites Send Season's Greetings

By Jane Atlas and Lois Francis

Our sincere wishes for a healthy and peaceful year 2022. For half of 2021 Brooklynites were shut ins due to the pandemic, but during the other half of the year we've been playing face-to-face in

## Cosmopolitan DBC

By Steven Bond

**WE'RE BACK!** Cosmo reopened for five weeks of in-person bridge on Tuesdays, November 9<sup>th</sup> through December 14<sup>th</sup> (with Thanksgiving week off). After the Christmas and New Year's holidays, we will return on Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, with our holiday "C" game, starting at 12 noon. Bag lunch will be provided beforehand, so dust off your partner and join us for 2022.



We welcome five new members: Dianne Edgerton-Norman, Calvin Hewitt, Martha Hewitt, Julia Rinehardt and Doris White.

Congratulations to those celebrating a birthday this quarter: Bob Diskin in January, and Therese Hamilton and Doris White in March.

We are so glad to be able to play bridge in-person again, and look forward to seeing more of our friends at the tables in 2022. Please note that masks and proof of vaccination are required. Meanwhile, take care and be safe.

## **Jet Setter DBC**

**By Beverly Sessions-Kelly**

Greetings from the Jet Setter Duplicate Bridge Club. We hope everyone had a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year. We can look forward to a new year as the beginning of fresh ideas, new challenges, good changes to dreary routines, new resolutions, new outlooks and be open to new opportunities. There is so much we can look forward to in the new year.

Wishing everyone a great 2022!

## **DBC of Mount Vernon**

**By Rita Thompson**

Our members are looking forward to playing bridge at the tables again the "old fashioned way" and we're ready with guidelines for doing so safely. A recent poll of our members strongly favored deferring opening until March 2022. We will continue to monitor on-going conditions.

Welcome to our new member Marcella Shelton and thank you Viola Porter for inviting Marcella to join. We're looking forward to meeting Marcella when games resume or at our next club membership meeting on Zoom.

We're sorry to hear that Co-op City DBC has disbanded. Many from our club played there every week and many of them regularly played in Mount Vernon. I recall when I was a new player and bridge instructor Alvin Lisle told our bridge class we were "ready" to play at the Co-op City bridge club. And so, we were launched into the welcoming arms of President Dorothy Smith who patiently played bridge with us and, along with others, provided a congenial environment for the newcomers. We invite our friends in Co-op City to join us when club games resume. Remember, we'll be at Doles Center where there's ample parking and Access-a-Ride.

We thank everyone at Co-op City DBC for giving us the club's bridge supplies. Your generosity is much appreciated and we will put them to good use.

Happy new year! May 2022 bring us all continued good health and the return to a semblance of normal.

## **Springfield DBC**

**By Eliza Brann**

Happy holidays to our bridge partners and their families. We hope that everyone we love is staying safe and feeling blessed this holiday season. We are happy to have Julia Rinehardt join us. Welcome, welcome, welcome.

Birthday greetings are extended to Daisy Carew in January, Marie Barnes and Edwin Ward II in February and during March to Marion Mercer, James McKeon, and Lynda Straker. May God continue to bless and keep you in the coming year!

Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa and Happy New Year! May everyone stay well as we look forward to seeing each other in the coming year.

## **Triangle DBC**

**By Bernice Williams**

Greetings, fellow bridge players. Just a short shout out to all whom we have not seen and communicated with.

We have good news and bad. The bad news is we are still in limbo as to when our playing site will be available for play. The good news is that we have not lost any members due to this pandemic situation. Plus, our director/grandmaster Julius Fields is home after a lengthy rehab stint.

We have birthday greetings for Lorraine Gleaton on the 23rd of December, she was to anxious to wait for Christmas on the 25th. We have Alice Butler starting out January on the 7th. Dorothy Hamilton the next week on the 15th, on the 20th we have Mayme Frazier and finishing out the month Minnie Goka on the 27th. Happy birthday and continued good health and wealth to all.

Hope our bridge world can survive the ever-changing scenario we are all going through. With God and perseverance, we stand a good chance to make it. Until next time, from Triangle.



