

# THE VILLAGE CARD CLUB

*www.villagecardclub.org*

## NEWSLETTER

A Zero Tolerance Club

4th QUARTER 2007

DECEMBER 2007

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

### COMING EVENTS

#### DECEMBER 2007

- 13<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Party (11:00)
- 19<sup>th</sup> – ACBL Membership Game (1:00)
- 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> CLUB CLOSED for Christmas

#### JANUARY 2008

- 1<sup>st</sup> – ACBL Bridge Bowl (12:30)
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (9:00 & 10:30)
- 6<sup>th</sup> – 199 Swiss Club Championship (1:00)
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Unit-Wide Championship (12:30)
- 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> – North American Pairs (District Finals), Vicksburg, MS (B&C)
- 14<sup>th</sup> – LM/NLM Mixer (7:00)
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (1:00)
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Unit Championship (12:30)
- 20<sup>th</sup> – B/C Swiss Team Game (1:00)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – ACBL Membership Game (6:30)
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (12:30)
- 27<sup>th</sup> – Unit Team Game (1:00)
- 30<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (9:00)

#### FEBRUARY 2008

- 2<sup>nd</sup> – ACBL-Wide International Fund Game (12:30)
- 4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> – STaC Regular Games
- 8<sup>th</sup> – STaC Open Pairs (9:00 & 1:00)
- 10<sup>th</sup> – STaC Open Pairs (1:00)

### COMING EVENTS (continued)

#### FEBRUARY 2008 (continued)

- 11<sup>th</sup> – ACBL Membership Game (9:00)
- 11<sup>th</sup> – LM/NLM Mixer (7:00)
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Unit-Wide Championship (12:30)

#### 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> – VCC SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT

- 20<sup>th</sup> – Mentor Game (6:30)
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Club Championship (12:30)
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Unit Team Game (1:00)
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Seniors Game (1:00)

#### MARCH 2008

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Grand National Team (Unit qualification—2 sessions—9:00 start)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – 199 Swiss Team Game (1:00)
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (12:30)
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (6:30)
- 10<sup>th</sup> – LM/NLM Mixer Club Champ. (7:00)
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Unit-Wide Championship (12:30)
- 12<sup>th</sup> – ACBL-Wide Charity Game (7:00)
- 16<sup>th</sup> – B/C Swiss Team Game (1:00)
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (9:00)
- 18<sup>th</sup> – ACBL Membership Open Game (12:30)
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Mentor Game (6:30)
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – CLUB CLOSED for Easter
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Club Championship (12:30 & 1:00)

## LIFE MASTER ACHIEVERS

### LIFE MASTER

Greg Bono  
Bob Davis  
Mary Jo Kilker  
Becky Rice

### BRONZE

Ellen Weber

## Club Appreciation Day

The club honored all the directors, teachers, clerks, many volunteers and all the members. What a huge success! 166 players showed up for pizza and an enjoyable day with great food and a fun afternoon of bridge (45 ½ tables – WOW!).

Lillian Estes received a certificate of appreciation for all of her hard work at VCC from President, Ned Irving,

Greg Bono was last year's recipient of the Sally Blevens award. His name will be added to the trophy. This award goes to the under 200 MP player who earned the most points during the year.

Thelma Mankel  
Janice Wood

20 MP Annette Bono  
Peggy Grant  
Alvin Hall  
Spencer Jordan  
Bill Veal  
Linda Smith

50 MP Anne Holt  
Helen Raxsdale  
Bob Wessel

100 MP Sherry Evans  
Harvey Hjelm  
Sharon Hjelm  
Charlotte Seiler

200 MP Arden Boomgarden  
Bev Brown  
Lavonne Hein  
Ken Pyles  
Barbara Truesdell

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## Membership

Some interesting statistics! At the present time our membership is 763 members which includes 100 players new to VCC this year. Our club has 37 members over 85.

The Membership for 2008 has begun. The dues are \$3.00 per person. If your address has not changed, fill out your name and attach your money or check to the application. Please **note** if there are any changes from last year.

Did you know that you can donate \$100 to the Village Card Club and become a lifetime member? Allan Walker recently became our first lifetime member.

