

FLORIDA WOMEN'S BOWLING ASSOCIATION, INC.

APRIL NEWSLETTER 2005-2006 SEASON

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With this being the final issue of the FWBA Newsletter for the 2005-2006 season I would be remiss if I failed to thank and pay tribute to one of the fairest and most knowledgeable officers I have ever had the pleasure of knowing and working with in the sport of bowling for over 50 years. I know I am not alone in this respect as she is also admired and loved by many, many others who have had the pleasure of knowing her. Not only has she been a fine president but she has been a friend who encouraged me as I took on the responsibility of the FWBA Newsletter . . a committee appointment I have truly enjoyed. Thank you for your faith in me. PILAR – you have been an inspiration to so many of us during the numerous years you have served as our “prez” and will be deeply missed following your retirement in May. My fondest wish is that the years ahead grant you all the joys, good health and happiness you have looked forward to. You’ve earned it!!!

WEST VOLUSIA

JENNIE MERO

Leagues are getting ready to end for the fall session. Our “new” association is working their kinks out and our President, Janet Benjo, and Manager, Liz Waldren, have things under control. We have had a couple of monthly meetings and the first joint togetherness was the Men’s Tournament in January. Donning our new red and white association shirts, the new board was introduced at the first session of the tournament and was well received. The Women’s Tournament was held in March and although our entries were down from last year, we had many new “first time” tournament bowlers. The first place team had two members that had never bowled in a tournament before and they are ready for more. They are already talking about going to State next year.

Our Annual BVL Tournament was held in November and even with the membership down, we managed to collect \$1,316.00, which was submitted to the State for distribution. That was \$16 more than last year.

Something new that Sunshine Lanes in Deland is providing for our junior bowlers is different lane conditions. On Friday night, two lanes are set aside and head mechanic, Jack Hook, sets up different oiling patterns. Those who want to come and practice on these conditions, including the sport shot, are welcome and instructors are available to assist. There have been several taking this offer, even adults.

West Volusia has been selected for the 2006 State Seniors Tournament. The Association is excited and will be awaiting everyone in November.

Hope everyone has a good summer and I hope to see you all at State and/or Reno.

SUNCOAST USBC WBA

GLORIA MURRO

Happy anniversary to us! This year marks the **25th ANNIVERSARY** of the **SUNCOAST BOWLING ASSOCIATION**.

Before our association was formed we were joined with the CLEARWATER ASSN. A group of our bowlers decided there were enough bowlers to start our own association. To name a few of our founders: Corinne Sellers, Cathy Henry, Pat Duer and quite a

few others.

At that time they worked hard to get the ball rolling. Corinne was our first President and our first meeting was held in 1981. She read a letter from WIBC stating that the Suncoast Women's Bowling Association certificate of association was in the mail. We had 3,000 members and our dues were \$1.50 per member. The balance in our treasury was \$119.22.

Through the years we still have quite a few of our original bowlers and also new generations coming in. Not quite as many members as in recent years but we keep having our tournaments – thanks to our participating bowlers and the hard work of ALL of our board's officers and directors. We are so proud of our founding members and each of our board members since then who have kept us going through the years. GO SUNCOAST!!

Don't forget our 600 Club's 50th Anniversary which will be held in October in Hudson, FL. Our own SUNCOAST is hosting it.

At this time I do not have the location of the State 500 Club Tournament but all of you 600 Club members and 500 Club members are encouraged to bring along a bowling partner and join in the fun.

Till next time . . . Great Friends . . . great bowling and have a great summer.

GREATER MIAMI WBA**SHARON COLON**

Well, the season will be coming to a close pretty soon and it just seems as if time has flown by. We had our City Tournament and it went very well. There were the same number of entries as last year in spite of the fact that our association is down in membership. Those faithful bowlers come through every time. I'm happy to say that we had over fifty-eight 200 games and a couple of 680 series, while some ladies bowled their highest games and sets ever! Thanks go to all the hard working committee members, especially Ways and Means that brought in over \$900 and our Community Service group that collected over \$1,000 for "Bowl for the Cure." The results of the tournament are listed separately.

Our 65th annual meeting, the last as a separate association, was held inside Bird Bowl. We made it special by serving a full Italian meal to all that attended. There were 70 ladies, in all, to say goodbye to our present board. At the meeting, jackets were distributed to the first place finishers of the tournament, beautifully decorated by our own Mell Brooks. Recognition was given to one of our directors, Glenda Beckett, who was voted to receive the Outstanding Service Award for this year - a well deserved honor. As is the tradition, we retired our WIBC flag and maybe not so traditionally, presented it to Sue Jacobs in honor of her 34 years of untiring service. There were a few tears shed as we know that it will never be the same again.

