



#### FLORIDA STATE USBC NEWSLETTER

November 2021

### President's Message

Fred McFarland

Just a couple of weeks ago we held our annual meeting and awards banquet. I'm happy to report that our delegation indicated that they were pleased with receiving financial and nominee information prior to coming to the meeting.

Regional manager David Fields attended the meeting and spoke on several topics. One of the topics discussed was the SMART program for youth scholarships as there have been changes the program. One of the changes that interested me was that if a youth doesn't use their SMART funds, those unused funds may be transferred to a sibling for their use.

David brought along the technology for the electronic voting "clickers" as most refer to the voting devices. These were used for the election of seven board members, three (3) were incumbents and the following are new board members, Ashley Chisano (Broward County), Michael Fleischacker (Tallahassee), Michael Greene (Spacecoast), and Al Henderson (First Coast). I want to welcome the new members to the Board of Directors. The voting devices were also used in selecting the delegates and alternates to the National convention. Katheryn Auton and I were elected to represent the state. Alternates were Debbie Whitten and Toni Maddux. The clickers were also used to vote for where future tournaments will be held as several associations were bidding on the different tournaments.

On Saturday, we held the Youth Awards Luncheon. The awards from the Pepsi, Florida Handicap and the Youth Scholarship were presented to those that were in attendance. The Hall of Fame Youth Award winners were Patricia Rosales and Michael Coffey. These awards were presented at the luncheon as well. Congratulations to all.

Saturday evening, the Hall of Fame and Awards dinner was a night to remember. We had been asked to present the National Eagle Award to the winners of the team, doubles and singles events. Unfortunately, the Eagles didn't land on time, however, Bill Matovina and Chris Davis, the D/S winners as Deanne Walsh, Sal Trevino, Duane Podgorski and families were in attendance and were recognized for their achievements. Once the Eagles arrive, they will be presented in an appropriate and memorable fashion.

Hall of Fame inductees present were Joe Friends, Steve Calyore and Paul Koehler. Not present was Michael Furlong. Congratulations to the class of 2021 Hall of Fame inductees.

I would like to acknowledge Southwest Florida USBC Association on hosting this years Annual Meeting. They held a golf outing on Friday afternoon and a bowling tournament on Saturday morning. Thanks for hosting our meeting and hope to come back again.

Recently delegates at the Florida State USBC annual meeting in Ft. Myers had lots of choices for voting on tournaments for the year 2023 and 1 newly added tournament for 2022. The election was full of surprises and pretty well spread all around the state. It was nice to see so many associations bidding to host our state tournaments. Treasure Coast was awarded the **OPEN tournament** and will be held at Superplay and Lucie Lanes. The **Youth Scholarship Championship** will be hosted by Orlando Regional at Boardwalk Bowl and for the 1st time ever the **PEPSI** was overwhelmingly won by Tallahassee with \$15,000 in scholarship money added. The **Women's Championship** tournament will be hosted by Southwest Florida in the Ft. Myers area. The **Women's Senior** tournament 2023 will be in East Pasco. The **Men's only 2022** will be in Broward County, Ft. Lauderdale area and the 2023 Men's only will be hosted by the East Volusia/Flagler County Association. The newly renamed tournament, **Bob and Connie Peters' Memorial Mixed** will be in Orange Belt in 2023. The 2022 tournament entries were distributed at the annual meeting, so look for entries at your local centers or on our website <a href="https://www.floridastateusbc.com">www.floridastateusbc.com</a>.

Here is the 2022 line up.... Pepsi in Broward County, Bob and Connie Peters' Memorial Mixed, Southwest Florida, Ft Myers, The OPEN, Southwest Florida, Women's Championship Space Coast, Merritt Island and Titusville, Youth Scholarship Championship Sarasota/Manatee USBC at Sarasota Lanes and Bowlero Bradenton. The Women's Senior Tournament Space Coast, Merritt Island and the Men's only Broward County.

The next tournament bids will be for 2024. Bid information will be sent to the Association Presidents and Association Managers. So, start now working on a bid presentation for next year in October at the annual meeting. The associations will receive 75% of all profits from all of the adult tournaments and will be required to provide staffing for brackets, check in and scorers and office assistants. If you have any additional questions or want a bid packet, contact the Florida State office.

## President, GMUSBC

**Patty Nevers** 

Just curious as to why parents pick other sports over bowling for their child to compete in? What sport offers them the opportunity to start earning scholarships as soon as they begin the sport (say 5 or 6 years of age) until they age out? The answer is bowling. By the time kids that bowl reach the age of 18, many already have thousands of dollars in their smart fund account to use for college, technical school, trade school, etc. I bet you didn't know that.

Did you know the yearly cost is about the same as other sports? The good news with bowling is that you pay weekly, instead of one huge lump sum at the beginning. For parents isn't that better? Did you know a child can start competing in tournaments immediately? There is no sitting on the bench waiting to see if their names might possibly be called to participate. Kids that bowl get to compete every time.

Did you know that bowling helps with a child's motor development (3 games equals 1 mile, uses 134 muscles, and helps with coordination), social skills, reducing stress, math skills, problem solving, family bonding (they can bowl with their family and friends no matter the age at any time) and confidence?

Did you know that no matter their gender, weight or height they can compete on a team or individually? And they can become great bowlers!

One of the most important things to know is.....did you know bowlers are a tight knit group that stay friends pretty much their entire lifetime? The vast majority of my lifelong friends were and still are bowlers.

There is plenty more, but you get my drift. Can you tell that I love bowling?

So please tell me why parents pick other sports over bowling for their children to compete in?