Teri LaBove, Membership Chairman & Director



## **TOURNAMENT ALERT**

**A pre-holiday reminder that the VCC VALENTINE SECTIONAL TOURNAMENT will be held on February 15, 16 & 17 here at Casa de Carta. Bracketed Knockouts and Stratified Pairs play will be held on Friday and Saturday with Swiss Teams on Sunday. Please see the pink flyer or the VCC website for more details. If you would like more flyers to distribute on your holiday travels, please contact Dick Condon, Marilyn Biegler or Liz Coonfer. Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Season. Your Tournament Committee.**

## Masterpoint Achievements

5 MP Mary Ann Foster  
Barbara Hill  
Nancy Jones

# President's Message

Hello everyone!

First I would like to say thanks to all of you for allowing me to serve our club as President for the past 2 years. I appreciate the tremendous support that you have given to me and to the board!

I would like to thank the many volunteers who stepped forward to serve the club in so many ways. Also, thanks to the Board who put in many long hours in the interest of our club.

In reflecting about our club, I have a concern that when some have a different opinion, too often things in the club become heated and very personal. Let me share some recent examples:

We have a Constitution and Bylaws that govern our club, which the membership rightly expects our board to follow. If something is not specifically noted in these governing documents, then the Bylaws state that Roberts Rules of Order applies if it provides pertinent guidance on the matter.

Recently we had some questions about absentee ballots for the elections. The Bylaws do not address absentee ballots, but Roberts Rules does, and they are not allowed. We also had some questions about the authority of the nominating committee. The Bylaws do not get into detail about the nominating committee function. Roberts Rules says "that it is usually not sound" to require the nominating committee to nominate more than one candidate for each office. The process that is being used in the club is consistent with our Bylaws and with Robert's Rules. If you feel the Constitution and Bylaws need changing, write the Constitution and Bylaws Committee with suggested changes and rationale. Alternately, such a change could be brought to the Board to decide to bring to the membership in the same way. Although in the interest of teamwork it is preferred to work through the Constitution and Bylaws Committee or the Board, any member has the right to bring forward to the membership a Constitution or Bylaws change as provided in the Amendments Article in both the Constitution and Bylaws. By posting the change on the bulletin board at least 2 weeks before a semi-annual meeting, then that item would automatically be on the agenda for the meeting.

It may surprise many of you to know that some very aggressive challenges have been made regarding absentee ballots and regarding the nominating function. When members do overly challenge those who are volunteering their time to serve the club, what happens is that the next time we need these fine people, they may say no thanks because of a few who make their job unpleasant or difficult. I have heard this comment a great many times from members who are currently serving the club in various functions and from members who have served before but are unwilling to do so now.

I would like to propose a New Year's Resolution for the club, to encourage everyone to use the governing process that our charter members wisely developed rather than focusing on criticizing those who simply did what they thought they were supposed to, based on our current Constitution and Bylaws.

Dictionary definition of Teamwork: Working together for a common end. What does that mean? Does any reasonable person think that this means that in a social bridge club it is OK for any of us to both insist on our own viewpoint and totally disregard the viewpoints of others? There is way too much time spent in our club assassinating others' ideas instead of truly working together to find a common end. Do you want to be part of the solution? Be a team player and walk the talk. Do you want to be part of the problem? Exclude others, do not consider their ideas, and be unwilling to compromise in the interest of harmony. The choice is ours. Which person are you?

We are all so very lucky to live in a place like we do with so many wonderful people, and on top of that we have a fabulous facility where we can play the game of bridge that we all love. Let's not forget just how fortunate we all are!

My proposed New Year's Resolution is for groups of people who disagree with other groups to truly work together as one team to make the club better. Be a part of the solution! Commit to collaboration, teamwork and compromise. Do the things necessary to achieve it!

Thanks for listening!

Happy holidays to everyone!!