Soon we will hold our Annual Seniors Tournament which will mark the end of any special events for this season.

Our USBC transition committee is trying to finalize all of the paperwork for next year. Applications for positions on the USBC board and for the executive director are available at this time. Here's hoping that we have prepared well for the future. Our sport, as we know it in South Florida, depends on great leadership and we plan on delivering!

Side note - As I am typing this, an episode of Desperate Housewives is on and they have a scene in a bowling center. Way to go, but it seems a little strange to see them keeping score by hand in this time of technological improvements. They must not have done their research on the sport in this decade!

In a time when most of the news media report that the majority of our teenagers are out of control, spoiled, or on one drug or another, I'd like to tell you about one boy who is not of that mold. His name is Chris Slater and he is 17 years old. Chris has been bowling in our junior program for a number of years. His dad, Bob, has been very involved with bowling and was previously on the Men's and Junior Association Board of Directors. Last year Chris shot a 300 game only to outdo himself by shooting an 800 series this year. In spite of his accomplishments he keeps a level head on his shoulders. He is a junior in high school, makes good grades, and works at one of the bowling establishments in town. If I stopped here, it would still be a good little story, but what makes this special is the fact that his grandfather is living at his house after suffering a stroke and his mother is recuperating from an operation that removed some cancerous growths. He has been there for his family in these times of trouble and has been able to stay calm and focused on all that he does. I laud him for showing that some of our more youthful members of society are ready and able to take what is dealt them and continue to accomplish wonderful things. Thanks, Chris, for giving us hope for the future.

It is important to keep cool in life and in bowling, especially when you are going for that big score or a shot that will win the game for your team. Here's a story about someone that kept her cool. She's not a bowler, but has always shown support for her grandson and son-in-law when they competed in the sport. It all happened last Sunday in church. You see, she (who will remain nameless) is the spry 88 year old widow of our church's founding pastor. Always very proper, and still a viable member of the choir, she shocked us as she returned to the choir loft giggling like a pre-teen. We found out later that while she was walking around the pews of the sanctuary, on her way to take communion, she felt her slip start to fall. Within seconds it was around her feet. This didn't seem to faze her a bit as she told us she simply stepped out of it and discreetly kicked it under one of the pews. When she went to retrieve it after the service it seems an usher got to it before she did. He held it up with a strange look on his face as she told him that she would try to find out who the unfortunate person was that lost the garment. Now *that* is keeping it together in times of stress.

All of us look forward to seeing you at the delegates meeting for the upcoming State Tournament. Good luck to all of the bowlers in each of your tournaments the rest of this season.

Thanks to Mina for doing a great job on the Newsletter this year. By having it on the internet there has been greater accessibility for all of those wanting to keep informed about what is going on in our sport in Florida.

May you all have a fun summer until we meet again in print and as always, may the good scores be yours.

LAKELAND W.B.A.

JEANETTE CLARIDY

As the curtain drops on the Lakeland WBA in 2006, we remember the past 50 years and the wonderful memories shared by our members. LWBA organized April 26, 1956 and the charter received June 22, 1956. A DVD tape was made from our scrapbook from 1956 to 2005. Our heartfelt thanks to the many ladies who has served as officers, directors and volunteers, and for the many hours spent in behalf of the LWBA.

Annual awards: High Average - Pam Sprow (225), High Series - Tomi Burns (772), High Game - (3) Tomi Burns, Pam Sprow and Melissa Springer, Most Improved - Heather Watson (+ 23 pins). Special Awards - Jackets to JoAnn Jackson, Barbara Gnegy, Debbi Turvin, Vicky Brodeair, Kelly Bridges, Dorothy Milburn, Kay Wentworth and Nelda Johnson.

Other High Averages: Jennifer Parsons 222, Tomi Burns 221, Nichole DePaul and Melissa Springer 217, Kathryn Cortelyou 212, Mary Ellen Wadley 204, Sandy Faber 202, Vicky Wheatley and Rita Wright 201, Kelly Bridges and Heidi Herbert 200.

Our 50th Annual Tournament - just under the wire before the merger - found the FWBA Championship Division 111 winning team, **Hubbell Eye Clinic**, rolling out the first four balls: Irene Watson, Adylene Standridge, Karen Coucetter and Michi Pope shared the honors!!! (See separate section for list of winners.)

LWBA President, Jerrie Greschuk was elected President of the newly formed Orange Belt United States Bowling Congress Association. **We thank her for a job well done in the LWBA!!** Mary Ellen Wadley was elected 3rd VP, with Tomi Lee Burns, Sandy Collins, Georgia Kovacs, Laura Hagan, Pam Sprow, and Margaret Digan among those elected directors. Congratulations to all . .