## **Marion County USBC**

**Debbie Whitten** 

Here we are with approximately 8 weeks left to go in 2021. Let's say an extra prayer for the entire world to continue to return to somewhat of a normal life. There have been deaths of family, friends, and some that we did not know but felt the sorrow that others felt. Everyone has been impacted in one way or another with what happened in March 2020.

The holidays, which are fast approaching, will be hard for some due to the loss of family and/or friends, while others will be celebrating new lives being included in the festivities. Remember to reach out to anyone you see that may be having a hard time. Giving a little of yourself will be rewarded in ways you may not see right away - but in the future.

Fall leagues hit the lanes with small increases in most of the leagues and some vacancies in others, but at least the centers are open, and balls are being rolled down the lanes.

The Florida State USBC held its annual general membership meeting in Ft. Myers, Florida, at the Crowne Plaza, October 9-10, 2021. There was an increase in the number of delegates attending this year which made everyone hopeful that things are returning to normal.

The Youth Awards Luncheon was nothing short of spectacular. To see the faces of the young bowlers when they are presented with their plaque and hearing their name is a site to see. Hopefully this will inspire them to continue with bowling into their adult life.

Four new directors were elected to the Board - Al Henderson, First Coast USBC, Michael Fleischacker, Tallahassee USBC, Michael Greene, Space Coast USBC, and Ashley Chisano, Broward County USBC. Toni Maddux was re-elected to the position of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Dalia Keyes was re-elected to the position of Sergeant-At-Arms, and Greg Smith, Allen Solomon and Debbie Whitten were re-elected to the position of Director. The balance of the Board remained the same as they were not up for election.

Bidding on the 2023 tournament locations was the most interesting that it has been in several years as there were more than one association vying to host the various tournaments. The Youth State Tournament will be in Orange County, The Pepsi Tournament (Youth) will be in Leon County, The Open Tournament will be in St. Lucie County, The Women's Tournament will be in Lee County, The Bob & Connie Peters Memorial Mixed Tournament will be in Polk County, The Senior Women's Tournament will be in Pasco County and The Men's Only Tournament will be in East Volusia/Flagler County. Bowlers will be seeing more of the State of Florida in 2023!!

David Fields, our local USBC Representative, attended the Annual Meeting in person rather than by Zoom this year and brought the voting apparatus which made the elections and the voting on

tournaments go much smoother than with paper ballots. My how we have become spoiled with technology.

David showed highlights from the virtual convention of 2021 with some out takes (bloopers) which entertained the delegation. He also reported on changes to SMART, the status of lane inspections, and the status of certification of string pin bowling (not at this time, but who knows what the future may bring).

On the local scene the Marion County USBC is getting ready to hold their Annual Senior Tournament the weekend after Thanksgiving and after the new year they will be preparing to hold the Annual Youth City Championship, the Annual Open Championship and the Annual Women's Championship. All tournaments are wrapped up before the fall leagues end in order to allow the bowlers to attend the state and national tournaments without missing out on local tournaments.

Summer leagues will be forming before you know it and the never-ending circle will continue.

I hope that all the upcoming holidays and the start of a new year are free of hardships, sorrow and heartaches. May the new year be one of happiness, high scores and time spent enjoying life with family and friends both on and off the lanes doing whatever makes you happy.



#### **FSUSBC Annual Meeting**

Toni Maddux

#### Outlook and observations -Past and Future

I hope the delegates enjoyed attending the Annual meeting in October. We never thought to ask how many 1st time delegates attended the meeting. If you were a 1st timer, I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did 50 years ago at the Women's WBA 25th annual State convention. I was a very young delegate at the age of 21 and not too many of that age attend today. I will never forget that meeting and I was hooked, and I loved every minute of it. I knew that day I wanted to do that again. The size of the delegations has changed, of course, and the names of the organizations have changed; but the purpose is the same and the dedication of the state board to its members remains the same. It takes a lot of behind the scenes work for it to all come together.

Some things and details can change while some can't. We can all have different views and opinions, but we must continue to have respect for one another and listen to opinions that differ from ours. We are all there in attendance for the same reason, to serve the members that elected us. We love the sport, the organizations and camaraderie for making Florida the best in the country. I hope the many longtime delegates continue to offer opinions and share their knowledge at the annual meetings. I think a lot of "old dogs" have learned a heck of a lot of new tricks especially since the merge and have learned to roll with the flow.

I was re-elected 2nd Vice President. I told the board in January I was running because I felt like I still had a lot to offer. I have spent 1/2 of my life on a state board. Probably at the end of my term it will be time for someone else to come in and offer ideas of their own. Until that day though. I will give my term everything I can. As I said at the meeting, I may not do everything perfect, but I do put my heart and soul into everything I do for this association.

Thanks to the Southwest Florida Board, The Lee County Sports Commission, The Florida State Board, members and the delegates for making the 2021 annual meeting a success. Thanks to all who donated prizes for the raffles and thanks to all that purchased tickets on the raffle items and bought tickets for Share the wealth.

The 2022 annual Meeting will be held at the St. Petersburg/Clearwater Marriott on Roosevelt Blvd. Oct. 8th and 9th. The delegate get together will be on Friday night Oct. 7th hosted by the Visit St. Pete/Clearwater Sports Development. Forms were distributed at the annual meeting with the guidelines required to host the 2023 annual meeting. Check out our website, Floridastateusbc.com for the form if your association is interested. The deadline to submit is March 31st.

## Ladies Tuesday Night Fun League

## Samantha Bowers

Ladies Tuesday Night Fun League in Brooksville FI. We are a small league of only 10 teams! But we try to make a big impact in our community!

