

Volume 3 Number 2 January, 2010 GA BOWLING NEWS

SENIOR SUCCESS STORY

Sharra Culver reporting

Once again Georgia's "Oldies but Goodies" have completed the 29th Annual GA State USBC BA & WBA Seniors Tournaments. It was a fantastic four weekends. Old friends met again and new friends were made. Although we were a couple of teams short of last year's entries on the BA side and one team short on the WBA side it was a great turnout. Perhaps a turnaround in the economy will help us grow in entries next year when we roll in to Warner Robins and Gold Cup Lanes.

I would like to thank all the participants for putting up with going through the gates of Fort Stewart. It was painful for some and most didn't seem to mind it, knowing the country's situation and world problems. We all pray for and look forward to the day when our nation feels more secure and conflicts have ceased. Hopefully once you got through the gate and to Marne Lanes your bowling demeanor took charge and you had a great time competing in your age groups.

All of you who showed up to bowl were winners. You sent in entries, got up, packed your bowling gear and drove short and long distances to participate in something you wanted to do. You are alive and although at times sore you do your own thing. We had winners who received monetary prizes for placement in their age group, door prize winners, 50/50 winners and raffle winners. The Hammer "Black Widow" ball was won by James Strickland from Gainesville, and the two PBA Ball Carriers raffled off, one each, on our heaviest shift days were won by Patrick Shelton from Brunswick and Kenneth LeDee from Hinesville. We would like to thank Connie Geisel the manager of Marne Lanes for providing the bowling ball, ball carriers, and a statue for our oldest female and male bowler. The oldest female was Ms. Nellie Story (91) from Savannah and the oldest male was Mr. Richard "Buddy" Keuchler (91) from Jesup. Congratulations and may you keep bowling for many years to come.

Following is a list of the 29th Annual GAUSBC BA & WBA Seniors Tournaments All Events winners who may be representing the GA USBC BA & WBA at the USBC Senior **Nationals** June Reno, NV in 2010: SUPER SENIORS (75 & up) WBA Jewel Crews from Waycross Assn and BA Walter Lott from Greater Atlanta Assn CLASS A (70 to 74) WBA Lillie Topper from Albany Assn and BA David Anderson from Ft. Stewart Assn CLASS B (65 to 69) WBA Sharra Culver from Ft. Stewart Assn and BA Grant Wood from Greater Atlanta Assn CLASS C (60 to 64) WBA Bettye White from Ft. Stewart Assn and BA Eddie Wilkie from FtStewartAssn CLASS D (55 to 59) WBA Barbara Boyd from Ft. Stewart Assn and BA David Keener from Greater Atlanta Assn

Thanks to all of you for your patience and understanding. I appreciate your allowing me to schedule this tournament and hope all went well. If you have any suggestion for the future feel free to let me know and al will be considered. Thanks to the members of the Fort Stewart USBC who assisted during

the tournament. Without local association help our tournaments would not be able to function as smoothly as they do. If there were glitches we hope they were straightened out in a timely manner. Thanks to all bowlers, association helpers, prize donators, bowling center employees, and the Commander of Fort Stewart for our success. I would be remiss if I did not thank all those brave men and women who are in harm's way protecting freedom and providing us the opportunity to participate in events like bowling and travel freely across the country.God Bless you all. We look forward to your safe return



AUGUST IN ALBANY FOR JAMBOREE



Fun, Fellowship & Learning—that's what the state Jamboree is each year the first weekend of August. Here are pictures taken by "our state photographer", Joe Bays. New BA Hall of Famers recognized were Jan Goode of Columbus Assn and posthumously, Bob Kelly of Greater Atlanta. The WBA had no new inductees this year but past inductees were recognized by Vicky Rawlins for what it means to be a Hall of Fame Member.

The other photo shows the excited winner of the "Big Bucks for BVL Jug", the USBC rep Jim Zebehazy. Of course the real winner once again was BVL since over 1250.00 was raised in support of veterans. Thank you!!!

Say MONEY....Say MORE MONEY

Most of us have had to say this phrase at least once a year while having our pictures taken. We can relax because that means Joe or Sheila Bays is in the house. Joe was asked to share "his story" of how he became GA's favorite photographer. Here are freebie memoirs of days gone by Joe.

