



California Bowling Writers

InfoLink

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Winter 2016

President's Perspective

Bette Addington



Happy Holidays 2016 Everyone! I Hope this newsletter finds you in health and happiness. A lot of things have transpired over the last couple of months for CBW. Due to health issues, President Joan Romeo had to resign. She has since had hip surgery and is recuperating at home and, as of last check, is doing well! As Vice President, it is my responsibility to take over and cover the rest of her term and I am now in the process of trying to get things back on track. In order to do so, our board needs to meet and we have an upcoming board meeting scheduled for the first weekend in January. Plans are to take care of unfinished business and make future plans.

For now, our 2016 13th annual Phone Card Drive for the Troops is underway and donations are coming in. **Our deadline is December 31.** It's not too late for you to participate so please remember to honor, remember and support our troops.

Hopefully, winter leagues in your area are hanging in there and not dwindling away. I am seeing the non-corporate owned centers struggling to retain bowlers for with less bowlers it means less money which translates to less upkeep. Lanes are taking the toll of not getting repaired with new parts and are getting hand-me-down parts to get them by. League bowlers get their balls damaged or take twice as long to complete their league bowling and this is the kind of thing that translates into bowlers leaving our sport. It's a vicious cycle that needs to be addressed.

On the positive side, it is great to see the surge of tournament clubs and their excitement to put on both scratch and handicap events on the weekends to give bowlers an incentive to stay in leagues and practice and bowl regularly so they are prepared for these tournaments. Thank goodness all this activity takes place during these tough times!

Hope your holidays turn out with no stress and a time you can appreciate the family and friends in your life.

Phone Cards for the Troops Kicks Off

The California Bowling Writers are once again inviting bowlers to take part in helping to raise funds to purchase phone cards for the troops. We have raised in excess of \$73,000 since 2004 to purchase phone cards for all branches of the military stationed in war zones. Providing a way for troops to connect with loved ones has been the privilege of CBW since its inception. Cards from troops or family reinforce the fact that this little card can bring great amounts of joy to those who defend our freedom. We are the luckiest nation in the world and our troops protect our right to live our lives knowing we are free. Sincere thanks to all who have donated in the past to honor or in memory of someone. Please include us in your giving.

Send donations to: CBW, Tina Martin, Treasurer, 57 Shields Lane, Novato, CA 94947-3877. **Deadline is December 31.** A form is provided on page 5.



In This Issue

President's Message, Obit, Nat. Hall of Fame, Phone Cards, Calendar, CBW Board, Membership Form

CBW
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National Bowling Stadium

Bob Thomas, General Manager
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A sponsor of our CBW writing contest

A publication of the California Bowling Writers
Mary Lynly and Nancy Chapman, Editors

From the Editor

Mary Lynly

With many changes taking place around us and within us it is time to take inventory of who we are. In case you need a reminder...

The California Bowling Writers was formed in 1998; membership is open to all California bowling journalists, promoters and supporters of the sport of bowling. The purpose of the organization is to encourage and educate both members and non-members in communication through print, promotion and use of electronic media. At the same time, CBW will recognize and reward those who create media awareness by providing outstanding journalistic excellence.

I have been writing (not always good) since I was in high school and had a sports column called *Short Shorts*. Over the years I realized I needed to change many things in order to be a better writer, among them appreciate the value of an "Editor." Someone to look over my work and make suggestions. It is amazing to me how many writers never do that. Probably due to time constraints, etc. but if you are working on a special piece, interview, etc., by all means have a qualified person critique your article.

How do you communicate?

Is your only line of communication Email, Tweeting, Facebook? How often do you get any information from a website? Easy to navigate? Find what you want right away? Ever think of picking up the phone? Actually talking to someone?

Part of the acerbic dialogue that goes on today is because no one has to actually look at someone eyeball to eyeball or they probably would think twice about how they say things. Even though Social Media is supposed to be the big thing these days the profound effect it is having on people having the ability to speak in public or directly to people is astounding.

Being able to speak directly to someone in an open setting has tremendous value. Try it. Meet for breakfast or lunch, plan a get-together to discuss plans or problems. Much better than trying to do it electronically!

