



# California Bowling Writers

# InfoLink

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Winter 2016

## CBW President Romeo to USBC Hall

A much deserved honor for our CBW President, Joan Romeo. Because of her vast knowledge of all things, Joan has been the brain everyone has picked for decades. She has served well adding that special touch to everything she was part of: President of the International Media Association; two terms as President of CBW; on the International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame committee and she loaned her expertise in helping to create the first International Bowling Hall of Fame Extravaganza. She was primary in the creation of the Professional Women's Bowling exhibit at the Hall of Fame and to quote Stars & Strikes bowling newspaper editor Jim Goodwin, she has been a necessary ingredient in an alphabet of organizations: ABC, WIBC, BPAA, FIQ, USA BOWLING, WTBA, IBMHF, LPBT, PWBA, PBA, BWAA, CBW, WWPB, NBS, WBW, BNN, WORLD BOWLING, IBMA. Joan credits WIBC/CWBA Life Member Agnes Duffy in involving her in the California WBA where she was instrumental in their 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary which proved entre to many things bowling. She has been instrumental in the unwavering support of her bowling daughters Robin Romeo and Tori Carter. Her background is in Marketing and she was a Vice President of the Marketing Agency *The Perlman Group* and now has her own company, *The Marketing Team*. Once again, The Infolink is proud to showcase and congratulate Joan Romeo who will be inducted at the Orleans Hotel Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada on April 28<sup>th</sup>.



Photo by Randy Gulley

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## DORNBERGER Steps Down

You may recall our story about Keven Dornberger who was President and CEO of the World Bowling. He worked diligently with European and Asian bowling leaders in an effort to have bowling accepted into the Olympics which once again had a disappointing outcome.

It appeared that the upcoming election for World Bowling was going to be contentious and Dornberger chose the better part of valor not to run in favor of Sheikh Talal Mohammad Al-Sabah, President of the Kuwait Bowling Federation who had strong support. Over the past several months there had been numerous discussions regarding the best way to forge a path for greatness of the sport and organization.

All were in complete agreement that the entire bowling community must become united in our efforts: zones, federations and the bowling industry. It is believed that the maximum potential can be achieved only by combining and targeting resources on primary goals. Dornberger will remain CEO. Bowling's international governing body has 134 member federations.

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### In This Issue

President's Message, Editorial, NBS News, Phone Card Donors, IBC Youth Report, Bowling Calendar, PWBA/PBA Tour Schedules

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Bob Thomas, General Manager  
300 N. Center St., Reno, NV 89501  
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*A publication of the California Bowling Writers  
Mary Lynly and Nancy Chapman, Editors*

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California USBC BVL Fund

**From the President's Pen**



**CBW President  
Joan Romeo**

**Good Day and Happy New Year to all.**

**Ponder this as we start 2016.**

Set priorities and then make a commitment to keep them. If that's your New Years resolution, you may eliminate stress and lead a more productive life.

Then determine what you want to accomplish this year. It's the first step in helping you achieve your goals. But don't become so serious about your mission you forget to have fun. If it's not fun, you're wasting your life.

Learn to laugh. Laughter is a great motivator.

Too often we become so serious or passionate about our cause we forget to laugh. And as a result, we forget to have fun. Humor is infectious. The sound of roaring laughter is far more contagious than any cough, snuffle, or sneeze. When laughter is shared, it binds people together and increases happiness and intimacy. Laughter also triggers healthy physical changes in the body. Humor and laughter strengthen your immune system, boost your energy, diminish pain, and protect you from the damaging effects of stress. Best of all, this priceless medicine is fun, free, and easy to use.

In closing I would like Mary Lynly to provide us with one of her jokes. She was always great at either opening or closing a meeting with laughter and perhaps that has been our problem. We've become too serious.

*"All reports are in. Life is now officially unfair" AND "Rule of holes – when you are in one stop digging."*

*Joan Romeo, CBW President*

**Do you have one of the specially designed CBW pins?** If not, send your name and \$5 to Secretary Donna Dillard, 575 Westgate Street, Pasadena, Ca 91103 and we will send you one and include our latest engraved pen!

# No Excuses!

By Mary Lynly

Having been a part of the glory days of bowling in California where we were looked upon as the elite organization among bowling associations in the nation and emulated because of our ability to promote and motivate, communicate, educate and entertain with our great hospitality programs that included participation by our many associations, it is painful to see all things meaningful to our members removed *until there is more funding*.

