



FLORIDA STATE USBC WBA NEWSLETTER

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A Few Words from Your President

Toni Maddux

I was asked by our editor, Andrea to write something about completing my first year as President of the FS USBC WBA. My first response was, “Wow, it has been a year!” I hadn't thought about doing an article but then I thought I should because we have done so much. So here it goes....

First of all I want all of our members to know that you have a very dedicated and talented hard working board that tries to serve all of its members. They give a lot of their time working for you, the member.

Reflecting back on my first year, I thought one of the best things we did was to offer a scratch tournament for the higher average bowler and our first “Classic Tournament” was held this past July.

Our first Classic Tournament was small in number to say the least but I think our second tournament in January in Winter Haven will be a great tournament and a lot more of our higher average ladies will participate. I salute our board for taking the initiative in getting this tournament started and getting sponsors for the event. For information on the January tournament, go to our website and check it out. www.floridawba.com

- At our last board meeting in September, our board made many tough decisions to cut back on expenses for the board. The cuts to the budget will not affect the members. We voted to have our January meeting in 2011 using an online webcam since we all have computers in an effort to reduce expenses. Our January 2010 board meeting will be held the same weekend as the Classic Tournament to again further reduce expenses. We eliminated the board being paid to work the state tournament and limited food expenses to \$20 per day. The board voted to present senior tournament and state tournament awards at the state board members expense for the winners in their local associations. This presentation not only honors the recipients of the awards but also creates awareness of the tournaments that the state board holds each year. The board voted to do a lot of tightening of the belt concerning expenses and you will hear more about that as the season goes on.

We are doing our part to stretch the \$1.00 that we receive in state dues. Now I would like to ask each of you to please help us in seeing that your leagues in your association are collecting the \$1.00 state membership dues for every sanctioned woman bowler in Florida. If you are bowling in a mixed league or in a merged association and you are not asked to pay the \$1.00 for the women's state dues, please insist that you do. The \$1.00 dues may not seem like much to you but every dollar helps the board support our women bowlers in Florida. Your efforts in helping us are sincerely appreciated!

I will be checking in the bowlers again this year at the Senior Tournament in Tavares in November. I'm looking forward to seeing all of our senior ladies as they always have a great time. They remember what bowling is all about; fun, fellowship, renewing old friendships, making new friends and getting out of town for the weekend.

I hope every association has an increase in membership and that all of the bowlers in Florida have a successful season.

Have a safe and Happy Halloween and a Happy Thanksgiving.

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

Since our last newsletter, we have completed the State Championship Tournament; the inaugural Florida Women's Classic Tournament and closed out the 2008 – 2009 season.

The FS-USBC-WBA State Championship Tournament closed on June 7th. This was our first year as a handicapped tournament with an optional scratch division.

FS-USBC-WBA State Championship Tournament Winners

Team Handicapped Division

Score – 2,940

Louise Craig

Brenda Pelton

Carol Ann Sink

Angel Ussery

(Sponsored by "Bowl of Fun")

Team Scratch Division

Score – 2,618

April Costa

Kendra Gaines

Stacy Guthrie

Laura Moriarty

Doubles Handicapped Division

Score – 1,499

Terrie French

Amanda Weber

Doubles Scratch Division

Score – 1,374

Teresa Blankenship

Bonnie Wright

Singles Handicapped Division

Grace Chadbourne - 825

Singles Scratch Division

Samantha Curry - 755

All Events Handicapped Division

Grace Chadbourne – 2,431

All Events Scratch Division

Bonnie Wright – 2,173

Usually after finalizing the state tournament, my summer is slow here in the office, but this year was different. We kicked off our first scratch Florida Women's Classic tournament on July 18th at Cypress Lanes in Winter Haven.

The Florida Women's Classic went well. Being our first one, we had some bumps in the road, but we quickly learned to roll with the punches.

The winners were:

1st Place: Lucy Sandelin

2nd Place: Sharon Ryan

3rd Place: Haley Beavis

The FS-USBC-WBA crew did a great job! We learned a lot and will be better prepared for the next tournament which will be January 16th at Cypress Lanes in Winter Haven. Entries for the winter Florida Women's Classic Tournament are available on our Web site.

