



# **FLORIDA STATE USBC WBA NEWSLETTER**

**February 2009**

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## **2009 AWARD WINNERS**

**HALL OF FAME MERITORIOUS SERVICE**

**Mina Tinsley**

**PILAR COHALLA AWARD**

**Ruby Johns**

Congratulations to these very deserving ladies. They will be honored at our annual May meeting in Melbourne.

Dalia Keyes  
FS USBC WBA Director  
Hall of Fame Chairperson

### ***From the Desk of Your State Association Manager . . .***

Greetings from your state office. It is hard to believe that half of the 2008/09 bowling season is already over. The office is all a buzz trying to process the 2009 State Championship Tournament entries. The tournament looks like it is going to be a good one, with all the entries we have here in the office.

New this year, the FS-USBC-WBA Board decided that personal presentations (whenever possible) will be made to all first place tournament winners by a state board member as a volunteer service to our members. So, in December, FS-USBC-WBA President Toni Maddux and I hit the road to Orlando, Merritt Island and Tavares. There

were four presentations, all of which were coffee leagues except one, which meant Toni and I were up before sunrise to find the necessary bowling centers to make our surprise presentations of prize checks and plaques to our 2008 Senior Doubles and Singles Tournament winners, Debra Severson (Orlando), Lucy Jones (Orlando), Sherry Woodhouse (Merritt Island) and Elsie East (Tavares). It was so much fun surprising the ladies with personal presentations during league play, and also visiting with other Florida bowlers in the bowling settings. I would like to thank each of the local association members who help us in making these presentations possible.

Also new this year, the FS-USBC-WBA Board is proud to announce an addition to our tournament offerings. We currently offer an overall state championship tournament for all bowlers and a doubles and singles senior tournament for our 55 (years) and over bowlers. Late this summer, we will offer our first state scratch tournament. We are in the final preparation stage of THE FLORIDA WOMEN'S CLASSIC TOURNAMENT; a singles, scratch, match play format with qualifying squads and a stepladder final. The tournament will be co-sponsored with the Central Florida's Sports Marketing and will have a guaranteed first place prize. We plan on having this event twice a year, July and January. Detailed information is forthcoming.

Our annual meeting is coming up . . . Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup> in Melbourne at the Hilton Melbourne Rialto. 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. There will be a banquet on Friday evening with cocktails at 6 p.m. and dinner at 7 p.m. For the delegates' convenience, the host hotel will offer a prepaid buffet luncheon for the delegates. 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  
Request for Meeting Banquet Tickets

**CLEARWATER USBC WBA**

**JOANNE BATES**

I hope everyone had a fun, good bowling holiday season and ready for a better 2009. Our association is preparing for our local tournament at Countryside Lanes March 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. This year we are only going to have a doubles *or* singles tournament. With only three houses, we have had problems getting teams together and we thought this would give us more entries. It has already drawn interest. We also dropped the divisions so everyone is bowling with 100% of 225 average. The men's association is also trying

doubles *or* singles only at Tarpon Lanes. We're hoping this does bring more tournament bowlers.

On January 6, our association director, Linda Spencer's husband John was in a motorcycle accident and spent time in the trauma center of Bayfront Hospital. He had surgery on his pelvis plus stitches on the back of his head. He was doing very well so they let him leave the hospital January 12<sup>th</sup>. You know John; he went straight to AMF Lanes to see his bowling league and stayed while Linda bowled. John is president of the local men's association and past president of the state. He is well known around the state.

My husband Jerry and I will be busy during the month of March going to the World Series Champions; Philadelphia Phillies spring training games here in Clearwater. But we will be cheering our ALDS champions Tampa Bay Rays and hoping they make it to the playoffs again and this time win.

Hope everyone does well in there local tournaments.

“Have a Happy Valentines Day”

**SEMINOLE COUNTY USBC WBA**

**PATRICIA L. HARBIN**

It's already 2009! This is the beginning of a year that is going to be a challenge to a lot of women bowlers. How many of us can say what most bowlers only wish for in their sanctioned bowling experiences. How many bowlers; woman, man or youth can say “I Got It” and know that they have become a statistic for that year when they pick up the elusive 7-10 split!!!