In a book I read recently called *Extreme Ownership* written by Navy Seals Jocko Willink and Leif Babin tell tales of their tours in Iraq and identifying problems when in peril (which was most of the time) and figuring how to fix them. The book has been a perfect blue print for what they do now – helping companies in peril fix problems. Bowling in California and throughout the nation is in peril and it centers on leadership. The plan Willink and Babin devised was:

- **A clear understanding the mission** (our goal)
- **Can we do it?** Assets, resources and time available
- Include leaders in **planning**
- Select the **simplest** course of action
- Focus on the **best** course of action
- **Delegate**
- Are there emerging conflicts, **does the goal still fit the situation**
- **Does everyone know the plan? Have discussion and interaction with the team to ensure they understand**
- **Emphasize goal**
- Ask questions and conduct post operational debrief (**After Action**)
- **Analyze lessons learned** and implement in future leadership

This may seem like war tactics – they are, and we are at war with declining membership, lack of promotion and motivation and the frustration of how to fix it! For Willink and Babin in working with company's managers and team leaders the company leaders came up with all kinds of excuses. "You don't understand the situation"; "it's the Economy"; "It's the competition"; "Petty Jealousy"; "Inability to work as a team"; "Lack of cooperation." "Biased leadership." "Inability to recognize the "problem." "Lack of information"; "Lack of communication."

Sounds a lot like bowling doesn't it? For those of us who have been around for a while we have visions of *the way it used to be* in our heads. While it is true times have changed, people still like to be informed and want to be a part of the mission. It is important to work as a "team" for a couple of reasons: sharing the load, important input, and understanding and completing the mission.

One of the main things in *Extreme Ownership* is being able to accept responsibility, own the problem and find a way to fix it. There is no blaming and no excuses.

Upon checking our CUSBC website, I find that there will be NO awards except the Star of Tomorrow. No excuses! Also, no communication. When is the last time you saw a publicity release from our state organization? You are expected to go on the website – NOT. Doesn't happen. Unfortunately, unless you want some specific information about tournaments or meetings people don't frequent websites. There needs to be continuous information flowing to let the membership know what's happening – good or bad. No Excuses for this not happening.

Expecting delegates to come to meetings when there is no motivation or reason is foolhardy. Not going to happen. Make it special and most of all *publicize it* and they will come.

There is really no excuse for our organization going downhill if people have a reason to be a part of the organization. No award for the Hall of Fame? No award for Proprietor of the Year? These give members so much pleasure and a feeling of being a part. It doesn't have to be a big expenditure. No excuses.

I hope our leaders come up with a plan that encourages local leaders to support the mission of our state and find a way to work together to solve our problems. And....no excuses.

**If you don't like what's happening whose fault is it? Own it and fix it. No excuses!**

# News from the National Bowling Stadium in Reno

With 2015 now a memory, 2016 looks to be another great year at the National Bowling Stadium. Each year during the first three weekends of January, the National Bowling Stadium opens its doors to non-profit groups who are looking for ways to raise money for their cause. Since the NBS does not have open bowling due to an agreement with the local bowling centers, the locals do not have many opportunities to bowl at the NBS.



Fundraising events give the locals an opportunity to bowl at the stadium and at the same time help raise money for local groups. This year as in the past few years, the Sierra Nevada Children's Choir held their fundraiser on the first Saturday after the New Year. This local group is a children's choir for first through twelfth grade students with a talent and passion for singing. The fundraiser helps to provide scholarships to families in need, and help them travel to festivals to develop new skills. The second Saturday, Amplify Life, an organization that provides recreational, therapeutic, and educational programs for children, teens, and adults with disabilities, holds its fundraising event. And this year a new fundraising event is being held on third Saturday. Canine Rehabilitation Center and Sanctuary will be holding its first Pins and Paws fundraiser event to help raise money for its organization. Bowling, silent auctions, raffles are just some of ways the events raise thousands of dollars each year. The Greater Reno-Sparks USBC Youth City Tournament and the PBA Sands Regency Winter Classic Regional Tournament round out the last weekend of January.

The USBC returns the first of March for the Open Championships. The tournament continues through July with the last ball being rolled on July 11. Along with the Open Championships the Bowlers Journal and 40 Frame Game will also be bowled at the stadium as companion events for the Championships. For information on these tournaments go to [bowl.com/openchamp/](http://bowl.com/openchamp/)

The NBS is busy until the end of the year with tournaments, sweepers, parties and other special events. Last year 93 other events, including a Reno-Sparks city-wide high school prom with over 2,000 students, took place after the USBC Women's Championships concluded in June.