In November, we're looking forward to being at Classique Lanes in Tavares for our 2009 Senior Women's 55-Plus Tournament. The tournament is being hosted by the Lake Triangle USBC Association.

Entries are beginning to come in for the FS-USBC-WBA State Championship Tournament which will be held in DeLand/Orange City and hosted by the West Volusia USBC Association. Entries for this tournament is also available on our Web site . . . enter early to guarantee the dates and times you wish.

Following are some due dates to be remembered:

<u>December 1st:</u>	FS-USBC-WBA newsletter articles
<u>December 31st:</u>	Proposed Legislation for bylaws changes Nominations for the 2010 Hall of Fame Nominations for the 2010 Pilar Cohalla Award
<u>January 31st:</u>	Candidate resume forms for the state board
<u>February 1st:</u>	FS-USBC-WBA newsletter articles Delegate credentials Early state tournament entries

As I close, I would like to wish each of you a bowling season of high scores.

ALOHA FROM WEST VOLUSIA

If you haven't heard, West Volusia will be hosting the 2010 Women's State Tournament. Everything is a hustle and bustle. Committees are working to make sure that everyone has a good time. If you did not attend this year's convention in Melbourne, the following is a little bit about West Volusia.

- W West Volusia is a great place to visit.
- E Explore the Corridor. Come early and visit the Manatees of Blue Springs State Park. Cook your breakfast at the Sugar Mill Restaurant in DeLeon Springs State Park or take the Eco tours at Lake Woodruff and Hontoon Island State Park.
- S St. Johns River is an important part of our history and is known for its bountiful fishing, Wild life cruises and scenic beauty.
- T Treasure Hunters Dream. Enjoy the many antique shoppes, flea markets, specialty boutiques and side walk cafes in the award winning "Great American Mainstreet" – DeLand and West Volusia.
- V Volusia County offers fishing, camping, bird watching and has the busiest drop zone in the world, Sky Dive DeLand. Why not try a tandem jump!
- O Open time leaves lots of time for relaxing in the sun, eating and shopping.
- L Lucky in bowling, why not try Bingo at the DAV on Saturday night or at one of the internet sweepstakes businesses.
- U Ultimate goal is to provide you with as much fun as possible.
- S Spiritualist readings are available in the well know camp of Cassadaga located just a couple mile east of DeLand.
- I Inspect all of the above. There are lots of things to do and see.
- A After all, where else can you go to "Get Lai'd again in 2010"!

Members of Mainstreet DeLand Association are working on discounts and specials in their shops. We are ready, willing and hopefully able to provide you all with good scores, good food, good spirits and good times.

West Volusia has a lot of web sites, so explore those too! You never know what you might find. If you need any other information or you have questions, you may e-mail me at jmerol@cfl.rr.com. We're looking forward to see everyone again.

During the summer, the West Volusia Women's Club 13 hosted their Christmas in July tournament. We had an extra large turnout this year and had a slow start, but everyone finished at the same time. Refreshment was provided by the Club members.

The top three (3) winners in each division were:

<u>Women:</u>		<u>Men:</u>	
1 st Laurie Perry-Daytona Beach	753	1 st Don Garden-Daytona Beach	742
2 nd Marilynn Strong-West Volusia	731	2 nd Richard Knapp-Deland	733
3 rd Fay Evans – Polk County	712	3 rd Fred Franklin-Deland	706
Low to cash	612	Low to cash	670

What a great time we all had hosting the 2009 State Championship Tournament. It seemed as if everyone who came to our fair cities of Melbourne and Palm Bay had a great amount of fun. Thank you, Florida State for allowing us to host again. NOW, if YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR ENTRY IN for DELAND, what's stopping you?

We had some first time high, high rollers during the 2008-2009 bowling season. DRUM ROLL PLEASE!! Carol Wood rolled a 300 Game, her daughter Karen Wood had her very first 700 series (717) and Gloria Uzee had her first 700 (725) also. Congratulations to all of you and keep those scores coming.

