



## **FLORIDA STATE USBC WBA NEWSLETTER** **FEBRUARY 2011**

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### **From the Desk of Your State Association Manager      Katheryn Auton**

Greetings from your state office. The early Championship Tournament entry closing was February 1<sup>st</sup>, and we are trying to process the entries as quickly as possible. If you do not have your entry in yet, you can still meet the late closing of March 1<sup>st</sup> which includes a late fee. The tournament looks like it is going to be a good one. We are looking forward to spending five weekends with the ladies and gentlemen of Southwest Florida USBC Association in Fort Myers.

Congratulations to Dalia Keyes (of Greater Tampa USBC) who will receive the 2011 Hall of Fame for Meritorious Service, and Kay Wilson (of Hernando County USBC WBA) who will receive the 2011 Pilar Cohalla Award.

#### ***Congratulations to two SPECIAL ladies . . . Dalia and Kay!***

The 4<sup>th</sup> Florida Women's Classic Tournament was held January 8<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the FS-USBC-WBA's Winter Board Meeting at Pin Street of Fort Myers in Fort Myers, Florida. Thanks to Fort Myers Sports Authority, Kegel Training Center and the management and staff at Pin Street of Fort Myers for their contribution in making the Classic Tournament a success.

### **4<sup>th</sup> FLORIDA WOMEN'S CLASSIC TOURNAMENT WINNER**

**LUCY SANDELIN**  
**(Tampa)**

**Lucy Sandelin received \$300 and a plaque for 1<sup>st</sup> place . . . Congratulations Lucy!**

Also joining Lucy in cashing in the tournament were:

- 2nd Place: Susan Baxter (Ft. Lauderdale) - \$150
- 3rd Place: Michelle Sanchez (Coral Gables) - \$100
- 4th Place: Casie Soderstrom (Ft. Myers) - \$90
- 5th Place: Mary Berner (Ft. Myers) - \$80

The highest qualifier for the stepladder finals was presented with a certificate for a ½-day training session at the Kegel Training Center.

Beginning September, 2011, the Florida Women's Classic Tournament will be held annually. The FS-USBC-WBA is looking forward to sponsoring the Annual Florida Women's Classic Tournament on September 17, 2011. We invite all Florida competitive bowlers to come and participate!

Our annual meeting is coming up . . . Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> in Fort Myers at the Crowne Plaza. Later in February, delegates should be looking for their delegate packets which will contain detailed information for this event. The meeting will start a 9 a.m. and should be over by 5 p.m. Instead of a Friday night banquet and awards presentation, we will be having an Awards Presentation Luncheon on Friday during our lunch break. Also new this year, there will be a "Delegates Get Together" following the meeting on Friday. Please make plans to attend the meeting, luncheon and get together on Friday.

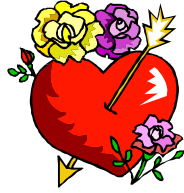
Information on the luncheon and how to purchase your tickets will be in your delegate packet.

The annual meeting event creates a special time for catching up with old bowling friends and making new bowling friends. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting.

Following are some due dates to remember:

- March 1<sup>st</sup>: Final Closing for State Tournament Entries
- April 30<sup>th</sup>: Request for Meeting Lunch Tickets





## **SEMINOLE COUNTY USBCWBA**

**Patricia L. Harbin**

Hooray!! February is here at last and maybe now we will begin to have warmer nights. Each league night this December and January has been so cold that I was having trouble holding onto the ball. The center is always very cold and my fingers would shrink because of the temperature. It's funny how many strikes I have had just because I dropped the ball on the downswing. Some people are never satisfied it seems.

The Longwood Bowling Center league Morning Madness is putting together its annual "Bowl for the Cure" around the end of February and the first of March. This league has raised so much money for the cancer research that we all need to support. Lets all keep our hearts and purses ready to donate to this project that every man, woman and child will benefit from directly or indirectly. Morning Madness has sponsored so many different beneficial activities and has been very successful with each one.

Some late news of one of the Morning Madness projects was the canned food drive they had held last October. The drive helped feed many less fortunate people in the Central Florida area through the First Harvest Food Bank this Thanksgiving and Christmas season. This league deserves a gold star in each of their crowns for their hard work and generosity.

Longwood held its first "Toy for Tots" last December 19<sup>th</sup> and that's just the beginning. Look forward to what will be primed next Christmas season for a more productive event for needy children.

I also heard that Kelly Dubay that bowls on that Longwood league bowled her first 700 series making a 712 series when she did so. I am sure that is the beginning of many more great series to come. Congratulations Kelly!

