



Florida State USBC



FLORIDA STATE USBC NEWSLETTER

October 2020



[President's Message](#)

[Fred McFarland](#)

As we wrap up the 2019-2020 bowling season it has been a challenging year to say the least. The year started off with high hopes for the new season. In January, the Florida State Board of Directors met to plan for the coming tournaments. Little did we know what the future held for our tournament directors. After scheduling and rescheduling we were able to hold all of the tournaments to date. We still have the Senior Women's tournament to be held in Cape Coral at Coral Lanes. Just a reminder that entries close Oct. 28th so ladies get your entries in ASAP.

We held our annual membership meeting this past weekend (Oct. 10-11) at the Crowne Plaza in Ft. Myers. The meeting was productive with input from the delegates as to how they would like to see information distributed to the delegates in advance of the annual meeting. We had three new Directors elected to the board,

Bruce Combs from Sarasota/Manatee Assoc., Robert Taylor from Southwest Florida and Linda Navedo from Greater Orlando. Katheryn Auton, Margo Buzzard and John Tinney were reelected to director positions.

Looking forward to 20-21, it is our hope that we will be able to hold all of the tournaments at their regularly scheduled time frames. I would like to remind those of you that are association officers or directors reading this that we need bids from your local associations for hosting the state tournaments. Hosting the tournaments can be very lucrative for your local association. The hosting association retains 75% of the profits from brackets, ball raffle, share the wealth, etc. So, if your association would like to host one of the tournaments request a bid packet. The state has many size tournaments so most associations should be able to host one of our tournaments.

2nd Vice President

Toni Maddux

Delegates at the annual meeting in Ft Myers voted on tournaments for the year 2022. Southwest Florida was awarded the Open tournament. The doubles and singles events will be at Lightning Strikes and the team event will be at Bowland Cape Coral. PEPSI was awarded to Broward County and the event will be held at Strikers Family Fun Center. The Women's Championship tournament and the Senior Women's tournament was awarded to Space Coast Bowling Association. The Women's Championship will be at Shore Lanes, Merritt Island and Bowlero Lanes. The Sr. tournament site has not been determined as yet. The Annual State Youth Scholarship tournament was awarded to Sarasota Manatee Association. The bowling centers will be announced at a later date.

The 2021 tournament entries were distributed at the annual meeting, so look for entries at your local centers or on our website, www.floridastateusbc.com. The Open Tournament will be in the Gulf Coast and Suncoast Associations. Team event at Dunedin Lanes and doubles and singles event at Seminole Lanes. The Women's Championship will be in Southwest Florida at Lightning Strikes and Bowland Cape Coral.

The Annual State Youth Scholarship tournament will be hosted by East Pasco Association and Greater Tampa Association. Pinchasers East Pasco will host the

team event and Pin Chasers Midtown will host the doubles and singles. PEPSI will be held in Tampa at Brandon Crossroads Bowl. The Women's Sr. Tournament will be held in Tampa.

We encourage all local associations to bid for future tournaments. The next tournament bids will be for 2023. Bid information will be sent to the association presidents and association managers. So, start working now on a bid presentation for next year at the annual meeting in October. 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, scorers and office assistants.

Marion County USBC

Debbie Whitten

Here we are in the last quarter of what has been a nightmare year for most of the world. We can only keep our faith and use common sense as we look to the upcoming holiday season and the beginning of a new year.

Restrictions are slowly being lifted on businesses so that hopefully those that are working on staying in business will begin to see a return in customers and a light at the end of a very dark tunnel.

Our local bowling centers are open 7 days a week with limited hours, skeleton staffs and limited food/beverages being offered at this time. It is going to be a slow process to get back to where we were in March 2020, before the world shut down.

There are a number of leagues that did not return due to bowlers not feeling comfortable returning to the closeness of a bowling team and/or league. There are vacancies on teams or "bye" teams in most leagues that did return. This does not seem to be an issue with the bowlers that were eager to return to weekly bowling. They were happy to be "out and about".