The Polk Senior Games concluded with Remer Letchworth winning 3 Gold medals in bowling: Singles 644, Doubles with brother Curtis Letchworth 1213 and Mixed Doubles with Betty Stephens 1122. Dee Mixon & Diane Downey, new record and Gold in Doubles with 1114, Nelda Johnson 601 Singles Gold record (70-74) and Charlie Brock in the 100 - 104 age bracket Gold with a new record of 391. **WOW!**

The Polk County 700 Club was won by Barbara Gnegy in A Division with 683. Heidi Cowell won B Division with a 692. Leeann Lambert and Melissa Springer won the doubles competition. Gwen Cobbs (174 ave.) missed her 300 game, leaving the 10 pin on the last ball for a 299 game and 728 series. Sharon Vanderheiden (161 ave.) rolled her first 600 series, a 609, after bowling 30+ years. Both ladies bowl in the Ladies Invitational Scratch League.

One of our high average bowlers, Tomi Burns, is recovering from an injury and surgery to the thumb on her bowling hand. An unfortunate accident where "Casper", Laura's dog, was hurt and Tomi went to his aid, was bitten and the tendon severed. Our prayers for a speedy recovery!!

LWBA's Lesley Corban is now writing the Bowling Column for The Ledger. It's a great addition to bowling interests here in central Florida. Thanks, Lesley, for a great job well done!

Coming in April the Southeast Regional USBC Professional Tournament will be at Orange Bowl Lanes, where bowlers will have a chance to bowl with a professional. It was great fun last year!!

The curtain will rise on the new USBC Association as they convene in Orlando this April. May great success be for **all** bowlers in the USA. We give thanks for the many wonderful years of bowling enjoyment in the past and in the years to come. **May we continue to BOWL in PEACE in the USA and may GOD bless AMERICA!!**

COLLIER COUNTY WBA

MARGIE WILSON

Time goes by so quickly you don't realize that before you know it another bowling season has come and gone. When you are young you just count the hours and minutes because the day doesn't go fast enough for you. Now, you wish you could stop it. I guess that old saying "time flies by when you are having fun" is what the sport is all about.

Congratulations to Christy Kiersted who rolled 11 strikes in a row in the St. Pete Classic Tournament February 1, 2006. She did it again in the Good Time Girls League in Naples topping her 1st series of 665 with 768. Hats off to you Christy.

Our association will be over in May. It will be no more. It will never be the same. The ladies of Naples have all worked together for a long time. We were all dedicated to do a good job for all of our local members. What I am proudest of is our Christmas Fun Tournament. It was one of a kind. Everybody loved it. Santa and Mrs. Clause would stroll down the lanes greeting all of the bowlers and hand out candy. We had tons of door prizes that were all donated by the board of directors and friends of the association. Christmas music would play all day and there was a bake table that was out of this world. You couldn't help but not have a good time. Christmas booties with a candy cane in them were passed out to all bowlers when checking in. Everybody looked forward to getting them. One year we were in Reno bowling and we went to Circus Circus and spent a lot of time at the games for kids winning stuffed toys. We got so many that we had to ship them home and then passed them out at the tournament. All the kids got something, and the adults too.

I gave my heart and soul to bowling and in return it gave me a lifetime of entertainment and joy. Also, pride and the reason to continue when I was down. It gave me the confidence to pick myself up and continue. If I had my life to live over again I wouldn't change a thing.

I have been bowling and working with a group of ladies for a long, long time and we all enjoy and love the sport. We go to all the tournaments we can because we love meeting and exchanging pins from other states. Just to see all the uniforms and outfits the bowlers wear and the pins from each association and state that are so beautiful. Between towels, pins and patches you can get a very big collection from all the tournaments you attend. Between myself and two other ladies I bowl with we have all attended over 30 national tournaments each and we are still going. I'm only sorry that some of the bowlers now do not have the pride that some of we older bowlers have. Just remember the parade of flags at the National Convention and how proud we all were. It will always be remembered as a special WIBC tradition.

We have a lady who will be 100 years old this coming September 5. Her name is Ethel Colcomb and she is still active and bowling twice a week, plus tournaments. If any of you would like to give her a card just stop by the Collier County table at the convention and I will collect them and see that she gets them at a special presentation.

So we now close another page in the book of bowling memories. WIBC will always hold a special place in my heart.

Farewell old friends . . .

CLEARWATER WBA

JOANNE BATES

It is getting close to the end of the 2005-06 bowling season. All leagues are thinking of their parties to end their seasons.

