

CHANNEL CHATTER

ILLINOIS STATE USBC WBA

VOL. XXV NUMBER 3

JANUARY, 2012

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year to everyone!!!!

I want to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU to our local association officers, league officers and bowlers for your continued support and dedication to bowling this past season.

Along with the Rockford USBC WBA, we are looking forward to our 83rd Annual Meeting and Championship Tournament. In this issue of Channel Chatter you will read about some new and exciting information related to our tournament.

The DELEGATES and GUESTS attending this annual meeting are invited to the Hall of Fame Dinner --- This is a First --- Come and Join us!!!!

Saturday February 18, 2012

At the Clock Tower Resort

Tickets are \$30.00.

Cocktails at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Cash Bar

Reminder -- In addition to the elected delegates and alternates, any Illinois State USBC WBA member is invited to attend the Annual Meeting. If you decide to attend, please report to the guest registration desk on Saturday, February 18, 2012 no later than 10:00 a.m.

I'm looking forward to greeting our delegates, members and guests in Rockford.

My thoughts for you in 2012

are that you will be the best person

you know how to be,

and enjoy the knowledge that you are unique.

Madeline Dotta, President

NEWS FROM IWBA 20 YEAR CLUB

It's almost time for us to meet up with old friends again! February is fast approaching. Hope everyone had a great holiday season and didn't gain too much weight!

This year's luncheon will be held February 19th at Clocktower in Rockford. Invitations went out the first of December and need to be returned by February 1st.

I emailed sixty invitations instead of regular mail and have already received many confirmations of attendance. It would really save our club money if I had more email addresses. Again looking forward to seeing everyone in Rockford.

Melinda M. Calvert, Chairman

FROM THE SECRETARY'S DESK

Happy New Year to All. Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas with Family and Friends.

As I spend my time getting ready for the 83rd Tournament, I want to tell you about a few new things at our tournament this year.

First of all, for the very first time, we will be introducing brackets at the Doubles and Singles, more information later in the Channel Chatter. We will still have our special tournaments at the Team, but no brackets.

Secondly this year, for the first time in a long time, we will be taking pictures of the doubles/singles and team event on the lanes. We have contacted a photographer from Tennessee and this will be another new venture for us.

Also again this year, we will have the Substitute Board on the Web Site for anyone needing a substitute at the tournament. This board will be available starting January 1, 2012.

Along with all of these new things, we are still sending out awards and collecting data from the various associations for our history of the association.

This year we have 836 teams entered in the tournament which is down a bit from last year, but still a good size tournament and I would encourage all to enter the tournament for 2013 as we are going to be in Joliet for the first time since 1976. Joliet Area is looking forward to hosting the tournament and providing a good time for all of us. Remember there is a Casino there for those of us that like to gamble.

Remember to send in your reports as requested and forms for the awards in a timely manner.

Earlene M. Nelson, Association Manager

OUTSTANDING BOWLER

KATHY STADE

Kathy Stade, Sherman, Illinois has been selected as the Outstanding Bowler for Illinois State USBC WBA and will be inducted into their Hall of Fame in February 2012.

Kathy started her bowling career in 1982. Since then she has accumulated many awards both local and state.

She was a member of the state championship team in 2003, and with partner Linda Carter captured the doubles championship the same year.

Her highest 3 game series, 800 came in the 2004-05 season. Kathys highest 4 game series, 1029 was bowled in 2007. She was inducted into the Springfield WBA Hall of Fame in 2002 in the Superior Performance category.

Marlene Coffman, Hall of Fame Committee Chairman

MERITORIOUS SERVICE LAURA HELLER

The Illinois State USBC WBA Hall of Fame Committee, with the approval of the Board of Directors, has selected Laura Heller, Rockford to be the recipient of the Meritorious Service Award and she will be inducted in the Hall of Fame in February, 2012.

As a Director Laura has served on the following committees: Memorial, Legislative, Awards Study, Office Policy and is currently the Webmaster.

Prior to becoming a director, she was an Assistant to the Sgt-at-Arms for 5 years.

As President of the Rockford Association she has been responsible for obtaining the State Tournament for the 2004, 75th Anniversary and for 2012.

Laura has bowled in many State and National Tournaments and is a member of the Rockford Hall of Fame.