Speaking of high scores and the State Championship Tournament, here in South Brevard we are mighty proud of our own Grace Chadbourne for winning 1ST Place in both the Singles and All Events Handicap Divisions, she just keeps thanking me and giving me great hugs every time she sees me, all I did was call and ask her to bowl, take a hint, look at all the happiness you could bring a bowler within your association, ask them to participate and get some teams together, you know the people who do not usually bowl tournaments. Grace is now going to bowl in the State Senior Tournament with us. Another team put together with two people who have never bowled this tournament before, see how easy that was.

The Senior Tournament is coming up soon so get your entries in right away, I would love to see you in Tavares in November. (It is all right to admit you are a senior, we have lots of fun).

Wow! It sounds as though the new State Tournament format for the bowlers who carry higher averages went great. Please consider bowling in their next tournament if you are eligible with the right average. Look for more information on the Florida State WBA Website.

Finally it is with sadness that I tell you that I have submitted my resignation from the South Brevard Board, but I will continue to enjoy all my true friendships that I have made during the many, many years that I have been associated with the South Brevard Board. This has nothing to do with my health, the Doctors all say I am doing great, cancer free for three years now, praise God. Don't worry you haven't heard the last of me yet.

Like I always say, do all that you can do with gusto and great cheer, and may God bless you and yours.

Hello to all of our Florida State readers! It's great to be back for the 2009-2010 bowling season! We've got a lot to catch up on regarding Broward County, so let's get this party started!

First (and most important), our future of bowling, our youth, have been very active here in Broward County. So much so, that Jerry Walters, our 2009 USBC president, authorized me this year to create a special web site dedicated to our youth bowlers. If you want to see what our young people have been up to in the bowling world of Broward County, please visit this link: <http://browardbowlingyouthleaders.com/index.htm>

Regarding the 2009-2010 Winter season, and despite the sluggish economy, I am happy to report that our league attendance for the 2009-2010 season is equal to or better than last season! In fact, at our last monthly meeting it was reported that one of our bowling centers was at capacity for the leagues that it had offered, and actually had to turn some people away!

So as far as Broward County is concerned regarding the state of bowling, it is very strong and vital here. We are looking forward to some great County tournaments here in 2010!

Not enough? Well, check this report from Sharon Ryan, who was our Broward County correspondent for the 2009 Queens tournament. Thank you Sharon, for your dedication to the sport that we all love so very well!

Enjoy the report, and we'll see you in two months! Keep bowling, and spread the word that it is the best sport on the planet!

I will be in Australia on business in October, and I plan to visit and promote their bowling centers!

BROWARD COUNTY 2009 Queens Tournament Report Sharon Ryan

Here is my experience for the 2009 Queens tournament. Thanks again for asking me to write this for you. It was great meeting you out at the Convention. Wish that you could have been there just a few days earlier to see us bowl in the tournament. I'm sorry for taking so long to get this to you. It would be sooner if I didn't have to go out of town again this past week. I look forward to the scratch tournament in July.

First off I would like to say I was honored to have Donna Oberg ask me to write about my experience of bowling in the USBC Queens tournament a few weeks ago in Reno. It was definitely an experience that I won't soon forget. It was very exciting for me to be able to bowl with and talk to many of the professional bowlers. I was able to candidly talk & joke with Liz Johnson, Michelle Feldman, Cathy Dorin-Lizzi, Stephanie Nation, Kim Terrell-Kearney, Anne Marie Dugan, Dee Dee Davidson, Jody Woessner and even Kelly Kulick.

The tournament started off on Friday evening with a short meeting letting us know what to expect and most importantly what the lane conditions were going to be. The lane conditions are not released until that meeting, so no one has advanced practice time on them. After the meeting, they gave us a one hour practice session on the lanes. We were able to bowl on any lane and with anyone. We were bowling next to Liz Johnson and on the same pair with Jody Woessner.

The tournament was broken up into 4 squads. I was on the "C" squad which bowled at 4pm on Saturday and 7pm on Sunday. These 2 rounds consisted of 5 game blocks each day. After the 2 blocks the scores would be added together for the 2 day total and the top 100 would advance to bowl the next morning. That morning you would bowl another 5 game block and they add that to your other 2 days and then they cut to 63 and the defending champion from last year which was Linda Barnes.

