



FLORIDA STATE USBC WBA NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2009

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From the Desk of Your State Association Manager . . . Katheryn Auton

As the final FS-USBC-WBA newsletter is being published, final preparations are being made for the 2009 Florida State Championship Tournament in Melbourne is being hosted by the South Brevard USBC WBA. The opening ceremony will begin at 10:30 a.m. on May 2nd at the team house (Brunswick Brevard Bowling Center) with local dignitaries welcoming our tournament bowlers and a ribbon cutting, after which, the first ball will be rolled by Nell Massingill who has bowled in the South Brevard USBC WBA association for fifty years. Nell's ball will be the first of approximately 1,168,000 balls rolled during the six weeks of the tournament. That means 2,200 bowlers will bowl 19,000+ games and almost 600,000 frames. I never realized how many times I actually rolled my ball in one night of league play.

Besides preparing for the tournament here in the office, we are also making final preparations for our annual meeting to be held May 15th. It is always so nice to see and visit with all the ladies from around the state at this meeting; it is almost like an annual reunion. The structure of the meeting will be a little different this year so we can accommodate a program by USBC representative Bob Schoneman. I look forward to hearing from Bob. Following the meeting, delegates will have time to socialize and have fun at the annual Friday evening cocktail hour and dinner. After dinner, we will be honoring the 2009 Pilar Cohalla Award inductee and the 2009 Hall of Fame inductee. Pilar Cohalla will be with us to present the Pilar Cohalla Award. This is always a special occasion for the association.

Upcoming events for the Florida State USBC WBA will be the Florida Women's Classic tournament on Saturday, July 18th at Cypress Lanes in Winter Haven. This will be our first of many scratch tournaments to come. Then the first two weekends in November, we will be at Classique Lanes in Tavares for our 2009 Women's Senior tournament. This

is always a fun tournament. Entries for these tournaments and the 2010 state championship will be available in May.

As we close this winter bowling season out, I would like to wish each of you a fun and safe summer.

Following are some dates to remember:

- April 30th: Request for Meeting Lunch Tickets due
- Request for Meeting Banquet Tickets due
- May 2nd: State Championship Tournament begins
- May 15th: FS-USBC-WBA Annual Meeting and Banquet
- June 7th: State Championship Tournament ends

SOUTH BREVARD USBC WBA

Lou Martin

It is so hard to believe that the date is already April, and all the State bowlers will be starting to come and bowl in our beautiful town in May, only one MONTH away, we are looking forward to seeing all of you. The board and our membership and of course the management and employees at the lanes have been working very hard to make sure you will enjoy your time here while you are bowling and while you are just playing and visiting all of your friends from around the state of Florida. We have lots of shopping and eateries; have a few drinks if you want. We also have some very nice night spots. LOOK OUT FOR THE LIGHTHOUSES!!!

ATTENTION ALL: There is a new owner of Brunswick Brevard Bowl, this is the team house, so don't think you are lost when you drive to Dairy Rd. and see the new name up on the marquee. The new owners also have a house in Merritt Island, so the name of our new place is Shore Lanes of Palm Bay. Sandy has already started doing things around the lanes to make you enjoy your bowling at Shore Lanes, and maybe also score some very high games and series.

We have also secured a lot of surprises for you, just to say thank you for coming to our town and helping to support us and also the State association.

So come on over, down, up or whatever and we will all have fun together, can't wait. SEE YOU SOON in Melbourne and Palm Bay!

May God bless you and yours.

Whatever you do, do it with GUSTO and LOVE!

What do the words “taking a chance” mean to you? Does it mean that for a small amount of money invested you may double, triple or receive much more than you could have hoped for? Each time we enter our bowling leagues we can take a chance to join into different fundraisers. Some are a benefit to both the league and to the individual who wins that nights drawing. Usually everyone participates and in the long run everyone wins. Many bowling centers offer a prize incentive in the form of the very difficult achievement of picking up strikes in pre-designated frames for the three games you would bowl in a league. This is very difficult task to do. I rank it up there with the six numbers on the Florida state lottery. This leads me to tell you about the first woman to do that in Airport Lanes in Sanford FL.