### Twilight DBC

By Jesse Palmer

Twenty twenty-two has finally arrived. We wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

Please keep Mercedes Mann in your prayers. We are happy that Betty Sherrill is doing fine and that she is at home.

Birthday greetings to Chris Blount and Betty Ball in January, and Eleanor Waymer and E. Frances Reid in February. And happy birthday to Sharon Lucas who celebrated her day in December.

I hope that everyone has gotten their vaccine, including the booster. If not, please do it soon.

### Westbury DBC

By Patricia Binyard

Hello, bridge family. It's time to say goodbye to 2021. The year has been a difficult time for many of us, losing family and friends, along with the passing of members of our bridge family. The family of Wilma Alexander thanks all who joined to celebrate her life both online and in person and those who sent words of sympathy. Please keep Ted Conliffe and Mayer Wiesen in your prayers.

It has been encouraging to see some of the ABA clubs opening for in-person games. Let's continue to have a positive outlook, for 2022 and beyond, that we will be able to get back to whatever we consider as normal.

Westbury Duplicate Bridge Club sends best wishes to all for the holiday season. May your days be filled with peace, hope and joy.

### 2021 MBU Awards\*

LEVEL	RANK	POINTS	NAME	CLUB
Asterisk	1st	13.47	Paula Joseph	Cosmopolitan
	2nd	3.22	Robert Diskin	Cosmopolitan
Master	1st	84.40	Ann Brandwein	Mount Vernon
	2nd	42.73	Marilyn Legall	Bayview
Life Master	1st	94.13	Raye Liverpool	Twilight
	2nd	94.04	Ronald Prester	Cosmopolitan
Sr. Life Master	1st	46.03	Lois M. Wright	Cosmopolitan
	2nd	41.84	Patricia Jackson	Cosmopolitan
Ruby	1st	42.32	Barbara Wingate	Westbury
	2nd	25.89	Viola Porter	Mount Vernon
Diamond	1st	424.37	Christian Baxter	Bayview
	2nd	162.76	William Wood, Jr.	Mount. Vernon
Silver Diamond	1st	106.34	Charles Guest	Mount Vernon
	2nd	59.38	Gladys Smith	Mount Vernon
Gold Diamond	1st	127.69	Lynda Straker	Springfield
	2nd	124.08	Doris White	Astro
Platinum Diamond	1st	308.78	Dr. Parvez Mehta	Mount Vernon
	2nd	76.40	Allen Morton	Triangle
Black Diamond	1st	153.97	Dr. Errol Grant	Westbury
	2nd		N/A	
Grand Life Master	1st	98.69	Julius C. Fields	Triangle
	2nd		N/A	

### MBU Top 25

RANK	NAME	LEVEL	POINTS
1	Julius Fields	Grand Life Master	31,455.76
2	Dr. Errol Grant	Black Diamond	15,855.09
3	Dr. Parvez Mehta	Platinum Diamond	14,414.91
4	Cheryll Jones	Platinum Diamond	12,198.65
5	Allen Morton	Platinum Diamond	10,219.91
6	Dr. Gloria Hobbs	Gold Diamond	7,905.90
7	Alfred Knight	Gold Diamond	7,532.38
8	Annetta Wallace	Gold Diamond	6,684.36
9	Kenneth Thomas, Jr.	Gold Diamond	6,209.79
10	Doris White	Gold Diamond	5,970.92
11	Evelyn Smallwood	Gold Diamond	5,756.84
12	Lynda Straker	Gold Diamond	5,476.09
13	Janice McBean	Gold Diamond	5,377.89
14	Edna Boothe	Gold Diamond	5,191.25
15	Minnie Goka	Silver Diamond	4,520.64
16	Ermile Stewart	Silver Diamond	3,871.99
17	Ruth M. Shuler	Silver Diamond	3,699.41
18	Charles Guest	Silver Diamond	3,536.74
19	Eleanor Waymer	Silver Diamond	3,507.43
20	Nathalie McFarlane	Silver Diamond	3,368.41
21	Dorothy Smith	Silver Diamond	3,150.02
22	Gladys Smith	Silver Diamond	2,770.82
23	Jean DeVeaux	Silver Diamond	2,747.90
24	Beryl Battle	Silver Diamond	2,711.88
25	Ernestine Myles	Silver Diamond	2,658.47