## **Some tournaments scheduled the last half of 2016:**

- July 21-23 – Reno Asian Invitational Tournament - Tournament Director Jim Mars
- July 29-31 – Reno Junior/Adult Invitational Tournament – Tournament Director Debbie Haggerty
- August 12 – 28 (Friday – Sundays) – Storm Festival of Bowling – Tournament Director NBS Staff
- August 12-14 – California Bowlers Tour Tournament – Tournament Director Gina Moura
- August 19-21 – Nor Cal Bowling Centers YBA All Star Weekend Tournament – Tournament Director Sandi Thompson
- August 22-24 – SIRs (Sons In Retirement) Tournament – Tournament Director Ray DiBasilio

For more information on these tournaments and other events go the NBS website at [NationalBowlingStadium.org](http://NationalBowlingStadium.org) and click on Tournaments and Special Events link.

For many years there was a belief that you had to be USBC or a professional bowling organization to be able to book an event at the NBS. This is not the case. The NBS welcomes tournaments, leagues, organizations and companies to hold their event at "Bowling's Premier Facility". To book your tournament, sweeper, party or special event, contact Bob Thomas, Assistant General Manager, at [bthomas@renotahoeusa.com](mailto:bthomas@renotahoeusa.com)

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## **California Bowling Writers 2014-2015 - Officers & Directors**

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# IBC Youth Committee Meeting

By Irene Wilson



Irene Wilson and IBC Instructor Kim Terrell-Kearny

On the chilly weekend of January 8-10, 2016, I attended my second International Bowling Campus (IBC) Youth Committee meeting at the well-known International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame in Arlington, TX.

Our agenda included discussing legislation, youth development reports, the IBC Youth Development Strategic Plan, and youth marketing.

Gary Brown and Roger Noordhoek took turns presenting the youth development report and summarizing the main events of youth bowling in 2015. Their data showed that there is always room for more youth directors in the bowling community. Without the motivated directors, bowlers, parents, and volunteers who love and share their joy in the sport of tenpin bowling, advertisement and participation in youth bowling will decrease. Remarkably, our biggest problem and best opportunity for youth is still Junior Gold Championships, which revenues have continued to increase. So many juniors are signing up for the event that we need to expand the borders of the tournament. Because of this, changes had to be made.

This year, Junior Gold Championships will offer each bowler four 40-minute practice sessions. Tournament qualifying will take place Monday through Thursday, and finals will be held on Friday and Saturday. All three divisions, U12, U15, and U20, will bowl four games each day for a total of 16 qualifying games before the first cut. The change that I believe will have the best and biggest impact is that the lane patterns will no longer be distributed before tournament play. Patterns will only be announced and presented online after the event has concluded, along with the results. In addition, all lane patterns will be Sport compliant, and no longer only World Bowling Association lane patterns with one short, one medium, and one long pattern.

Astonishingly, we have found that most coaches are not able to guess the patterns correctly. Lastly, bowlers will only be permitted to register 5 bowling balls, one less ball than last year. All of these changes have been made to prepare youth bowlers for participating in collegiate bowling and becoming members of the PBA or PWBA. Keeping the patterns a secret will enhance the skill development of youth and teach them to change their hand positions and adjust to the lanes accordingly.

For the second year, spectators look forward to watching the finals of Junior Gold Championships on CBS Sports Network, the same network used for collegiate bowling. The Junior Gold Championships planning committee is preparing well-in-advance for over 3,200 bowlers, and many spectators, that will be heading to Indianapolis, IN in July 16-23, 2016. At the five centers, All Star Bowl, Expo Bowl, Southern Bowl, Western Bowl, and Woodland Bowl, juniors can expect to have seven bowlers on a pair. There are several cities that want to host Junior Gold Championships in the future, such as Cleveland, OH, Sacramento, CA, Dallas, TX, and Chicago, IL. It is remarkable that just last year we were hoping to reach 6,000 junior bowlers in the United States, and we now have almost 7,000 junior gold members from over 500 different bowling centers. The committee has discussed many options for where to hold registration and how to make it a faster and stress-free process.

