



Florida State USBC



FLORIDA STATE USBC NEWSLETTER

January 2019



[Marion County USBC](#)

[Debbie Whitten](#)

Happy New Year to everyone. I hope that 2019 is a good year for all in every way. May we see better bowling scores, good health and more peace around the world in general.

Hard to believe that another year has come and gone. Seems like we were just getting ready to celebrate the coming of 2018 and now here we are at 2019. Time does go by faster the older we get.

Take time to visit with people face-to-face not just a text or a sticker or emoji - but to carry on a conversation. Even at the bowling center people are focused on their phone and not the game or the other bowlers on their team. Not exactly where technology was supposed to take us.

This is our second year of being merged as we took the plunge in 2017. Still some bumps along the road but overall has been better than expected learning to service all bowlers by one board. Getting the bowlers to understand they can go to one place to get answers to

questions or help or check on the status of an award or get information about tournaments.

The newest bump is that all board members must be RVP certified and complete the SafeSport Training by January 1, 2019. Not much notice was given about this deadline and the fact that by August 1, 2019, this will be a requirement by USBC to serve on any board. Wonder when they will make that date known to the boards. Possibly it will be covered at the convention in Las Vegas in April. This is a good program; however, seems that bowling and all sports (Olympics included) are taking things to the extreme. Using common sense is the best way to handle most any situation. I know that some boards will lose volunteers who do not want to participate in the RVP or take the SafeSport Training and as such when it is a requirement to serve on a USBC board in any capacity at any level they will not run for re-election for their position or they will have to resign if there is time left on their term. How does this help anyone? Yes, there is an alternative, they can still “volunteer” but will not be able to serve on the board. How many people are going to do this? None. Look around at who was on your board before merging and how many that did not run for an office come and “volunteer” at tournaments or attend board meetings to stay informed about what is going on in the bowling community. Again, none or at the very least one or two.

Moving on we are getting ready to hold all our City Championship Tournaments for the youth, open and women. Again, getting the bowlers to understand who can participate in what tournament is a challenge. Some are focused on women having to hold two certification cards to bowl in the open or that it is unfair that women have a tournament just for women and on and on. Florida does have a “man’s” only tournament in November and has for several years. Hopefully participation has been growing as people begin to understand the concept of “men’s only” and “women’s only” tournaments. There are still mixed tournaments and

youth/adult tournaments - just look around and participate in the tournament that you want to.

I am pleased to have been elected to a director position on our state board and appointed to several committees. We will hold a state board meeting in February so that the various committees can finish ironing out the wrinkles and putting the finishing touches on the bylaws, procedure manual, etc. so that we are ready for the first State General Membership Meeting to be held later in the year. Getting all the ducks in a row for all the business that must be covered at the general membership meeting i.e. election of officers/directors, discussions of tournaments, budgets, Hall of Fame, recap of the first year, and on and on is no small task. There will be a lot of ground to cover and with all associations (at the most 67, could be less if smaller boards united to cover a geographical area) sending delegates to this meeting the state board must be prepared.

There are no more jamborees (held by the Open Board) or conventions (held by the Women's Board) or Youth Meetings (held by the Youth) as we are all one and the new state board takes care of all bowling business for the bowlers of the State of Florida. We have an awesome board as those that were elected have the best interests of all bowlers in mind and listen to all recommendations moving forward taking the best ideas and knowledge of the three previous boards to make one united board.

Best wishes to all local boards and bowlers as we move forward into 2019.

[Florida 500 Club](#)

[Sadie Compton](#)

Let's catch up, it's been a while. With that said, Florida 500 Club, Inc. had its 29th Annual Tournament, hosted by Polk County 500 Club. We would like to congratulate, the Singles Champion, Carole S. Petty from United

500 Club of Broward County with a score of 772, Doubles Winners were Janet Lynn Barrett and Pauline Barrett from West Volusia 500 Club with a total score of 1448, and the All Events Winner was Carole S. Petty from United 500 Club of Broward County with a score of 1417. We honored 2 of our members into the Hall of Fame this year, Sheila Madsen from Suwanee Valley 500 Club & Linda Angley from Daytona Beach 500 Club. Our next tournament is the 30th Annual Florida 500 Club Tournament, hosted by the United 500 Club of Broward County, October 19 & 20, 2019. They invite you to their "Birthday Party".



Daytona Beach 500 Club

We have had two tournaments since the last newsletter. In September we had our Invitational 9-pin No-Tap with two 300's. Way to Go Hannah Livingston & Theresa Matos, with Hannah taking 1st place & Theresa taking 2nd place. On December 9th we had our Liz Cock's Christmas 9-pin no-tap Food Drive with Ray Hodnett bowling a 300 and taking 1st place. In the women's division Valerie Catalano rolled a 729 for 1st place. Back to the food drive; we were able to provide 14 families with food for the Holidays through the Early Learning Coalition.