The first day I did fairly well, bowling a 914 and the second day I came out strong with a 1044 for my 2 day total of 1958. Unfortunately the top 100 cut was 1987. I was just a little bit too short. I ended coming in 118th place.

Since I wasn't able to advance, I still came to watch the match play rounds which started that afternoon after the 3 day morning block cut. I saw Michelle Feldman shoot 300 against Cathy Dorin-Lizzi, as well as Shannon O'Keefe shoot 300 later the next day. I enjoyed watching how the professional players played the condition, and to see how they adjusted as the pattern broke down and the ball choices that they made. The most important thing I learned was to definitely not to drop to the contenders bracket. In match play you are able to lose twice before you are knocked out and after you lose the first time you drop to the contender's bracket.

The ones who have to bowl here have to bowl a lot of matches that take most of the day. They start early around 9am and don't finish till about 7pm with just a few breaks here and there.

On Wednesday, they had the TV finals at the convention center. It was very exciting to see. I sat 5 rows back and was a row behind bowling greats Norm Duke and Chris Barnes. It was a good experience to see how everything was played out so that next year when we DO advance we can do it just like the professional bowlers with ease. If anyone has ever considered bowling in a major tournament such as the Queens or others definitely do it! You can learn so much from bowling with the best bowlers and you might just surprise yourself at how great you do.

OCALA USBC WBA

Debbie Whitten

The fall season has started and unfortunately with the state of the economy there are a lot less bowlers in the leagues and less leagues in the bowling centers. Some of our smaller leagues have combined to make a league with a larger prize fund and more competition without bowling the same teams over and over. Our area has been hit as hard if not harder than other areas and our youth are suffering the most. With the increase in certification fees and processing fees for each center that a youth wants to bowl at, there is not always the extra money for them to take part in workshops, clinics, tournaments and other extras to do with bowling and it is hard for them to understand why they can't. Our local Youth Association has tried several avenues to find the extra money so that all our youth can do all that they want however businesses are closing, charities are stretched and donations are slim to none. We will keep trying because our Youth are our future and if we don't keep them interested and give them the opportunities they need there will not be adult bowling in a few years.

Our local bowling clubs (500 and 600) have held their elections and club championships and unfortunately the turnouts have not been up to par as memberships are down again due to the economy.

Hopefully we will see things improve in the near future for everyone in the world. Say an extra prayer for all our service men and women who are fighting to preserve our freedoms. Say an extra special prayer for the women who, due to health reasons, are not able to bowl at this time.

June, July and August have always been my months for practice because scores did not count. This summer I was able to hone my skills of bowling on lanes that had been occupied for hours by dozens of vacationing school age children. I met a lot of people who had bowled on different leagues, on different days. You would have doubted the first night of the 2009/2010 season that I had ever picked up a ball before that night and I left my glove at the center the last day I practiced. Thanks to the young man who found and returned it to me two weeks later. I was sure I'd be accused of sandbagging since I bowled so poorly.

A night like that makes me wonder if I am forgetting everything I've ever learned about bowling so I leaf through my stack of books and magazines and read all the tips. I have learned these are a great morale booster. I discovered a 2005 magazine that has proven to give me a push to write my October letter.

Perhaps others have a copy of the commemorative issue of the WIBC magazine "Frames and Lanes." There is such a wealth of history of women's bowling in the U.S. in that one volume. Imagine in the early 1900's that women who wanted to bowl were considered very un-lady like and chastised in many parts of this country. Just think, even though women still did not have the right to vote, they wanted to have an organization of their own. There were many men's groups that would not allow women to enter their "alleys" so in 1916 a group of women formed their own association. I wonder how many of those women also were involved in getting the right to vote.

