



Volume 3 Number 1 August 2009

GA GAMES Competition Highlights

Georgia Games and the quest for the medals took to the lanes July 11-12 at Brunswick Zone Norcross. 234 youth& 274 adults for a total of 508 bowlers qualified for gold competition in 33 divisional honors. Photos of some of the hard workers, some bowlers as well as medal winners are pictured on page 1 & 2.





2009 USBC National Convention Reno

April 29 – May 2, 2009

-Mary Ann Compton reporting

The theme of the 2009 Convention was trust and change. In his opening remarks, USBC President Jeff Boje stated there has been a lack of trust not only between USBC and BPAA but also with the bowlers. We need to build a mutual respect and trust the board to do the right thing.

USBC will develop more membership options and better use the state associations for education and communication. They feel they need better relationships with the people who have direct contact with the bowlers in the pits. New programs will be developed and the state associations will be paid by USBC to participate in those programs. A new BOWL.com will be rolled out later this year.

With the move to Texas and the turnover in staff, USBC seems to be hiring very capable young people who are on the leading edge in their fields. Their presentations in the workshops were very professional. They seem to have some good ideas and maybe with guidance from the veteran staff who made the move USBC will be able to move bowling into the future and grow the sport.

USBC is very concerned about the future of the Youth program. At the rate of decline in the past several years, 10% from 2008 to 2009, in 6 or 7 years they feel there will be no more certified youth. They have raised the dues but each bowler will receive a jersey with their certification. They are hoping this will create more visibility and more youth will want to certify. The awards program is being changed. The 300 and 800 rings are being brought back in a new design that the cost is less than what is allowed by the High School Associations in all states. They are also adding more patches and lowering the requirements to receive these patches. There was much discussion on the fact that the board can change things for the youth without approval from the delegates. A bylaws change would be needed to allow the delegates to vote on changes for the youth, which I feel will be submitted for next year's legislation.

The dues increase by-laws change was defeated along with the mandatory merger by Aug. 1, 2011. The state dues increase and creating an Executive Committee were also defeated. USBC says they will have to cut programs if the dues increase was not passed. They did not say which programs they were considering to make the cuts in. There was attempt to bring back legislation on the dues increase after the elections and many of the delegates had left convention to go home or bowl. After a motion was put on the floor by someone who voted against the increase discussion on the ethics of bring it back to the floor. Jeff Boje made a personal comment on his stance that it would not be trustworthy to bring it back to the floor when so many delegates had left thinking all the important stuff had been finished. The motion to reconsider failed. I think a lot of people gained a lot of respect for our president with him giving his personal opinion when passing the dues increase would have been in the best interest of USBC. Some of the associations who made comments on the merger stated that they felt the associations could not work together and if they were forced to merge, they would not certify.

Georgia State USBC WBA was honored & received a plaque for contributing the 4th highest amount to BVL for a state for the 2007-08 season with \$19,014.64. Mary Ann Compton accepted as our delegate.

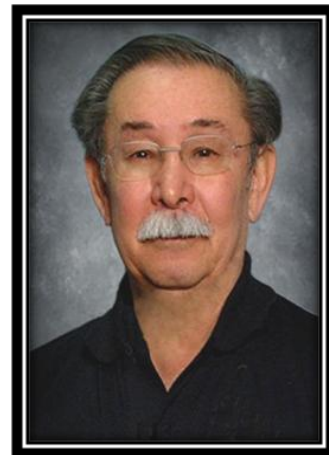


They have changed the deadline for contributions to May 31st, so you will need to get your money in earlier.

The 2010 USBC Annual Convention will be held April 28 – May 1, 2010 in Reno, NV. The 2011 USBC Annual Convention will be held June 27 – July 2, 2011 at the Gaylord Texan in Grapevine, Texas in conjunction with Bowl Expo. Shuttles will take attendees to see the International Bowling Campus, Hall of Fame and the new training facility. There were 1362 members representing 412 local associations and 63 state associations in attendance with 1165 registered to vote.

Thank you for allowing me to represent the Georgia State USBC WBA at the 2009 Annual Convention and no I did not hit the jackpot!!!

The Georgia State Youth is saddened by the passing of Vice President Robert "Bob" Kelly June 27, 2009. Bob also served the state as vice president of our bowling council. His dedication to our sport can be seen in the many adult & youth programs he worked with across GA. Bob will be missed.



WILL YOU HELP THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN SO MUCH FOR US?

THRU BVL & STAMPS FOR THE WOUNDED

Most of us know about BVL and raising money to provide things like books, TV, games and other such things the government has cut-out. Fundraisers like the celebrity Fun Bowl no-tap tournament that the Atlanta Assoc. will again sponsor Nov 1st at 1:30 at the Suburban Lanes in Decatur or the Grandest SUMO contest the state WBA had that raised over 5 thousand dollars are examples of things you can do locally.

