

FLORIDA STATE USBC WBA NEWSLETTER

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WEST VOLUSIA USBC

JENNIE MERO

Where has this year gone? The summer flew by so fast that Christmas is just around the corner. I guess not having the worry about storms, relaxed us and allowed everyone to enjoy the summer, missed fall, and now it is almost the end of the year.

The West Volusia Association merged last year and it has been a successful year. The men and women have worked together during tournaments. It has been challenging, but successful.

For example . . . the Florida USBC Senior Tournament held at Sunshine Lanes in DeLand, ended on November 12th. Those who attended know that the men worked the tournament. Their smiling faces and raffle tickets were never ending. The Ways and Means Chairman, Bob Barrett, sends thanks to all the women who participated in the raffles. It certainly made his job easier. We hope to see you again in a few years.

Something old and something new is West Volusia's "Club Thirteen". Due to low entries and the decline in bowling membership the local 600 Club, 500 Club and the 200 Club formed a new club . . . "Club Thirteen". The bowlers will still have their 600, 500 and 200 recognized and will still be able to join the state and national clubs. The first tournament was held with 41 entries. President of the new club is Ida Jane Wegrzyn.

In November, Anna Mae Francis, who is 80 years young, bowled her *first 600 series*. She rolled games of 168, 223 and 212 for a 603. Her Non Smokers League was very proud of her. Only goes to show you "Life goes on!"

I just received news that Florida Bowling Queens past president, Mary Ann Burney, passed away. West Volusia has many former FBQ members and, on behalf of them, our condolences to Mary Ann's family.

WISHING EVERYONE HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND SEE YOU IN 2007!!

SEMINOLE COUNTY USBC WBA

PATRICIA L. HARBIN

I opened the morning paper today; saw all the ads from every store in Central Florida declaring, it is the day after Thanksgiving and only 31 days til Christmas. I knew I had to go shopping. The first stop will be the pro-shop for all my bowling friends. Let's see . . . there are tee shirts, gloves, socks, bowling jewelry, rosin bags, towels and all the essentials that a bowler needs. Of course, a new rolling bowling bag would be nice for the grand kids and, last but not least, a new ball for hubby.

What a Christmas this will be for each child that benefits from the annual "Toys for Tots" bowling event in Orlando, FL at Colonial Lanes. The credit for the hard work of this event goes to Vickie Dice and Helen Myers of the Orlando Women's Bowling Association. The toys are collected from other organizations and distributed by the US Marine Corp Reserve. This year an active group of Marines who just returned from Iraq this fall will do the honors of making hundreds of children happy. These marines are under the direction of Gunnery Sgt. Gary Shaw. God bless all our men in uniform for all the services they perform unknown to most other people.

Keep Dec. 16th in your mind as the day to help save a child's life. That's the day Altamonte Lanes in Altamonte Springs, FL is having a tournament to raise money for Children's Miracle Network, a hospital charity for very sick kids. The cost is twenty-five dollars per person, four per team. The fee includes shoe rental and a free tee shirt. Chick in 11 A.M. 'til 3 P.M. Register today through Dec. 13, 2006. Call Rosemary at 407-862-2500 for more information and directions to the bowling center at 1-4 and Hwy 436. **REMEMBER . . . DECEMBER, 16, 2006 Children's Miracle Network.**

Soon we will all be planning for the many tournaments being offered and I am reminded of a conversation I overheard recently. A group of local women played in the Bowling Divas tournament at Terrace Sports in Tampa, FL this fall. Some were laughing about their scores on wooden lanes, a new experience for most. All bowled below their average with the exception of a couple of games. The ladies said they had fun and enjoyed the event even if their scores were not fantastic.

Can't think of a Christmas gift for yourself? What about a trip to Nationals in Charlotte, N.C. Not only will you have fun but also you'll always have memories of a beautiful city in the springtime. Deadline for entries is February 9, 2007.

So . . . until next time have a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and keep your New Year's Eve safe. Welcome in the year 2007 while having fun at your favorite bowling center. Goodbye for now.

ORLANDO USBC WBA

*** BARBARA LYNETTE**

While we should take pride in giving year round, Thanksgiving and Christmas seem to bring out our most compassionate and reflective emotions for giving to those less fortunate. For the past nine years Helen Myers, a director on the Orlando USBC WBA board, has taken this to heart and given of herself at perhaps the busiest time of the years to put on one of our most successful and fun events in partnership with the Marine Corp Reserves. Our Toys for Tots event fills Colonial Lanes in Orlando with bowlers who care about those in need. We also would be remiss if we did not thank each and every one for their support from our board members collecting all the toys from the centers, the Edgewater High School Marines Jr. ROTC who give of their time each year to present the colors and, last but not least, to the numerous supporters with their gifts and time. We applaud and thank each and every one of you.

Our 19th Annual Mixed Tournament on November 19, 2006 was a **big** success. We had 88 sets of doubles and all had a good time. Our first place winners were Tina Duen and Angel Lopez with a total score of 1414. Congratulations to all the winners. This year we proudly donated a portion of the proceeds to the American Cancer Society.