CWBA held our local tournament in March at Countryside Lanes. Our neighbors, Suncoast and St. Petersburg also held their

tournaments the same weekend. (Please refer to special tournament section for list of winners).

During the past month two of our ladies have bowled high games: Dee Micenec rolled her first 300 with a 696 series at Countryside Lanes and Sandy Grumblatt had a 298 game with a 761 series at Dunedin Lanes. Sandy is still reaching for her first 300 game.

Our 600 Club held their annual Friendship 9 no-tap tournament and buffet at Countryside Lanes in February. Dale VanHouten, Secretary, has held this fun thing for many years. Winners for the Tournament were Division A: Kathy and Errol Weaver with 1539. Division B were Michelle Snyder and Dawn Ward with 1424. Division C were Helen Razzano and Orrin Hajek with 1226. That is always a fun tournament and the buffet always has more food than can be eaten by everyone.

On February 8, 2006 a member of the Florida State YABA Hall of Fame passed away. Earl Lundgren was inducted last July. He was 85 years young. Another FSYABA member died on March 20. Many of the state people will remember Tom as half of the Tom and Jerry team that went around the state in the 1970's teaching adults how to teach children to bowl. Tom was also a past president of the state Juniors when it was AJBC. He was also AJBC Secretary of the local association. The other half of "Tom and Jerry" was my husband, Jerry Bates. Jerry is still active teaching youth bowling at Dunedin Lanes.

Our Clearwater USBCWBA will be holding our general meeting April 30, 2006 to elect our new USBC Board. That will be a week after the National USBC meeting on April 23 in Orlando followed by the Men's National Tournament May 12 and 13, the FWBA annual meeting on May 19 and 20 and the Women's National Tournament in Reno on May 31 and June 1. All this will keep us busy.

Would like to wish everyone a fun and relaxing summer.

PALM BEACH COUNTY

GAY ESTEVES

Another successful Palm Beach County Women's Bowling Tournament has finished. The scores were great, the attitudes were hopeful and the only issue everyone seemed to talk about was the sticky lanes! I found out that everyone likes to slide.

Approach, Approach, Approach.

It's a very important word in bowling circles. It can be down right dangerous if you don't slide on the approach. Many a bowler has nightmares of touching wood and oil! It's also an important word in the business world. "It's all in your approach". How many times have I heard this in communication classes, team building exercises and business assertiveness/strength building workshops? Can you believe that such a simple word has been completely over-looked by the USBC bowling organization?

I heard that the USBC increased our dues. I didn't get a memo or an email, nor did the 200 bowlers that I bowl with once a week! It is a travesty of the system that we really have no say. As delegates we are led to believe that we have purpose and are worthy but; when the USBC has their private meeting months before the annual convention to increase dues for the entire organization, I say the approach was sticky! If not dangerous! No one wants to fall in the bowling center when the lanes are sticky. I would think that our new USBC board would also not want to fall either! Their approach was a bit more than sticky . . . more like tacky. But of course we all understand and have county or state offices to run. We are all looking to succeed in our endeavors. Business is business.

Our county tournament success wasn't all business. We felt as though we were looking out for our bowlers. One thing I like that we did was we awarded pins to all levels of high games and pins for 3 strikes, 4, 5, 6 and 7 strikes in a row. My favorite pin (and very difficult to get actually) is the clean game pin! It carries a certain "wow" factor for most bowlers. But our bowlers were and will always be our reason to do it. If it wasn't for the game and the bowlers what would there be?

Besides bowling glory and fun, the awards are necessary gravy. Every bowler is used to receiving something nice from our mother organization when they do well. The USBC business approach to awards is lacking. Maybe the award platform will be phased out down the road, I do not know. I hope not. I'm sure that you have heard this before in the bowling alley what the bowlers say about the new USBC awards . . . they aren't going over very well. Business is business but is it's all in the approach, then this approach is a little tacky.

This newsletter is one that I have mixed feelings about. It has always been my goal to up-lift, inspire and encourage, stressing the positive. My innermost thoughts are not always so focused in that vein.....! Here we are, going through a transition, which is another way of saying “goodbye.” Our Board has been through several goodbyes already; former President B.J. Chase, Sgt. at Arms, Sarah Houkom and Mary Griffin, who served so many years in various positions, more often than not, being our County Secretary. Each of us feels the loss of these people keenly, yet uniquely differently as our own special loss of dear people.