January 8, 2009, Pattie Carlisle accomplished this by winning the Strike Jack Pot game for a total of \$62. Not a lot of money but she is entitles to the memory of what she had accomplished at Airport Lanes. What is more remarkable to me is that although Pattie had bowled for many years as a youngster in YABA, she had taken a 15 year absence from any bowling at all. When she returned to bowling, it was to join the Thursday Night Mixed League at Airport Lanes. Casselberry Lanes in Fern Park held its Men’s City tournament in the first week of February and Pattie took 3rd place with a 723 series. More was yet to come at the SC USBC WBA 47th Annual tournament held this year at Longwood Lanes in Longwood FL. on February 21, 22, 27 and March 1, 2009. There she bowled a 718 series for 1st place singles and topped it winning total scratch for an All Events score of 1719. Somewhere along there she bowled a 300 but I did not get the date on that. Congratulations Pattie!!

I am proud to be able to present the names of the winners of the Seminole USBC WBA Annual Tournament and also the names of those who did not win prizes but still deserve to be recognized for their participation and support. Not everyone will be a winner in these events. However, without the support of these other women bowlers, there would be very little bowling in any county, in any state in this country. Tons of thanks to all those who supplied baked goods for the bake sale. Also to those who purchased lots of delicious brownies, cupcakes and cookies so that our organization can stay active; we look forward to serving you next year.

Listed below are the names and scores of the tournament entries.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DOUBLES</u>	<u>SINGLES</u>
Maria Adornetto		659 (7 th)
Mary Bartels		583
Kim Besaw		599
Jennifer Blevins		632
Cheryl Cantwell		632
Pattie Carlisle		718 (1 st)
Melissa Castellano	1085	525
Peggy Charlton	1286 (4 th)	669 (5 th)

Jeanette Coppola		655
Robin Gallimore		639
Delonda Garcia	1271	599
Rhonda Gorman	1349 (1 st)	609
Carmen Hamilton	1213	582
Liz King		677 (3 rd)
Evelyn Kingsley	1220	570
Donna Lefrancois		619
Rebecca Madruga		576
Sherrie Martin	1204	545
Chris McMahon	1253	664 (6 th)
Cheryl Melvin		576
Vitoria Melvin		647
Nancy Neiswanger	1238	568
Alice Orrange	1232	613
Ellie Owens		591
Terry Pattishall		637
Maureen Riddley	1270	585
Andrea Roberts	1178	623
Polly Shelly		587
Nicole Sher	1316 (2 nd)	557
Michelle Thayer	1273	505
Rachel Vandemark		620
Deanna Walden	1204	657
<u>TEAM ENTRIES</u>		
<u>Longwood #1</u>		2648 (1 st)
<i>(Delonda Garcia, Jennifer Blevins, Liz King, Nicole Sher)</i>		
<u>Mardells Ladies</u>		2592 (2 nd)
<i>(Karen Lawler, Millie Shilling, Elizabeth (Betty) Patenaude, Brenda Welch)</i>		
11 th Frame		2538
Lucky 13		2489
Lucky Strikers		2478
The Hopefuls		2472
B.S. Bowlers		2445
Team #8		2377
Fred's Meat Packing		2351
Stars & Strikes		2332
<u>TOTAL SCRATCH</u>		
Pattie Carlisle		1719 (1 st)
Rhonda Gorman		1676 (2 nd)
Peggy Charlton		1654 (3 rd)
Melissa Castellano		1625 (4 th)
Andrea Roberts		1608 (5 th)
Cheryl Cantwell		1602 (6 th)
<u>TOTAL HANDICAP</u>		
Liz King		2120 (1 st)

The end of the 2008-09 bowling season is rapidly approaching the time when we all know what our new averages will be. Some will be proud and others will wonder just what happened to themselves. Many factors have affected our bowlers this year. All, to one degree or the other have been affected by the slump in the economy. I hope that most of our bowlers will attend the state tournament this year.

I will leave you with this word to think about over the summer. How many ways can we use the word "strike?" My dictionary has 68 definitions. Even so, the one I most admire is #63 in my book that states United States Bowling

- (a) The knocking down of all the pins with the first ball
- (b) The score made by bowling a strike

Everyone have a good summer and be safe. Be sure to spend as much time as you can to practice and perfect your skills as a bowler. Check out the specials most bowling centers offer during league vacation times and have a great way to enjoy yourself. Take some of the neighborhood kids if you have the time. Good luck and good bowling. See you next October.

