

FLORIDA USBC WBA NEWSLETTER

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SUNCOAST USBC WBA

GLORIA MURRO

With deep regrets our Suncoast Association would like to dedicate this article to the memory of one of our longtime members and organizers.

CATHY HENRY

December 8, 1948 – October 21, 2007

Cathy was an accomplished bowler, not only as a member of the Professional Women's Association but also a member of the Florida Queens, the State 600 Club, and the Suncoast 600 Club. Cathy was instrumental in starting the Suncoast Association and served as its first Secretary and then as President. Without her, our association wouldn't be what it is today.

While bowling with the Florida Queens on October 6, 1990, she bowled the first 300 game shot in a Queens tournament and on September 13, 1993 she threw back to back 300 games.

Cathy was inducted into the Florida Women's Bowling Association and the Suncoast Women's Bowling Association Halls of Fame . . . both for bowling achievement.

Through her bowling career she worked hard in marketing and established several junior programs. One of our directors, Sharlene Grant, remembers her as her coach and mentor. She was instrumental in starting school programs which we still have today. One program is now 20 years old and has helped at-risk youth turn their lives around.

Cathy's family and many friends said good-bye to her at a lovely memorial service. She passed away after a short battle with cancer. She will be remembered not only for her bowling skills but also for her friendly and caring manner.

Cathy, it has been a pleasure bowling with you and everyone will miss you. May you rest in peace.

In Loving Memory of

Cathy A. Henry
December 8, 1948
October 21, 2007

God Saw You

God saw you were getting tired and
a cure was not to be, so He put His
arms around you and whispered,
"Come with Me."

With tearful eyes we watched you
suffer and saw you fade away. Although
we loved you dearly we could no make
you stay. A Golden heart stopped beating
hard working hands to rest. God
broke our hearts to prove to us
He only takes the best.

Until next time, GREAT FRIENDS AND GREAT BOWLING!

Palm Beach County hosted the Annual Florida State 600 Club Championship tournament at Jupiter Lanes in October. The 600 Club had a Singles and Doubles Friendship Tournament. It was great fun to see women bowlers from everywhere in the state get together for some fun and great bowling. Even if I didn't know all the names, all the ladies were friendly and happy to be there (working hard) and participating. I recognized many women from either attending the State tournament or from our annual State meeting and everyone was very, well, FRIENDLY.

I was amazed at the amount of work that goes into a tournament. "I know that it takes a village" but the gals really knew what they were doing and were organized and prepared. When I had paid for my entry fee to bowl I hadn't selected a doubles partner though. During my warm up, before actually bowling the singles, a lady also bowling on my pair asked me to bowl with her in the Doubles portion if her partner didn't show up. Since we were already warming up, I said sure. She was from Broward County (Freda Weiss) and it was a far drive home, plus she had already paid for it. To my dismay her partner finally did show up and we all bowled singles together. One of the 600 Club ladies said that if I bowled with a "regular" partner also I could bowl with my Broward friend as another doubles partner? Well I liked that idea since I didn't have to go back to work for the Palm Beach ladies (they were okay) and I was far from my home also, why go home early? All I needed was a partner! And then I heard in the crowd, "does anyone want to bowl in the doubles tournament?" . . she was from Leesburg, Florida (Cheryl Hanson). So where else in the world can you meet more people from all over than in a bowling alley!

I had my first 300 game! in the Doubles Friendship Fun Tournament (3-6-9 strikes and 9 pin no tap). I must say it was great to bowl with new friends. That's what it's all about. I realized how many times my friends and I complained when we would go away to tournaments, that we all weren't on the same pair. We were often split apart, some bowling here, some bowling over there. Or if you sign up together you often bowl together. I missed not bowling with my girlfriends . . don't get me wrong, but it was exciting to have someone ask me to bowl just because! They didn't know by average or my name or care what county I was from. Just bowl with me!