We have also lost Board members due to down-sizing. This merge will not only bring change in administrating. We know that the life we knew as Board Members will be no more. Most will cease to function as Board Members. For many it is difficult, knowing how many years they have poured and devoted into what will soon be no more. We have just completed our 54th Tournament, our last as LCWBA. One cannot help but wonder if the ladies we have nurtured will lose their individuality and fade into the background. We are putting the future in some “old hands” and some new. We all are praying that this change will be for the better! May you always seek the betterment of the sport and not forget the individual!

Speaking of the Tournament, it was a happy time for the SWF Youth Scholarship Fund, as LCWBA donated \$1,000 to that worthy cause. We will be donating to more charities as soon as we have our final get-together with our membership. The final results of the tournament should be posted somewhere in this newsletter.

Finally, to the readers who have taken the time, the editor - Mina Tinsley, who always strove to make each edition better than the last one, and the judge who takes so much time to read each article - all of us say “THANK YOU” for a job well done!

With that, I am signing off also. I have enjoyed this more than I thought I would, pouring my heart out to you, the reader. Keep a smile in your step and a song in your heart, knowing that each person who crosses your path may be enriched from knowing you! May your bowling scores surpass your wildest expectations!

TAMPA WBA

SHIRLEY BULLOCK

As we end our season once again, our ladies are all going in many directions. Even though there are many changes to come, some things will not change. We will still continue to go to our National tournaments and to our State tournaments. We will still bowl and have fun with our friends. Some have moved on to the new Greater Tampa USBC Association, while others have chosen to just bowl and have fun.

I would like to mention one group of ladies who are all friends and do a lot of bowling together. The “Divas” is a summer bowling Club. The club is headed up by President Nadine Lewis. I had one of their members tell me that bowling is what their club is all about. Friendship and bowling . . . *especially* tournament bowling. They do a lot of traveling to other tournaments and they hold their own tournament once a year. This tournament is open to anyone who has 21 games in. What a great club and great sport our bowling is.

We will be having our final TWBA annual meeting with our Hall of Fame inductees on April 8th and our final TWBA luncheon board meeting April 29th. At this luncheon we will be retiring our jackets after many years of fun and good use.

The Greater Tampa USBC Association held their second meeting. The committees are beginning to be formed. Ruby Johns, President of TWBA, turned over the logo, voted on by the transition committee to newly elected Greater Tampa USBC Association, Ron Tucker, President. Shirley Bullock, Chairman of the uniform committee is meeting with her committee to propose ideas for uniforms to the new board and its officers. The Association is preparing to hire the association manager. Dalia Keyes, Secretary of TWBA , has expressed an interest in this position and submitted her resume for the position. This position is to be in place by April 3, 1006.

A great time was had by all at our city tournament this year. (Refer to separate page for tournament information.)

FLORIDA STATE 600 CLUB

MICKEY MAXWELL

In August, 1957, with a membership of 57, the Florida State 600 Club held its first tournament in Hallandale. Forty-one of

those 57 participated for a prize fund of \$83.45! There was only one division, and Evelyn Toetzm became the first champion.

Now, a half century later, the Club's membership is approaching 14,000, and the prize money is in the thousands of dollars. Over this time span, many dedicated members have served as officers, and to them, past and present, we say "Thank you". To the members who support the tournaments we also give thanks.

As we celebrate 50 years of competition, fun and friendship, a stroll down memory lane will hopefully be of interest. The membership fee started at a whopping 50 cents. Thirteen years later it rose to \$1.00, then for five years it was at \$4.00; and currently it's \$5.00 – a bargain at any time along the way!

As the tournament grew, more divisions were added to insure our members bowled against those with like averages. A second division was added in 1963, and in 1984 the third division came into being. In 1992, a fourth division was included, and since 2002 there have been five divisions.

The 50th anniversary tournament will be held on October 14-15 (The second weekend of the month instead of the usual third weekend) and will be hosted by the Suncoast 600 Club at Leisure Lanes in Hudson, Florida. There, another change will take place. The scratch singles will be a 3-game format and members can also enter a handicap event by paying a nominal additional fee and using the same scores from their scratch series. There will be five divisions in scratch and one division in handicap, with separate prize funds.

When the doubles format changed in the 1970's to a 3-6-9 No Tap Friendship Doubles, it was an immediate hit. Alibi doubles started in 2003, and members can now bowl with many different partners at the same time. While the Friendship Doubles is very popular, the singles event still remains the focus of the October get-together.

The Sunday morning meeting is always well attended and is an important part of the tournament weekend. The ideas and comments of the members are an integral part of the checks and balances needed to keep the Club up and running successfully. Facts and figures are important to the history of any organization, but it is members who give it life and energy. Your attendance at the annual meeting will help chart the course of our Club for the start of the next 50 years!