Our local association is looking forward to hosting our local tournaments and have gone over the entry forms to make some minor changes in rules to be more consistent and are going forward with anticipation that bowlers will be ready to hit the lanes in friendly competition.

The Florida State USBC Association held the annual general membership meeting, election of officers and attended to legislative business October 9-11, 2020, in the Ft. Myers area. The number of delegates was down from last year and I am sure there are many contributing factors. I will not report of what all transpired as I am certain one of the other officers or directors from the state board will write an article on behalf of the state with all the information regarding the elections, legislation and future tournaments.

I was surprised to again this year receive awards for my newsletter articles and hope that the bowlers around the state take time to read the state newsletters when they are published as this is the way we all stay in touch with what's going on around the state.

It is uncharted waters that lay ahead for bowling as we all look for ways to make the bowlers feel comfortable as they return to the centers.

May you give Thanks in November as you get together with family and/or friends for however you celebrate Thanksgiving, may you be blessed in December as you gather to celebrate Christmas or whatever holiday you may celebrate during December and look forward to a New Year on January 1, 2021, that will bring us all together as a community, state and the world and most of all peace in our hearts and minds as we remember those that we lost during 2020 due to circumstances beyond our control.

[Florida 500 Club](#)

[Sadie Compton](#)

Florida 500 Club had its Zoom Board Meeting July 11th, face to face, together, separately.

As with many, our concerns about the health and safety of others, we had to announce the 2020 Annual Tournament in Tampa CANCELED and rescheduled for next year. We also had to cancel the "Paws for Bowling" fundraiser, you do not however have to wait until next year to help support your paw friends in your area, contact your local humane society.



Go Bowling.com was part of history August 16th in Daytona, with its 1st Road Course Race. And so, you are in the loop, Bill Hanson, President of the Bowling Centers Association of Florida was there it give the command to start engines. You ask where my driver #11 finished, he came in 2nd.

Bowling Trivia

Question: What does bowling & baseball have in common?

Answer: 60 Feet.

In Bowling, the bowling lane is 60 feet long from the foul line to the headpin,

In Baseball, it is 60 feet from the pitcher's mound to home plate.



[Greater Miami USBC](#)

[Sharon Colon](#)

What a crazy year! A pandemic across the globe has brought so much to a grinding halt. Jobs were put on hold, masks and hand gel a necessity, but sometimes hard to obtain, deaths, remembrance services delayed, schools dependent on the internet, and sports are cancelled for many months. The

year is 2020 and we still have 3 more months to go. Before this year 20/20 meant a perfect vision score, but now it has an entirely different meaning. People have said that hindsight is 20/20 which basically means you can look back in time and see why things happened so you can continue with the good stuff and try to avoid the bad stuff. When this is over, and I truly believe that day will come, we will have to remember the mistakes that were made and fix them. On the positive side we can be proud of the fact that we became more down to earth, communicating with neighbors and relatives, caring about and reaching out to help others and spending more family time together.

On a personal note, during this time I had to go on a leave of absence from our board because my son was diagnosed with cancer and had to go through extensive surgery and chemo treatments. He needed me. The world was going crazy with fear outside and I (as well as many others in the world) had to deal with this at the same time. It was tough but I had so many friends (many of whom are bowlers) that checked on us and kept us in their prayers. It meant so much to me and gave me strength. Happily, my son is recovering well and looking forward to better times. Now, all of us are looking towards getting back to some sense of normalcy. One way to feel that is when you can turn on the TV or radio and be entertained by sports competition. Watching baseball, basketball, and now football helps us to sit back and feel like it used to be.

As of this week we are starting up with our leagues again. It will not be the same, but it will suffice until all is well regarding the pandemic situation. Those of us in Miami are lucky that Bird Bowl is working hard to make our season as successful as possible. They are making things happen for us, the league bowlers, by making sure we have a place to go and giving us the privilege to be there to do our thing with less emphasis on open bowling. We hope that by carefully following the rules we can show our appreciation to them.