WEST VOLUSIA

Jennie Mero

We have been very busy with tournaments this year.

The First one of the year started with a roll off for 1st place in the Non Senior WVUSBC Mixed Doubles. Sue Stone and Matt Stanfield tied with Cheryl Hensley and Joe Smith with a score of 1263. A one game roll off was played with Hensley/Smith taking all with a 460 to Stone/Stanfield's score of 436. In the Senior Division, Vivian Springer and Glen Pendleton rolled a 1315 to take first. Each couple will receive a shirt/jacket at the awards banquet.

I am happy to report that our goal was met for the Annual BVL Tournament held in November. We collected a total of \$1370.00 during league competition. Trophies were donated by AMF Deltona Lanes and Sunshine Lanes.

Winners from AMF Deltona were: Charlotte Kennelly (HS) – 695; Terri Hirt (HG) – 262; Janet Benjo (SS) – 600; Michele Castro (SG) – 223; John Harper (HS) – 745; Carlos Ramirez (HG) – 282; Joseph Latocha (SS) – 673 and Chris Pitzer (SG) – 269.

Winners at Sunshine Lanes were: Carolyn Horner (HS) – 704; Arlene Gall (HG) – 267; Jenny Brown (Youth) (SS) – 717; Valerie Mott (SG) – 217; Paul Thurmond (HS) – 761; Rick Taylor (HG) – 303; Brian West (SS) – 745 and Josh Snyder (SG) – 300.

Newcomer Jamie Flick won the WVUSBC Division A Women's Senior Tournament with a 687, while Barbara Foley won Division B with a 666. Each winner shall receive a trophy, jacket and entry into the State Tournament.

The Open Senior Handicap Tournament was held the same day as the Women's Tournament, which was a mistake that will be corrected next year. Some of the women bowled in this tournament instead of the other causing smaller entries. Next year they will be held on different days. As for this year's winners, Donna and Joseph Pescatello took Division A Doubles with a 1363 while Beverly Laughlin and Robert O'Quinn rolled into 1st for Division B with a 1427. Edward Hines won Division A Singles with a 758 and John Ewing rolled a 730 for Division B. All Events winners were Patricia Klinefelter for Division with a 1349 and Joseph Pescatello with a 1396 for Division B.

February 14th brought the Sweetheart Doubles. Topping Division A (The Younger Ones) was Janet Benjo and Robert Menard with a 1454. Leading the "Young @ Heart" group was Jennie Mero and Fred Franklin with a 1446.

Time came for the Annual Tournaments. First was the ladies held during the 1st two weekends of March. Phyllis Riedy rolled into 1st Place All Events with a combined total of 1889. 4 Townes Embroidery sewed up Team Events with a 2534. Members of the team were Nicole Pasquale, Holly Hansen, Debra Anderson and Cynthia Richardson. Cinching 2nd in Doubles, only by 11 pins, was Jamie Flick and Jennie Mero with a 1227. An even closer event was Singles with Carol Soulliere rolling a 641, two pins ahead of 2nd place.

Finishing out this year's local tournaments was the Open Tournament taking place the last two weekends in March. The "No Names" took top teams honors by two pins as Jeffrey Sprague, Tim Rankin, David Register, Lee Brown and Scott Frederick rolled a 3470. Lenny Biondi, Jr. and Gifford Fodrie combined their winning scores for the Doubles with a 1408. Singles winner went to Jerry Kenney with a 707 and Sarah Murphy took All Events Handicap with a 2143. Scratch All Events went to Lenny Biondi, Jr. with a 1976. During the tournament, 300 games were rolled by Robert Riedy and Bill Smolinsky.

All of the winners of the Annual Tournaments will receive their awards of a Jacket or Shirt and a ticket to the Awards Banquet.