On the second day of our meeting, we divided into groups to analyze Bowlopolis, a nonprofit tool that uses graphics and should be a familiar brand that children recognize. It is a similar recruitment tool to Bowler's Ed, which is for schools, but is focused on children eight- years old and under who have birthday parties at centers. In the goodie bags, children receive a promo card with instructions on how to download two apps. One app is called "Bowlopolis" and contains all the episodes in the three seasons, which educate the viewers about bowling. The Bowlopolis cartoon is based on a boy, named Layne, who is trying to beat the evil Kingpin with the help of his friend and dog, Carrie and Reset. This app can be downloaded on an iPhone, iPad, or an android, while the game which combines the fun of bowling with racing, "Bowlopolis Bowlerdash," can only be downloaded on iPhones or iPads. Our data has shown a decline in these products and our leaders encourage youth directors to promote the apps and the website: <http://www.bowlopolis.com/>

The committee members are currently in the process of reading the USBC youth scholarship applications and choosing the winners. The IBC Youth Committee plans to meet again at the 2016 United States Bowling Congress Convention, which will be held on April 26-29 at The Orleans in Las Vegas. With the amount of youth bowlers interested in competing continuously increasing, it is clear that bowling is alive and well, and the future of the sport is bright.



## California Continues to Shine

**Scott Norton** of Mission Viejo, Calif., won four titles in seven PBA West Region events to earn Player of the Year honors. **Ted Hoffman** of Dublin, Calif., who won the West Region's inaugural Pat Patterson Award 43 years ago, in 1972, won it again in 2015.

**Ed Godbout** of Felton, Calif., is the winner of the Tony Reyes PBA Community Service Award.

*Look like Palmdale knows how to turn out youth stars!*

**Ashley Dunn**, Palmdale – a member of the nationally ranked McKendree University Women's Bowling team in Lebanon, Ill and **Wesley Low**, a member of the Wichita bowling Team, Wichita, KS – also from Palmdale – made Junior Team USA

**Jackie Wyckoff** has been named to assume the duties of Operations Manager for the International Bowling Media Association, assisting Executive Administrator, Rich Cairns. Wyckoff will serve for a term of one year, renewable annually, on a commission basis.



### MY LOVE/HATE RELATIONSHIP WITH COMPLAINERS

Participate in one of my events and you will likely be asked to fill out a form bearing the title "We Love Complainers!" Complaints, when offered in the spirit of constructive criticism, serve as tools that allow me to see my events from a different perspective and make improvements. Complainers who say, "Here is what I didn't like and here is my suggestion for making it better..." invest time and effort in sharing their opinions. Though their criticism may sting, I love that they are engaged enough to want to help improve the event.

*(Gary Beck)*

## Bowling Calender January through June

**January 29-31** – PBA Sands Regency West/No. West Regional Winter (non-Champions), NBS, Reno

**January 31** – 2016 CUSBC 11<sup>th</sup> Youth Championships Advanced Entry Reservation Deadline (7/9-7/24) Orange Co. USBC (Forest Lanes, Lake Forest)

**February 1-6** – TAT (True Amateur Tour) Nationals, The Orleans, Las Vegas

**February 19-21** – PBA Jackson Rancheria Casino Championship, Sutter Creek

**February 28** – 7<sup>th</sup> Chris Paul Celebrity Invitational televised on ESPN

**February 28-March 3** – 26<sup>th</sup> Golden Ladies Classic, The Orleans, Las Vegas

**March 1** – BVL Association Div. winner names due to CUSBC

**March 5** – USBC Open Championships begin, NBS, Reno (3/5-7/10)

**March 13** – Daylight Savings begins

**March 15** – BVL Association donations due to CUSBC

**March 27** – Easter Sunday

**April 1** – Deadline date for CBW Marijane Viat Writing entries for 2016 contest (3/31/2015 – 4/1/2016)

**April 1** – CUSBC 2016 Adult Championships begin, Forest Lanes, Lake Forest (4/1-7/10)

**March 6** – Entry deadline for CBW Marijane Viat Writing contest

**March 9** – USBC Women's Nationals begin, South Point, Las Vegas, NV (4/9-7/10)

**March 10** – USBC Mixed begins, South Point, Las Vegas, NV (4/10-7/9)

**March 18** – CA Bowlers Tour Senior No Tap Doubles Tourn., High Sierra Lanes, Reno

**March 26-29** – 2016 USBC National Bowling Convention, The Orleans, Las Vegas, NV

**March 28-1** – PWBA Las Vegas Open, Texas Station, Las Vegas, NV

*When I was able to get down the road a ways and look back, I realized success is 90% perseverance. The key is to stay in the game.*

*Trevor Reese-Jones*

**Do You Remember?** In the next issue of the InfoLink we will have a column with clips of fond memories people have of bowling travels/activities. Send us yours! [lynlymary@surewest.net](mailto:lynlymary@surewest.net)