## Unit Teams

We will start having Unit Teams Games the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month starting January 27, 2008. Unit 161 has adopted new requirements for this game in 2008. Team point totals are based on individual masterpoints as of January 1, 2008. The total team combination cannot exceed 7 points per the following Unit Team-7 point format below:

- (A) 1500+ = 3 points
- (B) 300–1499 = 2 points
- (C) 0-299 = 1 point

Possible team configurations are:

- 1 'A' player + 1 'B' player + 2 'C' players
- 1 'A' player + 3 'C' players
- 3 'B' players + 1 'C' player
- 4 'C' players

This is intended to build friendly competition between all the clubs in Unit 161, and bring more of us together from the various levels. We urge as many teams as possible to be formed for fun games at the club level. The playoff to decide which teams will represent the VCC at the DeGray tournament in November will be held on Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. For every 6 teams that compete in the Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup> qualifying game, we can send one team to DeGray. We certainly have enough players to form at least 13 teams, so please form your teams as soon as possible so we can send three teams to represent the VCC at DeGray. It would be great if all the VCC players over 1500 MP would ask 299'ers to play, as 299'er players may be reluctant to ask you.

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## Grand National Teams

On Saturday, March 1, 2008 we will have a 2 session Unit Grand National Team qualifying game at the VCC. There will be 3 flights/strata that will compete and for each flight/strata GOLD POINTS will be given. All teams finishing in the top half of their respective fields qualify to play at the District Final in Vicksburg, MS sectional on April 25-27, 2008. The winners at the District Final will represent District 10 at Nationals. Per ACBL to play in this event you must be an ACBL member. We would love to have all of our members form teams and compete in this event.

The flights are as follows:

Flight C: 0-500 MP Non Life Master

Flight B: 0-2000 MP

Flight A: 0-5000 MP

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## STaC Week

STaC games (Sectional Tournament at Club) will be held February 4-10, 2008, and June 16-22, 2008. This is a great opportunity for those needing silver points to get them at the club level without traveling to sectional tournaments, the only other place to earn silver points. To become a Life Master a player must have 300 points and at least 50 have to be silver, 25 have to be red, and 25 have to be gold. For those life masters who don't need silver points we would urge you to support these games in order to maximize the points available for our non-life masters, and to also take advantage of sectionally rated points awards for yourselves. These games are stratified so while lower strata players will play against everybody, they can score in any of the levels.

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## Life Master Party

The Village Card Club honored seven new Life Masters plus new Bronze, Silver, Gold and one Diamond Life Master at the annual Life Master party.

Receiving recognition this year were new Life Masters Lu Hagen, Bob Engels, Marcy Jordan, Nancy Luehring, Greg Bono, Bob Davis & Mary Jo Kilker.

Bronze Life Master has been achieved by Tom Martick, Barbara Meiners, Roger Wigton, Susan Trimble, Sharon Cissell, Rita Martick, Bill Jones, Don Russell, Pat Bowles, Loretta Parks and Diana Patterson.

Sherman Olson, Joan Burlingame and Verdie White have earned Silver Life Master status.

VCC is pleased to honor Norma Stewart and "Wen" Wenger our new Gold Life Masters.

Louallen Leach is our new Diamond Life Master (over 5,000 MP). This is an amazing achievement.

Congratulations to all who reached these milestones.

## BRIDGE CLASSES

A new series of Audrey Grant classes will be offered starting in January. There will be classes in bidding, play of the hand, defense and conventions.

Orientation will be held **Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 9:00**. Come have coffee and donuts with us and learn about the classes to be offered and meet the teachers.

### Seventy Percent Club

9/17	Barbara Hill & Jim Reilly	71.43
9/28	Patricia & Larry Kaddatz	70.83
10/9	Mary Ann Foster & Nancy Jones	73.97
10/9	GINNA DeTHOMAS & DIANE Blackwood	72.69
11/12	Bev & Bob Brown	70.70
11/20	Tony Hofstede & Randy Lusk	71.06
12/3	Betty & Roger Wigton	74.28
12/4	Betty Shultz & Bill Howard	70.14
12/4	Eileen Pyles & Carol Reed	70.42

### PLAYERS OF THE MONTH

#### September

Open	Joe Fischer
0-1000	Greg Bono
0-300	Larry Kaddatz
0-20	Janice Wood

#### October

Open	Betty Schultz
0-1000	Jeannette Campbell
0-300	GINNA DeTHOMAS
0-20	Pam Harris

#### November

Open	Betty Schultz
0-1000	Barbara Stiff
0-300	Ken Pyles
0-20	Joi Miller

## The Convention Card

It is an obligation of each member of a partnership to have a convention card that is **complete** and **identical** to his/her partner's card.