While this year we are grateful for a lackluster hurricane season, we are especially thankful for all the military service personnel that are away from their families so that we may experience freedom at home. We, it is approaching that time of the year to wind down 2006 and look forward to an adventuresome and successful

new year. We wish all of you a happy holiday season.

Just a closing thought; Have you ever wondered why it takes four steps to get to the foul line and twenty to get back? . . . Hmmm.

OCALA USBC WBA

DEBBIE WHITTEN

Fall is in the air. Take time to enjoy the cool evenings and slight chill in the air because the hot summer weather will be here before you know it.

The Ocala women traveled to Hudson, Florida, to participate in the 50th Anniversary of the State 600 Club and a good time was had by all. Kudos to Alicia Stanul who placed 1st in Div. "C" and 4th in the handicap division. There were other winners such as Barbara Cook, Gail Broaderick and Debbie Whitten. We are looking forward to Palm Beach next year.

The Ocala women traveled to Polk County for the state 500 Club Tournament and several returned winners: Irene and Mimi Kish placed in doubles and singles while Irene also placed in All Events. Four other ladies also cashed. Way to go *Ocala*.

A joyous holiday season to you and your's and see you Next Year.

SUNCOAST USBC WBA

GLORIA MURRO

Is it 2007 already? The time has really crept up on us. Seems like we just started the season and now we're just rolling along.

Our local 600 Club hosted its 50th anniversary at Leisure Lanes in Hudson and the turnout was great. Thanks to all of the members of our club who worked so hard to make it a great success. We called it "Go For The Gold" and it *was* a golden event. Thanks again to the volunteers and participants. Hope to see all of the State 600 Club members at the next State tournament as it's always good to see everyone.

Just to brag a little bit . . . our president, Diane Jarosz, and her mother, Jane Jarosz, were presented plaques from the National association for their participation in the most national tournaments. They each had bowled in 41 tournaments. Congratulations to both of you. We're proud of your accomplishment.

On October 29 we had our annual 600 Club meeting and the first local tournament of the season. Winners were Bonnie Falanga - Open Div., Donna Alfonso - A Div., Diane Bloom - B Div. and Diane Jarosz - C Div.

Our local 500 Club had their first tournament with a singles format. The winner being Brenda Walker. In January they will have a Scotch Doubles Tournament and in February a Mixed Doubles.

Well fellow bowlers . . hope you have a great holiday and remember . . . GREAT FRIENDS AND GREAT BOWLING!

FL LA LA LA LA!

Another Holiday season is coming and why not give the gift of Bowling?

We have so much to offer our youth. We give them our eyes and hair color. We give them our values and legacies of family members past. Why not give the gift of bowling: (Yes I feel like the old timer on the front porch telling stories. Where did that old man go anyway?) The first Christmas that I actually remember all the presents before they were opened was when I was 8 years old. I got a Barbie airplane and a plastic pinball machine; but my older brother and sisters all got bowling balls and bags to match!

How exciting that would be for a kid! But it's the experience of bowling with friends or on a league that can't be given. It is priceless. We are such a competitive society and yet some sports are so overlooked. On elementary school playground the boys on the basketball court should be discussing the rowdy and phenomenal Pete Weber. And the little girls should be talking about Kelly Kulick and her adorable hair style. But they aren't talking about bowling. The United States is an "all sports" are important sort of country. We have enough room and people for every sport. Albeit hiking, curling, basketball or BOWLING! Then why isn't the word getting out there?

So for this Christmas I say to spread some cheer! Spread the word!

Spread the message to everyone about having fun and getting out to go bowling with your friends! Spread the word that bowling is a cool sport for everyone. Everyone can do it. Everyone can try it.

Success in bowling isn't measured by the trophies or medals on your wall, it's the value we gain from the experience. We live and give our legacy and then pass it on to our children, parents and friends by our actions.

So . . . spread the word and GO BOWLING!

FIRST COAST USBC ASSOCIATION

MARY FRANK

With the start of a new season came the anticipation of the initial tournament of the season, the Annual Unified Trio Tournament. This was the second year for the event, which was held on October 7. Since the First Coast USBC is a completely merged organization, entries consisted of one man, one lady and one youth. It was very encouraging to see entries increase, and the association anticipates an even greater turnout next year. The Division 1 winners, whose combined averages were 540 or higher, were Jessica Cousins (youth) and Dawn and Blake Edgeworth who rolled a great 2008 set. Division II winners, whose combined averages were 539 or lower, were Beau Roberson (youth), Monica Leis and Raymond Johnson, who blistered the pins for a 2085 set. Youths placing in their respective divisions received scholarships and plaques while the adults received plaques. Everyone who entered the tournament received certificates of participation.