Thanks . . I had a *great* time!

And the winners were: Open Div. - 664, Casie Soderstrom (Tampa)

Div. A - 620, Melody Williams (Tampa)

Div. B - 608, Judy Merlo (Palm Beach)

Div. C - 501, Julia Byrd (Treasure coast)

Friendship Doubles - 1650, Krystal Davis & Krista Gust (Clearwater)

Honorable mentions: Jan Kaufman, Paula Brannon, Judy Sisko, Flo Gregg and Olga Wallace.

Thanks 600 Club for bringing us all together!

Have a Merry Holiday Season!

Time flies when you're having fun is the way this year has been for me. It is almost the beginning of the Christmas season and all my good intentions about pre-season shopping are sill just that ... good intentions. Well, maybe I will put that on my list of New Years resolutions for 2008.

When I was asked if I wanted to participate in the Toys for Tots event this year I jolted into the realization that it is almost Christmas again. Many families will have an even more difficult time this year in Central Florida due to the decline of home sales and building in Florida. If you have any extra funds to spare put a toy into the barrels for Toys for Tots this

season for a child who might otherwise do without a Merry Christmas.

When you open your own gifts this time think how happy you have made the child who received a gift indirectly from you. I'll be willing to bet that you will score an extra strike the next time you bowl.

Attention USBC ladies of Seminole County. Be sure to take part in the annual county tournament that will be held on the last two weekends of February 2008. Longwood Bowling Center will be hosting the tournament. Watch for the entry forms that will give you information about the prize list and times of each event. Get your in early to reserve the time and day you want to bowl. See you there.

Do you plan to go to the state tournament this year? Don't forget to drop a hint for a new swimsuit for Christmas or at least a gift certificate to purchase one. The beach at Daytona is a great place to get a tan.

This letter will be short this month but it's full of Christmas wishes for all members of USBC FLA WBA. Keep in your mind and heart all those who will be facing the season without their loved ones. Remember our servicemen overseas. There is still time for cards and cookies. Think of the reason for the season. Merry Christmas to all and to all a good STRIKE!

OCALA USBC WBA

DEBBIE WHITTEN

My understanding of the State Newsletter was not to be a "personal" page of tournament results for each association but to share stories and tidbits of information between bowlers. Some of the articles I have read in the past are just tournament results for an association and then there are articles that are submitted and not printed at all. Wonder why?

Another fall season is underway and tournaments are plentiful but bowlers are scarce. The economy is taking a toll on our sport and dues increases are on the horizon. Not sure if that will ease the financial strain that clubs and associations are feeling or cause more bowlers to drop out of the "certified" scene. Most tournaments have increased their entry fee due to an increase in the amount of lineage the centers are charging. The cost of food at the bowling centers has increased and the "benefits" to the bowlers have, again, decreased. Where will it all end? Any suggestions from other associations on how you are dealing with the increase in costs and decrease in bowlers/participants? We would like to know if you are keeping services or if you are having to cut out programs and awards that you have had in the past due to the changes in the economy.

As usual USBC is undergoing more changes in their structure and their personnel. Where is all this headed? No one seems to know. The Summit was a success if you talk to some and then others are reserving comment until we actually see what headquarters does with the suggestions and comments that were provided by the "bowlers" at the Summit.

Women from the Ocala 600 Club participated in the State 600 Club Tournament held in Jupiter, Florida, at Jupiter Lanes and it appeared that the turnout was down from past years. On Saturday there had not been any bids submitted to host the Tournament in years to come but at the meeting on Sunday, Tampa stepped up to the "lane" for 2008, Ft. Myers for 2009 and most likely the Villages for 2010. More information from Audrey when the time is appropriate.

