



FLORIDA STATE USBC WBA NEWSLETTER

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From the Desk of Your State Association Manager

Katheryn Auton

Since our last newsletter, we have completed the State Championship Tournament, the Annual Florida Women's Classic Tournament and closed out the 2010 – 2011 season.

FS-USBC-WBA 2011 State Championship Tournament Winners

Team Handicapped Division

Score – 2,870

Pat Johnson

Rebecca Swearingen

Judith Rowe

Kimberly Benavidez

Sponsored by “Nicholas Family Restaurant”

Team Scratch Division

Score – 2,508

Carol Teel

Freida Gates

Kay Roush

Jeanne Zappulla

Sponsored by “RSW Pro Shop”

Doubles Handicapped Division

Score – 1,594

Leslie Blandford

Rhonda Mallett

Doubles Scratch Division

Score – 1,404

Beth Owen-Cipielewski

Paula Wenzel

Singles Handicapped Division

Suzanne Snyder - 853

Singles Scratch Division

Melissa Ramirez - 760

All Events Handicapped Division

Suzanne Snyder – 2,347

All Events Scratch Division

Rhonda Mallett – 2,050

We held our annual scratch Florida Women's Classic tournament on September 17th at Pin Street at Ft. Myers.

The winners were:

1st Place:	Lucy Sandelin
2nd Place:	Mary Berner
3rd Place:	Laura Best
4 th Place:	Melinda Caldwell
5 th Place:	Sharon Ryan

Our next scratch Florida Women's Classic tournament will be September 15, 2012. Tournament entries and details will be available in the spring on our Web site.

In November, we're looking forward to being at Harbour Lanes in Melbourne for our 2011 Senior Women's 55-Plus Tournament. The tournament is being hosted by the South Brevard USBC WBA Association.

Entries are beginning to come in for the 2012 FS-USBC-WBA State Championship Tournament which will be held in Sarasota/Bradenton area and hosted by the Sarasota-Manatee USBC Association. Entries for this tournament are available on our Web site. Enter early to guarantee the dates and times you wish.

Following are some due dates to be remembered:

December 1st: FS-USBC-WBA newsletter articles

December 31st: Proposed Legislation for bylaws changes
Nominations for the 2012 Hall of Fame
Nominations for the 2012 Pilar Cohalla Award
Bids for the 2012 Senior Women's Tournament

January 31st: Candidate resume forms for the state board

February 1st: 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!

Sixteen years ago, Elsie Wells, a member of the Florida State Hall of Fame decided it was time to give up the local association secretary duties and let someone new take over. Elizabeth Waldren, better known as Liz, decided to give it a try. She knew she had big shoes to fill and she gave it her best shot.

The Association was not merged at that time so Liz began setting up everything on a new computer which has been replaced two or three times now. Soon the Associations merged and it was a whole new ball game. Liz had to learn new programs, new rules and still keep a smile on her face. As soon as she walked into one of the local centers a bowler would approach Liz with questions. Liz still works full time and said it is just getting to be too much to do a good job. Liz still holds the position of President of the Florida State 500 Club. Besides, she is going to be a Grandmother again and she really wants to be a full time Grandma. Liz is staying on as a Director of the Association and is willing to help wherever she is needed.

Congratulations to Robert Barrett who assumed the Association Manager position in September. Robert has been on the Board for many years and has been the official recorder. We all wish good luck to Robert (Bob) and of course to Liz as she moves on in her life.

As the new season starts, our association is gearing up for another eventful year. Regular tournaments, Mixed Doubles, Senior and Annual City are being scheduled. The largest tournament scheduled is the 2012 Florida State Youth Tournament for four weeks in May and June. Chairperson Lori Goodwin is working hard with Sunshine Lanes and AMF Deltona Lanes and the State Association to make sure everything falls in place. She estimates approximately 2,600 youth bowlers and their families will invade West Volusia.

Following the Youth tournament will be the Florida State 20 Year Club and it will be held at Sunshine Lanes.