National Women's 500 Club

www.nationalwomen500club.org

13th Annual Tournament winners are Michele Dressback & Sherry Gill from North Hills, CA for Doubles, Katherine Bishop from Pahrump, NV for Singles, and Cathy Besley from Las Vegas, NV for All Events.

Happy New Year to All

The Greater Tampa USBC Association has been busy getting ready for our city tournaments and getting ready to host the Florida State Pepsi/Handicap finals starting in March.

We had our annual BVL drive in November and our generous bowlers raised over \$3500.00 and this money will go to our local VA Hospital – James A. Haley for therapeutic and recreational equipment and also sent a donation to the Florida State USBC FVL drive.

Our membership in Tampa is up 3% to date for the first time in many years and hope that this trend continues even though we have lost 3 centers in the past two years.

Our youth city tournament starts in January and we look forward to awarding up to \$5000.00 in scholarships to our winners. In an effort to draw more bowlers to our tournaments, we have opened them up to surrounding areas as our entries continue to decline each year. We hope that this will increase our entries.

Will have more to report in next newsletter.

Happy New Year to everyone. I hope 2018 was a successful year for everyone and 2019 will be even better.

In October we had our Virtual Singles Tournament to raise money for BVL and the bowlers raised \$1,810.00 and at our open tournament we are

going to have a Ways & Means table to raise more money for the Veterans. Each year we raise close to \$5000 and we send our raised funds to Bay Pines Veterans Hospital, \$500 to Re-Creations and \$500 to Florida State USBC to be disbursed to Florida State Veterans Hospitals. We want to try to reach our goal or exceed it this year.



Gulf Coast had a successful St. Petersburg Women's Classic. At first, I thought we were down, and then looking at last years, and we were not down, about the same. Hoping next year to build off of this year. Help us out.... tell ladies in your league about the tournament, nice weekend to get away and come out and bowl with your friends and enjoy the Tampa Bay area. A lot of you have emailed us and thanked us for another great year. Two honor scores rolled during the tournament, both at Sunrise Lanes. Graciela Dube from Hialeah had a 300-758 and Samantha Infantino from West Palm Beach threw a nice set 266-279-268-813 series. Great bowling.

Handicap:

1st place Team - The Young & the Rest of Us - 2796 from Lakeland (Kimberly Tew, Carol Wadley, Deanne Walsh, Annette Barber.

1st place Doubles - Christina Weimer/Samantha Infantino - 1452 from West Palm Beach

1st place Singles - Alison Shedrow 768 - from Bradenton

1st place All Events - Samantha Infantino - 2185 from West Palm Beach

Scratch:

1st place Team - SKOB Ladies - 2549 - Beth Owen-Cipielewski, Alison Shedrow, Jennifer Peacock, Paula Urdal-Wenzel from Bradenton

1st place Doubles - Christina Weimer/Samantha Infantino - 1452 from West Palm Beach

1st place Singles - Alison Shedrow - 714 from Bradenton

1st place All Events - Samantha Infantino - 2185 - from West Palm Beach

Entry forms will be out soon, and we will email them to all associations and anyone who bowled in the tournament. If you want to send me your email address, I will add you to the list - celeste@gcusbc.org

We have some tournaments coming up soon and they are all open to any certified bowler. Senior Doubles with option for doubles alibi at Sunrise Lanes on Thursday, January 24th and Saturday, January 26 both @ 1 pm.

Then we have our youth city tournament, a TRIO tournament. Again, open to all certified youth bowlers. We have a lot of youth bowlers that come out to our tournaments. This tournament will be held on Feb 2 & 3 at Liberty Lanes. Gulf Coast added \$1000 to prize fund, and any youth bowler who rolls a 300 or 800 will get \$100 added to their SMART account.

Our Adult Open Tournament, open to any adult certified bowler, will be held on February 16 & 17 at Ten Pin Lanes. All entry forms can be found on our website, www.gcusbc.org and you can sign up on Facebook, message me your team and we will get you signed up.

I did want to mention, and this is a personal one.... although if it were anyone else, I would mention it as well, as it is a great accomplishment. My son, Alexander O'Neill bowled in the Hotel Liquidators league at Liberty Lanes and had BACK TO BACK 300's. And I was there to see it!! It was an awesome night!!!

I am on the new Florida State USBC Board, as a youth director, and let's not forget the upcoming tournaments. We have a great new website - <http://www.floridastateusbc.com/> We have the Women's, Open and the Youth State Tournament entry forms on the website.