Marlene Coffman, Chairman Hall of Fame Committee

IN MEMORIAM

CHAR EBEL

In the bowling community Char Ebel was an icon and her friends appreciate that all of her hard work is being recognized. During her 25 years as a DuPage Director and 1st Vice President, Char served on all committees in DuPage and Suburban Windy City. Char bowled 30 years in the Illinois State Tournament and the National Tournament. She was a delegate for 25 of those years.

Char enjoyed 40 years of bowling and worked on the transition merge between Dupage, Fox Valley and Elgin Associations.

Marlene Coffman, Chairman Hall of Fame Committee

ILLINOIS STATE USBC WBA MEMBER OF THE YEAR

FRAN BURNS

Frances Burns, better known as Fran, LeRoy, Illinois has been chosen as the 2012 Member of the Year for the Illinois State USBC WBA.

Fran, from the Greater Bloomington USBC, has been a member of the Illinois USBC WBA for 51 years.

Her state services includes; Assistant Sgt-at-Arms in

Bloomington, certified AJBC instructor and youth leader at LeRoy Lanes.

Fran has bowled in over 40 WBA State Tournaments as well as 41 USBC Tournaments.

Fran served as a Director, 35 years, Sgt-at-Arms 8 years. She has served on all Association Committees except Financial and Nominating.

Her special honors include Illinois State. USBC WBA 20 year Club Member, Serving Local Association for 40 years, State and National 600 club member.

Marlene Coffman, Hall of Fame Committee Chairman

NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

DECATUR USBC WBA

One step forward, two steps back seems to be the theme this year for our membership. So far we have lost 245 bowlers from last year, but the 'almost' good news is that we picked up 105 new members, however; that's not enough! Many blame the economy, several have health issues, some are just too involved with their children's activities right now to commit to a night out for bowling, and believe it or not some are foregoing bowling to have babies. We're hoping that some, if not all, get back to bowling soon.

With Rockford's delegate party theme as a Jungle event, we're having a hard time convincing our delegates to don a 'loin cloth' as their costume.

The Farmer's Almanac wants you to know that from February 16-19th - Zone 2 (which is what Illinois is in) one can expect Stormy conditions spread in from west. No mention of snow - just stormy conditions. Be prepared! They also say that February 18th (Annual Meeting Day) is the day to: Mow to Retard Growth, Castrate Farm Animals, Prune Trees, Wean, Potty Train. Pick any one of these tasks and assign someone else to do it - you'll be at the meeting.

Vivian VanderBurgh, Publicity Chairman

Support BVL

As Chairman of BVL one of the best experiences I have is going to Arlington Cemetery for the annual Veteran's Day Ceremonies. It is one thing to watch the laying of the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier on television, but to stand on the stairs and watch the entire ceremony in person with the view behind the tomb is a breathtaking and moving experience. And after the official ceremonies as part of the National Veteran's Day Committee BVL is honored to present a wreath of their own to be placed at the tomb as well. We also have the honor of carrying our organizational flag as well as an American flag for the parade of flags opening and closing the ceremonies.

BVL has a certain number of spots for all the ceremonies, which includes a breakfast before the ceremonies for a cou-

ple of people, and a larger percentage of the time the breakfast is at the White House. BVL has decided to use these spots for supporters that have gone above and beyond or have been loyal supporters of BVL. So, if you're interested in attending the ceremonies, raise those funds and let me know you'd be interested. BVL would provide the tickets and handle logistical arrangement, but the trip would be on your own.

Attending with me this year were Wally Hall, a fellow BVL board member, Stu Upson, USBC Executive Director and Steve Johnson, BPAA Executive Director. Stu and Steve attended the breakfast and got to meet the President. Actually, they almost caused the ceremonies to be late, as when they went through the receiving line to meet the Obamas and told them they were with bowling, the President turned to Michelle and said these are the bowling guys and started talking about how he's improved! The Secret Service guys were trying to move them along, and the President just kept talking! They make quite an impression.

After the ceremonies our group got to meet with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to present a replica check of the funds raised last year. We almost brought both he and his wife to tears when they saw the amount of over \$800,000! There is such a need right now, and they know how crucial outside support is for those that have served. One comment Secretary Shinseki made was the need is going to be even greater with all the troops coming home now, many don't realize the impact will be. Again, the Secretary had a story about taking his family bowling last Christmas day, and the fun they had with their grandchildren, it was a year of bowling stories on the Hill!