\*November 30, 2021





## REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED FINAL GRAND SLAMMERS



**WILMA ALEXANDER**  
**WESTBURY**



**JANE HARRIS**  
**JET SETTER**



**NAOMI JONES**  
**MOUNT VERNON**



**BETTY MITCHELL**  
**BROOKLYNITES**



**ANNIE NELSON**  
**TRIANGLE**



**ROSALEE SAMUELS**  
**COSMOPOLITAN**



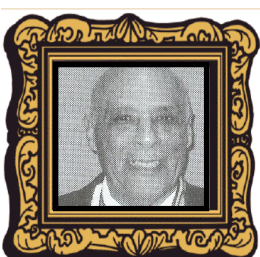
**DEVORA SCONIERS**  
**JET SETTER**



**MOSES SMALLWOOD**  
**SPRINGFIELD**



**CYNTHIA STROY**  
**TWILIGHT**



**JOHN WASHINGTON**  
**TRIANGLE**

### Oh, Happy Day\*

Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
Oh, when He washed (When Jesus washed)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
He washed my sins away (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)

Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
Oh, when He washed (When Jesus washed)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
He washed my sins away (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, it's a happy day (Oh, happy day)

He taught me how (He taught me how)  
To watch and fight and pray  
Watch and pray

And live rejoicing every day  
Every day

Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
Oh, when He washed (When Jesus washed)  
When Jesus washed (When Jesus washed)  
He washed my sins away (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)

He taught me how (He taught me how)  
To watch and fight and pray  
Watch and pray

And live rejoicing every day (Good god)  
Every day

Oh, happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, it's a happy day (Oh, happy day)  
Oh, lord (Oh, happy day)  
Mmm, good God (Oh, happy day)  
Oh yeah (Oh, happy day)  
Mmm, oh (Oh, happy day)

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\*Oh, Happy Day was written in the 18th century and was adapted by Edwin Hawkins, becoming a national hit in 1969.

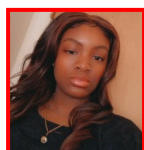


## Inside News

By Dolores Watson

### Back In Love Again

Cosmopolitan Bridge Club stepped up to the plate to host MBU's first face-to-face bridge game in almost two years at the Community Bridge Home beginning November 9, 2021, with more games on November 16, November 30, December 7 and December 14. And there is more love to come (see [photos on MBU website](#)).



Congratulations and best wishes to Charonne Higgins, recipient of the **MBU 2021 Herman Huff Scholarship** award. Charonne is pursuing a degree in nursing at Mercy College. In 2020, she was awarded a scholarship by the Duplicate Bridge Club of Mount Vernon.

### Spread the Word

Now is a good time to inform friends and family about student education scholarship opportunities in the ABA. Download applications at the following links: [2022 Herman Huff Scholarship](#) and [2022 Alberta Peterson Scholarship](#).

### Learning on Zoom

Instructor Willie Fuchs announced continued Zoom bridge classes starting January 3, 2022 at 9:30 am. Bridge lessons are geared toward intermediate and advance study. The book recommended, *Playing 2/1: The Rest of the Story*, is by Paul Thurston. You may obtain the complete class schedule by emailing [metropolitanbridgeunit@aol.com](mailto:metropolitanbridgeunit@aol.com) or the instructor at [wavin11369@gmail.com](mailto:wavin11369@gmail.com). Willie will answer your questions. Please know that classes are free but it is suggested that any donations be sent to the Community Bridge Home.



By Lois M. Wright

### Happy New Year Bridge Family

As we head into another year of dealing with the pandemic, none of us could have predicted that at the end of 2021 we would still be without much ease. We truly appreciate your continued support as we adapt to the unprecedented circumstances impacting the ongoing operations of the Community Bridge Home. What a blessing you have been.

We thank all who are participating in the weekly ABA/BBO online game benefitting the Bridge Home as well as those participating in the Zoom bridge classes and for your generous donations (classes will resume the first week of January 2022). We extend a special "thank you" to Mr. Willie Fuchs for donating his time and effort preparing for and instructing the bridge classes.