U.S. OPEN CHAMP FRANCOIS LAVOIE RE-WITES PBA RECORD BOOK

By PBA Spare Shots



Therese and Frank Weiler surround Francois Lavoie

Quebec City native **Francois Lavoie** forced a re-write of the PBA record book with his victory in the U.S. Open Wednesday night at South Point Bowling Plaza in Las Vegas.

The 23-year-old, 120-pound French Canadian, who is living in Wichita, Kan., where he previously earned all-American honors as a member of the Wichita State University bowling team, became the first player to bowl a perfect game in the U.S. Open stepladder finals, the first Canadian to win the 74th edition of an event that began as the BPAA All Star in 1942, and only the second international player (joining 2001 winner **Mika Koivuniemi** of Finland) to win a U.S. Open title. Lavoie became the second Canadian in the PBA's 57-year history to win a PBA Tour title.

IBMHF MEMBERSHIP APPEAL



IBMA is reaching out to make you aware of a new Sustaining Membership program at the **International Bowling Museum and Hall of Fame**. We would welcome your support by becoming a member and sharing

any information on the program through your media outlets, channels and contacts.

Memberships start as low as \$29/year and include a host of great benefits including a collector's bowling pin featuring all of this year's PBA and USBC Hall of Fame award winners. The Sustaining Membership program has been completely revamped from previous years making it more rewarding and affordable to become a member. Your contribution may also be tax deductible. Please consult with your tax professional regarding year-end deduction.

Program details and enrollment form can be found on the membership form.. We have also created several web banners which you can share on your web, social media sites and print media.

If you require additional information or comment, please feel free to contact me or Jessica Bell at the museum directly, jessica@bowlingmuseum.com.

The IBM/HF works diligently to collect, preserve and research bowling's history, along with providing a suitable home to showcase its history and valued treasures. One of our most challenging initiatives at the moment is converting a vast archive for bowling films to digital format. Much of the historic material we have exists in out-of-date format and is decomposing in storage canisters. There is more than half-million feet of film that needs to be digitized and if we don't act soon, the collection will disintegrate and be gone. This, of course, comes at a tremendous cost estimated at over \$200k.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we thank you for your help and consideration. If you're also interested in becoming a member, you can donate on-line at www.bowlingmuseum.com or simply complete and return the membership form attached. Your commitment to the IBMHF helps make a difference in all that we do to enrich the sport of bowling.



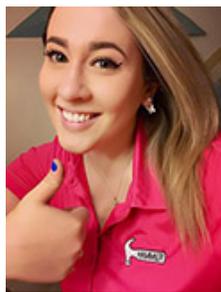
BVL Launches Two Campaigns for Youth Bowlers

BVL is encouraging youth bowlers and leagues nationwide to recognize the service and sacrifice of America's veterans and active duty troops by participating in two special campaigns this November: One to honor "Heroes in Our Midst" (Veterans in the community/family) and the other a high school writing contest recognizing the service of one special veteran.

For more information on these programs visit www.BowlforVeterans.org

BVL is a national 501 (c) (3) charity which is consistently acknowledged for efficient and effective programming delivered with extremely low overhead. BVL has been recognized as one of "America's Best Charities," earned a "Top Rated" Nonprofit distinction, and accepted into the Combined Federal Campaign (#93325). For more information, visit www.BowlforVeterans.org.

Liz Kuhlkin Breaks USBC Women's High Series Record



Liz Kuhlkin

Using a Hammer Scandal Pearl ball, **Liz Kuhlkin** even surprised herself when she went to bowl her Reis Group Kim Brown Memorial league on Monday night, October 17, at Towne Bowling Academy in Schenectady, New York. Little did she know she was going to make history!

This 2015 PWBA Topeka Open Champion was excited to use her new ball and she came out of the box with a 300 game, followed by *another* 300 and closing out with a 290 leaving a stone 8 pin. Truly incredible bowling.

Chris Beard to Nevada Hall



Chris Beard

A long time California bowling leader, Chris Beard has been inducted into the Nevada State USBC Hall of Fame for Meritorious Service. Chris began as a Director of the Vallejo WBA and served all offices with the exception of Secretary.

She was also a junior bowling coach. In 2000, Chris was inducted into the Vallejo WBA Hall of Fame for Meritorious Service. She was elected to the California State WBA in 2000 and served as Director for two years before moving to Nevada. As a CWBA director, she served on the State Youth Board and was Publicity Chair. In Nevada Chris continued her bowling career and joined the Capital City WBA. She became a director in 2004 and served as President from 2005 - 2007. After the merger into the Carson Country USBC, Chris served as President from 2007 - 2015. Though she has stepped aside as an officer, Chris still serves on the BVL Committee.