Entries for the 50th tournament will be distributed in May at the Florida WBA meeting in Sunrise or by calling or e-mailing the Club's tournament director. Audrey Rodriguez, at 321-254-1833 or Hummers2Ways@aol.com. With the help of the local clubs' officers and members in the distribution of these entry forms we all can make the 50th a "golden" one.

On another note, the Florida State 600 Club will receive a Certificate of Recognition from the National 600 Bowling Club on May 7, 2006, in Reno. The top five states will be honored for their participation in the National Club's tournament held in Tulsa in 2005. *Way to go* Florida!

The officers – Suzanne Carr (1st VP), Johanna LaRosa (2nd VP), Anne Arleth (3rd VP), Audrey Rodriguez (Secretary/Treasurer and Tournament Director) and Muriel Casey (Sergeant-at-Arms) join me in wishing all a great summer, and we look forward to seeing you at the October tournament.

SARASOTA MANATEE WBA

MARLENE FISHER

WHEW! What a year. Here it is the end of the season and everything is buzzing.

We got our final tally for the BVL collection in November. Thank you to the following: Sarasota Lanes – \$737.95, AMF Gulf Gate – \$370.00 and AMF Bradenton – \$305.76. The total was \$1,413.71. Our association voted to contribute \$586.29 and a check was sent in the amount of \$2,000 to Bay Pines in St. Petersburg. Thanks to all our helpers collecting and those who contributed. You

know who you are!!

March 11, 12, 18, and 19 were very busy for our association. We held our first annual Sarasota Manatee WBA Championship Tournament. The tournament was held at AMF Venice. We did not have good participation again this year. Twenty three teams, fifty two doubles and 104 singles. We have over 1500 sanctioned bowlers in our association. This was a handicapped event with two divisions for team, 3 divisions for doubles and 3 divisions for singles. (Please refer to separate page for tournament information.) We need to recognize 4 ladies who bowled out-standing series. They each had 700 or better. Beth Owen - Cipielewski (744), Deb Graham (726), Shanti Schrock (729) and Paula Wenzel who not only bowled one 700 series but three (737), (744) and (750) – 2221 – CONGRATULATIONS!!! A **BIG** thank you to Galaxy Pools, Eldridge Auto Body, All American Heating and Cooling, All Bright Windows, Bradenton Dermatology and Galaxy Chemicals who sponsored our tournament. Through our 50/50 raffle during the tournament we were able to donate \$250 to our YABA Scholarship Fund.

Our local Hall of Fame dinner will be held April 8. We will be inducting the following 4 members. For Meritorious Service: Eileen Maples and Doris Norwood. For Bowling Achievement: Kim Burnham and Karen Shaffer. Karen bowled her first 300 game last season and Kim joins her mother, Brenda Roland, who was inducted two years ago for Meritorious Service. Kim and Brenda are our first mother-daughter inductees. We are proud of you all.

Sunday, April 9, the “Bud Blossoms” of our association will be volunteering at the Venice Sharks Tooth Festival. This has become an annual event for us because all proceeds will benefit the Special Olympics which our association supports.

Just a short note about our youth. Over 40 of our local kids participated in the Pepsi Tournament held in Port St. Lucie. I understand they did us proud once again.

Another couple months we’ll be able to visit with everyone at State. We have 10 board members going to Ft. Lauderdale. Looks like we have a lot of business to tend to according to the paperwork we’ve received. The Luau for dinner sounds great. Good luck to everyone going to Reno and Ft. Lauderdale for bowling. Everyone stay safe. In closing, hope everyone had a good season bowling and enjoyed good health this season. HAVE A **GREAT SUMMER!!!**

WHEN WE TRAVEL THROUGH LIFE WITH GOOD FRIENDS AROUND US, EVEN IF WE NEVER NEED THEIR HELP WE CAN BE CONFIDENT OF THEIR HELP IN NEED.

FIRST COAST USBC ASSOCIATION

MARY FRANK

The First Coast Bowling Congress is nearing the end of our first year as a totally merged organization. Without a doubt, the most difficult part of our year preceded our merged target date of August 1, 2005. Wading through the Transition, getting our bylaws approved by the National USBC, having the Articles of Incorporation approved by the State, and getting non-profit status, all combined for a hair-raising experience. Often it was a hurry up and wait process. Had the National USBC sent us the Federal information relative to the non-profit status, we wouldn’t have had to be “recycled” through the State system twice. But we survived!

The FCBC mourns the loss of Willoudeen Petersen, a former Treasurer of the JWBA. Willoudeen, whom many of you remember, passed away on March 20, following a lengthy illness. A memorial service was held on April 1, and abiding by her wishes, her ashes will be spread over the ocean in an annual ceremony on December 7, Pearl Harbor Day.