Let us congratulate a woman bowler who did just that in a Seminole County sanctioned league with a firm, deliberate throw at her pin. Elaine Parker is a member of the Bob Meade Memorial Bowling League in the Altamonte Bowling Center in Altamonte Springs, Florida. I spoke with Elaine about that achievement. She told me she has been bowling for over 40 years and was Maryland's State Singles Champion in 1970-1971. She still carries an average of 142. I feel that picking up that split is as great as bowling a 300 game.

Another challenge on a more serious note is the financial fallout so many bowlers are facing this year. The decision of tournament participation has many women undecided whether it will be the local county tournament or the state tournament that will be held in Melbourne, Fl. in May and June. All of us know that the nationals are in Reno again and who would not want to go there. Some may have decided it is Reno or none at all.

Accomplishing certain goals in life can be tough but you can do it if you weigh one desire against another. We have so many ways to cut costs if we just put our minds into doing so. Changing our grocery shopping habits can save us many dollars each month. I've always told my family; “The last bite of food you put in your mouth is the one you

will taste when you leave the table.” Try an inexpensive dessert with each meal. This really makes children happy. Do you really need that new outfit to wear for work or is it just a passing fancy as some would say? You could have your bowling ball resurfaced for a fraction of the price of a new ball. As long as you feel you are not neglecting the health and welfare of your family, give cost cutting a try. Each of us must decide how to ride out this current financial downturn but don't deny yourself the pleasure you have with your friends. Review your budget. Keep bowling at the top of your absolutely must have list.

## **OCALA USBC WBA**

**DEBBIE WHITTEN**

Here we are. The New Year has come and gone and lots have happened around the world not to mention just in our state.

First, we joined the world in extending sympathy to the John Travolta family in the sudden loss of their son, Jett. The Travoltas were given their privacy during the memorial service and the media and onlookers were respectful of the families' wishes. We all felt we lost a loved one.

The economic spiral has hit Ocala, Marion County, hard. Lots of families out of work and this has a direct impact on league bowling. Leagues are experiencing “vacancies” in the middle of a season due to bowlers having to drop out. This also has a direct impact on the overall prize fund for the league. At this time we are all just trying to keep going from week to week.

Both the Women's Board and the Open Board (we are non-merged) are getting ready for the Annual City Championships. We all expect that the numbers will be less than in previous years as bowlers are not able to afford to participate more than once (team event) as they had in the past.

Guess that's all the news that is news for Ocala, Marion County, at this time.

## **SUNCOAST USBC WBA**

**GLORIA MURRO**

Welcome to our 2009 season. Hope everyone had a great holiday season and ready to get rolling again!

Our season started with our local 500 Club having their first 2009 tournament in January. They had an impressive turn and out as usual, lots of fun.

First place winner was one of our own directors, Amy Yunninger with a 687. You make us proud Amy. She is also a new member of our 600 Club. We look forward to have her bowling I our tournaments. The more the merrier.

Also in January, we held our annual senior tournament. The oldest of our bowlers were at the age of 78 and the youngest being 50. We're not getting older, we are getting better???

I would like to mention we are having our first 600 Club tournament of 2009 in February. It will be Friendship Doubles; with one 500 Club member and a 600 Club member. It should be a good time.

At this time I'd like to mention the anniversary of Mickey Maxwell. In February she will celebrate being our Association Secretary for 25 years. She is one of the many that has made our association a success. Mickey is always there for all the bowlers and we all rely on her. Not to be overlooked, Mickey has been President of the State 600 Club for I don't know how many years. Thank you Mickey for your commitment through out the years and all that you do.

Last but not least, I would like to brag about me. At our August meeting an award was given out as a surprise. I did not attend the annual state meeting so I was not aware of who was receiving a special award. Lo and behold it was me; Gloria Murro for "Outstanding Feature Article" by the Florida State USBC WBA. Thanks to everyone who made this possible.

In closing..... GREAT FRIENDS AND GREAT BOWLING!

**GREATER MIAMI USBC**

**SHARON COLON**

Greetings from down South! I hope all of you enjoyed your holiday and New Year's, too. Our association has been busy running another Jr. Tournament, which by the way was very successful, and getting ready for our upcoming City and Senior Tournaments. We are also coming up with new ideas about our local awards program, Hall of Fame, and our year end banquet. It is better to be busy than to be dormant, so we are looking forward to the next few months. The present problems with the economy have us more than a little concerned about turnouts for our tournaments but we are hoping for the best.