A special thank you to the many that sent donations to the Community Bridge Home in "remembrance of Mr. Moses Smallwood." Your generosity is very much appreciated.



### EASTERN SECTION

NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR  
VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY AND TREASURER  
TERM OF OFFICE: TWO YEARS (1/1/2023-12/31/2024)

All nominees must be members in good standing.  
See bylaws at [www.abaeas.org](http://www.abaeas.org).

Barbara Wingate, Chair  
Eastern Section Nominating Committee  
Email: [bannwin@aol.com](mailto:bannwin@aol.com)

### AMERICAN BRIDGE ASSOCIATION EASTERN SECTION SPRING FLING

May 23-26, 2022

#### RESORTS CASINO AND HOTEL

1133 Boardwalk, Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
Room Rate: \$74 + taxes/fees (double occupancy)  
Reservation Deadline: May 14, 2022  
1.609.340.6760 ♦ Group Code: VABA22

**SUBMISSIONS FOR THE APRIL 2022  
ISSUE ARE DUE MARCH 15**

*Thank you to our reporters.*

### EDITORS

Rita Thompson **917.887.5200**  
Dolores Watson **516.485.7868**  
Annetta Wallace **718.723.3983**



## Get Well Wishes

**Bayview**  
Rudy Cummings  
Phyllis Jones

**Co-op City**  
Ernestine Myles  
Genesis Washington

**Mount Vernon**  
Lorraine Hinds



**Triangle**  
Julius Fields

**Twilight**  
Mercedes Mann  
Betty Sherrill

**Westbury**  
Ted Conliffe  
Mayer Wiesen  
Barbara Wingate



## Condolences

### *Cosmopolitan*

*Ruth Shuler and Lois Wright  
on the loss of their sister/aunt*

### *Springfield*

*Evelyn Smallwood, Lynda Straker  
and Janice McBean  
on the loss of Moses Smallwood*

### *Westbury*

*Family of Wilma Alexander*



## JANUARY

**BAYVIEW**  
Sylvia Simmons  
Louise Wilson  
**BROOKLYNITES**  
Terence Drayton  
Vanessa Muhammad-Khan  
Elijah Seabrook  
Denise Whethers  
**CO-OP CITY**  
Lorelei Blackman  
**COSMO**  
Bob Diskin  
**MOUNT VERNON**  
LaChonne DeVeaux

**SPRINGFIELD**  
Daisy Carew  
Marcia Demos  
**TRIANGLE**  
Alice Butler  
Mayme Frazier  
Minnie Goka  
Dorothy Hamilton  
**TWILIGHT**  
Chris Blount  
Betty Ball  
**WESTBURY**  
Theodore Conliffe  
Jeraldine Odoms

## FEBRUARY

**BROOKLYNITES**  
John Clark  
Monique Fountaine  
Barry Jamison  
Selina McNeil  
**CO-OP CITY**  
Valerie Smith  
**JET SETTER**  
Harry Gaines  
Geraldine Granger  
Beverly Sessions-Kelly  
Fannie Smiths

**MOUNT VERNON**  
Beryl Battle  
Georgina Correa  
Dr. Parvez Mehta  
Clarence Schmidt  
**SPRINGFIELD**  
Edwin Ward II  
Marie Barnes  
**TWILIGHT**  
Robert Patterson  
E. Frances Reid  
Eleanor Waymer  
**WESTBURY**  
Thomas Holloway  
Barbara Wingate

## MARCH

**BAYVIEW**  
Willie Fuchs  
**BROOKLYNITES**  
Brenda Forte  
John Hopkins  
Mary A. Lewis  
Cheri Lightfoot  
Sheree Moore  
**COSMO**  
Therese Hamilton  
Doris White

**JET SETTER**  
Lemuel Copeland  
Minnie Hagans  
Traci Stukes  
**MOUNT VERNON**  
Dr. Ann Brandwein  
Dolores Thompson  
**SPRINGFIELD**  
James McKeon  
Marion Mercer  
Lynda Straker  
**TRIANGLE**  
Greg Morrison



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**Metropolitan Bridge Unit, Inc.**

## **Metropolitan Bridge Unit Annual Membership Meeting October 16, 2021**

Lynda Straker called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM and welcomed everyone to our ZOOM virtual meeting.