Chris was elected to the Nevada State WBA in 2006 as a director and served that association up to its merger with the Nevada BA. She was then elected to the Nevada State USBC serving first as a director and then Sergeant-At-Arms. In June 2016, Chris was elected to the position of President of the Nevada State USBC Association.

Chris belongs to the International Bowling Media Association (IBMA) and has served as a Director and Vice President as well as with the Silver State Bowling Writers, serving as officer and director.

2017 PWBA Tour **Schedule for CA**

April 27-29: Double Decker Lanes,
Rohnert Park, CA

May 4-6: Steve Cook's Fireside Lanes,
Sacramento, CA

May 11-13: Fountain Bowl, Fountain Valley, CA

Fred Eisenhammer CBW's 2016 Marijane Viat Writing Contest Winner!

by Bette Addington



California Bowling Writers President Bette Addington presented Fred Eisenhammer the 2016 *Marijane Viat Writing Award* at Winnetka Bowl on December 6.

Fred, who hails from Agoura Hills, CA, was completely taken aback at the surprise presentation of the beautiful award. Eisenhammer was not notified prior that he was this year's recipient and was totally shocked when it was presented. He received this award for his article "Bowling World Mourns Passing of Kingpin Bill Mossontte!" Fred shared the following about receiving this award and his bowling writing:

I'm really humbled by this honor. I feel this award should be shared with all the wonderful bowling personalities that I've met through the years who have inspired me with their feats. Men and women, both young and old, display incredible athleticism on the bowling lanes and most aren't so-called "athletes." But they come to the lanes for a variety of reasons and they continue to distinguish themselves in this sport we love because they have so much passion for the game. It's truly awesome to see so much passion from people from all walks of life. They come to the lanes to bowl and share this passion and they create friendships that often last forever.

Bowlers have made my job the easiest one in the world by being so generous with their time and answering my questions.

I enjoy writing about not just the top bowlers but the unsung league bowlers, both men and women, who come to the lanes to show they still "have it" at age 50, 55, 60, 65, 70, 75, 80 and much older. Bowlers never cease to amaze me. I just wish I could bowl better.

Inspired by the honor, I bowled a 214 – my season high – in my first game of league play. Then I crashed back to normalcy with more-my-speed scores of 135 and 139. The National Bowling Stadium sponsored this event.

California Bowling Writers 2015-2016 - Officers & Directors

Bette Addington – President, baddington@addington.net; Donna Dillard – Secretary, dedillard@charter.net

Tina Martin - Treasurer, tijmart@aol.com

Frank Weiler – Dir., FJW300@aol.com; Jill Williamson - Dir., jilly1@msn.com

Irene Wilson – Dir., irene.wilson@students.dominican.edu; Wendy Boswell – wendyboswell88@gmail.com

LM: Mary Lynly, lynlymary@surewest.net; Jackie Wyckoff, wacknwolin@sbcglobal.net

Eloise Cottrell, bowlingscribe@yahoo.com

Betty Jean Runion 1923 – 2016

by Pat Helwig



For more than a decade Betty Runion was the high spirited anchor on her Runion family ladies team bowling with her three daughters, Karen, Sherry, and Beverly. They embraced the competition offered by the ladies scratch league at Sunset Bowl in San Diego, CA. I was proud and loved being their adopted fifth team member.

Whether bowling on the lanes, presiding as President, or working in her rose garden, Betty was dedicated to detail and success always giving it her best effort. It has been a memorable ride with Betty through the years, a ride I will always cherish.

In a tribute to Betty her girls prepared the following obituary.

Betty Jean Runion, born August 26, 1923 in Wichita, Kansas, died peacefully in her sleep on September 27, 2016, in Palm Desert, CA, where she was a resident since 2003.

Our mother was a woman of many interests and talents. For many years she was a dominant force in the San Diego bowling world. She was the first female bowler to roll a 700 series in the city tournament. She also was a member of a state team winning the California State Championships. Mom presided over the San Diego and California State 600 Clubs as their president. Being a natural leader, she also served as President of the San Diego Women's Club.