In the middle 1970's, while trying to make ends meet as a photographer, a camera shop owner in Anderson, IN took me aside and said "you owe me 600.00 and not making any money, why don't I introduce you to a guy that takes "Bowling Pictures"? Maybe you could make some money and pay me back and get out of debt."

Well, I took the seasonal job and traveling around the Southeast agreed with a happy go lucky single man. For many years I spent 2 weeks in Augusta and 3 weeks in Savannah taking pictures of the winter leagues. I can still remember John Howard asking me what I did in the summer months. He said Savannah Assoc was hosting a tournament and needed a photographer. I had never photographed a weekend tourney and was very interested in this new adventure then he told the rest of the story-whoever had done before had run off with the money so I would have to post bond to show good faith. We made it happen and "that got the ball a rollin'!"

A commercial artist had traded me the painted artwork for the tournament in exchange for five hundred dollars worth of photo work for him. I was desperate and made the trade and afterwards paid up but made a promise to myself to learn how to do the artwork. So I did my first tournament and it was the



Men's Southeastern and I think the year was 1977.

It wasn't long before I made friends with other bowling associations in GA and I started taking the team pictures for the women's and men's state tournaments for the associations that knew me or didn't already have a photographer. One of the highlight years was when in Columbus I told the then President, Ann Clary, I needed someone to sit and take picture orders. She set me up with her daughter Sheila as an order taker. After the 4 weeks in Columbus, I asked Sheila if she wanted to work with me in the Atlanta area for the men's state. Well the answer was yes and meeting Sheila out of town started our dating and finally we were married. Seems like we are out of town almost every weekend photographing bowling tournaments so let me say "Thanks" to my friends and for all your help but mostly, thanks for having confidence in me.





Where Does GA's Donated BVL Money Really Go?

Sharon Rich with help from Elizabeth Montanyo, BVL Nationals



The Answer- OUR VETERANS!!! Above are some veterans and staff from Atlanta's VA Hospital enjoying the BVL Celebrity Bowl sponsored each November by the Greater Atlanta Assoc. and headed up by Nanette Todd and her hardworking team. This project, the Big Bucks for BVL Jug cake sales, half & half pots as well as many others help to raise GA's Award winning contributions. Last year GA finished 4th among all states and it has recently been announced that thanks to the hard work of most associations, GA finished 2nd out of all 50 states! We will again be recognized at the national convention but the real winners are our unselfish men and women who make the sacrifices for us.

As proud as I am for what GA has done, I also know there are a few associations who do not participate any and some who do so very limitedly. I KNOW we can do more for these who should be our hero's. So why don't we? One excuse I was given is that none of that money come back to Our veterans. Another said most of the money went to other states so GA veterans didn't benefit. I thought both wrong but couldn't prove it at the time. With help from BVL headquarters and one of their most helpful and knowledgeable leaders, Elizabeth Montanya provides me with all the proof I needed with actual GA action in 2009. Now each of us can give KNOWING a little more about some programs YOU ARE SUPPORTING!!!

Thanks to BVL, Georgia Veterans began their year with the uplifting performances of "Re-Creation." The variety entertainment program features a range of vocal styles, rich costuming and elaborate stage and light settings. The 10 young performers sing, dance, and delight audiences of all ages. Each year, "Re-Creation" introduces a new troupe and stage show. Each VA received a free DVD and CD copies of the group's shows for future enjoyment.

Date # of Attendees VAMC

Jan 14 Augusta 166 Olwin Cowalt & Joann Brassell attended

Jan 15 Atlanta 155

Jan 16 **Dublin** 55

63rd Annual BVL Bowling Tournament: The tournament is conducted each spring, and is open to veterans receiving care at VA Hospitals, Out-Patient Clinics and Vet Centers. Five person teams roll a total of 45 games, which are then submitted to the Bowlers to Veterans Link. This year, two Georgia teams had great showings!