**Roll Call:** Present: Lynda Straker, Janice McBean, Raye Liverpool, Sharon Fox, Charles Guest, Lois Wright, and representatives from the following clubs: Astro, Bayview, Co-op City, Cosmo, Jet Setters, Mount Vernon, Springfield, Triangle, Twilight, and Westbury.

**Good and Welfare** – Lois Wright stated Ersaline Callender should be added to the “Get Well” recipients.

Good and Welfare Report: January – October 2021

Prepared by: Lois M. Wright – Email address: [Mystuff1944@netzero.net](mailto:Mystuff1944@netzero.net)

### **NAME CLUB REASON**

#### **January 2021**

Dr. Gloria L. Hobbs Mount Vernon Get Well Card

#### **February 2021**

Julia Rinehardt Astro Get Well Card

Charles Guest Mount Vernon Sympathy Card-Passing of his 1<sup>st</sup> Cousin

Dr. Gloria L. Hobbs Mount Vernon Sympathy Card-Passing of her Brother

#### **March 2021**

Edna Boothe Westbury Get Well Card

Jerri Odoms Westbury Get Well Card

Patricia Binyard Westbury Get Well Card

Evelyn Smallwood Springfield Get Well Card

Moses Smallwood Springfield Get Well Card

Cynthia Stroy Twilight Get Well Card

Mercedes Mann Twilight Get Well Card

Georginna Rodriguez Co-Op City Get Well Card

#### **March 2021 (Members & Former Members with Long Term Illnesses)**

Rudolph Cummings Bayview Get Well Card

Phyllis Jones Bayview Get Well Card

Theodore Conliffe Westbury Get Well Card

Tom Holloway Westbury Get Well Card

Meyer Wiesen Westbury Get Well Card

Jane Harris Jetsetter Get Well Card

#### **April 2021**

Cynthia Stroy Family Twilight Sympathy Card-Passing of Member

Naomi Jones Family Mt. Vernon Sympathy Card-Passing of Life Member

Jose Ramos Cosmopolitan Sympathy Card-Passing of his Mother

#### **May 2021**

Harry Gaines Jetsetter Get Well Card

Queenie May Co-op City Sympathy Card-Passing of her Husband

Marilyn Guishard Family Mt. Vernon Sympathy Card-Passing of Former Member

#### **June and July 2021**

Julia Rinehardt Astro Get Well Card

Genesis Washington Co-op City Get Well Card

Betty Sherrill Twilight Get Well Card

Devora Sconiers Jetsetter Get Well Card

Moses Smallwood Springfield Get Well Card





## Metropolitan Bridge Unit, Inc.

John H. Washington Family Triangle Sympathy Card-Passing of Life Master  
Rosalee W. Samuels Family Cosmopolitan Sympathy Card-Passing of Member  
Julius Fields Triangle Get Well Card  
Devora Sconiers Family Jetsetter Sympathy Card-Passing of Member  
Patricia Jackson Thomas Bayview Get Well Card  
Minnie Hagans Jetsetter Sympathy Card-Passing of her Brother  
Sylvia Simmons Bayview Sympathy Card-Passing of her Son  
Annie Nelson Family Triangle Sympathy Card-Passing of Member

### June and July 2021 Members and Former Members with Long-Term Illnesses

Rudolph Cummings Bayview Get Well Card  
Phyllis Jones Bayview Get Well Card  
Mercedes Mann Twilight Get Well Card  
Wilma Alexander Westbury Get Well Card  
Theodore Conliffe Westbury Get Well Card  
Jane Harris Jet setter Get Well Card

**August 2021**

Moses Smallwood Springfield Get Well Card  
Clarence Polite Co-op City Sympathy Card-Passing of his Son