On June 3, the First Coast BC will be hosting their Annual Meeting at the Jacksonville Marriott. At that time, one-third of the Board will be up for re-election. Delegates and Alternates will be elected for the ensuing year, Hall of Fame members will be inducted, and the winners of both the Senior and Association Championship Tournaments will receive their plaques. As a courtesy, postcards will be sent to all tournament winners, congratulating them and reminding them of their up-coming presentations at the Annual Meeting. Refreshments will be served.

On April 15, the Clara White Mission will sponsor their annual “Alley Oop” Tournament. This charitable event raises money through contributions to assist in feeding the hungry. Previous guests that have participated in this fun-loving event include “Elvis,”

members of the Jacksonville Jaguars' football team, the "Roar," which is the Jaguars' cheer-leaders, and various television personalities. In addition to bowling, there are door prizes, drawings for over-stuffed baskets chocked full of goodies, and a silent auction. Before, during and after this no-tap event, bowlers are invited to a delicious lunch prepared by Clara White's chefs-in-training.

The FCBC is in the midst of electing our first nominees into the Hall of Fame. An election will be held on Sunday, May 7, at which time all Greater Jacksonville BA and Jacksonville WBA Hall of Fame members and Hall of Fame Committee members will cast their ballots for a maximum of two candidates for Bowling Achievement and two candidates for Meritorious Service. Any candidates not elected, will be retained for one year. Prior GJBA and JWBA Hall of Fame members were grandfathered into the new organization and receive all benefits the FCBC offers Hall of Fame members. Each elected member will receive a specially designed ring and framed certificate and prior Hall of Fame members will have the option of purchasing a ring. New on the Hall of Fame scene will be the election of one Hall of Fame member for Lifetime membership. The only criterion is that the nominee(s) must be a Hall of Fame member for ten years. Upon election, this member will have his/her local dues paid by the FCBA until they either move out of the jurisdiction of the FCBC or become deceased.

The first Association Championship Tournaments were held the weekends of Feb. 18 through March 5. Even though it was quite successful, the Tournament Committee plans to meet and critique the event, with hopes of making it more successful next year. There are always issues to tweak, and an attempt will be made to streamline the event by bringing rules, etc., into conformity. Barbara Batt's All Events score of 2002 gained her the title of Association Champion of the Women's Division, while Andy Brown's All Events score of 2136 earned him the title of winner in the Open Division. Jo Greco earned a paid entry into the Master's Tournament by posting a score of 2067.

Our elected delegates are looking forward to both the National USBC Convention and the FWBA Convention. They view the USBC meeting with reservations, wondering "What could they be thinking!" When one door closes, another opens; such will be the case of the Florida WBA. With so much business on the agenda, it looks as though there is a definite need for a two day convention this year. Both conventions should prove to be very interesting. We look forward to seeing you at the conventions, and until then, Happy Easter and God Bless.

TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONSHIPS

WEST VOLUSIA WBA – Annual Tournament

Team: The Yo Yo's – Melissa Grady; Patty Dixon; Phyllis Riedy;& B.J. Rosetti. **Total: 2458**

Doubles: Glenda Owens and Sherry Bowser: **Total: 1319**

Singles: Karen Herman: **Total: 707**

All Events: Phyllis Riedy: **Total: 2051**

GREATER MIAMI WBA - 62nd Annual Tournament winners

Hdcp. Team: Island Girls – Laurie Postrion, Cheryl Williams, Debbie Moore & Stephanie Maher: **Total: 2395**

Scratch Team: Que Pasta – Graciela Dube, Rosi Mendez, Mireya Gomez & Janet Diaz-Dominguez: **Total: 2130**

Doubles Hdcp. Willie Mae Pittman & Patricia Rice-Spivey. **Total: 1306**

Doubles Scr.: Caren Fried & Sheila Cockfield. **Total: 1228**

Singles Hdcp.: Sharon Colon **Total: 696**

Singles Scratch: Sheila Cockfield **Total: 681**

All Events Hdcp: Laurie Postrion **Total: 1897**

All Events Scr.: Sharon Colon **Total: 1823**

LAKELAND WBA – 50th ANNUAL TOURNAMENT

Hdcp. Team: GURLS – Carolyn Bass, Shannon Jackson, Charlene Held & Barbara Gnegy: **Total : 2510**

Doubles: Dee Mixon& Patricia Williams: **Total: 1401**

Singles: Rosa Edwards: **Total: 724**

All Events: Allison Cale Korcak: **Total: 2095**

SCRATCH AWARDS:

High Game: Jennifer Parsons **Total: 268**

High Series: Allison Cale Korcak **Total: 730**

High All Events: Allison Cale Korcak **Total: 2095**

(The High All Events Champion – Allison Cale Korcak and her brother, C.J.Cale, grew up on the lanes here in Lake-land and were both great junior bowlers. Congratulations to our last LWBA tournament winners, and may all enjoy many feats in the new USBC.)