## 2016 PWBA Tour Schedule

## 2016 PBA50 Tour Schedule

### ***PWBA Tour has two stops in California!***

**April 28-May 1** - Las Vegas Open, Texas Station  
**May 5 – 8** - Sonoma County Open, Double Decker Lanes, Rohnert Park, CA  
**May 12-15** - Storm Sacramento Open - Steve Cook's Fireside Lanes, Sacramento, CA  
**May 20-26** - USBC Queen's The Orleans, Las Vegas  
**June 2-5** - Wichita Open, Northrock Lanes, Wichita, Kansas  
**June 9-12** - Lincoln Open, Sun Valley Lanes, Lincoln, Nebraska  
**June 16-19** - Greater Detroit Open, Super Bowl, Canton, Michigan  
**June 23-26** - PWBA Players Championship, Ashwaubenon Bowling Alley, Green Bay, Wisconsin  
**June 30-July 3** - Lexington Open, Collins Bowling Center, Lexington, Kentucky  
**July 7-10** - Rochester Open, AMF Gates Lanes, Rochester, New York  
**July 14-17** - St. Petersburg-Clearwater Open, Seminole Lanes, St. Petersburg, Florida  
**July 29-31** - PBA-PWBA Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles, Palace Lanes, Houston, Texas  
**August 2-7** - U.S. Women's Open – TBD  
**TBD** - Smithfield PWBA Tour Championship

**April 16-19** – PBA50 Pasco County Open, Lane Glo Bowl, New Port Richey, Fla.  
**April 23-26** – PBA50 Sun Bowl in The Villages presented by Radical, Spanish Springs Lanes, The Villages, Fla.  
**May 1-4** – PBA50 Mooresville Open presented by Columbia 300, George Pappas Victory Lanes, Mooresville, N.C.  
**May 7-10** – PBA50 Johnny Petraglia BVL Open presented by Brunswick, Farmingdale Lanes, Farmingdale, N.Y.  
**May 29-June 3** – Suncoast PBA Senior U.S. Open presented by 900 Global, Suncoast Bowling Center, Las Vegas (major)  
**June 5-8** – PBA50 Fountain Valley Open presented by Track, Fountain Bowl, Fountain Valley, Calif.  
**June 12-15** – PBA Northern California Classic presented by MOTIV, Harvest Park Bowl, Brentwood, Calif.  
**June 19-25** – USBC Senior Masters, Sam's Town Bowling Center, Las Vegas (major).  
**July 17-23** – PBA50 Treasure Island Resort & Casino PBA World Championship presented by Storm, Island Xtreme Bowl, Welch, Minn. (major).  
**July 25-28** – PBA50 South Shore Open presented by DV8, Olympia Lanes, Hammond, Ind.  
**July 31-Aug. 3** – PBA50 Dave Small's Championship Lanes Classic presented by Roto Grip, Dave Small's Championship Lanes, Anderson, Ind.  
**Aug. 6-9** -- PBA50 Pro Bowl West Championship presented by Ebonite, Pro Bowl West, Fort Wayne, Ind.  
**Aug. 11-13** – PBA60 Dick Weber National Championship presented by Hammer, Pro Bowl West, Fort Wayne, Ind.

**Vote! Whether it be in the National Election, Local Election or State Election. If you are not part of the process you can't affect change.**

**"By saying nothing you are saying something and by doing nothing you are doing something."**

## Outlets for Story & Article Publication

The *InfoLink* encourages and will accept stories of 200-500 words, relating to bowling. Articles should be focused on individual accomplishments, special events, community involvement, prose, etc. Because we are focusing on special articles by our writers, reporting of scores or association related events will not be accepted. Send your stories to: CBW Website, c/o Kathy Watson at [kwatson@royalancestry.com](mailto:kwatson@royalancestry.com) or to the InfoLink, c/o Mary Lynly, [lynlymary@surewest.net](mailto:lynlymary@surewest.net).

Also, included for your convenience, other California bowling publications who will accept stories and articles for publication:

- **BOWLING WORLD NEWSPAPER** ~ Donna Hazel, Editor ~ Website: [www.bowlingworld.com](http://www.bowlingworld.com)  
PO Box 111178, Campbell, CA 95011 ~ E-mail: [readit@bowlingworld.com](mailto:readit@bowlingworld.com)  
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**California Bowling Writers**

575 Westgate Street, Pasadena, CA 91103

Membership Application

Open to Men, Women & Youth

Membership dues are \$20.00 (\$21 per Paypal) for August 1 through July 31

Membership Pins are \$3.00 each

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ (month/day ONLY)

Note: contact information is available to all members. Would you like to be excluded? **Yes No**

Would you like to have the InfoLink Newsletter emailed to you ? (circle one) **Yes No**

Do you write for any publications? Please list here (use additional paper if needed):

\_\_\_\_\_