## September and October 2021

Alverna Lewis Westbury Sympathy Card-Passing of her Brother  
Gladys Smith Mt. Vernon Sympathy Card-Passing of her Nephew  
Dorothy Smith Co-op City Sympathy Card-Passing of her Nephew  
Jane Harris Family Jetsetter Sympathy Card-Passing of Life Member  
Julius Fields Triangle Get Well Card  
Mercedes Mann Twilight Get Well Card  
Wilma Alexander Westbury Get Well Card  
Deborah Mabry Westbury Get Well Card  
Julia Rinehardt Astro Get Well Card  
Georginna Rodriguez Co-op City Get Well Card  
Dolores Thompson Mt. Vernon Sympathy Card-Passing of her Brother  
Edna Britt Family Unknown Sympathy Card-Passing of Former Member

**September and October 2021 (Members & Former Members with Long Term Illnesses)**

Rudolph Cummings Bayview Get Well Card  
Phyllis Jones Bayview Get Well Card  
Theodore Conliffe Westbury Get Well Card  
Tom Holloway Westbury Get Well Card  
Meyer Wiesen Westbury Get Well Card

*A Special Thank You from "The Yearwood Family": Dear Ms. Straker and the MBU Family. "During a time like this we realize how much our friends mean to us. Your kind expression of sympathy will always be remembered.....With Love the Yearwood Family".*

**In Loving Memory of Sylvia Yearwood: God grant me the Serenity to accept the things I cannot change....Courage to change the things I can....and Wisdom to know the difference. "Thank you for your contribution and your overall love and support shown to our family. And, also thank you for contributing to our Mother's Funeral Service. Your acts of kindness were appreciated. David and Sharon Yearwood"**

**A Special Thank You from Dr. Gloria L. Hobbs:** “Thank You for Your Sympathy”. Dear Bridge Friends: “On behalf of my family and me, I would like to thank you for your expressions of sympathy on the death of my brother, Horace A Lindsay, Jr.....Your messages and other forms of condolences were very comforting and greatly appreciated. They have helped so much during this time. And, may He rest in peace”.

**A Special Thank You from Charles Guest:** *“Thank you for your support during this difficult time. Your blessings on the loss of my cousin Keith, are much appreciated.”*



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**Thank You Card from “The Guest Family”:**

*“Your kind expressions of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. Thank You. Ms. Beatrice Guest”*

**Thank You Card from Kathryn C. Boxill:**

*Angels are not only in heaven. They also walk among us here on earth. Forever grateful for your grace, comforting heart, and generous spirit. With Gratitude.*

*“Thank You Ms. Straker & All MBU Members. It was a true blessing when my Dad, Enric Boxill, discovered Bridge and fell in love with the game. And, I’m sure he appreciated, and was grateful for all of the friendships made. // Thank You for the Generous Gift. // Wishing All Peace, Love and an Abundance of Continued Blessings. With Love & Gratitude, Kathryn C. Boxill and Family.”*

**Thank You Card from Jose Ramos:**

*Thank You Very Much: “To Ms. Straker and Metropolitan Bridge Unit Members, for your support and comfort.” From: Jose and Family.*

**Thank You Letter from Betty Sherrill:**

*Dear Bridge Family: “Thank you for your prayers, calls, cards, and words of encouragement. My Bridge Family continues to be a source of comfort and joy, during a time when so many people can easily get lost in loneliness and fear. We must all keep each other in our prayers. And, may God continue to bring us peace.”*

**Thank You Card from Minnie Hagans:**

*“With Thanks. More than “Thank You” could ever say – your thoughtfulness is appreciated”. Sincerely, Minnie Hagans.*

**Thank You to My Bridge Family:**

*“Many Thanks to you for your cards and kind words during my recuperation. I greatly appreciate you thinking of me. God Bless all of you”.... Best Regards from Patricia Jackson Thomas.*

**Thank You for your Sympathy - From Gladys and Dorothy Smith:**

*“Dear Bridge Friends, Thank you for kind expressions of sympathy on the death of our nephew. Your kind words and beautiful cards were very comforting and greatly appreciated. They helped so much during this difficult time.*

**From Eastern Section – Passaic, New Jersey**

**A Special Thank You Card from the son of the late Mrs. Rosalind Dixon, “Jawanza Phoenix”:**

*To Lynda Straker and Metropolitan Bridge Unit Members: “Thank You for your card and kind words. Your kind and thoughtful expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged”.....From: Jawanza Phoenix / Eastern Section, Passaic, New Jersey*