Entry deadlines:

Women's - Entries Close February 1 will be held in Tavares/Mount Dora

Open - Entries Close March 24 will be held in Jacksonville

Youth - Entries Close April 15 will be held in Pt. Charlotte & Cape Coral

Be sure to check out our Facebook pages at Florida State USBC and Florida State Youth Leaders.

I was very happy when Florida State decided to continue the newsletter, I know I did not write a lot last year, only because of work and a few changes in my personal life. But I am happy to say I am still busy at work, but I will be participating 100% in newsletters again!!! And for all our board members in Florida and bowlers, remember you can write an article too!!! There are a lot of different subjects that have been done, you can write about your association tournaments, maybe something your center has done, about a certain person, coach or another board member, about bowling events. We would like to see what you are doing in your association or bowling center. So, if interested in writing articles for bowling, promoting bowling, go to our website mentioned above and look under Your Association, and bowling newsletters.

Hope everyone has a great upcoming year. And look forward to reading other newsletters.



New Year's greetings from your southernmost association! It seems appropriate that our first edition of the newsletter should start at this time. Our merged associations for the state, led by our new set of directors and officers, has now had time to get used to each other and work together to give the bowlers of the state of Florida the best that bowling has to offer. For those of you that aren't familiar with our Greater Miami Association, let me introduce you to our "little mouse that roared" group. We are a wonderful combination of hard working and dedicated directors/officers that includes Patty Nevers, our president, and Glenda Beckett, our awesome association manager. Even though our county is one of the largest, we only have one bowling center to draw from for leagues and tournaments. You will see that we still provide everyone a great opportunity to bowl in numerous events throughout the year. We also are very proud of the fact that we have raised more funds for the "Bowl for the Cure" cause than anyone else in the state as well as having been recognized by our National USBC as one of the highest in the country. We are a proud group!



We started out this season celebrating the achievements of our bowlers at our Annual Awards and Hall of Fame Banquet. It was at this time that we inducted George Litwin and Caitlin Graham into our Hall of Fame. George qualified for this honor by having high averages of 234 and 232 and has bowled (32) 300's as well as (13) 800 series in his career so far. Caitlin had an adult high average of 225 and has bowled four 300's along with five 800 series. Both have also fared extremely well in tournaments

big and small. It seemed inevitable that Caitlin would be inducted as she comes from an elite bowling family.... her mother, father and both grandmothers are members of the Hall of Fame in either the ability or service categories. Quite an accomplishment for both deserving bowlers.

So far this season we have already had three tournaments at Bird Bowl. On October 28th our Bowl for the Cure event took place. It attracted lots of participants and raised 1000's of dollars for the cause. The top 5 finishers in the two handicap divisions were: Men- Chris Ferrer- 835, Harvey Weisberg - 811, Giovanni Mejia – 803, William Cahill -789 and Harry Pillot -780. Women- Madie Serrano -787, Suzanne Mullins -773, Jackie Yaniz – 770, Beverly Tiger -768, and Peggy Guest- 751. On Nov. 17th the Florida State/Miami Youth Leaders BVL Handicap_Scholarship Tournament was held at Bird, however, our association did not run this one. The top 5 finishers were: Ryan Toffoli, Giovanni Mejia, Frederick Moran, Trace Reid, and Casey Puett. All entrants seemed to bowl exceptionally well, but the highlight of the tournament happened in the first game when Ryan Toffoli bowled a 300 game. What a wonderful experience this was for some of our youth bowlers. Our last tournament of 2018 was held on Dec. 2nd and it too featured our youth bowlers. The Don and Paula Carter Adult/Youth Doubles Scholarship Tournament afforded the bowlers the opportunity to add more money to their SMART accounts and have a great time during the competition. The top two finishers in each category were: 14 years and under- T. Bryant/J. Bryant and E. Cheney/ R. Cheney. 15 years and up: W. Cahill/J. Lelia and C. Pipho/ S. Pipho. We had one Jr. Gold spot offered in this tournament with Connor Pipho as its winner. Congrats to all the participants!

In the next 3 months we will start our busy part of the season by holding the following: 1/19 7 1/20 – Women's City Doubles Tournament, 2/2 7 2/3 – Youth City Tournament, 2/11-2/16- Mail-O-Gram "BFC" League Tournament, 3/2, 3/3, 3/9 7 3/10- Open Adult City Tournament and 3/23- Super Preps and Special Needs League Tournament. If you are

interested in bowling in any of our tournaments, please consult our website for entry information: GMUSBC.com.

We look forward to reading the events and stories that the other associations submit for publication.

Good luck and as always “may the good scores be yours!”

[Orange Belt USBC](#)

[Diana Eichlin](#)



Happy New Year!

The Orange Belt USBC Bowling Association, serving Polk, Highlands and Hardee counties, would like to thank all the bowlers that turned out for the Florida State Open Tournament held over eight weekends in May and June in Lakeland and Winter Haven. Special thanks also to our officers and directors who worked either all or most of those weekends. We really enjoyed meeting and talking with the bowlers from around the state. We hope you all come back and visit us again soon!