Many of you have certain families in your area that are totally immersed in bowling. I would now like to introduce you to one of our bowling families: the Harpers. The head of the household is Harold who has been bowling for 45 years and was inducted into our Hall of Fame twice; once for service and the other for ability. He has been a director or officer of our association since 1983 and is now our association manager. His ability has never been questioned as he has had a high average of 237 and has bowled thirty 300's, eight 800's, and fifteen 299's. Harold has won many tournament awards locally and has participated in 27 national tournaments. In fact, in 2006, he bowled 30 clean frames during one event.

His wife Stacey; is also in our Hall of Fame for ability. Not to be outdone by her husband, whom she met in 1986 while interviewing for a job at the association office,

Stacey has bowled six 300's, one 800, and five 299's. Her high yearbook average is 214. Over the years she has won our Top 8 tournament three times and while competing statewide and nationally has cashed many times including high scratch and handicap spots during mixed state competition.

They have two bowling daughters; Alyssa and Michelle, who started bowling while they were 2 ½ and 2 years old respectively. Alyssa's high game is 279 and a high set of 750. She was "All Dade" during her 4 years of high school and placed high in state competition. Michelle is only 12, but is already showing that she is part of this bowling legacy by winning local tournament events herself.

As you can see, they are very active in our sport. In fact, one year there was a Harper in the bowling center every day of the week and between the four of them they have 50 bowling balls. It is just so nice that a family can have a common interest that keeps them together and serves as a means of enjoyment as well.

On that note, I'll close. Until next time I wish that all of the big scores will be yours.

**FIRST COAST USBC**

**MARY FRANK**

We welcome in the New Year with positive thoughts for a grand and wonderful bowling year. The prime focus for 2009 is new ideas, new approaches, and new partnerships. These initiatives will enhance more association/bowler involvement.

One new idea was implemented for the Senior Tournaments, which were held the first and second weekends of December. The bowlers asked that a Team Division be included with the usual Singles and Doubles Events. The bowlers spoke, the board listened. Why not give it a try? Nothing ventured, nothing gained. So the Team Division was held to the delight of many. All of the events were handicapped and based on division by age, except for the Team Event. Mike Meehan's team captured this first-time Team Event with 2720. Doubles First Place went to Bob Wallace and Paul Shields with 1343. Other Division winners were Virgilio Barile, Jerry Powers, Dan Payne and Gary Bohannon. The All Events winners by Division in the Doubles/Singles Events were Dan Senecal, Buddy Craven, Dan Payne and Pat Sanders. Winners of the Team/Doubles/Singles All Events were Paul Favreau, Jerry Powers, Jack Lowman and Gary Bohannon. Although numerous ladies bowled in the Senior Tournament, there were no entries in the Women's Division. Is this perhaps a message the mixed leagues are sending? Only time will tell when entries go out for the next Senior Tournaments.

A new approach is forthcoming for the Association Championship Tournaments. In an effort to put more fun and enjoyment into the game, the FCUSBC will feature a Hawaiian theme, complete with leis, grass skirts, and all the trimmings. The Open Division will begin with the crowing of a king or queen, whose name will be drawn at random. This lucky bowler will then roll out the first ball "appropriately" attired. The same scenario will apply to the Women's Division, which will be rolled three weeks later. In addition

to receiving Aloha goodies, all tournament entrants will receive a souvenir FCUSBC pen. Both Board members and Bowling Center employees will emphasize the theme by wearing native costumes. Everyone is encouraged to bring their cameras and click as island music fills the centers during warm ups.

The Annual Scholarship Tournament was held on November 29th and 30th. The event fielded 69 entries (21 being re-entries), and disbursed \$3350 in scholarship money. Additionally, Cassat's Batt Bowl made a generous scholarship contribution. The top three finishers in the male/female divisions were Christina Dillon/Michael Cousins, Fredrick Balz/Morgan Coleman, and Anthony Robinson/Dale Coleman respectively. Scratch Div. High Game went to Dale Coleman (265) and Heather Sharp (269). Mbabene Strange (268) and Haley Norman (247) took top honors in the Handicap Div. Winners of the Scratch Div. High Series Blocks were Dale Coleman (1250) and Jade Rankin (1220). In the Handicap Event, Anthony Robinson (773) and Haley Norman (700) top honors. As overall winner, Anthony Robinson pocketed an additional \$100 into his scholarship account. The top two bowlers, after 18 games, will have their entries paid for the Gold Event.