Through the 1920's and 30's, the sport continued to grow. World War II saw the ranks of membership grow to over 80,000. During 1943, 44, and 45 the Championship tournaments were cancelled because of concerns of sabotage and rationing of gasoline that limited traveling for pleasure. The Association established a fund to aid servicemen and women returning from the war that has continued even today. Many millions of dollars has been donated to assist veterans of wars since the end of World War II. The Bowlers to Veterans Link is now known in our current association as the FVL.

Women bowlers have set a goal to aid in the search for a cure for breast cancer. Established in 2000 by the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, women and men bowlers have raised many millions of dollars toward this research by "Bowling for the Cure." Anytime you have the chance to bowl in a tournament to benefit "bowl for the cure" please do so. Let's show the world what American women bowlers can do for each other. I look forward to many more years of bowling and pray that in your lifetime and mine the threat of breast cancer will become another disease of the past

Many changes have taken place over the past decades. Millions of people worldwide have learned that bowling is a sport all can enjoy. The latest change that has occurred has been the merger of the men's, women's and youth associations forming a new association known as the United States Bowling Congress. In some states a county association has used the option not to merge with their local men's association. These county associations still hold their own tournaments and offer women who are a member of the men's association the pleasure of bowling in those events. A woman who holds a men's association card of a non-merged association must also carry a women's association card that would allow her to participate in the women's tournament of that county.

The magazine I have spoken of was a tribute to the WIBC, formerly known as the Women's International Bowling Congress. I can now say that women's bowling has become an icon of what a group of women can do to change history in ninety-two years. Perhaps we should strive to convince other women of the world to work harder together for absolute World Peace.

PALM BEACH COUNTY USBC WBA

Gay Esteves

“Make it Happen”

As I write this we should be a merged Palm Beach County. Yet here I am still counting the years. (Can you believe that I just said YEARS?) We have tried for so long I actually sat down last night to think about our progression to merge and our failure to do so.

When my mother was alive and on the WIBC Palm Beach County Board we discussed the USBC merge, what that meant to the individual groups. What exactly that would mean for WIBC and all the memories that would be gathered and laid to rest with the WIBC title. We were scared and on unclear ground. Even with the Transition handbooks from USBC, all things that we knew before were going to change. Women left the convention halls in tears those years because they didn't want anything to change. But when everything was voted on and passed we all understood, change was on the way. Ultimately the challenge to change was a little exciting!

Little did we know those three years later, Milwaukee would be gone. A stadium would be in the works and all the voices that gave us hope three years ago would be but a memory and the “men” would be our rulers. I have nothing against men, I happen to like men. But I catch myself referring to the rule of men a lot; all business, no rewards, more money and lackey rules. I have nothing against the great state of Texas either. But did we need another training stadium? Do we need the USBC representatives to come to our state meeting like cheerleaders to tell us to get over it? I thought we were grownups and we are (right?) but as we get treated like bad children, thus we react! Do we need fancy fabric 60.00 shirts? Do we need to be told to buck up and shut up? I felt at our Florida State convention (being one of the younger women there) that I was embarrassed! To have this “man” come to tell these women who have worked hard for years volunteering for the sport of bowling, to be happy, forget about the past, start new, think new, get over it, it's all changed so you change! WOW. The speech seemed a bit late. Three years late.

I want to know if the “men” also got this cheerleading speech. Which counties all over the USA are targets of these speeches beside the women of Florida? It can't be just us! (Can it?) Well I am always hopeful that things are never that derived and contrived but happy coincidences. Maybe not.

Maybe that's why we have movement in Palm Beach County. We may actually have the ideal USBC merged vision by next year?! That would be great. I'd love for the kids to know that we're all one and they have a team behind them for the future! It can only benefit everyone right? That's what I keep telling myself that while we have attempted to merge and bided our time waiting and the “men” have conducted business as usual, how could it be that change actually happens this slowly? That the process inches, not leaps forward? All I can do is...forget the past, start new, think new, get over it...and hope that it all falls into place! All we can do is HOPE.

How quickly time flies! It seems like we just finished our winter league season and here we are starting our new league season. Our summer was quiet, and our league officer's workshops went well. We anticipate a slight increase in membership for the 2009-2010 season, where we are finding that new bowlers have decided to join in on the fun, and bowlers that haven't been involved for a few years are resurfacing. We're hoping they all enjoy their new venture.