There is another very simple way YOU can make a difference for some of our injured soldiers of today's conflicts as well as for our veterans. **SAVE YOUR STAMPS!**

By supporting the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Services and the "Stamps for the Wounded" you will be helping with part of their rehabilitation program. It serves as a very successful form of therapy for their eyes, hands and above all, their minds. Many leagues and associations across the nation are involved with this, **LET'S GET INVOLVED & SUPPORT THEM FROM GEORGIA TOO!**

In order to participate, simply save commemorative, priority, express, high value US stamps and foreign stamps. They can be mint or used. Accumulations of like stamps are especially needed. Cut out stamps leaving a good half inch of the envelope on all sides. Collect and forward to:

**VAVS National Stamp & Coin Club
Southern Ariz, VA Healthcare System {9-135}
3601 South 6th Ave.
Tucson, AZ 85723**

So next time your opening that bill, or birthday card or package, take a look see at the stamp. The little time and effort it takes you to remove, save and accumulate will never compare to what the veterans have given to you. Please help.

BROTHERS EXCEL IN WEST GA. YOUTH

Laurie LaPorte, reporting

Christopher Fort, who will turn 15 in August, shot his personal best in the Roll-Off for the League Championship in the Senior/Major League on April 18, 2009. His impressive 26 consecutive strikes earned him a 269 – 300 – 264 for a series of 833. This series is the 2nd highest in the entire West Georgia USBC Association for this bowling season and 4th high in the Association's history. Christopher's previous high game/series was 236/646. He is a Junior Gold Member and qualified for Nationals. He has been bowling at Junction Lanes, Newnan, Georgia, since he was 3 years old.

Brother, Trevor, who will turn 11 in August, shot a 464 in the City Association Tournament in February to help his Team win 1st place and shot a 471 to win the Singles Event. Trevor's high game of 205 was rolled in the City Tournament; his high series is a 522. He has also been bowling since he was a "PeeWee" at Junction Lanes.

COLUMBUS BOWLER M&M WINNER

Lucille Dixon, reporting

The Columbus USBC Women's Bowling Association celebrated two lifetime achievements on April 4, 2009. The Association conducted its 50th Annual Handicap Tournament and celebrated the 100th birthday of one of its most active bowlers, Ms. Valura ("Miss O'B") O'Blenness. Ms. OB was born April 1, 1909. She bowls in the senior league in Columbus. Tournament bowlers, city, county and state officials participated in the celebration. City and county officials applauded the Association for its years of providing a sports event in which bowlers of all ages enjoy and supported. Miss O'B's family from Washington state, Texas, Colorado, Florida and cities in Georgia came to the area to observe this great milestone. She received many gifts including a corsage of \$5.00 bills totaling \$100.00. Sharon Rich, president of the GA



USBC Women's Bowling Association presented the Georgia State's "M & M" award to Miss O'B. Miss O'B said she was surprised to receive this award and it is greatest of all her gifts. Sharon said she was the first recipient of the M&M award. This once in a lifetime award honors the oldest active league bowler in the GA State WBA as submitted by your local associations. What does M&M stand for? Nothing less than what they bring to our sport--- a marvelous & mature spirit!

A good time was had by all and some outstanding scores were rolled. Oh yes, Miss O'B bowled in the tournament too.

Bowling Center Destroyed

Betty Jean Anderson, reporting

Valley Lanes, one of four centers of the Columbus Association was destroyed by a F2 tornado in mid-April. The 32 lane center stood on the hillside along the well known 280 Bypass in Phenix City, AL and had been the site of many state BA, WBA and Youth Tournaments over the years.

The local bowlers who called Valley Lanes their "Home Center" have relocated leagues to other centers. But as one bowler said "There is no place like home"

SENIOR TOURNAMENTS TO BATTLE IN FT. STEWART FOR MEN & WOMEN 55 YEARS YOUNG OR OLDER

Sharra Culver, tournament director as well as President of the Ft. Stewart Association, sends out a very special invitation for all men & women 55 years young & older to get your entries in by the **OCTOBER 1st deadline**. You may enter either the 2009 GA BA Senior Tournament or the 2009 GA WBA Senior Tournament. Both of the tournaments will run in the same house and at the same times for your convenience. The dates are Oct 17 & 18, Oct 24 & 25, Oct 31 & Nov 1 & Nov 7 & 8. The host hotel is going to be the Fairfield Inn & Suites with a 70.00 flat rate for bowlers. A hospitality room for all will be held Saturday, Oct. 17 from 6:30-9:30 pm at the Fairfield.

Entries to last year's participants have been mailed out, and they are also on the WBA & BA web sites.

If you want to you could tour the Ft Stewart Military Museum and enjoy a leisure walk down tree and flag lined Warriors Walk honoring the soldiers killed or visit with Rocky the bulldog or the Marne Gardens or the museum about 20 minutes away in Midway with its historical registry church and cemetery. Perhaps you would prefer to take a short drive of about an hour to the beaches and Riverstreet in Savannah, Anyway you look at it, a fun trip this fall with a little bowling thrown in, what could be better?



While at the National Bowling Stadium, Sharra took pictures of some of last year's winners who participated in this year's SR National tournament in Reno: Greta Kozar, Betty White, Lee Calvez, W. Baker, Les Culver & Eugene Dewberry. Not pictured is Joel Murray. Les placed 6th in his division & Eugene placed 3rd in his. WAY TO GO!!!