These outstanding youths are Morgan Coleman and Heather Sharp. Upcoming Youth Events include the Association Tournament and Coaches Memorial.

Board Member Jim Hall brought his lovely wife, Teresa, to the January board meeting with the intent of increasing the association's coffers. Teresa is employed by H&R Block and explained a plan H&R Block is offering to non-profit organizations. After hearing Teresa's presentation, the board unanimously voted to participate. For each new H&R Block client, the FCUSBC will receive \$25.00. Clients need not be bowlers, but only submit the referral form that contains the non-profit ID number when having their taxes prepared. Just recently, H&R Block sponsored a professional tour. No more sweating taxes this season, as the FCUSBC "has people"!

Excitement grows with our new partnership. It's breaking news for anyone looking for the absolute best buys when purchasing jewelry. Premier Jewelers, a quality establishment, will offer up to a 75% discount on selected items to bowlers who present their membership cards when making a purchase. Glenn Nedrow recently opened the store and has a son who is an avid youth kegler. This generous offer makes for a win-win situation and allows all bowlers the opportunity to support those who support us.

The FCUSBC's immediate future includes extremely busy Association Tournament schedules (Youth, Open and Women), numerous other Youth Tournaments, a National Convention, National Tournaments, and our Annual Hall of Fame meeting. Currently we have two nominees for the Hall of Fame, but expect more as the March 1 deadline nears.

The First Coast USBC wishes everyone health, prosperity, happiness, and great scores in 2009.

**\*\*Note from editor:** The bowlers throughout Florida send a "Get Well Soon" wish to Mary Frank and hope for a speedy recovery.

Already February! We cannot believe it, you all will be here in our town again to visit and bowl. You will have a great time with all of the things within our towns of Melbourne and Palm Bay for you to do. Not to mention the beaches, the new stores and shopping places that we have since you were here in 2004.

We have a new owner of BBC, they are starting some cosmetic work as I write this, so I am sure you will like the work and upgrades they are doing as a welcome to all the Florida State Bowlers and of course all the regular league and the open bowlers; where we all try to get league members from.

You must remember to look for LIGHT HOUSES. Our board has been working very hard to make you feel welcome again in South Brevard and we're having fun as well. Thank you for accepting us again to host the State Tournament in 2009.

It's February, AND IF YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR ENTRY SENT IN, DO IT! You can still get in on the action and fun! It will cost an extra \$20; but that is only \$5.00 per bowler. Just think of all the fun you can have for \$5.00. A weekend away; a chance to bowl with friends you have not seen in a year, shopping and beach going without children and husbands.

Beside the tournament there are other things bowler related going on in our association. A very nice lady, Gloria Uzee bowling her very first 700 series (736), she did this in our Melbourne Maids League on Tuesday night. Congratulations Gloria.

This past open meeting, we honored Lou Martin by inducting her into our Hall of Fame for all the years she has donated her time and work to promote the sport of bowling. Oh my goodness, that's me! I was shocked at the great accolade bestowed to me by my fellow peers. Bess Severance was presented the Senior Bowler of the Year award; she certainly deserved this honor because of all the many years she has worked for the sport both with the state and local boards, plus all the years she has been a great league secretary. Bess will continue to do this for many more years. She and I will be working at the team house during the 2009 State Tournament. We both are looking forward to seeing old friends and making new ones.

I am hoping that you will get your members to send in their team and D/S entry, even though it is after the regular deadline. *Our State Association only receives \$1.00 per member.* I know you know that this is a way to help support them make money to cover the expenses they have yearly trying to give our members awards and our associations the means to serve our bowlers better.

It is my believe that all of us should be thankful for all that we receive, please give thanks and enjoy all of your days and loved ones. As I always say, have fun in all that you do and do it with all the gusto within you.

May God bless and keep you and yours in His Hands.

Welcome from South Florida and the land that's always sunny in the world of bowling! This month was a big month for Broward County USBC Women, whose annual County Tournament was held in the last two weeks of January at Brunswick Lanes in Margate, Florida. This year, we had a total of 38 teams, which showed a small decline from last year, but the scores were stellar as always.