Our association has been meeting via Zoom to make plans for tournaments, ordering awards and working with our sole bowling center so that everyone can be safe and still participate in this great sport. All dates are in the calendar, but things could change at any time, hopefully for the better. Our

website will be kept up to date in case any of you are interested in joining us at our tournaments.

When our next newsletter is published, I hope to have scores to report and good news to share with all of you.

May you all stay safe from Covid-19, hurricanes, fires and unnecessary violence that pervade our country.

We hope to see some of you at the convention and in the meantime,
“May all of the good scores be yours”.

Southwest Florida USBC

Krissy Stewart

Hello there from Southwest Florida!

We hope that all of our fellow bowlers have fared well since the last time we have all gotten together and written our portion of the state newsletter. I am sure that some of you have not been so lucky in 2020, whether it is losing your job, your business having to close, or even worse, losing loved ones during this pandemic. And for that, please know that you are not alone. The bowling community is one of the strongest that I have ever witnessed. **BOWLERS are STRONG!**

Our association has witnessed devastation firsthand in the last few months. (and I know that I don't even know the worst of it). However, there are many bowlers around the state that knew of a lady from our area that everyone called either “Nanny” or, as most of us knew her, “Mama B.” She was always a constant in our local bowling centers cheering on everyone or “once in a blue moon,” participating in a 9-pin no tap tournament. Unfortunately, she lost her battle with Covid-19 in August. This was definitely a hard thing for our local association's bowlers to comprehend. She was a blessing to have known and she will be sadly missed.

Another great loss that we all endured a little later in the month of August, was one that affected so many bowlers locally, across our state and nationally. Carolyn Trump was a dedicated bowler that I remember competing against

as early as when I began bowling in adult leagues in the mid to late 1980's. She was always a top female bowler in our area that never lost her competitive edge! As she had dealt with some hand issues recently, she was not able to bowl in the last several months. However, she was still involved! She was the key person that sat side by side with Bob Peters in our association's office for the last few years. She worked with him at local and state tournaments, helped run brackets at these events and was always a delegate to state and national events. She was on the state and local bowling boards as long as I can remember. Even back when the men and women's association were a separate entity, she was on the Lee County WBA's board. She held many women's tournament titles both here locally and statewide. She was also in the Lee County WBA and the Florida WBA state Hall of Fames. (I know those were two things she always coveted). My last conversation with her was after I finished bowling on a Tuesday night when I asked her why she wasn't bowling. She then showed me her hand. THEN, I knew why she wasn't able to pick up a ball and compete. She said that she could have surgery on it and maybe be back to bowling in like 4 months or so, but the doctors couldn't promise her that the situation would not come back. So, she said, "I'm just waiting and seeing what happens." Unfortunately, that was the last time I spoke to her as she passed away suddenly while working in our association's office 2 days later. Her passing has been a great loss. Only Bob Peters knew of everything that she did for him, for bowlers and for bowling, in general. None of us really grasped that until we are trying to fill her shoes and help out with everything that she did. She was an amazing woman, a competitive bowler, and a great friend to so many.... She will be so sadly missed for many years to come.

Enough sad news.... let's talk about the fun-filled and great events that our bowling centers have been doing since they have re-opened.

Our annual Proprietor's tournament had been re-scheduled and finally was able to take place in the middle of September. There were almost 110 bowlers that showed up for this scratch event. There were 8 games of qualifying and then the top 24 moved on to Sunday with 6 games of match play, followed by the top 5 stepladder. It was an exciting event to watch! There were bowlers shooting 300 to start the tournament, and others bowling one to make it into the cut. One bowler shot one in match play on Sunday to push himself into the top 5 stepladder. The champion after all of the games were said and

done.... David Stouffer! He bowled phenomenal!!!! I am not sure what he averaged for both days, but he was in the top 2 or 3 for the entire event. Kudos to him!!!! Awesome job!