**Metropolitan Bridge Unit (MBU) 2021 Final Grand Slammers**

*Cynthia Stroy (April) Twilight  
Naomi Jones (April) Mt. Vernon  
John H. Washington (June) Triangle  
Rosalee W. Samuels (July) Cosmopolitan  
Devora Sconiers (July) Jetsetter  
Annie Nelson (July) Triangle  
Jane Harris (September) Jetsetter*

**Former Member**

*Marilyn Guishard (May) Mt. Vernon  
Edna Britt (October) Unknown*



### *A Special Message From The Metropolitan Bridge Unit (MBU)*



*“Wishing You and Your Family Peace, Love and Joy.”*

*“Be Blessed and Stay Safe.”*

**Invocation** – by Sharon Fox.

**Minutes** – Presented by Janice McBean. Minutes of the July 17, 2021 membership meeting were reviewed by the membership. MOTION (Sharon Fox/Rita Thompson): Accept minutes as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

**Correspondence** – None.

**President’s Report** – Presented by Lynda Straker

Dear MBU Family,

Time is flying by. It’s fall already and we are still living in uncertain times with no clear solution to the issues that present themselves at the bridge table – at least when thinking about playing face to face. We, in the MBU, miss seeing each other and competing under our customary circumstances.

At our last meeting, we spoke about resuming club games upon receiving the waiver that each player must sign prior to the game. Published in this edition of our Consumer are the ABA 1) COVID 19 Participant Waiver of Liability, Acknowledgement and Assumption of Risk Agreement and 2) Guidelines for Face to Face Bridge. Both documents will be discussed at our next MBU Zoom membership meeting on Saturday, October 16, 2021 at 1:00 pm. Any ABA club game must adhere to these guidelines and each participant must sign the Waiver attached at each game.

The ABA is sponsoring a Welcome Back Tournament from November 30 through December 4, 2021 in New Orleans. The details are on the ABA homepage and early registration is encouraged.

Playing duplicate bridge on BBO continues to attract many MBU players. For those who are patiently (or impatiently) waiting for a resumption of face to face bridge games with little or no risk have found a “safe haven” on BBO. Sadly, the price we pay is no social interaction and the absence of friendly exchanges.

Thank you to those who support the Bridge Home by playing in the 11:00 am BBO Benefit Game on Wednesdays and to Willie Fuchs who has directed that payment for his lessons be sent to the Bridge Home.

Our BBO Big Apple virtual game on Tuesdays at 2:00 pm is struggling to survive. This game is a fund raiser for the MBU and we were hoping for membership support. If there are any suggestions to promote the viability of this game, please email me at [ljays96@aol.com](mailto:ljays96@aol.com) or present your ideas at our October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.



# THE CONSUMER

WITH ALL THE MBU NEWS FIT TO PRINT

**Metropolitan Bridge Unit, Inc.**

It seems clear to me that we will not be returning to duplicate bridge as we remember it for some time – if at all. Our memories, though, of our club games, “C” games, “B” weekends, our “AAA”s, sectional and national tournaments and all the special people we know and have known will sustain us while we wait for that inner peace that will signal the time is right for us to venture out into the real world again and play bridge. Some of us are ready now to take that step and others are still hesitant to leave the virtual bridge world. Whatever your state of mind, the MBU needs your support and appreciates your choice. Stay safe and enjoy playing bridge – until we meet again.

Sincerely,

## Financial Secretary's Report – Presented by Raye Liverpool, July 1 – September 30, 2021

### **Income**

Chase Bank Fee 4.00  
 Bridge Home BBO Proceeds from ABA 801.42  
 MBU BBO Games 509.84  
 Total Funds Received 1,315.26

### **Expenses**

Bridge Home Bank Fees 4.00  
 Point Card Mailing 8.20  
 Bridge Home BBO Proceeds from ABA 801.42  
 MBU BBO Games 240.00  
 Stipend Web Fees 107.37  
 Zoom Fees 81.39  
 Memoriums 150.00  
 Total Expenses 1,392.38

**Net Income/Loss -77.12**

### **Notes:**

Scrip on hand: \$656  
 ABA checks for Bridge Home are for May, June and July.  
 ABA checks for MBU are for May, June and July.

