



Free Strikes and Spares



Points of Interest:

Lifetime Achievement	2
Most Improved Tournament	2
BVL	4
Hall of Fame	4
Association Manager	5
President's Pen	5
All City Teams	6

Minneapolis Women's 75th Annual City Tournament

By Diana Cacas

The Women's City tournament wrapped up on November 8th after three weekends at AMF Earle Brown Bowl. Even though our participation was down, we still had a good tournament. New this year; we added optional scratch singles and doubles events. We also tried something different, the last weekend of the tournament, we set up the back row of pins, and had the 1st bowler try to take out the 7 pin, the 2nd bowler the 8 pin, the 3rd bowler tried the 9 pin and the 4th bowler the 10 pin, if they succeeded in that order, the 5th team bowler had to try to get a strike. We did have one team that was able to do it. All the teams seemed to enjoy this and we will implement it for all team's shifts next year.

The tournament champions for 2009 are:

Team Division I

Blue Tow - 3,269,

Team Division II Outside In - 2,816,

Scratch Team there was a tie.

Garden Center III & Garden Center IV had team scores of 3,016.

Doubles Div I Ann Bryand & Barbara McNeely - 1,412,

Division II Yvonne Boylen & Dorothy Kilian - 1,178,

Scratch Doubles Terri Anderson & Janell Niles - 1,307.

Singles Division I Tanya Pearson, 741,

Singles Division II – Jessica Peterson, 700,

Scratch Singles Deb Lantto, 690.

All Events Division I Tanya Pearson, 2,091, **All Events Division II** – Jessica Peterson, 1,762 and **All Events Scratch** Deb Lantto, 1,907.

Even though our tournament was down a bit, most everyone had a great time. I would like to remind everyone that this is your tournament. Without you and your teams, we wouldn't have a tournament! We really need to build this tournament back up again so that the women still have a tournament that they can call their own. If you have anything that you believe would enhance this tournament, please give us a call at the office. Your comments to us are very important.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank the following people: Tim Duffy and his staff at AMF Earle Brown for hosting our tournament, the volunteers from the Minneapolis USBC Association for all your hard work, Jay Joyner for the great team pictures, the junior bowlers from AMF Earle Brown for keeping score, Harry Stewart for his guidance and help on the Champions booklet, and finally, you the bowlers, who keep our tournament going year after year. You're the reason we do what we do. Have a great year bowling and I will see you next year at New Hope Bowl.



Strikes & Spares

The Minneapolis USBC Association's newsletter Strikes & Spares is available three times per winter bowling season, (September, December and April), Free to all bowlers in the Minneapolis area, served by the Minneapolis USBC and their Directors. This newsletter is published by the Minneapolis USBC Association for the use and enjoyment of the Minneapolis area bowlers.

Send news to : Minneapolis USBC 9673 —63rd Ave. N, Maple Grove, MN 55369 • All Copy Rights Reserved.

Carol Plumley Receives Lifetime Achievement Award



At the Annual Minneapolis Hall of Fame inductions in August, Carol Plumley was bestowed the honor of receiving the Gert Finke Lifetime Achievement Award. Carol was the last president for the Women's Bowling Association here in Minneapolis. She served and chaired many committee's and made headlines when she said "I do" to the merger of ABC, WIBC and the YABA Associations. This award is one that is not given every year. The person that receives this award has accomplished many things and has now moved into another direction. This is not to say that Carol is no longer associated with bowling. It's more to the point that she has given her all and is now stepping back a bit. She and her husband Leo enjoy going south for the winter. Congratulations go out to this fine lady! Her name will appear on the perpetual plaque honoring Gert Finke, Carol Plumley and many others that will follow in their footsteps someday!●

Increasing Member Involvement

By Herb Marth

Between October 2008 and November 2009 membership in the Minneapolis, Minnesota Association of the United States Bowling Congress

(USBC) has declined over 25%. Also, over the past few years there has been a growing decline in the number of members at the local USBC level who are willing to play an active role in the association operations. The reasons for the decline may be the economy and how we communicate with one another. Hopefully, we may see the economic environment improve in 2010. Communication on the other hand is essential among all levels of the USBC. That means information must flow both up and down the USBC and it must be done in such a way that the feeling of "us" against "them" does not result from how we interact with one another at these various levels. Our association has established Bowling Center, Lane Representatives. These individuals work with and for the centers in the day-to-day USBC support. They can provide services to the centers such as award presentations and rules clarification. They also assist the information flow by providing tournament information to include locations, dates and entry forms. Is the representative role something you might be interested in being involved in?

As individuals, bowlers can help our association by improving retention of teammates and opponents. Our sport deserves more than just league membership being left up to the Centers and League Officials. Individuals can tell their friends of the FUN and friendships they enjoy in the sport of bowling. Practice with others is another way to promote the sport and membership in the USBC.