CLEARWATER WBA – Annual Tournament

Division I Team: Pat's Team: Pat McManus, Melissa Meier, Krista Gust & Lori Smith: **Total: 2870**

Division II Team: Why Bother: Lisa Richardson, Stacy Perryman, Cyndi Winn & Ellen Costanza: **Total: 2722**

Division I Doubles: Krista Gust& Lori Smith (Mother and daughter): **Total: 1535**

Division II Doubles: Krystal Davis& Krista Gust: **Total: 1462**

Division III Doubles: Linda Spicer (Assn. Secy.)& Suzanne Landry: **Total: 1420**

Division I Singles: Linda Guinand: **Total: 708**

Division II Singles: Krista Gust: **Total: 793**

Division III Singles: Patty Berkley: **Total: 776**

All Events Division I: Debbie Cowger: **Total: 2148**

All Events Division II: Sherry Morrow: **Total: 2229**

All Events Division III: Norma Soukup: **Total: 2165**

LEE COUNTY WBA – ANNUAL TOURNAMENTS

REGULAR DIVISION:

Team: Gateway Mini Spa: Bobbi Jo Daudelin, Lucy Fernandez, Diana Bergin & Dianne Winspear: **Total: 2557**

Doubles/Handicap: Bobbi Jo Daudelin & Lucy Fernandez: **Total: 1358**

Singles/Handicap: Kristina Stewart: **Total: 747**

All Events/Handicap: Kristina Stewart: **Total: 2223**

All Events/Scratch: Kristina Stewart: **Total: 2223**

SENIOR DIVISION:

Team: Over the Hill Gang: Terry Zabor, Carolyn Gallo, Bobbi Kolis & Patricia Spagnolo: **Total: 2485**
Doubles/Handicap: Patricia Spagnolo and Bobbi Kolis: **Total: 1300**
Singles/Handicap (over 65): Velma Watkins: **Total: 673**
Singles/Handicap (under 65): Janet Tackett: **Total: 635**
All Events/Handicap: Velma Watkins: **Total: 2012**
All Events/Scratch: Patricia Spagnolo: **Total: 1579**

TAMPA WBA – 56TH ANNUAL HANDICAP TOURNAMENT

Team/Handicap - SHOWTYME GIRLZ#1: Adrian Carr, Jacci McCloud, Joyce Darnell & Christy Norton
Total: 2735
Team/Scratch - PROCRASTINATORS: Lori Hutchinson, Stephanie Mays, Bonnie Dyer & Trudy Lavoie
Total: 2428
Doubles/Handicap - Pam Sprow & Debra Wolfe - Total: 1448
Doubles/Scratch - Pam Sprow & Debra Wolfe - Total: 1395
Singles/Handicap - Tonia Asp - Total: 782
Singles/Scratch - Pamela Toner - Total: 663
All Events/Handicap - Adrian Carr - Total: 2154
All Events/Scratch - Debra Wolfe - Total: 2031

SARASOTA MANATEE WBA – ANNUAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

DIVISION A:

Team/Handicap – Troublemakers – Total: 3171

DIVISION B:

Team/Handicap – Cheese and Crackers – Total 3082

DIVISION A:

Doubles/Handicap – Melinda Busiere & Jaime Prisinzano – Total: 1361

DIVISION B:

Doubles/Handicap – TIE - Laura Caruso & Tracy Stewart. Brenda Roland & Jill McCarthy – Total 1313

DIVISION C:

Doubles/Handicap – C. Tracy Babcock & Irene Webb: Total: 1329

DIVISION A:

Singles/Handicap – Nancy West: Total: 761

DIVISION B:

Singles/Handicap – Catherine Plansky: Total: 707

DIVISION C:

Singles/Handicap – Dorothy Woodward: Total: 665

EDITOR'S COMMENTS: Many, *many* thanks for restoring my faith in YOU, my writers. This issue has the most contributions of any issue this season. I appreciate your dedication to the newsletter and thank each and every one of you for your informative articles. Keep up the great work. HAVE A HAPPY AND HEALTHY SUMMER!!

I will look forward to seeing many of your familiar faces at the FWBA Convention in May.