DIV. I **Dublin** VAMC 6th place

DIV. III Augusta VAMC 1st place

(all participants received certificates, 1st place team received stipend for recognition ceremony, individual medals and team plaque)In addition to those programs, BVL provided grants for recreational and therapeutic programs and services at 10 VA facilities in Georgia.

State Veterans Homes: Augusta Executive Director Charles Esposito writes "Thank you for this generous donation! We will purchase Wii games, bingo supplies, DVD's and table top games. It means a great deal to our veterans to know that they are supported by the Bowlers to Veterans Link. Thank you for enhancing their lives" <u>Milledgeville</u>—response not received at press time as to what they did with gift.

Other areas of donation distributed include: Vet Centers: Atlanta, Lawrenceville, Macon, Marietta and Savannah.

Medical Centers:

Augusta: 1D - Community Living Center (Dementia) New/Older DVD Movies (westerns, comedy, action, TV series) CD's - Big band, country, easy listening, classical, Motown,

soft rock, nature sounds

IPod Docking Station/boom box with iPod attachment

Recreation Therapy

10 Sony Boom Boxes with CD player & Cassette Recorder 8 DVD/VCR players

Battery Charger and Rechargeable batteries for Wii game **2F Mental Health**

New Wii Games

Assistive Technology

Clock radio/CD player/ IPod dock/ IPod Nano

Therapy: 3D-Rehab Unit

(Sharon: this is a special apartment for OIF/OEF TBI Unit for those wounded in this war to provide them with a home like setting so they can help make the transfer back to their homes. This is a great, innovative concept which gives wounded veterans a chance to practice their domestic skills while learning to adapt to their new physical challenges. It should be completely ready in about a month {by Feb.} thanks in part to the Georgia BVL dollars!!) Here's what their VS Chief wrote me about the unit: "You should see it, it is beautiful. And it is very large. We will watch him/her in the apartment for independence prior to going home alone, and/or with the spouse and his/her children. We also have a private therapy room on the unit for TBI's (Traumatic Brain Injury patients) who can't take a lot of stimulation around others. The unit holds a max of 15."

For this unit, BVL dollars will purchase:

32 inch TV and DVD Player

Kitchen appliances (All White): Toaster, therapeutic, Blender, therapeutic, Coffee maker, therapeutic, Mixer-hand held or stationary, therapeutic, Food processor, therapeutic, Mixing bowls stainless with lids, therapeutics, Cooking dishes-such as Pyrex or corning ware, therapeutic, Pots, Pans, cooking sheets, etc., therapeutic, Place settings----Plates, cups, bowls, mugs, saucers, salad plates, etc., therapeutic Flatware, therapeutic Large spoons, knives, forks, etc., therapeutic,

Bed and Bath: Queen size sheet sets to include comforters, shams, etc. For one bed Bath mats, and bathroom set up ---toothbrush holders, cups, soap dispensers, etc. For

one bathroom. Small throw pillows to mix comforters set.

Atlanta

BVL funds all their offsite outings. They report that these events are the highlight of their schedules and really provide Incentives to "keep going and get well".

Therapeutic Rehab: Outings-all types of professional sports Games, movies, aquarium and bowling and Garden therapy. Recreational Theraphy:outings-bowling, fishing, shopping, Golf, movies, and aquarium.

Dublin

Thanks to the Bowlers of GA, BVL will be helping create a new Workout facility in Dublin! {next page please}

We will be purchasing a Powertec Multi-dash Workbench{with many stations for lots of users} and Weight Plates as well as a Stair stepper. Plus we have money left to purchase Christmas trees and holiday decorations for the facility to make this a special holiday season for them in **Dublin**.





Powertec Work out station Stairstepper

*** Please note: BVL is the only charity of its type that supports recreational and therapeutic programs and services for our veterans and active duty men and women. BVL is there – at Walter Reed Medical Center – to support those veterans (including those from Georgia) at their first stop HOME on US soil; those who return to our shores suffering severe wounds. BVL programs and services are critically important to brighten the days and boost the spirits of our men and women facing their new challenges – especially so far away from friends and family for what is often an extended period of time. Watching a movie, enjoying music, testing their bowling skills on our carpet lane kit can bring the smile that is so desperately needed.