Another exciting thing happened in West Volusia this year. Sunshine Lanes has a group of Special Olympics bowlers every week. This year they and other bowlers from Florida went to Reno to celebrate their 21st year and to participate in the bowling schedule prior to the USBC Open. Approximately 400 bowlers, representing 13 states, competed in team and doubles. Each team was comprised of two Special Olympians and their unified partners. The bowlers from Sunshine did outstanding and earned a Silver medal. Members of the team are: Mark McCallum; Brandon Ladue; Joshua Boger and Santos Contreras. Special Olympics provide year-round sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness. These are very special bowlers and we will continue to support them.

Hope to see you all in Melbourne for the State Senior Tournament.

Greetings....

Another summer has come and gone and we're back to doing what we enjoy - bowling. Of course bowling takes place in the summer too, usually in the form of tournaments. For those of you that travel in groups to these tournaments, I'd like to share with you what we do. First of all, we have named ourselves "The Sisterhood of the Traveling Bowling Balls." Our group is up to about 8 - 10 regulars and when we travel we keep a journal. Listed inside are all of the funny things and not so funny things that have happened to us on our adventures. We enjoy looking back on the great times we had and it also helps us to not make the same mistakes twice. Try it the next time you plan a trip, you just might get a kick out of it too.

Well, as I said before, winter leagues have started and with them come the monthly association meetings. As far as tournaments are concerned we are way ahead of the game as just about all of them have been approved by the board and bowling center. We are excited and ready to get started having fun. At our annual meeting we voted in two new directors: Pam Cameron and Rob Stadmir. Both are anxious to help out in any way they can. We were also able to bestow the title of President Emeritus to Phil Schemer for his years of service as former president of our local Men's Association and Merged USBC Association. Well deserved Phil!

I'm sure you've heard the phrase "it's just a number". Many of my bowling friends recently had birthdays with either a 5 or a 0 on the end. One person in particular refused to go to that next multiple of 10 and that is when we tried to convince her that "it is just a number." We tried showing her that year's sound better than your age in total weeks or days. I think she finally came to the reality of it when AARP came calling. This phrase also comes to play in bowling. Sometimes our scores are high and we want to tell the world about them and other times our score can be so low that you think you'll never live it down. Relax, "it is just a number." That is why we use averages to distinguish/identify ourselves. It is a combo of the high and low and is certainly more accurate as a descriptor of you as a bowler. So, the next time you struggle on the lanes, shake it off and don't let it spoil your day.

Two weeks ago we had our Annual Awards and Hall of Fame Banquet. Everyone had a great time; especially our two inductee's, Susie Coile and Margo Buzzard. Both ladies were voted into the Hall in the Meritorious Service category. Susie has been working on the board of directors or with the junior's association for many years. She has been instrumental in putting together tournaments, starting new and special leagues and for just being there when something is needed. Having worked at some of the elite bowling centers in town has allowed her to promote her ideas and see them to fruition. Especially close to her heart are the leagues involving individuals with special needs. She, along with her whole family, have made sure that everyone gets to bowl and is able to take pride in their abilities, not worrying about their disabilities. Everyone seems to know who Susie is!

Margo Buzzard also has a long list of accomplishments that have made bowling better in Miami. She started out as an auxiliary helping us at tournaments by manning the computer and lots of other things. Later she became a board member, moving up from a director all the way up to President of the Association. She ran the meetings of the association in a smooth manner, always informed, but also open to suggestions. Truly the definition of a great leader and that she was. Margo is also a director on the state level and we are proud that she represents us in that way. Even though she is no longer a member of our local board, she has offered her assistance when needed. Being an active league and tournament bowler keeps her apprised of all that goes on in the sport. Outside of bowling, Margo has been employed for many years with the Dade County School System, working with students with extreme special needs. Congrats to both of these ladies for their contributions to the sport of bowling.

Others receiving awards that night were, Adult Bowlers of the Year – Mike Hamilton and Caitlin Graham, Junior Bowlers of the Year – Alex Yaniz and Melissa Perez and Secretary of the Year – Stacey Harper.

During our “Top 8 Tournament” we had a junior bowler, Jon Hall, bowl his first 300 game. He was cool as a cucumber all the way up to the last ball. I’m sure he’ll have many more award scores in his future!