BVL is starting a new project and is working with USBC, BPAA and the Department of Veterans Affairs to create a network of job postings in the bowling industry for veterans. We are working on some educational opportunities to help them with what they may need for specific jobs, and will coordinate with the Department to get the information regarding the positions to the veterans. We are excited about this new venture, and hope we can help at least some veterans when they return home and need to start a new career after serving the country.

Thank you to all that have supported BVL in the past. If you haven't, please consider having a fund raiser or hosting an event and think about helping our veterans. As has been the tradition of BVL when concluding....God Bless you all and God Bless America.

Darlene Baker, Chairman BVL USBC and Illinois State USBC WBA Director

JOLIET AREA USBC WBA

This past summer four bowling centers in the Joliet Area scheduled some major renovations. Town & Country Lanes

in Joliet remodeled their entire center with new ball returns, in the settee area they put down new flooring, added tables and chairs, carpeting was replaced, everything was repainted, huge TV screens were hung, remodeled the bar and is presently working to get their restaurant /snack bar back up and running again. Crest Hill Lanes gutted their entire bowling center minus the machines. All new lane beds were installed, new ball returns, new flooring in the settee area with new tables and chairs, replaced the scoring monitors, replaced the carpeting and repainted the entire center. Laraway Lanes in New Lenox has been remodeling their center the past two years. This past summer they remodeled the bar area. Strike N Spare II in Lockport replaced all their ceiling tiles over their 38 lane beds. What a pleasure to go in to each one of these centers and see what they have accomplished in just a couple of months. I guess we do not have to ask where our league lineage went this past year.

September 9, 2011, we lost a Great Friend and Colleague in the game of bowling. C. Deane Smith will live on forever in the Joliet Area for his dedicated service that he displayed to all bowlers both male and female. Deane served as a Director on the Joliet Bowling Association from 1986 - 1988, when he took over the role as Executive Director/ Secretary. In 2000, Deane served as Treasurer until his election as President in 2005 of the Joliet Area USBC BA. Deane retired from his Presidency in 2010. Deane Smith went into the Joliet Area Hall of Fame in 2001 for Meritorious Service. Deane served on the Illinois USBC Bowling Association Board of Directors since 1998. When talking to Deane he would tell you that one of his greatest honors was to serve three years on the National USBC Nominating Committee. To me Deane was a mentor, advisor, teacher and truly one of my Best Friends. Barb my other Best Friend our heart goes out to you and your family. You and Deane had something special between you. A love and camaraderie that meshed so well together. May you find peace and happiness the days ahead and never forget Deane will always be in your heart and only a breath away.

The Greater Joliet Area Bowling Council's 54th Annual Awards Dinner was on October 1, 2011, at the Joliet Moose 300. What a wonderful evening we all had in our new surroundings. Nikki Lunsford was the only one inducted into our Hall of Fame for Superior Performance. Nikki averages over 200 each year with her highest being 223. Nikki has bowled eight 300 games and two 800 series with a high of 815. Locally she has twelve Team titles, eight Doubles, five Singles and seven All Events with 32 scratch titles. WOW At the State level, Nikki has three Doubles titles, and has won once in all the other Events. Nikki was on the winning team that won the 2010 National USBC Women's Championship Tournament. Her Team won both the Scratch and Handicap Division with a 3426. Nikki went into the Illinois USBC WBA Hall of Fame for Outstanding Bowler in 2008. In addition, at the Awards dinner we crowned the

2010 best bowlers in the Joliet Area. Susan Hirner was crowned Senior Queen for the fifth time with 315 points and her Senior Queen Court members were Sue Polesel first runner up with 220 pts, followed by Irma Cooley 217 pts, Lavon Picco 205 pts and for the first time Deborah Brown 201 pts. Patti Schultz was Queen for the seventh time with 405 points. The Queen Court members were Nikki Lunsford first runner up with 310 pts, followed by Erica Buss with 245 pts, Vickie Trouper 242, Leann Hirner 225 pts, Tara Paxson 224 pts, Jacqueline Duvick 222 pts, Trish Jakel 221 pts, Lisa McLuckie 220 pts, and in ninth place Amanda Perion with 219 pts. I bet that Leann Hirner thru Amanda Perion is asking what they could have done differently to move up at least one spot in the rankings. October 22nd - 23rd our Fourth Annual Joliet Area Mixed Doubles Tournament sponsored by Miller Lite and Kozol Brothers was at Strike N Spare II. Trish Jakel and Marc Eyman won both Scratch and Handicap. There Scratch score was 1340 and with 102 pin handicap they ended up with 1442. They walked away \$660 richer. Trish Jakel bowled with Larry Walker the second day and they won second place with a 1338 for \$300. Third spot went to Lynda Szczepanski and Dane Walker 1309 for \$250 and they won second place Scratch with a 1275 for \$80. There was a tie for fourth place Kathryn Picco/Anthony Gonio and Debbie Klein/Rich Grohar. They bowled 1303 for \$175 apiece. Finally, Susan Polesel and Lovell Caldwell bowled 1301 for \$102. We all had a great time bowling in the tournament and our only wish would be is to get more entries for 2012. Joyce Wood-Sims and Dianne Waldon Co-Chairman for BVL once again organized all the materials for our board so they would be ready to hit the lanes November 6th - 19th. Last year we collected \$5,392.20 running 50/50's in all of our leagues. We will know later this month how well we did this year. Our membership has dropped dramatically again this year and certified leagues are down.