Secondly, mirroring the trend in community and regional hospitals, the VA system is increasingly becoming a series of specialty hospitals. Veterans with vision problems, for instance, are sent to Maryland or Seattle for services. Spinal cord injuries are handled in Boston, Texas or select other hospitals. That means that residents of Georgia, depending on the services they need, could be hospitalized in Michigan, Texas or the Northeast. BVL works hard to insure that our dollars are supporting all our veterans, regardless of where they are sent for treatment. This means that our dollars are even more valuable. A visit and performance by our entertainment troupe "Re-Creation" can have a big impact on the days of our veterans who are hundreds – or thousands—of miles away from home and family.

"THANKS TO THE BOWLERS OF GEORGIA AND YOUR PHENOMONAL BVL EFFORT YOU HAVE HELPED MAKE THE DAYS OF THOUSANDS OF VETERANS BRIGHTER --- YOU HAVE MADE A DIFFERENCE!!" said Elizabeth.

Thank you Elizabeth for all your help in obtaining these actual numbers and facts. Also as an organization, BVL only uses approx 12% for administrative costs. 88% of the money we raise goes for OUR veterans. Yes people, **OUR** veterans-the ones who leave their families and risk life and limb on a daily basis for US! WE owe them so much more than even our award winning contributions.

Today I plead with you to take a deep look into your heart, remembering the sacrifices of ALL veterans, not just of today's wars. Think about all the freedoms we have to enjoy in America and the cost that has been paid for it on foreign soil. If **each** GA adult bowler committed to give a minimum of just a quarter {25 cents} every week, a mere 13.00 for an entire year, we could donate over 300 thousand to these men and women who showed their love with their sacrifice. The question should not be where does the money we donate go but rather WHAT AM I GOING TO SACRIFICE FOR THEM THRU BVL? As Elizabeth said YOU make a difference.

WHERE GA'S BVL MONEY CAME FROM IN 2008-09 & SINCE AUGUST OF 2009

Thanks to each of the following Associations, individuals and memorials who helped raise GA State BVL donation of **21,325.45**.

Contributions were as follows:

ALBANY-1140.00, AUGUSTA-1000.00
CALHOUN-GORDAN COLUMBUS-3005.00 FORT STEWART-400.00

GREATER ATLANTA-3500.00 GREATER SAVANNAH-2964.00 INTRA MOUNTAIN-495.00

MIDDLE GA-1237.25 NORTH GA-275.00 NORTHEAST GA-684.25 ROME-1802.69 SOUTH GA-922.08 WAYCROSS-395.00

WEST GA -625.00 PRIVATE DONATION-27.00 BIG BUCKS BVL JUG AT JAMBOREE-1072.00

SAVANNAH '5' BOWLING CLUB-25.00

WBA STATE TOURN COLLECTION CUPS-756.18
A great start has already been taken for this season as 1251.00 was donated thru the **Big Bucks Jug** in August at the Jamboree along with **Warner Robbins and Gold Cup Lanes** making a 368.00 donation in memory of Gerald McClure and a 900.00 donation from contributions during a BPAA Tournament and then the **Intra Mountain** Assoc has already sent in contributions totaling 291.00. As of Dec. 20th we have a good start going with 2,810.00. Send your donations today to Betty Jean Anderson-All Local Assoc will be recognized by state and nationals for their contributions. GA had 28170 WBA & BA bowlers last season, so if we figure 24000 individual bowlers sacrifice just a mere 25 cents each Week, we could donate over 300 thousand dollars to BVL.

year that these 25 cents represents.

This is such a miniscule sacrifice in comparison to the sacrifice of these veterans. Let's start low this year--I challenge each Local Association to set a goal of a minimum donation of just 3.00 per member. That's only 25 cents a month to get us started and yet we could

still donate 72000.00. Will you accept the challenge to

And there are many who give much more than the 13.00 in a

be a HERO yourself for OUR veterans?