Bowland Cape Coral and Lightning Strikes were able to hold the Women's state tournament in July and August. The centers made sure that everything was as safe as possible for all of the participants and their families during those weekends. Entries were down this year, which was to be expected. But, for everyone that was able and willing to bowl, they all had a great time as usual. This event will take place once again at these same centers next year. So, look for those entry forms and sign up early!

Audi of Fort Myers has been working closely with a few of our bowling leagues at a couple of our centers this winter bowling season. In a couple leagues at Lightning Strikes, if a bowler rolls a 300 or 800 WITH HANDICAP, they get to drive an Audi for the weekend! How cool is that???? Needless to say, each week there is at least one Audi being given out, if not several. I think the bowlers are getting a bit spoiled 😊

At our local Bowland and HeadPinz centers, the owners (Pat and Lisa Ciniello) came up with the idea of BMA Honors. First, this allowed every league bowler in their centers, the opportunity to earn free cash by rolling an honor score that could be used in that center. Second, once a bowler earned that "free cash," they had the opportunity to participate in the 1st annual event that had \$10,000 added money! There were 4 different divisions. Scores were tallied using the bowlers score and their handicap. Each division winner was awarded \$1,000! WOW! Many additional spots were paid out also in each division. The winners were: 210+ averages – Rich Belcher, 190-209 averages – Pete Rose (I should mention it's NOT the baseball player! LOL!), 170-189 averages – Heidi Johnson and 169 and below averages – Marisol Gonzalez. Congratulations to all of the bowlers!!!!

Another HUGE and FIRST TIME EVENT in bowling.... Bowlers X.com, QubicaAMF and Ebonite were sponsors of the event named "Some Strings Attached" at HeadPinz Naples in July. There were two separate events, over a period of one weekend. The field of bowlers consisted of Hall of Famers,

PBA members, PWBA members, PBA50 members and most of the top-level amateurs from the state of Florida. The two separate tournaments were games of qualifying with rounds of match play and stepladder to follow. Some games were on the traditional lanes with pinsetters that we all know of in today's game. Other games were on pinsetters that set the racks of pins with "strings." Saturday's champion was Kenny Ryan, while on Sunday, Jason Couch came away with the win. I am sure we will be seeing more of this type of event in the future.

Lastly I would like to share that Bill Hanson, Chief Operating Officer at Bowland and HeadPinz bowling centers in our area and the President of the BCAF (Bowling Centers Association of Florida) was asked to be the Grand Marshall at the "GOBOWLING 235" Nascar race in Daytona in August. On live TV he was watched by millions of viewers when he got the "once in a lifetime" opportunity to say.... "Drivers, start your engines!" What a great day for our sport and what a memory for Bill! Great job, Billy Boy!

I hope that our next newsletter will find everyone healing from the scars that we have all dealt with in 2020. I can only hope that 2021, it is a brighter future for all of us.... ON and OFF of the lanes!

Take care and bowl well!



[Greater Tampa USBC](#)

[Dalia Keyes](#)

The Greater Tampa USBC Association has had a challenging year due to Covid-19. We were unable to hold our open city tournament last year and had to cancel our annual meeting scheduled for April 2020. Once we were able to return to our centers, most of our leagues had decided to end and wait until next fall to start up again.

In May and June, the Greater Tampa USBC worked the Florida State Open with a limited number of volunteers due to Covid-19, but we managed to take care of the bowlers for five weekends.

Our winter leagues seem to be down 30-40% as of now and some leagues have elected to wait until January to begin bowling. We currently have 2500 members certified.

We tried recently to hold our annual meeting but could not get a quorum and we have re-scheduled for November in hopes we can get a quorum.

The Greater Tampa USBC is going to be very busy this year as we are hosting the Pepsi/FI. Handicap Finals in April, the Florida State Youth tournament along with East Pasco USBC in June, and finally we are hosting the Florida State Women's Senior Tournament in November.