The convention card was designed to inform opponents of your partnership agreements. When filling out your card you should go through each section and clearly mark every black, blue (announcement) and red (alert) box that **applies for your partnership**. Periodically (one a year or so), check your convention card to ensure that you and your partner are using the current ACBL version of the card. If not, update your card to make it current.

It is a good idea for your partnership to fill out your card together well before the start of your first game and review your card before the start of every game to refresh your memory. You **may not** look at your convention card during the bidding or play of the hand. Your card should be neat and clean and placed on the table for easy access by opponents. If you are asked a question about your partner's bid and are not completely sure of your partnership agreement, it may be best to refer your opponent to your partner's convention card.

If you do not have identical conventions cards at tournaments, you could have points deducted.

Have questions about the convention card? Contact one of our directors or teachers.

## **RESORT CITY REGIONAL**

**Plan now to attend the Resort City Regional Tournament in Hot Springs, May 5-11, 2008 at the Arlington Hotel. Schedules are now available. There are 299er games every session, including a 299er Swiss Team on Sunday. There are several team games scheduled, including Knockouts, single session Swiss Teams, Compact Knockouts (2 sessions) and a Board a Match (on Friday). Get your partners now. This is a great opportunity to get your gold points!!**

## **MENTORING PROGRAM**

The mentoring committee wishes to thank all the mentors for their time. This program cannot exist without mentors for the members that want to learn and improve their bridge skills. The committee truly appreciates your being a part of this wonderful program.

The committee: Teri LaBove, Dick Banks, Maureen Morgan, Marilyn Anderson and Nan Medcalf enjoyed serving the members that signed up to be mentored. We hope to serve you again next year.

**Our Village Card Club team won the Unit Team Championship by beating the Siebert team from Little Rock. Congratulations to Ray Bank, Ned Irving, Becky Rice and Bob Davis. There is a lovely traveling trophy that is ours for a year.**

**Let's try to keep it here next year. There will be a Unit Team Swiss Game on the fourth Sunday of each month. Get your team together and practice for this event.**

### **TUNICA, MS TUNICA REGIONAL September 24-30, 2007**

- 49.77 Betty Schultz, Ned Irving
- 36.14 Martha Blaine
- 36.04 Verdie White, Bob Case, Susan & Bill Trimble
- 27.45 Cindy Devish, Barbara Stiff
- 26.73 Peg Birzer, Marilyn Biegler
- 25.57 Becky Rice, Bob Davis
- 25.01 Gina Doss, Andy Cosby
- 23.63 Bonnie McDonald, Barbara Schlesinger
- 21.52 Monica Mitchell, Barbara Meiners
- 20.61 Doris Ham, John Hegner
- 15.54 Carolyn Chunn
- 12.54 Ginna DeThomas, Lillian Estes
- 12.23 Jan Farnsworth, Dolores Pilarski
- 11.73 Bob Prestridge, Greg Bono
- 11.71 Nancy Luehring, Marcy Jordan
- 9.20 Mary Jo Kilker, Lu Hagen
- 7.64 Rita & Tom Martick
- 7.49 Arden & Dennis Boomgarden
- 5.30 Diana & Jim Podawiltz
- 4.87 Ray Banks, Frank Mathews
- 4.36 Sarah Fike, Sandra Snyder
- 4.15 Glenda & Dave Barrow