We always participate in our city's Breast Cancer walk each year! #Spareapair

We spend our October with lots of raffles and fundraising!

Last year we raised over \$1315.00 in just 4 days. This year we are on track to surpass that amount!

We have 7 Breast Cancer Survivors on our league!



Hello everyone! Greeting from Southwest Florida! I sure hope that this newsletter finds everyone doing FANTASTIC, both on AND off the lanes!

Our Association has been a bit busy so far in this 2021-2022 bowling season.

Recently, we just finished hosting the 2021 Florida State USBC Annual Meeting/Jamboree here in Fort Myers. Associations from across the state were well represented over the weekend of October 8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup>. On Friday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>, our local association hosted a "4-person best ball" golf scramble at Eastwood Country Club. There was a total of 27 golfers that teed it up that afternoon. On Friday evening, there was a cocktail hour for everyone to mingle and register for the weekend. On Saturday morning, our local association held a 9 pin no-tap tournament at Lightning Strikes Bowling Center. There were approximately 40 bowlers that shoe'd up for that event.

Then, it was time to get down to business. Our meetings began Saturday afternoon with a memorial service at 1:30 pm in honor of the bowlers that we lost in the last year around the state of Florida. One bowler that our association lost in the last year was someone that most bowlers around the state knew. His name is Bob Peters. He was our Association Manager and on the State Board for many, many years. He was a gentle soul that had a wealth of knowledge in bowling, and he absolutely loved the sport! He will be missed by so many.

During the meetings, many topics were discussed such as BVL, S.M.A.R.T. accounts for youth bowlers, Pepsi Youth Tournament, elections of new State Board members, Officer & Committee reports, voting on future tournament sites, etc.

Then, on Saturday night, after about 3-4 hours of meeting time, we all joined together for a wonderful dinner at our host venue, Crowne Plaza. State and National Tournament champions were honored along with a few new members being inducted into the Florida State Bowling Hall of Fame. One of the new members into the Hall of Fame came from right here in our Association. We all would like to congratulate Steve Calyore on being the latest inductee for Superior Performance!

Sunday came along and all unfinished business was tackled and the weekend full of meetings was adjourned around lunch time.

In regard to events happening in our backwoods, we are getting ready to host the Men's State Tournament for three weekends in November at Lightning Strikes Bowling Center. We are happy to report that entries have started to climb back like they were pre-pandemic time. We wish everyone that is participating lots of luck and high scoring!

Also, I would like to shout out a BIG "THANK YOU" to our local bowling centers. We are lucky enough to have bowling centers in our area that love to promote bowling with holding tournaments/events almost every weekend. We have had the opportunity to bowl in no tap tournaments, over/under the age of 50 tournaments, baker trios, scratch events, senior events, scholarship tournaments, city tournaments, etc. So, THANK YOU! Bowlers appreciate all of you!

In closing, as the holidays are quickly approaching, 2022 is right around the corner. HOLY MOLY! Time sure flies when you are having fun! I would like to personally wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous holiday season and new year! I look forward to seeing everyone out on the lanes, whether it is here in Southwest Florida or around the state.

P.S. – And this year, I have been elected as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of our Association! I am honored that my fellow board members have the confidence in me to fill that seat. So, thank you everyone!

### **Orange Belt USBC**

Diana Eichlin



Debbie Beckman was the director of the Youth Bowling Program at AMF Lakeland Lanes for the past 16 years. She welcomed the young bowlers every Saturday morning, guiding many of them from the first time they picked up a bowling ball to watching them graduate from high school and even being there for their wedding day. "Miss Debbie" was assisted by adult coaches who helped the various age levels learn their skills. She also was a director of the Orange Belt Bowling Association for 12 years. In late July the OBBA met for the first time after suspending tournaments and other plans for the past year. The next week we learned that Debbie was in the hospital with Covid 19. She had told a friend she thought she would be able to go home in a few days, but she didn't. She passed away on August 11, 2021. Although Debbie didn't bowl herself, she accompanied her husband, Ray Beckman, to watch him bowl in the Tru-Grit Coatings / Bowlers Mart Bracket League on Friday nights. She helped League Secretary Lisa McGraw, her best friend, with the treasurer's duties. Ray also bowled on Lisa's team. Lisa and other league members planned a Celebration of Life Service held Sept. 11, 2021, at Debbie's church, the Highland Park Church of the Nazarene. Most of the AMF Leagues also contributed to helping with the funeral services, the church service, and the flowers. James Franklin, owner of Tru-Grit Coatings and our league sponsor, took care of the cremation and urn for the family. Pastor Dave Smith gave us a look into Debbie's church life as well. She was a greeter at the church every other Sunday. She was an Anchors in the Storm moderator working with them for the past two years. The group accepts and donates everything from household items, furniture and clothes to food and toiletries. She also worked for a Lakeland food pantry and worked in the Sweet Shop for Lights of Lakeland Celebration. Debbie and her husband didn't have any children together, but Debbie was an advocate for animal adoption. She loved her three dogs, Bandit, Scooter and Ellie. Her one cat, Java, didn't have much to do with the dogs. But I'm sure they all miss their Mama. Debbie had an obsession with Sunflowers. They appear in every room of her home. So, we share the beautiful sunflower with you in memory of Debbie. We invite you to visit Debbie's Facebook page to read the remembrances.