BVL TOURNAMENT

Orange Belt launched its tournament season October 28th with its annual Bowlers to Veterans Link Tournament at Orange Bowl Lanes in Lakeland. This is a doubles handicap tournament with any combination of bowlers' man-woman; 2 men or 2 women. We also invite the Youth to bowl Singles in this event. They earn Smart Scholarships. For the past two years we have earned enough money to contribute Bowling Recreation Packages to Bay Pines VA Hospital and James A. Haley VA Hospital.

WENTWORTH SENIOR MIXED DOUBLES and YOUTH TOURNAMENT – JANUARY 20

Orange Bowl Lanes will host these two tournaments. Seniors are divided into two divisions for the Mixed Doubles event: (1) ages 55-65 and (2) ages 66 Plus. Youth may participate in a separate single tournament at the same time, earning Smart scholarships.

Kay Wentworth, who owned Interstate Lanes near I-4 in Lakeland, is our tournament sponsor. She donates an additional \$1,000 to the senior doubles' competition, and \$300 to the youth tournament. Although Interstate Lanes has been closed since 2009, Kay has continued to be a strong supporter of our bowling community. This month it was announced that Kay had sold the bowling property. Kay is the daughter of the late Joe K. Blanton, a former president of Publix Super Markets, Inc. The Barnett family, headed by Hoyt "Barney" Barnett, vice chairman of the Publix board of directors, and his wife Carol Barnett, daughter of Publix founder George W. Jenkins, have purchased it. The vacant 40,000 sq. ft. bowling center will be transformed into an ice arena, open to the public, with concession stand, pro shop and more. In addition, the Lightning is also planning to build a second NHL-size ice rink sometime in the future to lure youth ice hockey tournaments, figure skating competitions and more. Plans are also to add 10 ball hockey rinks over the next two years throughout the five-county region to introduce more youth to hockey. Ice hockey camps are also planned with instruction from professional hockey players and USA Hockey-certified coaches. Kay said she was happy to see the property be put to good use.

YOUTH TOURNAMENT – FEBRUARY 9-10

Bowlers from our three Youth Bowling Programs at AMF Lakeland Lanes, Orange Bowl Lanes and Cypress Lanes will participate in their own tournament on Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 9 and Feb. 10. Entry deadline is Jan. 25th. This is a USBC certified tournament open to all Orange Belt

youth, giving them the opportunity to learn the rules regarding tournament competition.

Bowlers ages 4 to 8 years old also have their own tournament, called "Stars of Tomorrow." These young bowlers, who average less than 100, are amazing to watch. They bowl 3 games of singles on Saturday and 3 games of doubles on Sunday. It's fun to see how exciting they become when their bowling ball doesn't go in the gutter!

LAST BUT NOT LEAST....

We'll be winding down our tournament season with the 2019 Orange Belt USBC Open Tournament and the 2019 Orange Belt USBC Women's Tournament to be held at the same time on the same weekends at Orange Bowl Lanes.

Squad Times are 1pm and 5pm Saturday, March 16 and March 23; or 10am and 2:30pm Sundays, March 17 and March 24. This allows both tournaments to be run consecutively and allow our directors to work both tournaments and bowl too.

In previous years, our tournaments competed with the dates of the Strawberry Festival, causing us to lose some bowlers. So, this year we're waiting for the Strawberry Festival to be over so we ALL can go see the shows! Entry deadline is March 4.

IN MEMORIAM:



Melba A. Parrett, 92, formerly of Lake Wales passed away from complications of Alzheimer's disease on Monday, October 8th, 2018 at her daughter's home in Ohio. Polk County bowlers, as well as many of our friends on the state and national level, will remember Melba as the President of the Winter Haven Women's Bowling Assn.

She was president 10 years ago when the Winter Haven Association, along with the Lakeland Women's Association joined the Orange Belt Men's Association to form the Orange Belt USBC Bowling Association. She had served as both Secretary and President of the WHWBA and was an avid bowler most of her adult life. She also is a member of the Orange Belt USBC Hall of Fame.



[From the editor's desk](#)

[Dalia Keyes](#)

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and is off to a good New Year.

The newly formed Florida State USBC Board voted to continue the Newsletter as we had gotten several requests to continue it.

I am disappointed that we only received a few articles, and all were from the same associations that participated in the previous Florida State USBC WBA newsletter.

I know this is new to many and hope that for our next newsletter in June, we will receive a lot more and have some new writers. Just a reminder, anyone can submit an article and we need your help to get the word out.

I also want to give a special thanks to Margo Buzzard who helped me with this first issue.