- 3.00 Teri LaBove, Doris Waugh
- 2.88 Betty & Roger Wigton
- 2.32 Carol & Ron Trainer, Cathy & Jerry Bertrand
- 2.10 Ken Pyles
- 2.08 Janet Davis, Cathy Irving
- 1.94 Eileen Pyles
- 1.82 Oleta Looney
- 1.80 Marge Gortsema, Linda Raborn
- 1.36 Beverlee Redding, Barbara Truesdell, Barbara Mulcahy
- 1.01 Bev & Frank Ames
- .76 Stephanie Hawley, Joyce Kovach
- .47 Susie Brunner, Patsy Billingsley, Nan Medcalf, Loretta Parks, Lois Schoenrock, Barbara Chaplik

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### **UNIT-WIDE CHAMPIONSHIP October 13, 2007**

- Flight A, 4<sup>th</sup> Carolyn Chunn & Norma Stewart
- 6<sup>th</sup> Virginia & Frank Matthews
- Flight B, 4<sup>th</sup> Fran & Bill Bazemore
- 6<sup>th</sup> Barbara Meiners & Francie Brown

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### **KIMBERLING CITY, MO KIMBERLING CITY SECTIONAL October 26-28, 2007**

- 1.54 Sheila & Andy Cosby

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### **SAN FRANCISCO, CA NORTH AMERICAN BRIDGE CHAMPIONSHIPS November 22-December 2, 2007**

- 11.33 Monica Mitchell & Doris Ham
- 9.86 Verdie White & Bob Case

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**“Once you play bridge, you’ll never play any other card game. I told my doctor once that this is my health food.”**

**Lorene Leonard, Charlotte Observer, 11-29-02**

## BISMARCK, AR DeGRAY SECTIONAL

November 2-4, 2007

20.15 Ray Banks, Ned Irving  
18.54 Gina Doss, Betty Schultz  
18.39 Frank Matthews  
15.54 Verdie White, Bob Case  
13.90 Susan & Bill Trimble  
13.62 Martha Blaine, Teri LaBove  
13.22 Eve & Lou Agnew  
12.46 Joe Fischer  
12.45 Louallen & Jack Leach  
12.08 Billie Roberson  
11.38 Bill Howard  
10.48 Virginia Matthews  
10.13 Gene LaBove  
9.16 Greg Frank  
8.48 Martha Parry  
7.47 Diana & Jim Podawiltz  
6.21 Marcy Jordan, Nancy Luehring  
6.20 Barbara Schlesinger, Bonnie McDonald  
6.17 Becky Rice, Bob Davis  
6.00 Rita & Tom Martick  
5.07 Diane & Dick Condon, Pat & Ed Bertnolli  
5.05 Norma Stewart, Carolyn Chunn  
4.88 Charlotte Nelson, Sue Myatt  
4.87 Doris Ham, John Hegner  
4.47 Sally & Jim Crawford  
3.65 Kay Joy, Lynn Kern  
3.49 Liz & Don Coonfer  
3.34 Kathy Riedel, Sandra Villegas  
3.33 Astrid Wolf, Adair Atkinson  
2.76 Sondra Welch, Sherry Evans  
2.61 Gladys Dohrer, Anne Holt  
2.59 Barbara Meiners, Francie Brown  
2.32 Beverly & Frank Ames  
2.04 Monica Mitchell  
1.92 Marge Gortsema, Diane Madden  
1.75 Wally Johnson, Dale Stollsteimer  
1.57 Mabel Serpa, Patsy Billingsley, Ellen Weber,  
Eileen Hintzen  
1.50 Carolyn Strout  
1.49 Alicia Fetters, Rick Wendricks  
1.41 Cindy Devish, Marilyn Biegler  
1.38 Enid Scripture, Sandra Snyder  
1.37 Glory Brewer, Abbie Engel  
1.36 Maureen Morgan, Randy Luck  
1.25 June Southwick, Vicki Teel  
1.12 Eileen Pyles, Marilyn Jones  
1.11 Jan Davis, Cathy Irving