The Orange Belt Bowling Association, based in Lakeland and serving Polk, Hardee and Highlands Counties, like most of the state of Florida, stayed home during the Pandemic. Many of us, though, continued to bowl with the Covid mandates in mind. League attendance was down, but those of us who did bowl continued to enjoy seeing our friends and welcomed the opportunity to get out of our houses. OBBA canceled all of our planned tournaments and events last year. We met in late July to get back on track for the coming season. Our first tournament is planned for Nov. 28 at Orange Bowl Lanes in Lakeland. It is our annual BVL Tournament -- Bowlers to Veterans Link. Division 1 is a doubles tournament for adults and BLV Tournament set for Nov. 28 Division 2 is a youth singles tournament. \$300 has been added by OBBA for youth scholarships. All monies earned by the young people will go to their SMART accounts. It will be the first time many of us will have a chance to see the ongoing renovations at Orange Bowl Maple Lanes, now owned by the Maple Family Centers headed by John LaSpina. Mr. LaSpina is also national chairman of the BVL. This tournament was originally planned for last year but had to be canceled because of Covid. We're looking forward to getting all of our bowlers out to support BVL and seeing our bowling friends from other centers as well.



### **Greater Miami USBC**

**Sharon Colon** 

Well, we started out this season with a bang! Our membership has increased and almost all of our pre-Covid leagues are back and going strong. Our association has planned 11 tournaments for this season, and we look forward to a banner year. We are now 1 down and 10 to go as we ran our 1<sup>st</sup> (and probably our most favorite) tournament of the year. It was our Rolling Towards the Cure Tournament benefitting the Florida Breast Cancer Foundation. We had our biggest turnout ever for this noble cause.



Win or lose, everyone seemed to have a common bond and an inner drive to make this such a successful event. The inside of the house was resplendent with pink decorations, shirts, balloons and flowers while outside we had a special pink police car in our parking lot. I don't have a total yet as money is still being contributed, but we raised thousands of

dollars. Everyone left the building with a smile, knowing that they are helping the cause in one way or another. Most notable in the scoring department was our 1<sup>st</sup> place winner, Connor Pipho. Just barely out of juniors and he was able to shoot a 300 game and an 800+ series. Way to go!



On Halloween, we had the pleasure of viewing our own Glenda Beckett during her debut on National TV. She was there representing the board of directors of USBC at the PWBA Tour Championship Tournament and was given the honor of presenting the winner's trophy to Shannon Pluhowsky. She did a great job, and we were so proud of her. I would also like to comment on the amazing commentary by Kelly Kulik. I know she would have rather been a participant, but her frame-by-frame comments were accurate and informative, treating the bowling viewers in a professional way. Her clear explanations about what was going on far surpassed what the announcers at the PBA Tournaments have shown us in the last couple of years: Randy take note!

Last month a few of us attended the Annual Meeting of the Florida State USBC Association. I, for one, was impressed by the organization of all of the events and the smooth transitions from one meeting to the next. It was a wonderful opportunity to see old friends and to make new friends over the 2-day event. It is always fun to have a visit from David Fields from USBC as he always makes you laugh (even during the voting which can get really boring). David also brought a power point presentation to review what went on at the National Annual Meeting in case we hadn't viewed it on YouTube, etc. He mentioned that they were going to vote about including string bowling as a viable option to what we have now. I wasn't familiar with that kind of bowling, so I googled it and found that everything is regular sized and that the pins were attached to a cord. Bowlers who have tried this out indicated that it felt the same as our regular game and you really don't notice the cord. These cords are used to help reset the pins and can replace the more expensive pin setting equipment that we have been using for years. This would make it less expensive to use and might help out some of the struggling bowling centers, enabling them to stay open. Personally, I think I would not care for any changes, but that is just my opinion. Congrats to the newly elected officers and directors. Good luck in your new jobs!

We hope all of our fellow associations experience success during this season so our sport can grow. Stay healthy and safe and as always "may the good scores be yours".

## Florida State USBC offers scholarships to our registered youth bowlers and young adults

Applications for the 2021-2022 season will be available in January. They will be emailed to Association Managers, and will be posted on our web page, www.floridastateusbc.com.

It's important that this information gets to youth directors and coaches and/or any graduating High School Seniors, College Students, or Trade/Technical School Students that are in your bowling programs. We need everyone's help in getting these applications out to the bowlers. Please be sure they use only this year's current applications.

The Florida State USBC Association typically gives out eight to fifteen \$1,000 scholarships each year. How great it would be if a youth bowler from your association center could receive one of these scholarships?

Last year, every complete applicant that was received won a scholarship.

# Patsy Wedding Annual Youth Scholarship ELIGIBILITY RULES

Any graduating High School Senior Student, College Student, or Trade or Technical Student ... providing his or her amateur standing is maintained, is eligible to make an application for this scholarship. Students may receive this scholarship two times ONLY. Students must meet the following requirements:

(a) USBC Youth bowlers have not reached their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday as of August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current season and have maintained compliance with USBC Youth Rule 400. File an application furnished by the FSUSBC Scholarship Committee. All information must be complete and returned to the Chairman of the Scholarship Committee of the FSUSBC, Inc. by May 1, 2022.

Also eligible, are students over the age of 18 who are still USBC members, and under the age of 20 as of August 1<sup>st</sup>, of the current season. These students must have bowled a minimum of 2 full seasons as USBC Youth bowlers.

- (b) Maintain a legal residence in the State of Florida.
- (c) Is a participating member of a youth/collegiate (or adult) bowling league certified in the State of Florida by USBC and be in good standing for the current season.
- (d) Include a copy of a current <u>Official school transcript(s)</u> with the application. (A report card is not an official school transcript.)

## J.J. Garrett Memorial Scholarship ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

This scholarship is awarded to a USBC young, sanctioned bowler who best exemplifies Mr. Garrett's love of the game. J.J. believed that if bowling wasn't promoted at a young age, the sport would die. We want to recognize a young bowler who not only participates but also helps to improve our sport.