I would like to congratulate our Hall of Fame inductees from last year as we were not able to present them with their awards due to the cancellation of our annual meeting and leagues.

Katie Clayton-Robinson, Stan Sprow and Curt Suchan Sr.

Congratulations also to Amanda Flood who won 1st Place Singles – 724 at the Florida State 2020 Women's Championship Tournament.

Until next time, hope everyone stays safe and healthy.

[Gulf Coast USBC](#)

[Celeste O'Neill](#)

Hello, Florida State bowlers.

Here is to another new year, in a year that I do not think anyone expected. It has been very challenging personally and in the bowling world.

To start, there has been a few changes at our Gulf Coast office. Patsy Wedding has retired from Gulf Coast and our new Association Manager is James (Jim) Parese, he is no stranger to bowling. He has been on our board in the past, most recently

as our President. His wife has come on as a director as well and helping Jim in office. I decided to take a year or so off as well. I have taken on a part time job to pay some bills off, and just do not have the extra time to devote to the association. On that note, I do go into the office, if Jim or Susan need any help, I would never leave them high and dry, so I do go in when needed to help, as does Patsy. Yolanda Houston is our new President.

We are very excited that the 67th Annual St. Petersburg Classic is running this year same time – November 14 & 15 and November 21 & 22. It will be held at Sunrise Lanes for team and Seminole Lanes for Doubles/Singles. Both houses, have made a lot of changes, and they are following all Covid guidelines as well. Masks are required in the bowling centers. So, please wear yours.

The deadline for the Classic is October 30 if you need an entry you can email Jim at gcusbc@tampabay.rr.com and he will send you an entry and hotel information. I am hoping the newsletter gets out before October 30th. With Covid we did not get the entries out till mid-August. We hope you can come out and continue with your journey in the Classic tournament.

Not a whole lot has been going on, Jim has been busy inputting leagues. Yolanda and the youth committee have been busy at tournaments at Liberty Lanes doing share the wealth and trying to raise money for tournaments.

We hope to see all the lady bowlers around come out for the St. Petersburg Classic, we will be doing share the wealth, brackets and having fun with all of you. Ladies, if you have never been to the Classic please put together a team and come out and have some fun. The beaches are close, Hard Rock is not far away, we have some nice restaurants around.

Stay safe out there.... Till next time....




[Tallahassee USBC](#)

[Lisa Tajdari](#)



Fall is in the air and the Ghosts and Goblins are preparing for fun!! Even though this year has been long and sometimes a bit confusing, with mask



wearing , the COVID-19 Pandemic and of course a major Election year, Tallahassee USBC Association is still standing and going strong. Our leagues are open, and our bowlers are enjoying the change of pace. Thank you to our bowlers for staying strong and hanging in there with us.... We may be down 40% of our usual numbers at this time but I say welcome back to all 306 members, including our youth.

Welcome aboard, LaQuita Extine!! She accepted the position as our new Association Manager. We are so pleased to have you and look forward to working with you over the many years to come.

Congratulations to Eric Bruno, his first year as an adult bowler, shot his first 700 on September 2nd and his first 800 on October 14th. Way to go Eric!!!



[Orange Belt USBC](#)

[Diana Eichlin](#)

Former Youth Bowler Gives Back to Sport

As an Orange Belt YABA bowler, James William Franklin grew up coming to AMF Lakeland Lanes every Saturday morning to participate in the sport he loved.

And now, as the president of Tru-Grit Coatings of Lakeland, James is using his business success to encourage others to come bowling.

He and his girlfriend Kelly Coonan are joined by their best friends, Gerald and Monica Patterson, bowling in the former Friday Bowlers Mart Bracket league at AMF Lakeland. Except now it is called the Tru-Grit Coatings/Bowlers Mart Bracket League. Tru-Grit Coatings has donated \$2,000 to the Friday bracket league for its prize fund. Bowlers Mart has been a contributing sponsor of this league for many years.