Our high game in the tournament was by Sheila Quick with a great 288. It was great to see Sheila again. You see, she was the first League Secretary in my Friday Sociable's league way back in 1988. The Sociable's always had close to 20 teams each season, and when Sheila decided to move on in the mid 90's, she passed the secretarial reins to me.

The league has survived 2 bowling centers, moving from Cypress Creek lanes when they closed to Dolphin Lanes; and when they closed, finally settling at Striker's Family Sport Center where we are now at 19 teams strong.

It was great to see Sheila and Cathy O'Neill again at the tournament, and I'm glad that they bowled very well. Another thing that impressed me greatly at the tournament was the elegant class exhibited by all of the women who participated. At the team events, every team had matching shirts and a spirit and a camaraderie that the men really need to observe and follow. You just don't see that anymore in your typical local tournaments, and it brings a special class to bowling that I believe motivates and accelerates the sport.

Congratulations to the team of Jessica Martin, Michele Miller, Sharon Ryan and Susan Baxter; "Wii Strike" with a 2659 pin total. And Veronica Dobson & Thelma Aiken with a 1381 for high doubles and singles. Thelma is a wonderful Mom who has passed on the sport of bowling to all of her children, and I had the great pleasure of coaching many of them! And again, the high series for singles was Jessica Martin with a strong 724 series.

Coming up in February, the Broward County USBC board (with the strong support of the Junior committee) will focus our attention on our emerging youth, with a Valentine's fund raiser scheduled for February 8th, and the Eleanor Livesay 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Tournament on February 15th. In addition, for the adults, the County USBC Open Tournament is scheduled for the first two weeks in March.

Also in March is our annual election of officers, and heavy hearts are in place as we say goodbye to our USBC President, leader, and a big promoter of the game, Jerry Walters. It will be very tough to fill your shoes, and you have blazed a trail that all of us aspire to follow, but will never fill.

Here we are another year and another Palm Beach County Women’s Bowling tournament is approaching rapidly. February 28<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> and March 7-8<sup>th</sup> are the dates for our Women’s county tournament this year at the Boynton Beach AMF lanes in Boynton Beach, FL. We are easily accessible from 1-95! Please come by and bowl or say hello!

Talking about “easily accessible” ...as I peruse the internet it is very exciting to see all the USBC city/county/state websites that return on the search word “USBC”. Easy accessibility. Our game is so accessible I can join a league on the internet, post my scores, download them to Texas, buy shoes, shirts, bags, towels, but instructions on how to throw more strikes (guaranteed, by the way) and find tools to bowl, coach, manage, manipulate and otherwise do everything BUT BOWL on line! I can have my team shirts picked out by the correct size, embroidered with a logo I create and then shipped to my team, all done via the internet.

I really wasn’t very surprised to find many other companies and businesses that also use the acronym USBC. My company that I have worked for since 1991 uses an acronym and the company before this one; my previous employer in Boston also used one. Below are some of the acronym’s that appear when you search for the “USBC”. Very accessible.

<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Definition</b>
USBC	United States Bowling Congress
USBC	United States Bankruptcy Court
USBC	United States Breastfeeding Committee
USBC	United States Bureau of the Census
USBC	Universal Standard Bibliographic Code
USBC	United States Bridge Championships
USBC	University of Surrey Boat Club ( <i>UK</i> )
USBC	Utrechtste Studenten Bridge Club ( <i>Netherlands</i> )
USBC	Universal State Building Code

Information from The Free Dictionary by Farlex

Of course here are only SOME of the USBC acronym’s out there in internet-land. I am sure there are more; I could of googled for hours!

I am glad that our sport is easy and accessible. I have hope that the sport of bowling will continue to grow and become an integral part of people’s lives. We want to have that repast to get out and bowl to read about it and feel victory for that one team from Arizona. “High Hopes”, Division One from Arizona. I like that name. You got to have high hopes!

USBC... It’s got to be easy to locate. We must be vigilant about supporting USBC. Although it was sad to see “WIBC” acronym not be used in our future, it’s a part of our history now. One we have archived and saved for an easy access to via your personal scrap book, photo album or the internet!