Among the benefits of these efforts could be increased attendance at association meetings, improved member retention and, possibly, development of future association leaders and league officers. Consider increasing membership through member involvement. **Don't wait-do it today, talk to your center representative or call the Minneapolis**

USBC office at 763-971-0800 or email minneapolisbowling.com.

Most Improved Tournament

Tournament Chair Carol Olson

This year was the 14th year of having the Most Improved Tournament. 108 bowlers converged onto AMF Earle Brown Bowl. Bowlers from almost every Center in our Association were out to prove that they were the Most Improved Bowler of Minneapolis! Coming out on top for the ladies were; Penny Kane with a nice 777 – Allison Teachout was second with a 750, 3rd went to Amanda Georgopoulos, 749, Melissa Baker was 4th with 745 and 5th was Brenda Steurer 731. The guys tried to keep up with these scores; Keith Chaika lead with a 744, 2nd was Brooks Sherman – 727, 3rd Michael Grigsby – 719, 4th Ray Thompson – 707, and 5th was Anthony Wargo – 705. For the complete standings go to our web site at www.minneapolisbowling.com.

What a wonderful Most Improved Tournament and Team Challenge we had this year. The bowlers were so energetic; it reminded me of bowling in my first tournament. The excitement of what bowling should be like. Both of the winners this year for the Twin Cities Championship Challenge were from the Minneapolis Associa-



Shannon Johnson & Keith Chaika

tion and were first time tournament players. They are for the women Shannon Johnson with score of 764. (continued on page 5)

Senior Tournament 2009

By Tom Buntzen, Senior Tournament Chairman

The first thing I want to do is wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The 14th annual Senior Singles tournament concluded on November 1, 2009. We would like to thank Louisville Lanes for hosting this year's tournament. Although the entries were down for this year's tournament everyone had fun and scoring was great. Our Team Champion is the Kunz #1 team of Paul Belden, Chester King, Lee Pillatzki and James Kunz with a score of 2831.

Our doubles champions are Delores and Daryl Schmidt with a score of 1440.

Our ladies singles champion's are: 50 – 54 Champion is Lesa Murlowski with a score of 703, 55 – 64 Champion is Phyllis Reber with a score of 752, 65 and over Champion is Kathleen Becchetti with a score of 690.

Our men's single champion's are: 50 – 54 Champion is Pat Adkins with a score of 735, 55 – 64 Champion is Scott Longtin with a score of 785, 65 and over Champion is Daryl Schmidt with a score of 812.

Again I say congratulations to all of our champions. Sometime in April all of our champions will be receiving an invitation to our annual awards banquet to be held in May. I will be looking forward to seeing all of you at the banquet.

Our tournament for next year will be held at AMF Earl Brown Lanes. The tournament dates are October 16, 17 and 23, 24 of 2010.

Have a great holiday season and a great summer. Look for our next article in the first newsletter in September with info about next year's tournament.

Minneapolis Master's Tournament

By Tournament Director, Mike Taaffe

The 21st Annual Minneapolis Masters Tournament was held at Louisville Lanes on September 27th. Even though the turn out was small, the enthusiasm was huge! We had 54 of the areas top bowlers competing for the Masters Championship and a shot at the National Masters competition in February 2010! After the 8 game qualifying, Mike Skinner was on top with an average of over 209 on the National Masters Sport shot! Sixteen players went onto match play competition. After many more games and 3 hours of competition, John Kreyer Jr. came out on top with Ron Kish taking second spot.

Next years' competition will be held on September 26, 2010 at the Brunswick Zone in Blaine. This tournament is open to both male and female bowlers of the Metro area. It is on a first come basis with the cut of being 112 bowlers! It you think you have what it takes to be the best, come on out and give it a try! Call the Minneapolis USBC Office for more information at 763/971-0800!

Minneapolis Senior Master's Tournament

By Tournament Director, Mike Taaffe

The 5th Annual Minneapolis Senior Masters Tournament was held on October 11, 2010 at AMF Southtown Lanes. This tournament is for our Senior bowlers over the age of 50. 31 of the areas best senior bowlers converged to crown a new Senior Masters Champion. It took 8 games of qualifying on the National Senior Masters Sport Shot for Al Loth, proprietor of the Midway Pro Bowl, to claim the lead before match play started. Al started the match play by losing his first match. This didn't phase him a bit. Al battled back from the losers bracket and beat Mike Wirz twice in

the final matches to become this year's Minneapolis Senior Masters Champion! This was Al's second time winning this tournament.

Next years' tournament will be held at the Superbowl on October 10, 2010. This is a very challenging tournament with the winner going to the Senior Masters tournament to represent the Minneapolis USBC Association. Congratulations to Al and all of the bowlers that participated in this tournament! We hope to see all of you at next years' tournament at the Superbowl and bring a friend or two!