News is that sometime in March, Casselberry Lanes plans a grand reopening tournament to celebrate the installation of all synthetic lanes. I will watch for that announcement because this has been a long time in coming to such a convenient center for most bowlers.

My husband and I used to bowl in an extremely large seniors daytime league in Casselberry. I was always amazed at the age of some of the participants of that group. Bowling, as I have said so many times is the sport for everyone. Want to make new friends? Invite someone who has never bowled before to go just for fun. Ask a grandchild and one of theirs friends to go. Some child who has never experienced the fun

of bowling before could be the beginning of a super bowler if given the chance. I remember taking seven boys one day. What an experience that was but I recovered and never regretted each trip thereafter.

Until the next time just remember to keep your eyes on your mark, whether it be in bowling or one of your goals in life. Review each action you took to prior to this one to decide if it achieved what you needed it to do and act or adjust. Daily life could be patterned after a bowling game. Think it through and act accordingly and score high or forget and commit a blunder.



**GULF COAST USBA**

**Celeste O'Neill**

Happy Valentine's Day!!!

On December 4<sup>th</sup>, we had our First BVL parking lot sale, we had computers, clothes, books baby stuff, knick knacks, and you name it we had it to sell. Thank you to all the bowlers who donated. We made \$543.66 to go towards our BVL total. Items that did not sell we donated to the St. Petersburg Free Clinic & the Salvation Army to be given to the homeless.

On January 15<sup>th</sup>, we had our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual BVL bowl-a-thon at Sunrise Lanes, again a great time. We had the 4<sup>th</sup> Street Winghouse girls & 10 Veterans there to bowl with us. We had our first silent auction and just from that, we had a couple hotel stays, fitness basket, Joe Madden signed shirt, American Stage Passes, Restaurant gift cards. Just from the Silent Auction we raised \$1380, as of now we raised for Gulf Coast to give to BVL for our local Vets \$4,392.30.

We want to congratulate our Board Member, Director Lenora Stewart for being inducted into the TNBA Hall of Fame in November. We are very proud of her.

Gulf Coast has scheduled the following tournaments:

Youth City Tournament on Feb 19 & 20<sup>th</sup> at Liberty Lanes

Women's & Men's City Championship to be held at Sunrise Lanes on March 12 & 13<sup>th</sup> and March 19 & 20<sup>th</sup>.

We are working on the open city championship tournament dates to be announced.

We are working on re-creating the Gulf Coast USBC 600 Women's Club, if interested please email us at [gcusbc600club@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:gcusbc600club@tampabay.rr.com).

Our annual meeting is Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> at noon. We hope to see a lot of bowlers attend the meeting. If anyone is interested in nominating someone they feel deserves to be in our Hall of Fame or wants to be on the board, please visit our website to download the forms at [www.gcusbc.org](http://www.gcusbc.org) or call our office at 727-399-2695.



## **Palm Beach County USBC WBA**

**Gay Esteves**

Human Nature: "The unique elements that form a basic part of human life and distinguish it from other animal life". Dictionary.com

The character of human nature is so complex compared to other species that once we have something that we really want in our hands, is it ever enough? Our social qualities make us want to gather and share and be together ...and we all know what happens when we get together right? We make up games and play sports! Like bowling of course!

Take for example, for most of us the ever elusive 300 game in bowling! Doesn't every bowler want a 300 game? Well of course. I believe that once you've had a turkey in your bowling career then four in a row is the next target, then after four, you want five in a row and so on and so on. I personally want to shoot a 300 game too (but of course I always seem to choke) but what if I'm choking because once I get it, then what else can I want for in bowling? I know some of you are already saying a 700 series or an 800 series or more 300 game... maybe in the same series. And you are right, but I think that our human nature wants us to measure up (of course shoot 300 games) but it's the competition! We want to win. We want to beat the person opposite us on the other team. We want the war. Of course we all don't play Xbox Black ops and shoot aliens via the internet like our teenagers do nightly, but good old fashioned competition is a good thing. It's human nature to want to know how we measure up to one another. Bowlers understand this component of human nature more than anyone. They have just as many variables in their game as the running back looking for the sweetest pass does in the Superbowl. It's human nature to be tested.

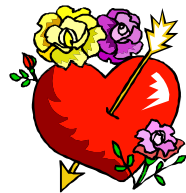
Everyone was discussing the men's PBA Tournament of Champions that was on television two weeks ago where one professional competing against another professional bowler shot a 100 game, the other pro shot a 299. And these men were professionals! Haven't we all had this happen to us before? If not in the sport of bowling then something else? The lady luck that touches your shoulder for one moment can wield her sword savagely at us the next? I think these men were noble to start out with since a bowler never knows what they are really going to bowl and on national television, that's a huge level of pressure on any athlete.