*****In Memoriam*****

On a sad note, we lost one of our avid bowlers on St. Patrick's Day; Charles Howard aka Pops or Papa. Charlie and his wife Patsy moved to Florida in 2003 from Salinas, California. Charlie had a great passion for bowling and they could be found at the bowling center almost every day. He bowled in many tournaments and had planned on attending this year's Open in Las Vegas. Some credits to his bowling achievements are: (4) 140 above Average, (5) 11 Strikes in a Row, (3) 298 games, (4) 299 games and (12) 300 games with two of them back to back. He was a great help in teaching the youth and will be and is missed dearly.

All the local tournaments are over for a while. Everyone is getting ready for State and Nationals. See you all the first weekend in May or at the meeting on May the 15th in Melbourne with some "Good News!"

It seems like yesterday we were starting our 2008-09 season and here we are ending it.

On February 22, we held our local 500 Friendship Doubles tournament which turned out to be fun being able to bowl with any sanctioned bowler, male or female. Our first place winners were Amy Yuninger and Cheryl Schorel. Second place went to Bettie Denevant and Donna Boshelli. It was a close call to the bitter end. Great bowling girls!

We enjoyed our Annual City Handicap Tournament which took place the weekend of March 14th and 15th. The winners in team event were "The Social Butterflies," consisting of Brenda Walker, Carolyn Martin, Cheryl Schorel and Amy Yunninger. In the doubles event, the winners were Rickey Mazei and Wendy Burnette. The singles event champion was Sandy Kelley and in second place was Ruth Nelson. The all events champion was Cheryl Schorel. It was a great turnout and we are looking forward to next year.

As I mentioned in a previous newsletter, Mickey Maxwell had been our association secretary and is now our association manager. Our association surprised her with flowers for 25 years of service and devotion to all of our bowlers. Thank you again Mick!

Until next season, Great Friends and Great Bowling!!!

Happy Summer to All.....

Wow, what a busy couple of months we've had. Our City and Senior Tournaments were held and have been deemed successful. The turnout was just okay, but everything ran smoothly and everyone seemed to have had a great time. This was due to great planning by our tournament committee and the hard work put in by our directors. Our Ways and Means table brought in lots of money for Junior scholarships and helped with collections to fight breast cancer. We elicited feedback from the bowlers and will use this information to help us plan even more effectively for next year. Of course now our attention will be on getting ready for our Junior City Tournament.

Last year, during a move from our association office, a booklet written by Ila Callaway was discovered in our archives. (Ila was one of the women who was a leader in the early days of the Greater Miami Women's Bowling Association.) Information from that publication, along with other sources (one being Harold Harper, our association manager) is included in the following article called, "A Brief History of Miami Bowling."

Our Men's and Women's Bowling Associations were formed in the 1930's and early 1940's respectfully. This was a time between the Great Depression and the onset of World War II. People were looking for some means of entertainment and distraction from world events. They found an outlet for this at Recreation Bowl on Red Road.

League and recreational (open) bowling was in full tilt. At that time, bowling cost 15 cents a game in the afternoon and 20 cents in the evening. Since automatic systems were yet to be developed, there was no shortage of pin boys at the lanes.

In 1942, the Playdium opened and hosted the second Annual City Tournament. The entry fee was \$1.50 per event. During war times, many tournaments gave war bonds and stamps as prizes to the winners. As time passed and the war ended, many other bowling houses were opened. Some of those included The Palace, Lucky strike, Bol-Mor, Bowland and Tropical Lanes. It was around this time that the Magic City, Post Office and Biscayne leagues were established. Those leagues lasted for a very long time. In 1946, Miami women bowlers decided to form a State Association along with other key people from around the state. Ila Callaway was the first president that was elected and much later was inducted into the State Hall of Fame for all of her hard work and insight. In the time span between 1956-1959, Bowlerama, Beach Bowl, Bird Bowl, Pinerama, Dixie Bowl-O-Mat, Hialeah Lanes, Coliseum, Cutler Ridge, Cloverleaf, Bowling Palace, and Palm Springs Lanes all began to sprout up around the city. Bowling increased to 50 cents per game and everyone now had automatic pin setters, restaurants, meeting rooms and nurseries at their disposal. In 1940, the women's association started with 20 members and by 1959-60 membership skyrocketed to 9,000 members. By the early 1980's, there were more than 16,000 women members. There were also about 15,000 men members at that time. Since 1960, we have seen additional bowling centers come and go. Remember Crown Lanes, Congress Bowl, West Dixie Lanes, Western Sunset Bowl, Don Carter Kendall Lanes, Airport Lanes, Piper Lanes and Trail Bowl, to name a few?