This bowler may be nominated by a coach, center owner/manager, parent, another bowler or by the bowler themselves. The bowler must be actively coaching, volunteering, and/or assisting in the promotion of bowling. They must be in good standing with their association and show sportsmanlike conduct at all times.

This scholarship will be awarded based solely on the above criteria. Detailed volunteer information is crucial to this application. Nomination, reference, and/or personal letters will also be considered. Grades and bowling accomplishments are not part of this award.

The Florida State USBC will award one \$1,000 J.J. Garrett Memorial Scholarship each season, this scholarship can only be won once per recipient.

- 1. Be an active sanctioned FSUSBC Youth/Adult member. Have not reached their 20<sup>th</sup> birthday prior to August 1<sup>st</sup> of the current season and are in compliance with USBC Youth Rule 400 (for youth members)
- 2. Make sure all criteria are presented in each section as required.
- 3. Include a letter of nomination, a letter of reference, and a letter from <u>each</u> volunteer organization's coordinator. (<u>grades and bowling accomplishments are not part of this award</u>)

Return all completed documents and all parts of application to Chairman of Scholarship Committee **post-marked by May 1, 2022**.



#### Florida State Youth Leaders

Jennifer Myers-Hough

The Florida State Youth Leaders held their annual meeting on October 10, 2021, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Ft. Myers, FL. They had delegates attend from Jacksonville and Orlando. Many of these youth bowlers were first time attendees. Each of them left as new Youth Leader Directors. The new officers for the 2021-2022 season are as follows:

President – Payton Vogel from Greater Orlando Regional USBC

Vice President – Zachary Andrews from First Coast USBC

Sergeant at Arms – Christian Farfan from Greater Miami USBC

The group discussed the details of their annual tournament, The Bill and Millie Landen Memorial Scholarship Tournament. It will be held on January 15 & 16, 2022 at St. Lucie Lanes in Jupiter, FL. The group decided that it will be for sanctioned youth bowlers only with two new handicap divisions. Each year, the group decides on an individual(s) to dedicate this tournament to. The individual(s) they choose to dedicate this event to are ones who have dedicated their time and service to the Youth Leader group or to Florida youth bowling in general. This year, the tournament will be dedicated to past President, Dalton Taylor and to their advisor, Ms. Dalia Keyes. Dalton has been involved in the Youth Leaders since he was 12 years old. He is a senior in high school this year with a passion for the ROTC. After graduation, he plans to further pursue a career in the United States military. This year will be the second year that the group has honored Ms. Dalia Keyes for her many years of service to the youth bowlers in Florida. This is currently her 2<sup>nd</sup> year as advisor to the Youth Leader group. Her knowledge and many years of experience with running youth tournaments is truly helpful to this group.

There are openings available on the board for additional Directors. Any youth bowler, ages 12 or older, from any area of Florida is welcome to be a part of the Youth Leaders. Please encourage the youth bowlers in your area to participate in this group. It is a great experience. They will learn the details in running a tournament, as well as meet youth bowlers across the state of Florida. This is also a convenient way for them to earn volunteer hours for their school requirements.

### **Greater Tampa USBC**

**Dalia Keyes** 

#### Greetings to All

The Greater Tampa USBC Association is getting ready to host the Florida State Women's Senior Tournament and plans for our local city tournaments are underway.

We are glad to report that our membership is up post Covid but still have a few leagues that have not returned and unfortunately may not return. It is extremely hard to start back up when you have taken off a year or two as has been the case with some leagues that have been around for over 50 years.

We had five delegates (2 who were first time delegates) attend the Florida State Annual Meeting in Ft. Myers in October. Several also attended the dinner and had a fun time.

Our association currently gives out ink pens as awards for games/series and we are looking at trying something different and would appreciate any suggestions from other associations as to

what type of awards you give to your league bowlers. You can submit suggestions to daliakeyes@aol.com.

We have hosted state tournaments and Pepsi/FI Handicap finals and have been busy the past two years so we are looking forward to taking a break for at least one year and hope our proprietors will look at bidding for future tournaments for 2023-2024.

Until next time, hope everyone stays safe and healthy.

#### **Space Coast USBC**

**Buncy Reynoso** 

The Space Coast USBC would like to welcome all the returning bowlers and new bowlers for the start of a new bowling season. Last year was a very slow start and hard on us from the Covid-19 pandemic. From the way this season has started it appears that our membership will increase from last year.

A delegation from the association attended the FSUSBC State Annual meeting in October 2021 and Greg Smith (Space Coast USBC – Vice President) and Michael Greene (Space Coast USBC – Director) got elected to the Florida State USBC Board by the delegates from the other bowling associations. We thank David Fields (USBC Representative) for attending the meeting.

The Space Coast USBC BA would like to thank the FSUSBC State Board and Delegates from the 2020 Annual Meeting the opportunity to host the Florida State Women's Tournament for 2022 (May-June) and the Florida State Senior Women's Tournament for 2022 (November).

The Space Coast USBC Representatives also attended the awards ceremony with our local youth and adult awards winners in attendance.

- Emily Holland –State Scholarship Tournament (1st Place Singles 135-174 Girls Scratch & 1st Place All-Events 135-174 Girls Handicap)
- Caitlin Cooperider & Nicholas Encarnacion State Scholarship Tournament (1<sup>st</sup> Place Doubles Scratch)
- Kaitlyn Knight 2021 Pepsi (1st Place U15-U18 Girls Scratch)
- Barbara O'Connor & Diane Bretz 2020 Women's Senior Tournament (1<sup>st</sup> Place Doubles)
- Diane Bretz 2020 Women's Senior Tournament (1st Place All Events)

The Youth and Adult winners who could not attend the awards ceremony were presented their awards at the local bowling centers.