High Praise From National BVL

"The great folks in the <u>State of Georgia</u> are a shining example of volunteers who keep a promise," commented **BVL Board of Director's Chair Darlene Baker**. "Even in this dismal economy, they have not forgotten the promise our sport made to those who have served our country: "We will not forget your sacrifice." Thanks to the <u>Georgia BVL</u> thousands of veterans—from the newly returning veterans to our World War II veterans—are enjoying sports, music, special events, a new weightroom, a new garden and so much more. This type of therapy has an unmistakable and remarkable impact on their lives. Their days are brighter and they are happier thanks to the <u>Georgia BVL</u>. Keep up the Great Work!!!"



Georgia State 600 Club



Linda Proctor & Mary Ann Compton reporting The GA State 600 Club Tournament was held on Saturday. Oct. 17 at Magnolia Lanes in Griffin with the Annual Meeting Following. To be eligible to join the club, you must have bowled A scratch 600 series in a certified league or tournament. You Must join the National and State 600 clubs to bowl the tourn. The format is 6 games bowled across 12 lanes with total pins determing the Club Champions. There are 2 divisions-1 for 180 and above average and 1 for those with less than 180. This was voted on and changed at the meeting to 175. The tournament is always held on the 3rd Saturday of October. Next year's tourn will be held in **CALHOUN.** There will be a bowling clinic on Friday night, before the tournament at the Calhoun Bowling Center. Any bowler not just 600 Club members may participate and the cost is just 10.00 with proceeds going to the 600 Club. If you have bowled a scratch 600 series and would like to join The Club, see Linda Proctor or go to www.georgiawba.com for an application and tournament entry form.

2009 WINNERS

Scratch – Division A (average 180 and above)

1st Place:Noreen Queen (Calhoun)

2nd Place:Kim Daniel (West Georgia)

Carolyn Helmick (Warner Robbins)

High Game: Karlene Welty (Calhoun) 279

High Series:Noreen Queen(Calhoun) 751

Handicap – Division A

1st Place:Carolyn Helmick (Warner Robbins)

2nd Place: Noreen Queen (Calhoun)

Scratch – Division B (average 179 and below)

1st Place: Shirley Dexter (Columbus)

2nd Place:Ada Lien (West Georgia)

3rd Place:Lillian Hawkins (West Georgia)

4th Place:Sami Norris (Valdosta)

Handicap – Division B

1st Place: Shirley Dexter (Columbus)

2nd Place:Lillian Hawkins (West Georgia)

3rd Place: Mary Ann Compton (West Georgia)

4th Place:Sami Norris (Valdosta)

High Game: Shirley Dexter(Columbus) 276

High Series: Shirley Dexter (Columbus) 631

Don't Forget GA GAMES Finals JULY 10th & 11th Brunswick Zone-Norcross

GA Games is a medals competition for all certified GA bowlers There are 17 Divisions for youth thru seniors. Forms as well as rules are on each state associations web site. If more info needed contact Georgia Games Manager, Dave Checkle

7435 Mockingbird Trail-Riverdale, GA 30274.



BOWLING DATES TO REMEMBER 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 Mar 15-GA State Youth Scholarship Deadline Mar 21- GA State Youth Tourn Entry Deadline Mar27/28-Apr24/25 -GA State BA Open Tourn-Atlanta Mar 13-July 4USBC Women Championship Tourn-El Paso,TX April-10-11 & 24-Pepsi State-Columbus, GA Apr 28-May 1-USBC Annual Convention-Reno May-GA State Youth Tourn-Augusta, GA May 29-June 27-SBA Tourn-Montgomery June 19/20 & 26/27—State Mixed Tournament—Newnan July 10/11-GA GAMES-Brunzwick Zone-Norcross July 30-Aug 1-GA State Youth Workshop-Augusta Aug 6,7&8-GA State Adult Jamboree-Albany, GA Sept 11/12-GA 500 Club Meeting & Tourn- Newnan Oct 16-GA 600 Club Meeting & Tourn-Calhoun Oct 9/10-16/17-{23/24 if needed} WBA Senior & Senior **Tournamnet-Warner Robbins**

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 GA Bowling News editor at sha13@bellsouth.net and put newsletter in subject line or Sharon Rich—3984 Greenview Dr. Oakwood, GA 30566





TOPPERS TIDBITS

John Topper, President of the GA State USBC Youth, presented Jessica Atkinson her 500.00 scholarship during the adult Jamboree that also was honoring Bob Kelly posthumously for the BA Hall of Fame.