That’s it for now. We hope everyone has a great year and may all of the good scores be yours.

PS: Thank you so much for the awards that were presented to me at the State Convention. The plaques were beautiful and mean so much to me and the association I represent.

GREATER PENSACOLA USBC

Denise Myers

A spectacular start to this year’s bowling season. The Greater Pensacola USBC Association sponsored the 2010-11 All-Stars and 2011-12 board members installation dinner. This year the association recognized 64 All-Stars. Five men and five women in each of the following categories: Adult All-Stars; Senior All-Stars-Ages 50 to 64; and Super Seniors-Ages 65 and up. Five boys and five girls in each of the following categories: ages 16 to 20; ages 12 to 15; and ages 11 and under. In addition, we recognized four of our special needs bowlers: top male and female with physical handicaps, and top male and female with mental handicaps. One hundred seventy five people attended and the night ended with the induction of Marcus Knight into the Greater Pensacola Hall of Fame. We truly appreciated all the businesses and individuals who donated approximately forty door prizes that were given out during the dinner.

The board members voted to set-up our own website. We welcome you to see what we are doing in the panhandle. Please visit: www.greaterpensacolausbca.com

Building friendships
On the lanes and in the settees
Wanting to win, but graciously accepting a loss
Learning new skills to improve our game
Enthusiastic when reaching our goal
Reading the first letters going down
Shows you who we are.

The **2nd Annual Best of the Best** tournament held September 11th was FUN for all who participated. Men vs. Women, and Boys vs. Girls in each of the six All-Star categories proved to be equal for the genders.

Best of the Best Winners were: 11 & Under Girls; 12 to 15 Boys; 16 & Up Girls; Women; Senior Men; and Super Senior Men.

Good Luck to everyone this bowling season. Set a bowling goal to reach this year and strive to attain it.

SEMINOLE COUNTY USBC WBA

Patricia Harbin

Its five weeks into the 2011-2012 season and entry forms for bowling tournaments have started to appear on the counters in the local centers. What a great way to have fun, see old friends and meet new people who might share our love of bowling. I've asked others this summer what they thought was the one factor they enjoyed most about bowling. Some replied that it was done while in an air conditioned surrounding. Then they would say "just kidding," but when the outside temperature is over 90 degrees I know that could certainly contribute to the enjoyment of the game. Almost all bowling centers are air conditioned and in Florida that's a priority. In other parts of the country most are temperature controlled by weather conditions outside with the heat taken into consideration also now as well as the extreme cold.

League membership is one of the best ways to develop and motivate your initiative to become a valued team member. Everyone wants their team to win and supporting your team on leagues with the skills you polish through practice and use in league play rewards you, as an individual to accomplish higher scores in a singles and doubles tournament for example.

Bowling is the one sport that helps all age groups regardless of age with the exception of one or two year olds. Many years ago when I was a coach for children I watched a group of toddlers at a birthday party, clapping their hands, squealing with delight as they rolled a very light ball down the lane. Sometime the ball miraculously made contact with the pins which caused shouts from others. I have often thought that the many children coaches have worked with are somehow more able to cope with the obstacles they meet along their educational path; and it aids them to develop the ability to analyze them.

Not only do they learn a sport that indeed is a challenge but also a way to get along with other people. I have always thought of bowling as the “gentle” team sport as well as a game you can play alone. Your team can win and nobody suffers any real physical injuries. Of course there are those who fail to heed the warning about stepping on the freshly oiled lanes. Usually once is all they need, learning the hard way to stop at the line.

All of you senior women bowlers don't forget the tournament just for us in Tampa this November. Find yourself a partner since it is a Singles and Doubles match. Call it practice for the State tournament in the Sarasota-Manatee area of Florida this May when the leagues end. There are so many places in Sarasota that are famous for art and sculptures to explore and enjoy. If you are into sunning and swimming head to the beautiful beaches of the gulf to show off that swim suit you asked for and received for Christmas.

There are many ways to have a good time in our area but I believe that for myself I will choose to go bowling anytime I have the opportunity to do so.

Enjoy yourself and maybe we will meet someday at the center.

GULF COAST USBC

Celeste O' Neill

Here we are starting a new season.