She is survived by her 3 daughters, Karen, Sherry and Beverly and their spouses, Greg Howser, Dan Melton and Rick Dowden. There are 5 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren, and a boatload of other family and friends who will all miss her.

Graveside service was held at Greenwood Cemetery, San Diego, CA on October 2, 2016 where she was laid to rest beside her husband of 60 years, Dallas E. Runion.

Support Our Troops



**13th Annual 2016
Phone Card Drive**

www.calbowlingwriters.org



Is there someone in the service currently deployed to areas of conflict that you would like to receive one of the phone cards? Each year, family members tell us how much it means to all of them for their loved ones to be able to make that phone call and touch base—especially with their kids.

Send their address information to lynlymary@surewest.net and the card will be sent **directly** to them. Pass the word. Phone cards go to all branches of the service and are sent to arrive for Valentine's Day 2017. Our cumulative total is over \$73,000 and we have sent approximately 3,750 –125 to 300 minute cards to our military.

Use this flyer to promote – A 50/50 in your league or just solicit donations. Send the info to your email buddies. Send money to: CBW Treasurer Tina Martin, 57 Shields Lane, Novato, CA 94947-3877. Make checks payable to CBW. Deadline for donations is December 31, 2016. Join in helping us make a difference.

CBW Phone Card Drive - 2016
(Send this part with your check)

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Donation in memory of: _____

I wish to have a phone card sent directly to my friend, family, loved one in the Military.

Branch: _____

Unit: _____

Rank: _____

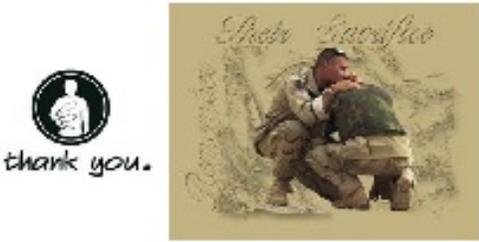
Name: _____

Receipt for Donation

\$ _____

Amount	Check # or cash	Date

Make check payable to "CBW". Mail to: Tina Martin –CBW Treasurer, 57 Shields Lane, Novato, CA 94947 –3877



CBW Webmaster Goes to Israel

by Kathy Watson



I call a pilgrimage a journey to a sacred place that is both spiritual and physical. I call Holy Land a land where God has touched it, where YHWH has touched it, where Allah has touched it. For me as a Christian and a Templar, it is

where Jesus walked on this earth. I went on this pilgrimage to experience the land where Jesus walked and did His earthly ministry. Knights Templar (SMOTJ) is an Ecumenical Christian and Chivalric charitable Order.

This was a whirl wind adventure as we visited Crusader and Templar sites of a thousand years ago plus the schools and orphanages where Templar funds and support go today, in addition to the many sacred sites in the story of Christianity – all within two weeks.

As I reflect, the many shrines and churches blend together. Many were very ornate and beautiful. Some were simple and understated. We rode in a nice Mercedes Benz bus whose air conditioning and cooled bottles of water were greatly appreciated as we did quite a bit of hiking up and down what seemed like mountains.

A highlight of the trip for us was the renewal of our wedding vows at the Church in Cana where Jesus turned water into wine.

Bowling Writers Honor Pezzano



At the PBA World Championships on December 10, 2016 held at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada, bowling journalist Chuck Pezzano, received, perhaps, his final tribute. The California Bowling Writers had a permanent plaque made for the PBA Media Room honoring Pezzano. CBW Life Member Jackie Wyckoff made the presentation.

Born in Paterson, N.J., in 1929, Pezzano lived his entire life in New Jersey.

Bowling Calendar

December - February

December 1-11: PBA World Series of Bowling VIII, NBS, Reno

December 3: PBA World Series of Bowling Pro-Am, 6pm, NBS, Reno

December 18: Scratch 6-Gamer, 12 noon, Yosemite Lanes, Modesto

December 27-30: 2016 JBT (Jr. Bowlers Tour) Tourn., South Point, Las Vegas

December 31: Deadline for CBW Phone Card Drive 2016 donations

December 31: CUSBC State Adult Champ. Advance entries due/Marin Co. (calusbc.com)

January 7-8: CBW Board Meeting, Bakersfield

January 14-15: 4th Tony Reyes Memorial Adult-Youth Tourn., 4th St. Bowl, San Jose