The Florida State USBC selected 9 graduating High School bowlers for the Patsy Wedding Scholarship and each bowler will receive \$1,000. Michael Harmon Jr (Edgewood High Graduate & Indiana Tech Freshman) was one of the 9 selected. Congratulations!

Inducted into the Florida State USBC Hall of Fame for Youth Superior Performance is Michael Coffey. Former Eau Gallie High graduate and Lindenwood University graduate, Michael can still be found at a bowling center at Shore Lanes Palm Bay. Congratulations to all the winners!

Our awards program for the youth and adults is unique and interesting as we believe all bowlers have a chance to receive an award. All the awards that our association gives out is funded strictly

by fundraising efforts. Processing the honor scores is a coordination of speed and efficiency. From our league secretaries to the association manager to the awards center back to the association manager to the director to present the award to the bowler. Usually within a week by the time the bowler bowls again to present his/her award. Of our entire awards program we believe to have a good balance of awards for the youth and adults that covers all the averages of the bowlers. To give you a perspective of the number of awards that our association gave out from last year (2020-2021 Season). Also remember that last year the bowling centers were shut down for a short time due to Covid-19.

Adult Awards – 2,226 Youth Awards – 604

We implemented an Inspirational Senior Award program to those bowlers that are age 85 or greater. We currently have 36 active bowlers. This is for them who some may have never received an award from our association or USBC. Their dedication to the sport to come out and bowl with family and friends on their bowling league is an inspiration to us all.



During our Space Coast USBC Annual Meeting in June 2021, the association gave 5 scholarships to graduating High School students.

Michael Demchak Scholarship (\$1,000) – Cody Reynoso (UCF) Lola Spurgeon Scholarship (\$1,000) – David Blake (UCF)

The next scholarship is named to one of our former Director who came on the board during the merger of the four (4) associations into one. He headed up the budget, awards program, and fundraising efforts. He was dedicated to the youth programs and was always at the bowling center as being league secretary for 3 leagues. He passed away in April 2021, but his name will carry on.

Dave Asquith Scholarship (\$1,000) – Michael Harmon Jr (Indiana Tech)

Space Coast Scholarship (\$500) – Zackary Smith

Space Coast Scholarship (\$500) - Nezell Martin

Congratulations to our Scholarship winners!

Our fundraising efforts go toward the association awards and scholarship programs that we have implemented. We continue to look at different ways for fundraising and are very open to different ideas. Here is a list of our fundraising efforts.

Amazon Smile, Candy, Meat Stick, Bunco, Fund Crazr, Gift Baskets & Share the Wealth

Our association will be busy with bowling tournaments this season and it starts off with a new tournament the association is offering in December 2021.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Dave Asquith Adult/Youth Tournament is named after a former Space Coast USBC Director who joined this association since the merger in 2017. Instrumental in the budget, awards and fundraising programs and for the love of the bowling youth. Dave was known in the bowling centers and friends as the "Candy Man" for his fundraising efforts in the candy sales. His untimely passing this past April places a big hole and shoes to fill. We hope this tournament will be the first of many in his honor.

Below is a list of tournaments that the association has scheduled for this season.

- Dave Asquith Adult-Youth Tournament December 2021
- Open Tournament January 2022
- Youth Tournament February 2022
- Senior Tournament March 2022
- FL State Women's Tournament May-June 2022
- FL State Senior Women's Tournament November 2022
- Southeast Bowling Tournament June 2023

We are looking forward to being the host association for the Florida State Women's Tournament in May-June 2022. Both bowling centers, River Lanes (Team Center) and Shore Lanes Merritt Island (Doubles/Singles) are looking forward to being the host centers. We hope to see you there!

Shore Lanes Merritt Island is the host center for the Florida State Senior Women's Tournament in November 2022. We hope to see you here for this tournament also!

Space Coast is the place to be in 2023!!!

Southeast Bowling Handicap Tournament returns to the Space Coast for a 3<sup>rd</sup> time in May-June 2023. It has been 21 Years since the tournament was last here.

Representatives from the Space Coast USBC made a presentation in Greenville South Carolina in June 2021 and was awarded the opportunity to have the tournament return to the Space Coast. Host bowling centers will be Bowlero Melbourne and Shore Lanes Merritt Island.

Our association is represented on most of the social media platforms.

- Web Page www.scusbcba.com
- Facebook
- Facebook Group Page
- Instagram
- Twitter
- Textedly
- E-Mail

Our primary form of communication is through Facebook. Bowling information that has to do with our association, the state of Florida and Nationals. We have started a Facebook Group Page for interaction with our bowlers.

We have tried something new as a form of communication with our bowlers with Textedly. This is getting a short text message on your phone as you would get a reminder of a doctor's appointment. Phone numbers are not distributed.

Text "SCBOWLERS" to (855) 949-1965 to Join

To sign up to be part of our social media and to get info on the Association Manager (Phone # & Email) use the QR Code and scan with your phone.



We thank you for your dedication and support of bowling and hope to see you on the lanes!