We've had some interesting happenings here in Orlando. After almost 45 years of service to the Orlando bowling community, John J. Garrett, better known as JJ, has retired as Association Manager of the Orlando Regional Bowling Association. JJ has been the core of the Orlando bowling community. Orlando has evolved around his expertise, and we thank him for all he has done and wish him the best of luck in the future. He will continue to be in charge of lane certification in our area, and groom those young men and women who will become his protégé's.

The University of Central Florida is located on the east side of Orlando. This school has a wonderful bowling program for both young men and women. They are the Striking Knights, and are coached by Pat Costello. This program has produced some terrific bowlers over the years. Stefanie Nation, a member of Team USA, is one of their past members. She captured a gold medal in the singles event of the 2009 World Ten Pin Bowling Association World Women's Championships. Three members of last year's UCF team, Jennifer Boisselle, Dayna Galganski and Kristie Petravich were named to the 2009 Junior Team USA Women's Bowling Team. They helped to earn gold medals in the team event and the team all events in the 2009 Pan Am Bowling Conference Youth Championship in Bogota Columbia. Other young talent making their mark in the bowling world are Brigette Harrelson, Michelle Carcagente, and Sara Vargas. Jennifer, Dayna, Kristie and Brigette were named to the 2008-09 National College Bowling Association All American Team and Jennifer, Kristie and Brigette were named as the Bowling Writers Association of America Players of the Year. We congratulate all of these fine young women. There are more up and coming young talent that will shine in the coming years. Thanks to Pat Costello for showing all of them that discipline, perseverance and hard work will get you to the top. For her efforts over the years, Pat Costello was honored with the Kerm Helmer Coach of the Year Award. No one is more deserving of this prestigious award than Pat.

We have some really good local talent in our adult leagues. We are proud when the names of our members appear at the top of the list in State, National, and other tournaments around the country. This past year we were again pleased to see members in our association lead events in the Florida USBC WBA State Tournament. Amanda Weber and Terrie Finch won the Doubles Event with a handicap score of 1499, and Darlene Horton and Leise Huggins finished 2nd with a score of 1493.

In addition to these winners, we were excited to have one of our bowlers make a mark in bowling history. Maria Sutphin bowled her first 300 game, in the singles event. She was ecstatic and tried to maintain her composure so that she could complete her event. Then, the next day she bowled in the team event, in the other Center, and bowled another 300 game. This is an unbelievable feat! **TWO** 300 games and one in each Center. It is an experience of a life time and one that she will never forget. It's been a few months, but I'm sure she is still on cloud nine.

We are looking forward to our Annual Mixed Tournament that will be held the weekend before Thanksgiving. It is an inexpensive, one day, walk in tournament. We have 3 squads and you can bowl as many times as you'd like, but can only cash ONCE with the same partner. In the past years this event has proven successful. We are hoping that the success continues. We have some great competition but moreover, everyone seems to have a lot of fun.

Until next time, may the Bowling Gods be good to all of you, and may they help to knock down that stubborn ten pin.

GREATER MIAMI USBC BA

Sharon Colon

Well, here we go again with another bowling season and all that goes with it. I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer and a restful one too. We are in full swing now, having planned many events for this year. Last month, we held our 1st Junior Scholarship Tournament of the season and it went very well. Even though the turnout was not what we expected, it seemed that everyone enjoyed the competition and those that won were very pleased that our association sweetened the pot by guaranteeing a good payoff. Please let your juniors know that we have planned a number of tournaments this year and everyone is invited to bowl. They can check our website to find out the dates and any other information about signing up to bowl. miamibowling.org

Since we don't publish articles during the summer, I will catch you up on some of the news. Early in the summer we held our Top 8 Tournament. It turned out to be almost a clean sweep by the Harper family as first place in the Men's division was won by Harold H., first place in the Junior Girl's division was won by Alyssa H. and in the Women's division Stacey H. took second place, just missing first herself. Melissa Coile repeated her performance of last year and went on to beat Stacey by a fairly narrow margin. Congratulations to all of them for their fine bowling.