Finally, Joliet received great news that Kyle Anderson from Lockport, IL won the 2012 Chuck Hall Star of Tomorrow Award. This award recognizes star qualities in a male high school senior or college student who compete in the sport of bowling. Presently, Kyle is a freshman at St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa. He is studying business education. While in high school, Kyle won back-to-back individual 2010 and 2011 state titles. Kyle bowled the 2011 USBC Junior Gold Championship tournament in Las Vegas and finished eighth. Kyle bowled on the 2010-2011 Dexter/USBC High School All-American Team. For community service, Kyle was helping an elderly woman who lives alone and cannot drive any more. Kyle will receive a \$6,000 scholarship at our 2012 USBC Convention

Libby Hall, President Joliet Area USBC WBA & Illinois State USBC WBA. Director

ROCKFORD USBC WBA

Sock Monkey and You, New in 2-0-1-2

Rockford is almost ready for the 2012 tournament to begin. We have planned and practiced, bickered and compromised, shopped and shopped again. Let the lanes be dressed, the pins set, the balls rolled and the scores recorded. Let the fun begin.

What should you expect? The regular items will still be available. The Illinois WBA will offer you towels, pins and 50/50 tickets. The Rockford WBA will have pins, polo shirts, sweatshirts and breast cancer t-shirts all featuring a sock monkey logo.

New from the Illinois WBA will be brackets at the doubles and singles house. Many of our bowlers have requested brackets, now they will have a chance at them.

Rockford WBA will have socks and sock monkeys for sale. We will be conducting a "Single League Fees Paid for a Season" raffle. Details will be available at the tournament sales tables.

All this is sounding as if you will need to bring a lot of cash with you to Rockford. Cash is good but we realize that you've got to eat, sleep and have some fun. The Rockford WBA sales tables will accept credit cards for all but raffle tickets. There will be a nominal convenience fee for the transaction. It is our hope that this service will allow you to not be cash strapped at the centers. We prefer cash or checks but will now offer you a third option.

We hope to see you soon in Rockford. Sock Monkey and You in 2-0-1-2

Laura Heller, President Rockford USBC WBA and Illinois State USBC WBA Director .

SPRINGFIELD USBC WBA

Well here we are again just a little short of being halfway through another season and looking forward to Christmas and then the start of a new year.

We held our 50th Anniversary Hall of Fame dinner on October 8, 2011 at the Crowne Plaza. We welcomed into our Hall of Fame Sandy Sunley for Outstanding Performance.

Our Local Tournament was held the last weekend in October and the first Saturday in November. Our tournament champions were: 5 Man Team Handicap and Scratch Champions - Khulu's Auto Restoration - 3,319 (85 Hdcp) consisting of Darrilyn Milburn, Shannon Shofner, Kim Milburn, Chris Ruddock and Vernie Bruehler; 3 Man Team Handicap Champions - Pepsi & 2 Lites - 2,028 (535 Hdcp) consisting of Melinda Calvert, Cindy England and Tanis Rakowski; 3 Man Team Scratch Champions - Three Friends - 1508 consisting of Tina Anderson, Joyce Mancini and Katie Hatfield; Doubles Handicap Champions - Linda Venrick & Dawn Smith - 1,398 (339 Hdcp); Doubles Scratch

Champions - Chris Ruddock & Tammy Jones - 1,387; Singles Handicap Champion - Sandy Bohrman - 792 (132 Hdcp); Singles Scratch Champion - Tammy Jones - 760; All Events Handicap and Scratch Champion - Tammy Jones - 2,258 (30 Hdcp); Senior Handicap Champions TIE - Joyce Van Buskirk - 688 (186 Hdcp) and Kathy Wallman - 688 (220 Hdcp); Senior Scratch Champion Joyce Van Buskirk 502.