1.07 Jan Farnsworth, Dolores Pilarski  
1.02 Junell & Bob O'Hara  
.94 Beverlee Redding, Cecil Grattafiori  
.91 Susie Brunner, Nan Medcalf  
.87 Beverly & Bob Brown  
.81 Bonnie & Arlie Blankenship  
.76 Carolyn Reed, Linda Raborn  
.70 Ronnie Rice  
.60 Fran & Bill Bazemore  
.58 Barbara Mulcahy, Mickey Bearden  
.57 Jeanne Lehman, Dorothy Liljegren, Peg  
Tompos, Lucy Lewis  
.54 Lu Hagen, Mary Jo Kilker, Glenda & Dave  
Barrow  
.42 Beth Gann  
.41 Ken Pyles, Mack Williams  
.40 Diane Patterson, Lillian Estes  
.38 Millie Heisler  
.31 Sarah Fike  
.18 Diane Blackwood, Barbara Stiff

### UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS\*

#### **NATIONALS (NABC)**

Mar. 6-16, Detroit, MI

#### **REGIONALS**

Jan. 28-Feb. 3, Biloxi, MS

Feb.25-Mar. 2, Birmingham, AL

Mar. 31-Apr.5, Shreveport, LA

**May 5-11, Hot Springs, AR**

#### **SECTIONALS**

Jan. 11-13, Vicksburg, MS

**Feb. 15-17, Hot Springs Village, AR**

Feb. 21-14, Nashville, TN

Mar. 28-30, Alexandria, LA

Apr. 12-13, Metairie, LA (299er)

Apr. 18-20, Lake Charles, LA (299er)

Apr. 25-27, Vicksburg, MS

#### **NORTH AMERICAN PAIRS**

##### **District 10 Finals (Flights B and C)**

Jan. 12-13, Vicksburg, MS

#### **GRAND NATIONAL TEAMS**

##### **District 10 Finals**

Apr. 25-27, Vicksburg, MS

\* Check ACBL's *The Bridge Bulletin* for other games and details.

## VCC Schedule of Games

### Monday

9:00 AM – 0-299 Stratified Pairs

12:30 PM – 0-49 Stratified Pairs

1:00 PM – Open Stratified Pairs

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday

7 PM – Non Life Master/Master Mixer Pairs

### Tuesday

9:00 AM – Rubber Bridge

12:30 PM – 0-20 Newcomer Pairs

12:30 PM – Open Stratified Pairs

6:30 PM – 0-299 Stratified Pairs

### Wednesday

8:45 AM – Men's Duplicate

9:00 AM – 0-299 Stratified Pairs

1:00 PM – 0-999 Stratified Pairs

1:00 PM – Open Pairs

7:00 PM – Better Bridgers

### Thursday

8:45 AM – 0-5 Bridge Plus

12:30 PM – 0-299 Stratified Pairs

12:30 PM – Open Stratified Pairs

### Friday

9:00 AM – 0-99 Stratified Pairs

10:30 AM – Open Stratified Pairs

### Saturday

12:30 PM – Open Stratified Pairs

### Sunday

First 1:00 PM – 199er Swiss Team

Third 1:00 PM – B/C Swiss Teams

Fourth 1:00 PM – Unit Team (mixed)

Be sure to check the bulletin board for all of our "Special Games".

## Reminders:

Please be considerate of your fellow bridge players.

A number of our players have allergies to scented products. Do not wear perfume, cologne, shave lotion, scented lotions, etc. at the club.

Drive slowly when driving between the Woodlands buildings.

The cold and flu season is here. If you are not feeling well, do not come to bridge.

## North American Pairs District Finals

If you have qualified for the North American Pairs, be sure to attend the **District Finals** for Flights B&C which will be held in Vicksburg, MS, January 12 and 13. There are two sessions per day. Check the Vicksburg Sectional Tournament Flyer (January 11-13) for further information.

We wish to thank Mabel Serpa for her many years of service to the Village Card Club. Mabel will be retiring at the end of 2007. She has served seven different presidents as Parliamentarian.

We appreciate all that you have done for VCC Mabel and sincerely thank you.

## CONGRATULATIONS! 2008 VCC Board of Directors

President – Cecil Grattafiori

Vice President – Cathy Bertrand

Secretary – Peg Birzer

Treasurer – Jim Bicknell

Purchasing Agent – Lillian Estes

Membership Chairman – Teri LaBove

Player Development Director – Ginna DeThomas

Game Manager – Becky Rice

Publicity Director – Cathy Irving