Now, sadly, only Bird Bowl remains in the city of Miami and our membership is down to about 1000 members as a combined association. The Fish Bowl in Islamorada is also part of our association with an interesting history of its own.

Just like everything else, prices have gone up. Now bowling costs \$3.00 to \$4.00 a game or you can rent the lanes for an hour. The lanes also have computers that do the scoring for you. (Remember those yellow grease pencils and the plastic sheets?) We also have "designer lanes" where you can bowl in a night club type of environment.

Over the years, more tournaments have been established and we now have our own Hall of Fame, featuring local bowlers with exceptional ability and service categories. Maybe we will live to see the day that bowling makes resurgence and other centers will open so that we can continue to enjoy this wonderful sport of ours. Go out and bowl to become part of your city's history!

(We would love to hear from some of the other associations and their trips down memory lane.)

Well, I can't believe that this bowling season is nearing an end, as I am still trying to get my average back to where it was last year. You know, getting old can put a damper on your bowling performance sometimes. I hope all of you are in prime competition shape

as all of us are looking forward to seeing many of you in May at the State Convention and Tournament. The last time we were up in Melbourne we all had a wonderful time and left with many funny stories to tell and now we look forward to new adventures to come.

On a sour note, what in the world is USBC doing to our Junior Program? A few of our directors were able to attend the Town Hall Meeting in Orlando and came back with some very scary news. I don't think that USBC should be able to make such grandiose decisions without some form of voting by the delegates. Most of the junior bowlers are children of adult bowlers and we should have a say on their welfare. They are raising their sanction fees, enticing them with mini-seasons that make them pay an additional sanction fee, making them go adult a year earlier, etc. What will they do about the collegiate bowlers that are over 20? I think we have created a monster here. We also learned that the USBC big shots gave moving expenses to those that decided to join them at the Texas location and gave severance pay to those that decided not to make the move. (This was about 3/4 of those employed there.) All this was done before selling the old building. It still hasn't been sold, so I guess that is where our sanction money is being spent instead of giving bowlers the awards of the past that people looked forward to getting. Something must be done to regulate their spending or soon our sanction fees will be going through the roof and nobody will want to sanction their leagues. We need to let them know that we are not happy with what they are doing. Let me stop now as my blood pressure is on the rise.

May all of the good scores be yours!

GULF COAST USBC

Bill Zuben

Many of you may not be aware of the only live one-hour bowling radio show. "Let's Go Bowling!" is broadcast live on Tuesdays from 5:00pm to 6:00pm from the WTAN-AM 1340 studio in Clearwater. The signal reaches across Central Florida, but through the miracle of the Internet it is audio and video-streamed world-wide through the station's website.

You can log onto the radio show website – www.gobowlingshow.com – and go to the WTAN-AM site. While you are there, you can listen to any of the shows from the past three years. The show is the brainchild of local radio personality, Ken Van Baber. His co-host is USBC Gold Coach Bill Zuben. The format of the show opens with a ten to fifteen minute interview with the winner of the Lumber Liquidators PBA from the weekend or some other tournament. Another ten to fifteen minutes of what's going on in the bowling community includes a Tip of the Week from Zuben. The final half-hour is an in-depth interview with some bowling personality.

This past week's show featured an exciting interview with media darling Jason Belmonte, the two-handed Aussie winner of The Bowling Foundation Long Island Classic. Chris Barnes and Wes Malott seem to be regulars.

March 24 included an interview with former ABC Executive Director and USBC CEO Roger Dalkin. Roger now heads his own consulting company – Pinspiration - and does motivational speaking. We reminisced on some of the past conventions including his audience-pleasing cartwheel as part of the Blues Brothers. He revealed what was probably the only time he disagreed with a board decision. He has written a book – ‘Gutter Paradigm’, which is due out early April. An autographed copy is available on his website – www.pinspiration.com for \$9.95 plus freight.

Our Gulf Coast association is negotiating to bring Roger to Florida when we host the Florida State USBC BA Jamboree in October. The delegate’s gift would be a copy of his book.