In addition, Tru-Grit Coatings donated \$1,000 to the prize fund for the Tru-Grit Coatings Solutions Men's Classic League Mondays at Lakeland Lanes. He also is

sponsoring a Tru-Grit team in the Michelob Ultra League Mondays at Orange Bowl lanes in Lakeland.

James didn't forget the youth bowlers either. He donated \$1,000 to the Lakeland Youth Bowlers program under Orange Belt Director Debbie Beckman to be used to purchase shoes, balls, and other equipment as needed for the bowlers. As a youth bowler from 2007 to 2012, James bowled nine (9) 300 games, and two 800 series. He currently is carrying a 207 average, but he's just warming up. It's been a few years since he bowled five times a week.

Tru-Grit Adds to Prize Fund for State Scratch Tourney

James William Franklin is helping his friend,

Corey Houseman, tournament director of the Florida Scratch Bowlers Tour, in promoting the tour by adding \$500 to the prize fund from Tru-Grit Coatings. James also is sponsoring a contest with the top four winners receiving an \$80 paid entry into the scratch tourney. Go the Florida Scratch Bowlers Facebook page to enter.

Next tourney is Nov. 14, 2020, at Pin Chasers Mid Town in Tampa. Bowl 8 games of qualifying across 8 pairs of lanes and then cut to top 5 stepladder finals. Payout ratio is 1:5.

Bowler Gets Liver Transplant

Kyle Brady, the Strikemakers League Bowler at AMF Lakeland Lanes, who league members raised \$5,390.44 to help Kyle get on the transplant list, are now bowling *with* Kyle on the league. Kyle is pictured at left (minus the yellow skin) with Secretary Renee Wills. Kyle had his transplant June 8 at Tampa General. He was in surgery 5½ hours and



home in 4 days. The doctors also took out his gallbladder at the same time. He returned to work on Aug. 3.

Florida State Youth Leaders

Dalia Keyes-Youth Advisor

Every year the Youth Leader board members hold fundraisers within their local area to raise funds for BVL. This year, unfortunately, due to COVID-19 only one zone was able to raise funds. The Miami Youth Leaders raised \$400 and the funds were sent to BVL with the request that they be returned to facilities within Florida.

The Annual Council of Delegates meeting for the Youth Leaders was held on Sunday, October 11, 2020. Unfortunately, there were no delegates in attendance, only the board of directors. They did conduct elections and the following were elected for a one-year term: Dalton Taylor, President, Christian Farfan, Vice President, Sgt-At-Arms, Hannah Diem. Directors elected were: Hunter Brock, Payton Vogel, Zachary Andrews, and Aidin DeBoer.

They also went over the rules for the upcoming Landen Memorial Scholarship Tournament to be held January 16-17, 2021 at Bowland Pt. Charlotte. Each year the board dedicates the Landen tournament to volunteers who help guide them through their tournament and other areas as needed. This year the tournament was dedicated to Scott Tice and Dalia Keyes.

Scott Tice has given many years of service to the Youth Leaders as well as the Florida State Youth and Florida State USBC boards and has decided not to seek re-election. Scott has been an integral part of the Youth Leaders as well as Florida State USBC and will be missed.

Anyone interested in being involved with the Youth Leaders program should contact the Florida State USBC office or Dalia Keyes at daliakeyes@aol.com.

Hall of Fame

Margo Buzzard

We had 4 Florida bowlers inducted into the Florida State USBC Hall of Fame for Superior Performance.

In the Youth category we had Crystal Elliot. In the adult category we had April Costa, Craig Auerbach and Michael Preston.

A luncheon was held at the annual meeting where Crystal's award was presented, and a dinner was held for the awards for April, Craig, and Michael.

We would like to congratulate them all for their outstanding bowling in the state of Florida.



[From the editor's desk](#)

[Margo Buzzard](#)

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to our newsletter this issue. Please remember that anyone can submit an article. Hope to see many more submissions for the January issue.

Stay safe and happy holidays!