January 15: Deadline for CUSBC annual Awards/Star of Tomorrow (calusbc.com)

January 15-20: Military Bowling Championships, Gold Coast & The Orleans, Vegas

January 16-18: 5th Laughlin Blast Sr. No-Tap Hdcp. Dbls. Tourn., Riverside Lanes

January 20-22: PBA West Regional, Las Vegas

January 27-29: IGBO Women's Invitational Tourn., Kearny Mesa Bowl, San Diego (witofsouthernca.com)

January 27-29: PBW West Regional, Reno

January 31: CUSBC State Youth Champ. Advance entries due/Marin Co. (calusbc.com)

February 18: Deadline for Pepsi Youth District Finals--paperwork & fees (calusbc.com)

February 18 – July 9: USBC Open Championships, South Point, Las Vegas

February 19-26: USBC Masters, Las Vegas

After graduating from Rutgers University, he started his writing career with the Paterson Morning Call in 1952 and continued writing for The Record in Bergen County until his death, more than 60 years later. Over the years, he contributed to more than 100 publications round the world and he authored or co-authored more than a dozen books about bowling. Pezzano died in January of 2015.

He was the first Meritorious Service inductee in the inaugural PBA Hall of Fame class in 1975, and later inducted into the United States Bowling Congress and Bowling Writers Association of America Halls of Fame, among his 12 halls of fames.

One of bowling's icons.

Tina Martin – Making a Difference

Tina Martin has been involved with Country Club Bowl in San Rafael since 1999, when Nave Lanes in Novato closed, leaving Marin County with just one place to bowl.

Martin was asked to join the staff at Country Club as League Coordinator, a job she still holds. She has bowled in Marin County since 1965 so she knows what she's talking about.

"We were close to losing bowling in Marin when Charlie Kinstler purchased the property in November, 2013, and took over," said Martin. "But now we can say 'bowling is alive and well in Marin,' with great things happening at the center, new things for both open play and league bowlers.

Kinstler, a Southern Californian, the state's Bowling Proprietor of the Year in 2012, owns and operates six establishments -- Cal Bowl in Lakewood, Forest Lanes in Lake Forest, Keystone Lanes in Norwalk, Saddleback Lanes in Mission Viejo and Del Rio Lanes in his hometown of Downey and now Country Club.

He said Country Club offers "a great demographic, all other bowling establishments nearby are closed. We think this place was pretty much ignored the past 30 years but we're out to change that."

Kinstler, whose company is named Strike 12, has installed state-of-the-art automatic scoring, "sleek and modern with different games and variations ... a lot of features with social media attachments."

Kinstler, married with two children, thinks the changes "have raised us to a 2016 level . . . the old system was installed in 1984. Calling differences "like night and day," Kinstler has increased screen sizes from 24 to 50 inches, has automated bumpers on all 40 lanes so that the scoring system is tied with the bumpers." The first major changes have involved the scoring system although plans call for bar and food concessions to be updated. "We want to update everything."

League play has been declining -- something Martin, Kinstler and general manager Stacy Aldred are working on -- but there has been an increase youth, prep and college-age bowlers.

"We want people back who bowled as kids but who got away from the sport for one reason or another," said Kinstler. "We want to make it a cool place to come to, offer the most modern equipment. Kinstler is no stranger to taking an underperforming bowling center and turning it into a place people want to play. Saddleback in Mission Viejo is just one example where new equipment and a new overall look has been a big difference, for Kinstler and for bowlers.

"Bowling is back in Marin County and we want people to come and experience it."

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 or to the InfoLink, c/o Mary Lynly, 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
P.O. Box 111178, Campbell CA 95011-1178 ~ E-mail: readit@bowlingworld.com
Office: 408-821-7332 ~ Fax: 408-366-0847 or 925-215-2242
- **CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS** ~ Carol Mancini, Editor ~ Website: www.californiabowlingnews.com
7502 E. Florence, Downey, CA 90240 ~ E-mail: news@californiabowlingnews.com
Office: 562-807-3600 ~ Fax: 562-807-2288





California Bowling Writers
575 Westgate Street
Pasadena, CA 91103

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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 _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Fax Number _____ E-Mail _____

Association _____ W.B.A. or B.A. or USBC

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):