The first Saturday of November has always represented a very important date in the FCUSBC's tournament schedule. It's the annual BVL Mixed Scotch Doubles Tournament. Prior to the start of the event, Bishop Kenney's Honor Guard presented the colors. The youth bowlers showed an eager willingness to bowl in this event, so a few rules were included to allow for their participation. Another precedent has been set in the name of "merged." Three places were guaranteed for the youths, and the winners received engraved medals that hung on red, white and blue ribbons. Youth winners were Susan Palmer/Jacob Snyder who paired up for a 733 set. To encourage more youth

participation next year, the medals were presented during their regular youth play the following Saturday morning. The adult winners, Ashley Vinson and Donald Carrigg, who rolled an impressive 776 set, received cash for their scoring efforts. Everyone enjoyed this fun-filled tournament immensely, and nearly \$1,000 was raised for the VA Center in Lake City. Although "can" collections are taken throughout the leagues for BVL, another new idea was launched this year. An engraved plaque will be awarded to the bowling center with the most money collected per certified bowler per league. The winning center will be announced in mid-December.

Mr. Jim Zebehazy, our USBC Field Rep, attended the November 8 Board Meeting. Jim spoke on various subjects, but the one topic that garnered the most questions was the Registered Volunteer Program relating to the youth. This program, established to safeguard bowlers in youth leagues and tournaments against sexual predators, will be mandatory for the Board. Jim stated that USBC's goal is to have the program in practice in all USBC associations nation-wide by January 1, 2008. Following the meeting, delicious refreshments were served. The First Coast USBC is looking forward to another visit from Jim.

The last two weekends of November found the Board assisting with the Northeast Florida Bowling Conference Tournament. The turnout was good and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves in spite of a major blackout the last weekend. Numerous high scores were bowled, but to date, tournament results have not been officially announced.

The FCUSBC is preparing for the holiday season with a "Christmas Gathering," scheduled for Wednesday, December 13. In lieu of a Board Meeting, a covered dish dinner and Christmas music will set the mood for the holidays, Board Members will bring books, toys and stuffed animals to the dinner in support of "Community in Schools," one of the FCUSBC's Community Outreach programs.

The First Coast USBC extends sincerest condolences to the family of Mary Ann Burney. "Burney," as she was known throughout the bowling world, will truly be missed not only as a friend to bowlers, but as President of the Florida Bowling Queens.

Until next year, may each of you be surrounded by family and friends, and Blessed with the spirit of Christmas. Let us not forget our service men and women worldwide, who guard our safety at home and abroad. Have FAITH in your beliefs, HOPE for a brighter tomorrow, and LOVE for all mankind. God Bless. MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

SARASOTA WBA

MARLENE FISHER

Thanksgiving was great. Everyone survived "BLACK FRIDAY" we hope! ! !

We want to recognize the ladies who did so well from our area in the Florida Bowling Queens Tournament at AMF Venice. **Paula Wenzel captured her 3rd Championship Crown** with 3,106 over a pair of seven-game blocks. Can you imagine a **221.8** average? Cindy Grich finished 3rd with 2,911 and Paula Wenzel and Nadine Lewis placed 2nd with 2,309 in doubles.

Ladies from our area also did well in State 600 Club Tournament in Hudson. One of our past presidents, Gail Fargo, won **1st place in A Division with a 587**. Beth Cipielewski placed 3rd in Open Division with 601 while Cindy Miccihi came in 4th in B Division with a 533 and Patrice Baier finished 3rd in C Division with a 503 and also placed 6th in the Friendship Doubles with her partner Shanti Schrock while Denise Wickline and Sandy Combs placed 8th.

A lot of ladies participated in the St. Pete Classic but they haven't heard any results. I do know they had a great time especially at the local restaurants.

Some of our ladies also participated in the FWBA Senior Tournament in DeLand. They haven't heard anything but had a great time seeing old friends and getting out of town for the weekend.

On November 12 the committee from our board met with our men's committee to continue talks concerning a merger with our association. We are still moving toward merging by the end of this season.

Our Hall of Fame committee met November 19 to select the new inductees for this season. Our new members will be Charlotte Hiatt (our association President) and Cecilia Butler. Congratulations ladies for all of your accomplishments and service to the sport of bowling. Both ladies are being inducted for meritorious service. Their party is scheduled for April 14, 2007.

In closing, our association wants to wish Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year to you and yours!!!

EDITOR'S COLUMN

I hope each association's office manager and/or secretary provides information regarding the FWBA USBC Newsletter . . . *especially* to their publicity writer. I have not provided individual letters to the ladies who have been selected as Publicity Chairpersons as I have in the past due to circumstances beyond my control. Please forgive me. The next newsletter will be sent in February and the final one in April. I should receive your articles no later than the end of January and the end of March. If they can be sent earlier I would appreciate it. However, I will honor any and all articles received by the 5th day of the month of issue.

I really miss some of my previous writers and hope they will participate again before this season is over. To my new writers . . . keep up the good work. Thanks!

May the good Lord grant you good health and happiness and keep watch over our men in the service of our country. I wish each and everyone of you a *very Merry Christmas* and a safe and *Happy New Year*. Mina.