On St. Patrick’s Day we talked to USBC Legal and Legislative Committee Chair Tamoria Adams. She explained the process of getting an idea through to Proposed Amendment. We covered the PA’s that will affect USBC members this year. She may have recovered from her beloved Duke Basketball team’s loss in the NCAA Tournament.

This is not shock-jock radio. It is intended to both educate and entertain our audience. Join the thousands of listeners around the world and tune in on Tuesdays. The website download usually takes a few days.

According to recent Lumber Liquidator PBA Tour press releases, bowling fans in Florida are invited to experience the best in professional bowling when the PBA’s top stars – men and women – get together at Kegel Training Center in Lake Wales, April 8-10 for the new PBA King of Bowling Powered by Amp Energy and PBA Women’s Series Showdown presented by USBC telecasts.

The field for the Women’s Showdown, presented by the United States Bowling Congress, includes five winners of PBA Women’s Series events held during the 2008-09 season – Michelle Feldman, Stefanie Nation, Carolyn Dorin-Ballard, Jodi Woessner and Wendy Macpherson, plus Missy Bellinder who finished second to Feldman. The Women’s Showdown will feature a unique scoring format named after USBC Hall of Famer Johnny Petraglia. Tapings are at 6:00pm and 7:45pm on Wednesday, April 8.

The King of Bowling will feature the top ten players in the Lumber Liquidators PBA Tour Player of the Year points race to be decided at the conclusion of the U.S. Open on April 5. This format will be a version of the King of the Hill. Check out www.pba.com for the top ten and an explanation of the formats. Tapings are at 6:00pm, 7:45pm and 9:30pm on Thursday, April 9, and 6:00pm and 7:45pm on Friday, April 10.

General admission and VIP tickets are available for the telecasts which will be taped over the three days for ESPN. General admission tickets are \$15 for each day on a first-come basis. Special limited edition VIP packages are available for \$99 per day. The VIP package includes preferred seating, access to the ‘skybox’ area where food and beverages will be available, a ‘meet and greet’ with the players, a special Kegel autograph bowling

pin, a towel-and-cleaner package, a PBA program book, a VIP identification lanyard and a \$25 discount coupon for a Kegel Training Center training package.

To order tickets, visit www.pba.com and click on the “tickets” link, or visit any of the Kegel Connection Pro Shops in Lake Wales, Sebring, Lakeland, Winter Haven or Seminole.

GREATER TAMPA USBC

Shirley Bullock

Greetings from the Greater Tampa USBC Board. Since merging with the men’s association, we have formed a good team together. Each association brings their good ideas to the meetings and both the men, women and youth work hard for our board. They serve on all committees together as well and everyone works at our tournaments. It has been a good merger for us. I served on the women’s board for 25 years and wasn’t sure how it would work out, but I might add that it has turned out well.

For our local tournament, we tried something new this year. The women and open tournaments were held at the same time, but we ran separate squads for 3 weekends. This worked good for us as well as the bowling center and they didn’t have to give up their birthday parties and open bowling.

Our junior coaches and board members had their annual youth picnic again this year. A cook out and beautiful weather went hand in hand to make it a huge success and the 350+ people enjoyed themselves.

As the tournament winds down, we are preparing for our annual meeting on April 4th. Thanks go to Dalia Keyes for the great job she does as our association manager and keeping us all straight as well.

We would like to congratulate our 2009 Hall of Fame inductees. Nora Rodgers, Meritorious Service has dedicated many years of hard work to our youth bowlers. Joe Harris, Meritorious Service was on the men’s board for over 20 years serving as both vice president and director and currently serves on our board. Jack Sardegna, Superior Performance has had 15-300 games, 13-299 games, 4-800 series and carried an average of 225 or above for the past 11 years.

We are also pleased to announce that Jim Walker who currently serves on our board is the current Florida State Bowling Association president. Congratulations Jim

We also want to congratulate Ruby Johns, our past president of the TWBA board for being honored to receive the Pilar Cohalla award at the women’s state convention in May.

In closing, yours truly would like to say how surprised and honored I was to receive the Bev Moree dedication senior bowler award from Pin Chasers Veterans bowling center. Until we meet again.....Keep smiling and keep bowling.