Happy Holidays to you and yours. And speaking of holidays don't forget the wounded service men and women who will not be with family and/or friends this holiday season. When addressing your Christmas Cards (or whatever holiday you may celebrate) please send a card addressed as follows: A Recovering American Soldier; c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center, 6900 Georgia Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20307-5001. These individuals are in the hospital recovering from wounds they incurred fighting to save our freedom to celebrate the holidays in the manner each individual chooses to celebrate and a card is a very small "THANK YOU" for putting their life on the line so that you don't have to.

Be there for family and friends during the holidays or they can be stressful. Lend a hand, lend an ear, lend a shoulder but be

there for someone you care for.

See you after the New Year.

GREATER MIAMI USBC ASSOCIATION

SHARON COLON

Hello everyone. I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. All of us down South have been quite busy with tournaments, collections, etc. As I write to you this month, I wonder whether we will be an association much longer. As you already know, from past articles, our bowling situation has been rather sad. One house after another has been closing and at last count were down to two bowling centers. Unfortunately, Homestead Bowl was shut down this past Thursday night. Bowlers arrived to find that the doors had been padlocked and the electricity had been shut off because of non-payment. I attended the City Council meeting last night, along with about 60 + bowlers, where a number of people stood up and basically begged that they do something so that the lanes would not remain closed. The mayor said that she would look into the matter further, but it didn't look like they were going to be able to do anything unless someone comes up with a lot of cash. So, as for now, we are a one house association.

Even though it looks dismal, we did have a very successful Seniors Tournament. We still have another one planned and we are now getting all of our City Tournament plans in order. Actually, it took less time than usual because we didn't have to send out bid opportunities to a number of houses. We also had a very successful drive to collect money for the BVL and the Susan Komen Breast Cancer charities.

With fewer leagues and fewer bowlers, it is nice to announce that some of our ladies are bowling up a storm. During one Wednesday night league, the two anchor bowlers of opposing teams went head to head in an exciting match. Each of the ladies, Sherry Cockfield and Graciela Dube had the first nine strikes. Graciela went first in the tenth frame and got an 8 count spare along with a strike to end her 278 game. Sherry got up and threw the next 2 strikes. You could have heard a pin drop when she threw her last ball. It looked good, but left one pin for a 299 game. Congratulations to both of them and thanks for the great exhibition of bowling talent.

Watch out bowling world . . . Andrew Koff, a local junior bowler just finished bowling in a regional PBA tournament and finished in the top 5. He averages in the 230's and practices about every day of the week. I can't wait to see how far he will go.

There won't be any funny stories from one of our trips as those involved in the last trip made me swear not to tell what happened. I'll be true to my word this time, but a Senior's Tournament is coming up in January . . . We'll see what happens there.

I wish all of you a Merry Christmas or Happy Hanukkah and will be looking forward to next year when things have to get better.

Bye for now and let the good scores be yours.

FIRST COAST USBC ASSOCIATION

MARY FRANK

On November 3, the Annual BVL Mixed Scotch Doubles Tournament was held at Cassat's Batt Bowl. Prior to the start of the event, members of Bishop Kenny High School's ROTC presented the colors. There was an increase in entries this year, including youth bowlers. Five places were paid in the Adult Division, with the team of Sheila Santos and Stephen Toloczko placing first with a total of 793. Collen Harrison paired up with Gator Edmondson to nail down first place with a \$26 set in the youth division. Three places in the Youth Division will receive patriotic medals. These medals will be presented during

their regular league play on Saturday morning. Proprietor Barbara Batt donated a ball, bag and shoes as raffle items in an effort to increase the BVL contributions. Dudley Holmes won the ball, Leslie Blandford has a new bowling bag, and Dick Deichmiller will be sporting new shoes. To date, over three thousand dollars has been realized from the BVL Tournament and the center collections, with still more leagues to be accounted for. The FCUSBC Board approved sending \$1000 to the National BVL Fund, with the Lake City VA Medical Center receiving the remainder.