The first week of December we again passed out Christmas ornaments to every member of our association. As always, the ladies really look forward to getting these. This year our ornament was a crocheted snowflake and no, these were not handmade, we ordered them.

In November we held our Mail O Graphic Tournament to benefit our charities. We had over 200 men and women participants. We paid 23 spots in the women's division and 10 spots in the men's division. We will be having another Mail O Graphic Tournament in February for our charities.

We hope everyone has a nice holiday season and we look forward to seeing you in February in Rockford.

Lisa Bumgardner, President Springfield USBC WBA

TRI COUNTY ILLINOIS

Tri-County Illinois USBC Association: The Association is in full swing for the 2011-2012 season after a computer crash in September that put processing behind about 4 weeks. Certifications were the focus once the computer and WinLabs were up and running. Of course, with another change for awards, leagues have been sending in stacks of achievements. It will take all season to get caught up but processing continues. Tri-County Illinois USBC has initiated local award for All Spare Game, Triplicate Series, 7-10 Split, Big Four Split, Dutch 200, 75 POA and 125 POA. The bowlers will receive an Illinois pin with the achievement on it. Nail clippers (150 and 225 game), Bag Tag (550 Series), and Bottle Jacket (650 Series) will be given. Illinois Plaques will be awarded for 298/299 games and 700/750 series. Bowlers achieving a 300 game or 800 series will receive a clock. The response to these awards has been great. Award forms have been coming in as fast as the USBC awards. The Tri-County Illinois USBC Association will be hosting the annual tournament the last two weekends in January at West Park Bowl in Columbia.

Dorothy Appel, Association Manager Tri County and Illinois State USBC WBA, Director

WAUKEGAN AREA USBC WBA

Our 27th Annual Senior Singles Tournament was held at Sunset Bowl in Waukegan on Saturday, December 10, 2011. Forty-one ladies participated in this annual event. Ten places were paid in the tournament. Marcia Fox bowled a 566 and with her handicap of 111 she scored 677 to win the tourna-

ment. Marcia does like bowling this tournament. It's not the first time she has won. An actual score of 618 was rolled by Ruth Harris. With Ruth's handicap, she took second place. Collecting the remaining prize money were: Norah Smith, Myrt Stauche, Gerry Knapowski, Katie Strawder, Dorothy Overby, Linda Letto, Cathy Huber and Ann Christian. Linda Willcox rolled a 226 to take the high game out of money prize.

During Veteran's Day week in November the Waukegan Board conducted our Annual BVL Drive. Board members visited each house during league play and held a 50/50 raffle. Someone in the bowling center was a winner for each visit. The association share amounted to \$1296.50. That money will be sent to our local VA Medical Center in North Chicago. They use the money in their bowling program for the veterans.

Our next venture will be the Annual Association Tournament to be held in March 2012 at Bertrand Lanes in Waukegan. Entry forms for the tournament are at the each of our three bowling centers.

Myrt Stauche, Association President and ILUSBC WBA Director

NEW THINGS TO LOOK FOR AT THE TOURNAMENT

New Towels, New Pins and 20 year Calendars.
Brackets both handicap and scratch at doubles house only
Pictures of both team, doubles/singles.

BRACKETS AT THE DOUBLES/SINGLES HOUSE

This year for the first time the Illinois State USBC WBA will be offering brackets at the Doubles/Singles House only.

Brackets will cost you \$5.00 each time you enter in both scratch and handicap divisions.

Our bowlers have been asking for brackets for a long time and this is the year. We are only going to do brackets at the Doubles/Singles House as we have the side tournaments at the Team House.

BETTS PHOTOGRAPHY

Ladies, we have something new and exciting for you this year. For the first time in a long time we will have Betts Photography at the tournament taking pictures of your team, doubles and singles on the lanes.

This is real exciting for me as I watched them take the pictures at the Ohio State Tournament. The photographer can do an entire squad on the lanes in less than 5 minutes at the team and/or doubles/singles house.

So get out the matching outfits and come prepared to have your picture taken by BETTS PHOTOGRAPHY

