



BVL AND 'RE-CREATION': THE PERFECT PAIRING FOR VETS

In 1983, BVL formed a partnership with what was then an emerging organization called "Re-Creation" – a musical group venture developed to deliver professional live entertainment for veterans recuperating in VA Hospitals. The leadership at BVL concluded that the "Re-Creation" program fit very well with the organization's mission to brighten the days and boost the spirits of those who have served our country.

Almost 4,000 shows in all 50 states later, the partnership has exceeded all expectations.

As a special recognition of the second 25 years of the BVL and Re-Creation relationship, "Re-Creation" has

produced a special DVD recording of the national anthem specifically highlighting their work on behalf of BVL. This 2:05 minute version of the national anthem is now available to all BVL program coordinators, offer-



ing a very special opportunity to kick off BVL events and tournaments. The recording is available free of charge by contacting the BVL office.

Re-Creation just launched their new edition and tour. Their first trip took the troupe to the American Northwest, with their new show "LOVE" -- a dynamic stage extravaganza including the best in American music. Each VA receives free DVD and CD copies of the group's shows for future enjoyment. The new show is already a big hit and marks another great year for the "Re-Creation" and BVL partnership.

The tour stops are posted on the BVL website.

"The group 'Re-Creation' performed for us today, and without any hesitation, I can say they were the best performers we have ever had here. The residents, family members, staff and the group of Army soldiers that were here today couldn't say enough about the performance. We all want to thank you for supporting the program ... our hats are off to you for all that you do for our heroes."

—Huntsville, AL Vets Home



All local associations are being asked to conduct a BVL "Heroes in Our Midst" event this fall to honor area active duty troops and veterans.

"Heroes" is one of the most popular and successful BVL campaigns, the centerpiece of which is a public display of photos, memorabilia and notes about local

men and women who are serving or who have served our country.

"This campaign is a wonderful way to show our support for our heroes in uniform," remarked BVL Board Chair Darlene Baker. "Wherever this program is conducted, it generates a fantastic response from the both the honorees and the

community."

Participating associations report that the excitement begins with the initial launch of the effort — calling for the names of friends, loved ones and teammates who have served in the military.

Free promotional kits for the campaign are now available by contacting the BVL office.

New Fundraising Kit Available

Give your BVL campaign a lift by ordering a free copy of our new fundraising kit. It's chock-filled with tips, ideas and materials to help spread the word about BVL. Get your kit today by visiting www.BowlforVeterans.org

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2008-2009 FUNDRAISING SEASON CONCLUDES: VIRGINIA LEADS STATES IN CONTRIBUTIONS

The State of Virginia led the way in total state contributions to BVL during the just-concluded 2008-2009 fiscal year, raising more than \$36,000.

“We’re so proud of our bowlers for helping us reach this goal,” said Virginia State USBC President Judy Edwards. “They understand the difference BVL makes in the lives of our veterans. We know that BVL dollars have an immediate and positive impact — banishing loneliness and creating smiles in the lives of those who have sacrificed so much for our country. We know we are doing good.”

Georgia earned second place in the rankings, bettering their previous year’s total of \$19,000.

The race for third place was won narrowly by Illinois — as just \$150 separated them from the Golden State in fourth place. Oregon was close behind in fifth place. Oregon skyrocketed up the rankings this year with \$20,264.94. Their 2007-2008 league season contributions totaled \$3,600.

All local and state association leaders are urged to make efforts to strengthen their BVL fund-raising drive to meet the growing needs of our troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. A free BVL fund-raising kit is available by contacting the BVL office or www.BowlforVeterans.org.

Virginia	\$36,751.32	Indiana	\$4,152.58
Georgia	\$21,325.45	Nevada	\$3,540.75
Illinois	\$20,755.97	Nebraska	\$3,250.01
California	\$20,605.00	Wisconsin	\$3,142.24
Oregon	\$20,264.94	Arkansas	\$3,040.97
Tennessee	\$19,268.05	Alabama	\$2,175.00
Minnesota	\$15,372.92	New Hampshire	\$1,623.45
Ohio	\$15,369.95	Missouri	\$1,465.00
Kansas	\$13,640.28	Arizona	\$1,304.50
Florida	\$13,160.50	Maryland	\$1,134.67
New York	\$12,087.01	Kentucky	\$1,030.00
Pennsylvania	\$10,932.56	Maine	\$ 732.50
Iowa	\$ 9,798.91	Montana	\$ 497.50
Michigan	\$ 9,722.74	New Mexico	\$ 440.00
Texas	\$ 8,782.71	Delaware	\$ 366.00
South Dakota	\$ 8,717.23	Vermont	\$ 344.75
Colorado	\$ 8,299.35	West Virginia	\$ 285.00
New Jersey	\$ 7,881.16	Wyoming	\$ 283.90
South Carolina	\$ 7,384.19	Hawaii	\$ -
Connecticut	\$ 7,349.50	Idaho	\$ -
Massachusetts	\$ 7,140.00	Louisiana	\$ -
North Carolina	\$ 6,632.71	Oklahoma	\$ -
Mississippi	\$ 5,401.63	Rhode Island	\$ -
Alaska	\$ 4,916.35	Utah	\$ -
North Dakota	\$ 4,350.69	Washington	\$ -

HELEN DUVAL SCHOLARSHIP CLUB DONATES \$10,000 TO BVL

In a fitting tribute to bowling great and Bowlers to Veterans Link (BVL) Ambassador of almost 30 years - Helen Duval, the Scholarship Club that bears her name has unanimously endorsed a donation of \$10,930.95 to BVL, recognizing Duval’s lifelong commitment to the organization and America’s veterans.

“We sincerely thank the Helen Duval Scholarship Club for this wonderful contribution to BVL,” remarked BVL Board Chair Darlene Baker.

“Although Helen is recognized in our sport as a pioneer in women’s bowling and one of the founders of the youth bowling movement, we at BVL think of her as a living legend -- based on her work with our veterans.”

The contribution will be allocated to a number of diverse BVL projects reflecting the geographic range of the Scholarship Club contributors. These projects include the donation of a carpet lane bowling kit to a unit on active duty; the recreation program at Walter Reed Medical Cen-

ter; the four VA poly-trauma units located throughout the country; and the general BVL fund, serving veterans in VA Hospitals and aging WWII veterans in State Homes.

Duval began her role as BVL Ambassador in 1972, touring VA hospitals to teach recuperating veterans how to bowl and providing tips on adaptive techniques necessary due to injuries. Duval became known for her recruitment of even the most reticent of veterans onto the lanes -- forming a strong bond with the patients. Over the years,

Duval was credited for getting hundreds of vets active in the sport. Both VA patients and staff eagerly anticipated her clinics.

“We’re so pleased to be able to make this donation in Helen’s name,” explained Club President Phyllis Knoll. “This just seemed like the right thing to do. We know Helen’s dedication to the cause and we know the good work being done by BVL – it was the perfect fit.”