People say, "We are all human". Things happen. Lady Luck looks upon us or away from us sometimes. These are the sayings that keep us all sane and even keeled when all else seems to be lost. There is always hope. Hope that if I make that 300 game someday that it won't be my last! Hope that no matter what you bowl that you will always want to come back the next week or next day, no matter what. Hope that you will always do better than the week before. It's just human nature, Kelly Kulick said in US Bowler Magazine, "You can't help but think about that huge prize fund, but when I'm in competition, it's never on my mind. I think that every great competitor just thinks about the trophy the win."

I'll always have that 300 game hope!!!

Palm Beach County USBC Women's Bowling Association Annual Singles, Doubles and Team Tournament to be held at Greenacres Bowl this Feb. 26-27th, and March 5-6th, 2011.

Come out and compete! See you there!



**OCALA USBC WBA**

**Debbie Whitten**

WOW here we are moving into the second month of a new year that was only a thought a few weeks back. Before we know it summer will be here and then we will be forming fall leagues and the circle goes round and round. The economic condition of the world is still very evident in Marion County. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our Youth City Tournament since we only had a couple of entries. We have tried paying for the team event and that did not increase participation - the other costs seem to keep our youth from participating. Our youth leagues have suffered as well. I only hope that we will survive this economic crunch so that we will have youth who will move on to adult leagues, otherwise in a few years we may not have any bowlers.

Our Men and Women are getting ready to participate in the City Tournaments and only time will tell if we will increase over last years participation. The economic downfall of Marion County has hit the adults as well. Multiple participation is almost nil.

Our BVL collection was pathetic to say the least - it is hard to believe that we, the bowlers, could not even come up with a quarter a bowler to spread a little happiness to our veterans. Without them where would we be? I don't want to think about the alternative.

Not much else happening in and around Marion County so guess that wraps it up for this time. Maybe better news next newsletter.



## **WEST VOLUSIA**

**Jennie Mero**

The West Volusia USBC keeps on rolling with their tournaments. The month of February begins our busy season with the Women's Senior, Open Senior, and Sweetheart Doubles tournaments. March brings on the Women's and Open Annual City Tournaments and then of course comes State Tournament and Nationals. Speaking of Nationals, how many are getting tired of going to Reno?

As I look at some of the articles on Bowl.com, it seems that a lot of people are making the decision not to go back there. Since a lot of the larger cities do have convention centers, why not make the change. It looks like the big center in Orlando will not be built, but Orlando certainly has a large convention center. Let's bring it back to Florida. My group always takes a side trip when we go to nationals. When it was in Florida we took a cruise and had a great time.

As the local BVL Chairman, I am always proud that our smaller association does such a good job at donating. This year we beat 2009 by \$70 and reached a grand total of \$1305.00. A special thanks goes to Frank Houston for donating extra. As Frank stated "Where else could we give that means so much for the men and women who fight for our Country." In the last five years, we donated an average of \$1312.00.

Another exciting thing happened recently. And it was to me, thanks to all of you. At their annual meeting in January, the MainStreet DeLand Association, honored me with their first "Spirit" award. The award was to honor a person that makes an outstanding contribution to the community.

In a letter from Mayor Robert Apgar, without people like you who want to give back to our community we would not be successful in downtown activities. I had no idea and was quite surprised. Again I want to thank all of you who attended State Tournament last year.

Keep on bowling...even with all the aches and pains we may have, it is still fun.



**Greater Miami USBC**

**Sharon Colon**

Isn't it great to live in the state of Florida? With terrible winter storms just miles from our border, we are so lucky to be able to go on with our daily lives without shoveling snow, de-icing our windshields, dressing in 10 layers, or worrying how we are going to get to the bowling lanes. It is just one more reason to be happy when you wake up each morning.

Well, I would like you to know that we are ready! We have set up all of the dates for our tournaments, rallied the troops of people who will work at these events, and look forward to good times on the lanes. Recently we had two ladies bowl terrific scores so we know that everything is moving towards a successful second half to our bowling season. One of the ladies, Michelle Sanchez, bowled her first 300 game. She threw 12 beautiful balls in the pocket and was rewarded with a perfect score. When she called her brother to tell him about her accomplishment he had the nerve to ask if it was done using the Wii game system. Three weeks later, on the same pair of lanes and in the same league, Yanette Davis shot a 290 game. Only the ten pin got in her way of perfection. This also helped her to shoot her highest 700 series to date. Yes, we are ready.....let the competition begin.