Congratulations to Director Jackie Deeds on the arrival of a new granddaughter, Logan Darrington Deeds. Logan made her grand debut on November 25 at 4:34 p.m., measuring n at 19-1/2 inches and tipping the scales at 7 pounds 7 ounces.

The First Coast USBC's Bowler Appreciation gifts will be distributed to all certified league bowlers during the month of December. This year the board opted to give beautiful pens inscribed with the association's name, phone number and web site address.

On Thursday evening, an uplifting celebration will honor one of Jacksonville's oldest bowlers, Gordon Spottswood. At his doctor's request, her has permanently retired his equipment. Gordon has bowled for 42 years, and has served on two association boards, the GJBA and FCUSBC, longer than any other board member. He currently serves as Chaplin on the first Coast USBC Board. If you bowled in a FWBA State Tournament here, you will probably remember Gordon. Without fail, he kept score every single weekend every single tournament.

Kudos to a team from Jax Lanes West for making it into the national record book for the 2007-08 season. Their 1081 single game score for a three men, 1 woman team earned them second place with USBC. Blistering the lanes was Joe Ford - 300, Steven Casino - 256, Melody Reichard - 225, and her husband, Robert Reichard - 300. Congrats to all for a great game!

First VP Roger Limer is heading up the First Coast's Registered Volunteer Program. As soon as all center owners/managers respond, a date and time will be set for a luncheon/meeting with the FCUSBC's Officers. Roger has had only positive responses from the centers, and hopes to persuade a police sergeant to join this great cause.

Once again the board and numerous others will participate in Carolyn Lynn's annual Christmas project, "Jax Reads" for children and stuffed animals for the seniors in nursing facilities. The book collections for children will be distributed to schools needing to start, enhance and/or upgrade their libraries, while the stuffed animals will delight the elderly. For some, it may be the only gift they receive.

Two girl's high school bowling teams, the Mandarin Mustangs and the Fletcher Senators, represented Jax in the FHSAA State Bowling Tournament in Orlando. Round 6 brought the two Gateway Conference teams head to head, with the Mustangs defeating the Senators. The Mustangs finished second in the Championship Tournament, falling to Deland by 13 pins. Congrates to both teams n their performances, given the fact that this was the first time either team participated in the FGSAA Championship Tournament. In the Singles Event, Kayla Fosbenner from Wolfson High placed 7th, and Stephenie St. Angelo from Mandarin High placed 12th. Congratulations to all the young ladies from Fletcher, Mandarin and Wolfson High Schools. A job well done!

On Wednesday, December 12, the FCUSBC will host it's annual Christmas gathering for board members and their spouses/friends. A covered dish buffet, Christmas tree and beautiful music will create a festive atmosphere in which to enjoy each other's friendship.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

A BOWLING ICON IN GREATER ST PETERSBURG BOWLS HER FINAL FRAME

It is with deepest regret that we announce the passing of **Madeleine J. Dalrymple**.

“Maddie”, 75, of Pinellas Park, passed away November 29, 2007. She was born in New Bedford, MA, moved to Florida in 1957. During the 60's she discovered the sport of bowling and became actively involved in all aspects of the game.

She bowled in many leagues over the years. Most recently participated in 3 leagues and was also secretary for those leagues. She was secretary of the St. Petersburg Women's Bowling Association for the last 35 years. She was voted into the St. Petersburg Women's Hall of Fame in 1981, voted secretary of the year in Florida State Women's Bowling Association in 1982, and received a plaque from the WIBC for attending 30 consecutive National Conventions as a delegate and bowling in 30 consecutive National Tournaments.

Over the years she helped her teammates win many trophies as well as a few individual awards. Maddie is survived by her husband, David L: a son, Barry: a brother and three sisters and several nieces and nephews.

One of her best assets was her knack for making friends. She will be sorely missed. Donations may be made to PARC, P.O. Box 47799, St. Petersburg, FL 33743.

Editor's note: Maddie was a very special lady and will be sincerely missed by many of us around our great state.