Many of you attended the State Convention, but for those that didn't I just wanted to say that it was an informative and enjoyable affair. If you haven't gone as a delegate, you might want to try it next year. Even though we are a relatively small association, we are honored to have 3 of our ladies representing us on the state level. Sue Jacobs is a Vice President, Mell Brooks is the Sergeant-at-Arms, and Margo Buzzard just got elected as a director. They are making sure that all goes well for all of the lady bowlers in the state. One of the new things that they (the State Association) offered this year is a scratch tournament for higher average bowlers. This was an area that was lacking since the Queens organization folded in the state. Let them know what you would like to see happen in the future and I bet they will find something good for everyone. We are also proud of the fact that one of our men is 2nd Vice President in the Men's State Association as well. Rudy Levarity is a wonderful individual that has been a member of our local association for many years and intends to continue to work hard for the male bowlers in the state too.

As this paper is going to press, we are getting ready for our Annual Bowling Awards and Hall of Fame Banquet. Our inductee this year is Mike Greene. He was a product of our junior program where he was an outstanding bowler and has not slowed down since. Mike was elected because he has amassed a number of award scores including twenty 300 games (two of them back to back), seven 800 series, and a high average of 231.

In the 2000-2001 bowling season he was named our local Bowler of the Year. What is wonderful about the fact that he will join this elite group is that Mike is such an awesome gentleman on and off the lanes. He takes things in stride whether they are good or bad and always shows exemplary sportsmanship. In my opinion, the group has just gone up a notch with his induction.

All of us in Miami are looking to see more high scores in our league bowling due to the fact that the bowling center in town has been doing what it can to upgrade the facility and its equipment. The shot has been more consistent than ever and we are hoping for big things to happen.

Sadly, two members of our bowling community passed away in the last month or two. The first was Paul Boller, a former member of our board, who moved to another part of our state not too long ago. He spent many years promoting the sport and working with junior bowlers in particular. The second, Howie Hantman, was a wonderful man that seemed to befriend everyone. As a long time bowler, it seemed that everyone knew his name and always had kind words to describe him. Howie had a number of physical and medical problems that plagued him, including the cancer that proved to be too much for his body to bear, but he always had a smile for those around him. Both of these men will be sorely missed.

That seems to be it for now. Good luck with all of the events that your associations have planned, and we look forward to hearing good news from all of you this year.

May all of the good scores be yours!!

SOUTH BREVARD USBC WBA

Goldie McGervey

Greetings from South Brevard USBC WBA; we hope everyone enjoyed their visit to our city when we hosted the state tournament in May.

Our annual bowling clinic will be at Shore Lanes of Palm Bay on Saturday September 26th, 2009 from 9:30am to 12:00 noon. Betsy Davis and Bette Stift will serve as instructors. Thanks to manager Sandy Finkelstein for donating the use of the lanes. Following the bowling clinic, the South Brevard 500 Club will hold a "No Tap" tournament at 12:30pm. This club is celebrating their 20th Anniversary.

The Silver Hair Classic will be held on Saturday October 24th at Harbour Lanes Bowling Center. This is a fun tournament for our ladies 55 and over.

Many thanks to Director Shirley Mattley who serves as the chairperson of the 500 Club tournament and the Silver Hair Classic. Shirley has been on our board for 10 years and if you bowled at Harbour Lanes during the state tournament you saw her; she was the head score keeper.

Also many thanks go out to Lou Martin who served on our board for many years as Secretary and then Association Manager. We wish her the very best!

It's like old times! Here we are getting back in the swing of things for the 2009-2010 season. I think it's such a good feeling to get back to our bowling and to being with all the friends we have made through bowling; old and new. For myself, I have bowled with most of the people I started with since 1987. It seems like yesterday we were the youngest senior bowlers and now we are among the senior seniors! Thank goodness we have made it this far and still throwing a bowling ball, maybe lighter, but remember the older we get the better we were.