#### **FHSAA Tournament**

Ron Vogel

# FHSAA DISTRICT #8 TOURNAMENT At AMF Kissimmee Lanes BOY'S Team qualifying scores:

- 1. Apopka 3,040
- 2. West Orange 2,473
- 3. Edgewater 2.270
- 4. Bishop Moore 2,252
- 5. Celebration 2,104
- 6. Horizon 2,087

Apopka was undefeated in the winner's bracket beating Bishop Moore in 3 games of Baker. West Orange knocked off Edgewater sending them to the elimination Bracket as well. Apopka then faced off against West Orange and sent then down to face Edgewater who defeated Bishop Moore (4th place). West Orange & Edgewater then battled against each other pushing the match to 5 games with West Orange coming out on top thus securing them a spot at State's next week alongside Apopka. Apopka was cold after sitting for 1hr and 45 minutes waiting on their next opponent and lost the 1st game. They used that as a warmup and went on to take the next 3 games earning them the district championship for the Boys & Girls team, which was successful on Tuesday in their quest to go to states.

In the individual division the boys were led by Apopka's Malek Taylor who put on a show the entire day. His 702 series was enough to stay ahead of teammate Jeremy Walker by 3 pins to secure the Individual title for the boys. With the top 4 individual qualifiers advancing with their teams this opened the door for Edgewaters, John Pierson, to advance to states along with Lake Wales, Luke Olson.

#### Boy's Individual leaders:

- 1. Malek Taylor 702 (Apopka)
- 2. Jeremy Walker 699 (Apopka)
- 3. Dakota Beckworth 664 (West Orange)
- 4. Richard Caruso 641 (Apopka)

- 5. John Pearson 593 (Edgewater) ADVANCED
- 6. Luke Olson 577 (Lake Wales) ADVANCED
- 7. Richie Ruby 555 (Horizon)
- 8. Bryce Reel 545 (Celebration)
- 9. William Bowers 542 (Edgewater)
- 10. Nickolas Hawkins 519 (Wekiva).

#### GIRL'S Team qualifying scores:

- 1. Celebration 2,090
- 2. Edgewater 2,033
- 3. Apopka 1,997
- 4. Wekiva 1,856
- 5. Windermere 1,854
- 6. Jones 1,646

Top seed and tournament host Celebration faced off against #4 seed Wekiva and went 3-1 while #3 seed Apopka went 3-0 against Edgewater. In the 2nd round Apopka defeated Celebration sending them into the consolation bracket to face off against Edgewater who handed Wekiva their 2nd loss and sent them home with the 4th place finish. Edgewater and Celebration who were #1 & #2 qualifiers faced off in and intense match which pushed both schools to 5 games. Celebration took an early 2-0 lead but saw it slip away with 2 losses in a row in games #3 & #4. Only losing game #4 by 3 pins. The Celebration Storm girls were determined to head to states and won game #5 in another close game by the score of 141-138. With Edgewater finishing 3rd in the district this set up a rematch between Apopka and Celebration who would have to win 2 baker sets to become champions. Both teams fought hard, and Celebration took the 1st match 3-1 thus handing Apopka their 1st loss. The second match was equally intense with both schools pushing each other to the limit which saw them tied 2-2 after 4 games. Ultimately Apopka would win the 5<sup>th</sup> game giving them the district #8 Girls title and Celebration earning the #2 spot. Great bowling by all the girls today and Apopka & Celebration punched their ticket to states next week at Boardwalk Bowl. Good luck to all of those heading to States next week.

#### Girl's Individual leaders:

- 1. Alexiya Sapone 529 (Apopka)
- 2. Tamara Outlaw 479 (Edgewater) ADVANCED
- 3. Marietta Branca 470 (Celebration)
- 4. Julia Minotti 453 (Bishop Moore) ADVANCED
- 5. Madison Falgien 449 (Lake Wales)
- 6. Janexxi Perez 447 (Celebration)
- 7. Haley Carlton 447 (Edgewater)
- 8. Kenna Hancock 431 (Apopka)
- 9. Dezzirae Holder 430 (Jones)
- 10. Hannah Adams 418 (Wekiva).

# FHSAA DISTRICT #9 BOY'S TOURNAMENT At Boardwalk Entertainment, Orlando BOY'S Team qualifying scores:

- 1. University 2,973
- 2. Timber Creek 2,878
- 3. East River 2,874
- 4. Cypress Creek 2,835
- 5. Boone 2,563
- 6. Circle Christian 2,559

With the top 4 teams decided they all headed into the afternoon Baker matches. Number 1 University faced off against #4 Cypress Creek and the Cypress Bears came out on top sending the top seed into the consolation bracket. The 2<sup>nd</sup> match was equally tough as the undefeated Wolves from Timber Creek took on the East River boys. East River prevailed in a match that pushed both schools to 5 games and stayed in the winner's bracket to face Cypress Creek. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> round the University Boys caught fire and eliminated Timber Creek who would finish the season as the 4<sup>th</sup> place finishers. East River took their match 3-1 against Cypress Creek sending them into a rematch against University who they had previously defeated. University, Led by Nick Martucci, came out strong and both schools fought hard as they knew the looser was going home and the winner was going to states next week. University would eventually hand Cypress Creek the loss in their rematch and the bears completed their season with a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish at districts. After a brief celebration the University boys now had to face off against the still Undefeated East River team. Both teams were intense and pushed each other to the limits, the atmosphere was like that of a college championship tournament and both teams meant business. They battled back and forth, and University won the 1st set of baker games. Since both teams now had 1 loss apiece, they now moved on to the final set of baker games and this would not disappoint. They pushed each other to a 2-2 tie and the district championship would now be decided by 1 final game. Ultimately University would string together some strikes to take the win and the district #9 boy's title. Great job by all teams involved and good luck at states.