STATE WEBSITE ADDRESSES

www.gsba.com

www.gasbc.com

www.georgiawba.com

www.gastateusbcyouth.com

BOWLING DATES TO REMEMBER

Aug 1—Jamboree—Albany

Aug 1—Hall of Fame Dinner & Inductions—Albany

Aug 2—BA Council of Delegates—Albany

Aug 2—State WBA Board of Directors Meeting--Albany

Aug 29-Sep4-National Bowling Week

Sept 12/13-GA 500 Club Meeting & Tourn—Milledgeville

Sept 25/26/27-Womens 225 Masters-Augusta

Oct 17-GA 600 Club Meeting & Tourn--Griffin

Oct 17/18, 24/25, Oct 31/Nov 1, Nov7/8-Senior Bowling Tournaments-BA&WBA-Ft. Stewart

Nov 1-BVL Celebrity Fun Bowl-Suburban Lanes-Decatur

Dec 1—Newsletter Deadline For Articles & Dates

2010 EVENTS

Jan8/9-GWBA Board & Comm Meetings--Warner Robins

Jan 9-State Bowling Council Meeting—Warner Robins

Feb 13-July 4—USBC Open Championship-Reno

Feb 27/28-GA WBA Queens Tourn-hosting center TBD

Mar 6/7, 13/14,20/21—GA State WBA Tourn-Northwest GA

Mar 13— GA State WBA Annual Meeting—Northwest GA

Mar27/28-Apr24/25 -GA State BA Open Tourn-Atlanta

Mar 13-July 4USBC Women Championship Tourn-El Paso,TX

Apr 28-May 1-USBC Annual Convention-Reno

May 29-June 27-SBA Tourn-Montgomery

June 19/20 & 26/27—State Mixed Tournament—Newnan

July-GA Games-Date & Place TBA

2011

March-GA State WBA Tourn & Meeting-Golden Isles

June 27-July 2-USBC Convention-Grapevine, TX

If you have items for possible inclusion in this dates to remember for GA Youth, BA & WBA or articles on bowlers or association news, send email to Bowling News editor at shal3@bellsouth.net and put newsletter in subject line or Sharon Rich--3984 Greenview Dr. Oakwood, GA 30566

Rich's Review Sharon Rich, GA WBA Pres

Thanks to you ladies "to make 09 be super fine" was met. Even with the economy that has forced many ladies to stop or cut back on bowling, our WBA championship, the SR's and our overall membership numbers maintained while our Queens & SR Queens had tremendous growth thanks to the changes you asked for. It's a new season & this year's theme, "**PLAN to WIN in 20 10**" is what your leaders have committed to. We PLAN to be surveying some of you about your concerns & asking for suggestions of what WE can do for you our bowlers. We PLAN to increase recognition & awards. We PLAN to develop a new State logo. We PLAN more additions to our web site so we can communicate even more efficiently with you. In general, WE PLAN to be more open & available to meet the needs of you our bowlers!

We have completed the PLANS for our 2010 annual meeting & tournament & look forward to returning to the Northwest GA association. Meeting weekend changes are in place to benefit all tournament bowlers & not just board members & delegates. **ALL STATE BOARD MEMBERS & DELEGATES MUST SUBMIT THEIR TOURNAMENT ENTRIES BY DEC 15 TO BE GUARANTEED A BOWLING SPOT THAT WEEKEND.** We know we have to come that weekend so if we PLAN to bowl then we should have no problem with submitting our entry just a month earlier than everyone else's. So you see ladies, if you are surveyed, let us know what we need to PLAN to do for you & if we don't listen to the majority of you, vote us out & vote in someone who will work for YOU!



Mixed Tournament Rolls Into The Land of the "DAWGS"

Athens GA is not only home of the famous GA Bulldog UGA, but June 20/21 & June 27/28 it was home of the 5th annual GA Mixed State Tournament. Tournament manager Linda Proctor said entries were up from last year. There were 103 teams and 191 doubles. A few pictures from this year's tournament:



Results can be found at www.georgiawba.com and go to state mixed tournament results.

The **2010** tournament will be in Newnan so make plans now to join in on the fun.

Topper's Tidbits John Topper, GA Youth Pres

A total of 7000.00 dollars was given away this year in GA State Youth scholarships to the following winners:

Jessica Schaeffer of Greater Atlanta won 1000.00

Alexander Lee Merriweather of Augusta won 1000.00

Cady Danae McRight of Middle GA won 1000.00

Matthew Queen of Calhoun-Gordon won 1000.00

John Braswell of Greater Savannah won 500.00

Jessica Atkinson of Currahee USBC won 500.00

Jessica Ashton Rader Gray of West GA won 500.00

Melissa Caitlin Stewart of Greater Atlanta won 500.00

Patrick Lippert of Middle GA won 500.00

Aaron Woychek of Greater Atlanta won 500.00

Congratulations & Best Wishes as you continue your education Keep checking our website for upcoming events & deadlines

www.gastateusbc.com