I started bowling in 1957 and at that time I met a bowler named Emma Hendrickson. I am sure all of you are familiar with her. Emma became the oldest competitor in the history of the USBC. I became an officer in our local league and wasn't familiar with so many of the rules it was embarrassing at the time. The only person who helped me through this was Emma. I could call her anytime and she was right there for me. I haven't seen Emma in about 10 years but when I saw her on TV with Regis, she looked the same except for the silver threads through her hair. She is one great lady.

Another lady I would like to brag about has been a member of our association for more than 20 years. She is 81 year old Cleo Smith. She came to Florida from Ohio where she also bowled. She has been bowling for 50 years and this year she was elected into the Hall of Fame in Hamilton, Ohio. She is currently carrying an average of 180 for the 2009-2010 season. At our last tournament in August she had a 212 game. She has lived in Hudson, Florida since 1989. Cleo informed us she will be leaving our area to go back to Ohio to be with her family. Cleo participated in all of our tournaments so you know she will be missed. Best of luck to you Cleo! We will all miss you, stay healthy and keep bowling!

In closing, I'd like to wish everyone a Happy Halloween and a Happy Thanksgiving!

Until next time, great friends and great bowling!!!

Editors Note:

Thank you to each of the writers for taking the time to submit all the news, scores and stories from their association and keeping the bowlers throughout the state of Florida informed.

I know our bowlers will enjoy reading the first newsletter of the 2009 – 2010 season. Keep up the good work and don't forget to submit your articles for the December newsletter due December 1st. You can email me your article in word format or just type it in an email and I format it and add it to the newsletter. Don't have a computer??? Send me your article by snail mail... Either way, we want to hear from you!

If your association is not represented in this newsletter, ask your president why. The president should appoint a publicity chairperson. If your association appointed a publicity chairperson and they're not submitting an article, why not submit an article yourself?

Remember, anyone can submit a bowling related article for the newsletter; you don't have to be a member of your associations board.

Do Not Let Fear Affect Your Bowling

By: Stan Popovich

Sometimes, fear and anxiety can get the best of us in bowling. The key is to know how to manage that fear and anxiety. As a result, here is a brief list of techniques that a bowler can use to help manage their fears and every day anxieties.

Occasionally, you may become stressed when you have to play in an important game. When this happens, visualize yourself doing the task in your mind. For instance, you have to play in the championship bowling game in front of a large group of people in the next few days. Before the big day comes, imagine yourself playing the game in your mind. Imagine that you are playing in front of a large audience. By playing the game in your mind, you will be better prepared to perform for real when the time comes. Self-Visualization is a great way to reduce the fear and stress of a coming situation.

Sometimes we get stressed out when everything happens all at once. When this happens, a person should take a deep breath and try to find something to do for a few minutes to get their mind off of the problem. A person could read the newspaper, listen to some music or do an activity that will give them a fresh perspective on things. This is a great technique to use right before your next bowling match.

Another technique that is very helpful is to have a small notebook of positive statements that you can carry around with you. Whenever you come across an affirmation that makes you feel good, write it down in a small notebook that you can carry around with you. Whenever you feel stressed, open up your small notebook and read those statements. This will help to manage your negative thinking.

Be smart in how you deal with your fears and anxieties. Do not try to tackle everything all at once. When facing a current or upcoming task that overwhelms you with a lot of anxiety, break the task into a series of smaller steps. Completing these smaller tasks one at a time will make the stress more manageable and increases your chances of success.

In every anxiety-related situation you experience, begin to learn what works, what doesn't work, and what you need to improve on in managing your fears and anxieties. For instance, you have a lot of anxiety and you decide to take a small walk before your next bowling event to help you feel better. The next time you feel anxious you can remind yourself that you got through it the last time by taking a walk. This will give you the confidence to manage your anxiety the next time around.

Take advantage of the help that is available around you. If possible, talk to a professional who can help you manage your fears and anxieties. They will be able to provide you with additional advice and insights on how to deal with your current problem. By talking to a professional, a person will be helping themselves in the long run because they will become better able to deal with their problems in the future. Remember that it never hurts to ask for help.

Anyone who bowls needs to remember that patience, persistence, and education will go a long way in preventing fear from becoming a factor in their game.