#### **Boy's Individual leaders:**

- 1. Miguel Rivera-Ruiz 682 (Gateway)
- 2. Michael Castro-Cortez 668 (University)
- 3. Jason Kyle 635 (Colonial)
- 4. Christopher Falcon-Molina 630 (Cypress Creek)
- 5. Louise Estor 625 (East River)
- 6. Nick Martucci 620 (University)
- 7. T.J. Pierson 618 (East River)
- 8. Bruno Brandao 617 (Timber Creek)
- 9. Justyn Duran 612 (University)
- 10. Ashton Angel 602 (Winter Park)

#### **GIRL'S Team qualifying scores:**

- 1. Timber Creek 2,593
- 2. Cypress Creek 2,354
- 3. East River 2,260
- 4. Winter Park 2.216
- 5. University 1,961
- 6. Boone 1,920

With the top 4 teams decided they all headed into the afternoon Baker matches. Number 1 Timber Creek faced off against #4 Winter Park while #2 Cypress Creek Faced #3 East River. The Timber Creek Wolves and the Cypress Creek Bears came out on top sending East River and Winter Park to the consolation bracket. The 2<sup>nd</sup> set of matches was equally tough as the Wolves from Timber Creek looked to revenge last week's regular season loss to the Undefeated Bears of Cypress Creek. They took each other to 5 games with 3 of them being decided by less than 10 pins. Ultimately Cypress Creek would prevail sending Timber Creek to the consolation bracket against Winter Park who handed East River their 2<sup>nd</sup> loss, sending them home with a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish. Winter Park was now looking for revenge from the 1<sup>st</sup> round and came out strong taking the 1<sup>st</sup> game. Ultimately the Timber Creek girls were too much for Winter Park to handle and they were sent home with the 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish. This now set up another rematch between #1 Timber Creek and #2 Cypress Creek. Timber Creek came out strong with a 208 - 178 win in the 1<sup>st</sup> game, the 2<sup>nd</sup> game saw Cypress Creek take the win 168 - 138. After a couple missed corner

pins by the Bears, Timber Creek would win game #3 by a score of 184 – 172. The 4th game saw Timber Creek take another win and the 1<sup>st</sup> match by a score of 168 – 128. This being Cypress Creeks 1<sup>st</sup> loss they now had to bowl another best of 5 set to determine the champion. As it was getting late in the day and Boardwalk had an adult league of 76 teams getting ready to take the lanes. The final championship match moved to lanes 1 & 2 and the crowd of spectators grew by a few hundred cheering on these young athletes. The match started with Cypress Creek taking the 1<sup>st</sup> game 162 – 136, the 2<sup>nd</sup> game saw Timber Creek win with a 161 – 135. Tied after 2 games both teams battled late into the evening after being at the center for over 11 hours. Game 3 was one of the closest games we would see with Cypress trying to make a late comeback, but they fell short and would lose 178 – 170. Determined not to go home in 2<sup>nd</sup> place the Cypress Creek girls would come out strong in game #4 and would finish with their highest game of the tournament, taking the win 214 – 156. This set the stage for 1 last game to determine who the champion would be, and it did not disappoint. After both teams started the front 4 with 2 opens apiece the game was close. Both teams then marked in the 5th & 6th frames and were only 3 pins apart in the 6<sup>th</sup> frame. Timber Creek would spare in the 7<sup>th</sup>, but Cypress creek missed the sleeper in a bucket. Timber now had a 12-pin lead, but Cypress didn't give up. After 2 more spares by Timber Creek and 2 strikes by Cypress creek the game was now back to even coming down to the 10<sup>th</sup> frame. Timber Creeks anchor Madison Bailey, who qualified 2<sup>nd</sup> in singles, would step up needing to mark in the 10<sup>th</sup> frame and that she did. It was now all up to Cypress Creeks anchor Payton Vogel, who qualified 1st in singles, to try and win the game. The team was on 2 strikes and with Payton only needing count and a mark to secure the win. She delivered what the entire crowd thought was a good shot, but the pins didn't cooperate, and she left the 5-10 split finishing the game with a 148 to Timber Creeks 158. With that win the Timber Creek girls are your district #9 champions, and the Cypress Creek girls are the runner up. Both teams will represent District #9 next week at the FHSAA State Bowling Championships.

#### **GIRL'S Individual leaders:**

- 1. Payton Vogel 608 (Cypress Creek)
- 2. Madison Bailey 596 (Timber Creek)
- 3. Gianna Bringham 584 (Circle Christian)
- 4. Klaraliese Kammerzell 554 (Timber Creek)
- 5. Hannah Tilton 547 (Cypress Creek)
- 6. Madison Goodrich 531 (East River)
- 7. Samaiya Russell 518 (Timber Creek)
- 8. Emily Rusnak 510 (East River)
- 9. Sanni Idarraga 508 (Cypress Creek)
- 10. Makayla Angel 502 (Winter Park)



First and foremost, I would like to congratulate our 2021 Newsletter Award winners:

Best Feature Article
1st Place - Sharon Colon

Best Local Association Award 1st Place - Debbie Whitten 2nd Place - Diana Eichlin 3rd Place - Dalia Keyes

Best First Time Article
1st Place - Krissy Stewart
2nd Place - Jennifer Myers-Hough
3rd Place Allen Solomon

Best Overall Writer 1st Place - Diana Eichlin 2nd Place - Debbie Whitten 3rd Place - Dalia Keyes

As the newsletter deadline came near, I worried that I hadn't received many articles. I shouldn't have worried, I got quite a few! I hope you all enjoy them as much as I did. I want to thank everyone for their submissions. What is really great is the ones I got from people other than the "publicity chairpersons". I hope that others will follow suit. We all love to hear what other associations are doing and experiencing. Please remember the next deadline is Jan. 1, 2022!

Wishing everyone a wonderful holiday season. Be safe and healthy!