Writing for this newsletter is great fun, but sometimes it is hard to come up with a topic especially if you have been doing this for a while. My hat is off to those who do this for a living on a daily basis. What I have decided to write about is kind of generic, so it can be applied to bowling organizations, businesses, marriages, etc. Hopefully you will agree with me that the keys to success in any of these endeavors must include communication, timing, and adaptation.

Communication is so important whether your group is as small as two or as large as a corporation. In order for people to be well informed so that they can make good decisions for the masses there must be an exchange of information. When our bowling associations were separate entities there was a lot of discord because we couldn't agree on things. Most of the problems we encountered were due to the fact that the men didn't

want to listen to the women and vice versa. It was a matter of us versus them. Initially, the idea of a merged association sounded ludicrous. Thankfully we went forward with the idea anyway. When we stopped to listen to each other we found that even though we might have done things differently in the past, there were good ideas on both sides. Because we all were there for the common cause of bowling, we have made it work. Our merged association has been very successful even though we have only one bowling establishment in Dade County and one in the Keys, we can be proud of what we accomplish for our bowlers every year. The only times that we come close to having a problem is when we don't talk things out or assume (ass-u-me) things. Yes, communication is key. By the way, our association has just joined the Facebook family in order to get more information out to our bowlers and give them a forum through which they can voice any concerns or give us any suggestions.

Secondly, we have the idea of timing. In bowling we know that it is essential to have good timing in our approach and good timing as to when to change your ball or shot. Things just seem to work when your timing is right. Sometimes ideas are shot down at meetings because it just isn't the right time to try something new. Just don't forget all of those ideas because sooner or later you may come across an occasion when they will work for you. On a personal note, I am a good example of good timing. About 7 years ago I was inducted into our local Hall of Fame for ability. At that time I was consistently averaging in the 200's and frequently bowling honor scores. Fast forward seven years..... I now have many ailments including a bad back, two bad knees, etc. that prevent me from being consistent with my game. Had I not been inducted when I was, maybe they would never have considered me for one of the nicest honors I'll ever receive.

Lastly, we have to be able to adapt to changes because there will always be changes. Just because things have always gone one way and they were successful, it doesn't mean that it will always be so. Teams change, rules change, available awards change. The groups that can tweak things as they go will be the most successful. Change can be good! Some leagues and associations have had declining membership because of the economy, a shift in interest to other sports, dissatisfaction in the way things are run, people leaving town or whatever. When this happens, you need to make adjustments. Change doesn't have to be a big thing. Maybe your league has always been a scratch league but now you have to bowl as a handicap league. Maybe the prize fund needs to be changed or incentives need to be added. Maybe new blood in the association will bring in new ideas. Our association will be changing soon due to the fact that our association manager, Harold Harper, will be retiring later this year. He and his family have made plans to move out of Miami. They will be missed, but we will have to continue in their absence. Because of this we are already planning on possible replacements and will soon be training those people for a smooth transition.

Well, we wish all of you luck on your tournaments and any transitions you might have to go through in the near future. Until next time, may all of the good scores be yours.



## **SUNCOAST USBC WBA**

**Gloria Murro**

Whoops, where did the year go? Already we are into February wishing everyone and their families a Happy Valentines Day.

In January, our local 500 Club held their singles tournament at Hudson Bowl in Hudson. The top three winners leading the pack were:

- First Place - Bea Varela with a 563 + handicap, total 656
- Second Place - Amy Yuninger with a 588 + handicap, total 642
- Third Place - Charlene Woods with a 479 + handicap, total 621.

As per usual the turnout was great with everyone enjoying the door prizes, 50-50 and the candy drawing.

Also in January, our Suncoast WBA hosted our so called "Last Ha-rah Tournament." Since we will be merging, we decided to join together with all our bowling friends through the year. It was a doubles tournament; new faces and old faces missing those who have passed on. It turned out to be a good time and happy memories for all!

The winners were:

- First Place - Darlene Ferrer and Barbara Sindoni with a 1366
- Second Place - Cathy Stephens and Arlene Davis with a 1344
- Third Place - Jillian Russell & Lois Hoult with a 1340

It certainly was a great last ha-rah! Our thanks to all our members who participated.

In February, our 500 Club and our 600 Club will be joining together for our Mixed Doubles Handicap Tournament. It will be February 13. Kinda' like a Sweetheart thing which should be FUN!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 21, 22, 23, 2011 for the 500 STATE TOURNAMENT;** sponsored by the Suncoast 500 Club. Keep your eyes open for the applications. For further information, contact Lois Hoult at (727) 938-3434 or Brenda Walker at (727) 843-0484.

Hope to see you there!

Til' next time...

Great Friends and Great Bowling!