## Treasurer's Report – Sharon Fox (July 1, 2021-September 30, 2021)

Checking Account	
Opening Balance	\$15,246.08
Deposits	\$1,315.26
Total	\$16,561.34

**Checks/fees paid	\$1,522.38
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Closing Balance	\$15,038.96
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**\*\*Checks paid/misc. expenses**

\$100.00	memoriums
\$200.00	board stipend
\$220.00	BBO Director fees
\$111.37	web fees
\$801.42	Bridge Home proceeds from BBO
\$81.39	MBU Zoom Webinar
\$8.20	point card mailings

\$1,522.38	TOTAL
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Respectfully Submitted





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**Metropolitan Bridge Unit, Inc.**

**Entertainment Tax** – None.

**Point Coordinator Report** – Lois Wright

Lois Wright will send club presidents a point listing of top players in MBU and top players in 2021 by category. If the club point coordinators have any questions, please feel free to contact Lois at [Mystuff1944@netzero.net](mailto:Mystuff1944@netzero.net).

**Sectional Representative Report** - Charles Guest reported:

1. The Eastern Section will have their 'Spring Fling' at the Resorts Hotel and Casino in Atlantic City, New Jersey, from May 23, to May 26, 2022.
2. ABA, ES, and MBU dues will be decreased by 10% if paid before 11/30/21.

**Property** – none.

**Constitution** - The Constitution committee needs at least four volunteers. Please contact Diane Edgerton-Norman if interested.

**Scholarship** – Presented by Valerie Brooks. A \$500 scholarship has been processed for Charone Higgins, Nursing major at Mercy College. Donations are always welcome.

**Tournament Report** – None.

**Consumer Report** – Presented by Rita Thompson

Rita Thompson thanked the clubs for their Consumer article submissions. All previous issues of the Consumer may be found on the MBU website ([www.MBUINC.org](http://www.MBUINC.org)). Next deadline is 12/15/21. Thank you to our reporters and the editing team.

**Hospitality Report** – None.

**Website/Facebook** – None.

**Unfinished Business**

1. Lynda Straker reported that the cancel date for the 2022 AAA is May 5, 2022. We need to start work / planning now if we are going to have a 2022 AAA.
2. Donna Woo requested her Consumer be emailed and no longer sent by U.S. Postal Service.
3. Waiver and guidelines for 'face-to-face' bridge have been sent to the MBU membership.
4. COSMO will open 11/9/21 and host an 11:30 am game at the Bridge Home. All ABA guidelines will be followed. Please arrive early. Masks are highly recommended. Discussion followed on the mandatory requirement of wearing a mask. Members have the right to decide where they will or will not play based upon the club/State requirement. A picture of your vaccination card will be accepted as proof of vaccination. Annetta Wallace and Cheryl Jones will direct. Each player will be issued a bidding box to use throughout all subsequent games. Discussion was held on the need for a bidding box control assignment sheet.

**New Business**

1. 2022 ABA, ES, MBU, and club dues are due. If paid before 11/30/21 the ABA, ES, and MBU will offer a 10% discount. Dues may be paid with scrip.
2. The MBU Annual membership meeting will be held on the third Saturday in January (1/15/22). We hope to offer a 'face-to-face' meeting, ZOOM meeting, and a C game, if directors say it is possible. The MBU Executive Board will meet and discuss the 2022 AAA and options available for the MBU Annual meeting. The MBU game will have a mask requirement. Attendees will bring their own refreshments. Consideration will be given to starting earlier to avoid night driving.
3. MBU Club Good and Welfare payment for 2022 of \$40 is due in January 2022.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** - None.

Meeting adjourned at 1:59 PM

Respectfully submitted by Janice McBean, MBU Secretary



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Metropolitan Bridge Unit, Inc.  
c/o Watson  
80 Tennessee Avenue  
Hempstead, NY 11550

**TO:**