We have our new and improved website up and running at: www.gcusbc.org

Gulf Coast delegates went to Grapevine, Texas for the USBC Annual Meeting. What a nice place the Gaylord Hotel was. This was my first trip to a USBC Annual Meeting. The classes were informative. I was not able to make it to the Stadium or to the USBC Museum; however some of the other delegates did go and enjoyed it very much. I did go to the Hall of Fame to see the presentation of the inductees. It was enjoyable week and our delegates will be going again next year.

On August 27th & 28th we had the Maddie Dalrymple Youth/Adult Pins over average tournament. The 11 & under winners were Brandon Dollinger/James Horne from Ten Pins and the 12 & over division winners were Jenna Herberon & JC Crouch from Liberty Lanes. We awarded \$1,850.00 in scholarships.

Our new season has started and league certifications are rolling in. We have started a new tournament that you qualify for during your league play. At the end of the year everyone who qualifies are eligible to bowl in the tournament. There will be a man and a woman top bowler of the year. On our website you can see weekly who qualifies and how you qualify. You need to go to our website and click on Strikers Club.

Janet Waddell, our 5th V.P., has started a Women's 600 Club; we started with 11 ladies in our first tournament and the second tournament we had 26 ladies. On Sept 18th, there was a doubles tournament at Liberty Lanes. Division A winners were Lori Smith & Leticia Easterbrook, Division B were Candi Walker & Alicia Robinson. Singles tournament Division A - Candi

Walker, Division B – Carly Roe, Division C – Kathi Schmidheini. Thanks to all that came out. The next tournament will be held at Sunrise Lanes at the end of February. If anyone is interested in joining our 600 club, please contact Janet Waddell at janetw6922@yahoo.com and she will sign you up.

Our 58th Annual St. Petersburg Women's Classic will be held the first three weekends of November, at Seminole Lanes. We have sent out postcards to let past bowlers know that we added squads to the tournament and we extended the deadline date to October 29. If anyone has already turned in their entry and wants to change their date to bowl, please contact us at gcusbc@tampabay.rr.com or call the office at 727-399-2695. Visit our website for hotel information. We will also have a few restaurants in the area giving discounts if you present your membership card.

On December 3 we are having our 2nd annual BVL parking lot sale. Anyone who wants to donate items for the sale can drop off items at our office, call before to be sure someone is in the office. On January 14, 2012 we will have our 3rd Annual BVL Bowl-A-Thon at Liberty Lanes. Last year we raised between the parking lot sale, bowl-a-thon, visiting leagues and our silent auction, \$4558. The money raised was broken down and \$500 went to Re-Creation, \$500 to State BVL and \$3558 went to Bay Pines Veterans Hospital.

We are having our 1st Annual Gulf Coast Senior Doubles/Singles tournament to be held at Sunrise Lanes on January 28-29th.

Palm Beach County USBC WBA

Gaye Esteves

“Time to Merge”

Bowling season and fall is here. I can actually tell that the weather is cooling off one degree or so down here in tropical South Florida. I love the fall season. Living up north in the Midwest I always was excited for pumpkins, cooler weather, school starting and the beginning of the bowling season! In south Florida its' much more subtle for the weather to change here and school started on the hottest day in August. I still decorate for fall and Halloween but the bowling seasons seem to get more and more complicated!

We hear so many things....”this bowling alley was bought and sold”, “this mixed league won't issue ladies cards only BA cards”, “this secretary runs their league like this...” and on and on. It's a free country to bowl where and with whom you want but I am amazed how many leadership people run their program, league or whatever, any way that they want. As an unmerged county we are constantly fighting the rumors and poop out there about what is true or rumor.

I remember when everyone received the USBC information and the serious feelings that were brought out in many women. WIBC was the rock that many women bowlers believed should not ever be modified. It all came down to distrust. And then the merger and board information from USBC began to change. The office manager position was introduced. Small steps but huge hurdles! All these things came to pass. Except in Palm

Beach County the one thing that should have happened still hasn't yet... we are not merged.