Spring has sprung even in Florida! The weather has changed, the lanes have changes and we are still just trying to keep up!

Palm Beach County USBC WA had our annual meeting on March 22nd at the Boynton Beach AMF Bowling Center. We had record women attendance and record interest in joining our future leadership. Although we always looking for leadership. We are also hopeful that our continued meetings with the PBC BA will continue and eventually equate to a merged Palm Beach County. The times they are changing.

Speaking about spring, the spring chicken who won the singles division of our county tournament was Julia Sabarsky a spry 86 years old. She was born in Caracas, Venezuela. She currently bowls out of Jupiter Lanes in the north of Palm beach County. Julia shot a 587 scratch and a 743 with handicap. WOW. So we congratulate her and her family!

Although our county tournament always feels as though it went by very quickly, they never actually go by that fast. But some of the scores were very fast.

All events were won by Kait Blackwell 2122. From Verdes Lanes in West Palm Beach, FL she had a 126 average at one time. I'm sure that her average is on the rise now!

Our high game of the tournament goes to Tammy Gray with an effortless 290 game. Congrats! Tammy bowls out of the Boca Bowl in Boca Raton, FL. But I'm sure she is on many leagues all over Palm Beach County.

First Place Doubles handicap went to Stephanie and Julie Manville (bowling out of Verdes Lanes in West Palm Beach, FL) the mom and daughter duo shot a 1384. That is a 230 average for 6 games. Way to go ladies! Amazingly this is only Julie's second year bowling! Congrats.

The second place handicap doubles pair, the sister act of Marisa & Meredith Haser bowling out of Greenacres Lanes in Lake Worth, FL., Marisa hadn't bowled for over a year, she practiced 3 games before the doubles and then threw a high 700! That was the only event that Marisa got in! Just think what she might have done in singles? Team? All Events? Congrats girls. You both definitely won the scratch doubles event.

The Team handicap winner was The Pizza Ladies from the Boynton Beach AMF lanes. Made up of 4 ladies from the Screaming Pizza league on Thursday nights, Judy Sisko, Carole Felton, Eveyln Workman and Gay Esteves, they shot a 2618.

Congrats to all our winners. We the Palm Beach County USBC WBA had a great time ladies. Thank you!

See you all at the State Convention and tournament in Melbourne in May!

Well here we are getting ready to head off to the National Convention. There is a lot to read and review to be prepared for voting on the proposed amendments and for the officers and directors running for the various positions on the board. Bowlers need to review the proposed amendments and discuss with their respective delegates their feelings and how they desire the delegates to vote. Remember that the delegates represent you, the bowlers, and they are to take your recommendations to the convention with them. Any questions please check out bowl.com for more information.

Our local city championships have been completed and the winners in the team event were B&D Laundry comprised of Billy Papp, Deby Bakos, Jean Beauregard and Heather Bakos-Smith. Billy recently returned to bowling after more than five years and look where she ended up. Doubles winners were Brittany Luttfing and Carolyn Chynoweth. Brittany is a first year bowler and had the time of her life competing and picking up on the lingo and fitting right in with the "old timers." Singles honors go to Bette Holloway who bowled her first 700 series and with handicap posted an 802. All events handicap went to Billy Papp (the returning bowler) and all events scratch went to Tiffany Taylor. Congratulations to all the winners and a big thanks to all the participants. With the economic situation what it is, we were pleased with the turnout and the support to our ways and means committee who offered raffle tickets, food, scratch off tickets, save the planet and much more.

Summer leagues are forming and the kids will be out of school soon; remember to keep them busy with fun activities such as bowling!

I will have more to report after the National Convention.

Editor's Note:

I would like to take this time to have the bowlers throughout Florida reflect on the memory of Mary Frank from Jacksonville and longtime writer.

In Memory

Mary Frank, 66 passed away on March 7, 2009. Mary was born October 4, 1942 in Louisville, KY and moved to Jacksonville in 1980. She was President of the Jacksonville Women's Bowling Association for 18 years and was the first President of the USBC First Coast Bowling Association for 3 years. Mary was a gifted writer that always submitted articles for the state newsletter. Mary's talent won her numerous state awards in various categories for the articles she wrote year after year.

Unfortunately, future articles from Mary are now silenced....