Other Youth news to be aware of is the March 15 deadline for Applications for Youth Scholarships. Everyone needs to make sure they get their Tournament Entries in as soon as possible. Pepsi State finals will be held in April and the State Tournament will be held the 1st four weekends of May in Augusta. If anyone is interested in running for a position on the State Youth Board, applications are on the website. The last weekend of July we will once again go to Augusta for our workshop and awards ceremonies.

If you need more information on anything concerning YOUR GA State Youth Association, check out our website, www.gastateusbcyouth.com for up to date info as well as a list of officers and directors ready to assist you.

Remember, the Youth bowlers of today will be the bowling leaders of tomorrow. It is our responsibility and obligation to grow them as strong future leaders along with teaching them to be ambassadors for our great sport.

RICH'S REVIEW Sharon Rich, GWBA Pres.

One of my most enjoyable tasks of being President of the State Women's Assoc has been going out and seeing bowlers of all ages having fun in our sport. Yes, sure there are the fuddy duds who think the world is going to end because they didn't get a strike. These kinds of bowlers in our organization are luckily few and far between. Most of us use bowling as a means of relaxation with family and friends. In fact, many ladies tell me they only go off on tournaments for a weekend out with the girls. Sure some of them have their husbands with them, but it is a known fact that it is fun time and if they happen to actually bowl good, well all the better.

Indeed we are a lucky that we have "our bowling family". We are a group of people, men, women and youth who in many cases are not blood related but care about each other as if we were. I ask now each of you take up another group to seriously care about---our veterans. If you read the article in this newsletter about what the money we raise here in GA is doing, YOU can feel great about what you are doing. I challenge each of you to start with the 25 cent challenge. Since we do not have a full year to work on, let's do from January 1st to May 1st you and everyone in your association donates a minimum of 25 cents each week. That's easy right, just a dollar a month, but in 4 months time that's four dollars and let's say your merged association has 1000 members, that's 4000.00 or perhaps you are a small non merged and have say only 150 members, that's ok too because that makes a donation minimum of just 600.00 in a mere 4 months. WE CAN DO THIS FOLKS. As I said, we are a caring family so let's show how much we care in this small way that will add up to thousands for those who care for us thru their military service.

Will you accept my minimum 25 cent challenge??? If you have any questions, contact me.

The Year in Review in Pictures









VIRGIL'S VIBES Virgil Halte, GBA Pres.

I would like to thank the Ft Stewart Association for hosting this years Senior Tourn as well as all of you who bowled and congrats to those of you who were winners. Hope everybody had a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! This is my last year as President & we will also be electing a VP & 10 Dir.'s. If you are interested in running for any of these positions, You need to have paperwork into Joe Spain by February 15 You can download these forms at website www.gasba.com. Elections to fill these positions will be March 27th at 9AM at The Annual Meeting. The Annual Directors Meeting will be held at the Courtvard by Marriot in Duluth on March 26 at 8pm. We will be having the following state tournaments Between now and the end of July: Regular State All-stars in Augusta Feb. 27&28, Senior All-stars in Athens Mar. 13&14 The 61st State Open Championship hosted by Greater Atlanta on March 27&28, Apr 3&4, 10&11, 17&18,23&24. State Mixed Tourn in Newnan June 19&20, 26&27 and GA Games in July 10-11 in Norcross. Hope to see you all at these tournaments. USBC Open Championship in Reno Feb 17-July 20.GA State Jamboree will be held in Albany August 6-8 at the Merry Acres Quality Inn. Room rate is \$69 plus tax. Room block closes on July 24. Phone number is 888-462-7721 or 229-435-7721. Make your reservations early and we'll see you again in Albany.

We hope you enjoy these newsletters sponsored by your GA State Bowling Council. If you or your association has anything for the next issue, please do so by July 1st. Newsletters can also be found on each associations web site.Gastateusbeyouth.com or Gasba.com and Georgiawba.com. All comments and suggestions welcome. Send to editor at Sha13@bellsouth.net. Please list newsletter in subject to avoid the Spam Master