Years ago the word merger was the scariest thing on the planet for those of us on the fringe of the board. There were other women with many more years of WIBC experience and leadership skills to assist the less experience board members in understanding all the changes. Now it's almost 2012 and I feel as though it's a waste of time and money for the women of Palm Beach County NOT to be merged. But the BA Board in PBC does not trust or understand the benefits of what could be. If we were merged then one card would be sufficient for everyone. When our county women's tournament comes around, many women on mixed leagues are buying their women's card at the tournament so they can participate. But on their mixed league they aren't even given an option of the women's card at all. There are so many more things that could happen if we could share all that wealth of information and expertise rather than hoard it.

Aren't we all really on the same team? USBC has really changed since their inception; from their leadership at the top (men and women) to the website presence and dominance to the software expertise to rules and regulations. We live in the world blended perfectly most of time of men and women. Take marriage for example! But it still eludes me how this one little thing (a merger) is still looked at as suspicious paranoid and undermining, filled with phobic ideas one board will take over the other!

I am amazed that the leadership of controlling interest on the men's side is so afraid of a bunch of girls!

SOUTH BREVARD USBC WBA

Charlotte Mateo

Well here we are off to another new season, full of fun and camaraderie. Hopefully we will see some more high scores along the way!

As of this publishing; our new season (08-01-11) has sanctioned 17 leagues with 367 memberships.

We provided our bowlers with our annual bowling clinic which was held on September 24th at Shore Lanes Palm Bay. We had 21 participants who received excellent advice from our two certified coaches Betsy Davis and Bette Stif. We wish to thank them at this time for providing their service and to let them know that we have heard nothing but positive feedback!

On October 22nd we will be hosting a "Yard Sale" to help raise funds for High School Bowling here in Brevard County. It will be in the parking lot of Brunswick Harbour Lanes at 1099 Wickham Road in Melbourne between the hours of 8:00am and 2:00pm. Please come out and show your support for our youth. They ARE the future of our sport!

On another note, South Brevard USBC WBA has been fortunate to be given the privilege of hosting the Florida State Seniors Doubles/Singles Tournament 2011 on the first two weekends of November (5th, 6th, 13th, & 14th). The tournament will be held at Brunswick Harbour Lanes at 1099 Wickham Road in Melbourne. The host hotel has been selected as the Hilton Rialto at 200 Rialto Place in Melbourne. They have provided excellent rates & amenities! Please feel free to contact them after completing your reservation for your tournament. We look forward to seeing a great many of you then!!

Until next time, see you on the lanes!

SOUTH BREVARD

Lou Martin

Here it comes, that old saying that we hear so often every year, WELCOME BACK. Don't you love it? I sure do. We all have so many busy things in the summer, so it is great when a new season of bowling starts and you see all of your lane friends again and all of those great hugs. What an astounding time it is, this is 2011-2012 season. Remember 2000? Some thought we would never survive that, but bowling can survive most anything, and bowlers are the same anywhere you go, haven't you noticed that? Such great friends, we are a special family. PLEASE stay ENTHUSED about your sport and get new bowlers to carry on, ask all of the people from outside the lanes, from church, neighbors, golf buddies, work; you get the idea. We all need to get new people interested; don't be shy.

South Brevard is very excited about hosting the State Senior Tournament this year. I know that all of you who come here to bowl will enjoy your stay, so get your entries in NOW.

Melbourne/Palm Bay is great for Florida fun, especially in November when the weather is in the 70's/80's. COME VISIT US.

Please remind all your lanes and leagues about the BVL; there are so many bowlers now that just don't even know what BVL stands for. You can make a difference in someone's life in Florida who has gone to fight for our freedoms. Just take a can to all of your leagues (be prepared) and ask the secretary if she is running the BVL. And if not, ask the president if you can take up a collection yourself. Two people are better than one; take a friend with you. You can do this in unsanctioned leagues also.

Do not forget "Bowl for the Cure;" you could start now. We are doing that in our Monday Night League. Collect something from each team every league night, maybe a nickel a miss or a dollar a night from each team member. It doesn't sound like much, but pennies make dollars.

Above all else please stay enthused about your sport and encourage others to do the same.

We are looking forward to seeing a lot of our state friends here in November.

Until then may God bless you and yours.