Mixed Couples Team Tournament

Calling all adult men and adult women bowlers, any age and any average, here is a tournament for you. You only need two couples to bowl, (two men and two women); and a desire to have fun. You only need to bowl three games

The 20th Annual Minneapolis Mixed Couples Team Tournament will be held at AMF Maple Lanes located in friendly Fridley. It will be held weekends beginning February 27, 2010 through March 14, 2010. There will be only one shift available on Saturday's, and that will be 1:00pm. There are two shifts available on Sunday's, 11:00am and 1:30pm. The cost is \$100.00 per team. We have optional events available too, there is a doubles event for couples (you use your team scores), and there are scratch events for team and doubles too. This is a handicap tournament, so everyone has a chance to be a champion.

Reservations are now open. You can pick up an entry at any of the Minneapolis USBC Bowling Centers or by going to our web site, www.minneapolisbowling.com. Don't wait until it's too late! Call our office at 763/971-0800 for your reservations. Come bowl with us, you'll be glad you did!

BVL and Our Veterans

BVL (Bowlers for Veterans Link) is only just a short couple of months away but we are already gearing up for that special time of the year! Many of our volunteers have already started their quests to make this the best year ever for our returning soldiers and veterans! For those of you that might be new to this Association, we have a charity drive each and every year to raise funds for our Veterans Hospitals across Minnesota and the entire country!

Last year, the Minneapolis USBC Association raised almost \$14,000 and we were number 1 in the Nation! You might say that \$14,000 is a lot of money and in some cases it is however; not when it comes to our returning soldiers, it is not. There are seven different hospitals and homes that depend on us, civilians, to help out where we can. This money raised is not for junk or food or things like that. It is for exercise equipment, TV's (boy now that's a luxury and they are not bought by the Federal Government). All of these things that you and I take for granted are tools for these Veterans and Returning Soldiers use to help them get back on their feet to once again be proud of the Country they live in. Whether you believe in what this country is doing or not, we cannot and will not forget the sacrifices that these young men and women do for the rights of EVERY American person. These young folks give until it hurts and then give some more. They do it day after day, after day and without ever saying "I won't help this Country"! I heard something a while back that really made me think. It went something like this, "I am a soldier, I was a soldier, I will always be a soldier"! That's quite a statement but one I truly believe in.

Most of our bowlers know our Past President Butch Kesler and his sidekick Ken Koch. Please, when you see these guys or anyone for that matter that talks to you about BVL, give them your undivided attention and listen to what they have to say. When it's all said and done, they will be asking for donations to help these returning soldiers, our Veterans, our young Hero's in our midst! Please give what you can. Every penny that is collected goes to these Hospitals. Thank you in advance from the hearts of our Veterans, Returning Soldiers and the many volunteers that help this worthy cause, for all your help. God Bless us and all of our Soldiers!

St. Cloud Hospital Trip

By Marie Putnam

Do you like to play Bingo? Do you like to spend time with our Veterans??

Each and every year for the last twenty years or so, the Minneapolis Bowling Association has made a trip to the Veterans Hospital in St. Cloud. We would like you to join us on Sunday January 24, 2010 for an afternoon trip to the St Cloud Veterans Hospital.

We do need donations of items for Bingo prizes such as, calendars, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shirts, cards, sweets etc.

We will meet at Earle Brown Bowl at 11:45 am and return to Earle Brown approximately 5:00 pm. This is really a fun trip and the Veterans at the hospital really enjoy the company. With many of our returning Soldiers and retired war Vets, this is something special. Please give us a call and help if you can!

Let's make this a fun afternoon for our vets who have given of themselves for our safety and freedom. Any questions call the Bowling Office @763-971-0800.

Looking for Hall of Fame Applications

By Doug Shellum, Chairperson

Each and every year we hear something about someone concerning the Hall of Fame induction and application process. If you know of someone that is deserving induction into the Minneapolis Hall of Fame, please contact either the Bowling Office or Doug Shellum @ 952-898-9548! There are many bowlers amongst us that are deserving the Hall of Fame. We just need to know who these bowlers are. The forms are not complicated, however you will have to talk with the bowler so that you do not miss any information that may or may not hold up the nomination. This all takes a little time on your part and the applications must be postmarked no later than January 15, 2010. Help us find those deserving individuals!

Annual Minneapolis City Tournament Starts next Month!

The 97th Annual Minneapolis City Open Tournament starts on January 9th and runs through February 7th at AMF Southtown Lanes! This is the largest tournament that our Association holds and is open to every adult in our Association! Whether you are a good bowler or just an average one night a week bowler, this tournament is for you. There are two divisions that should suit everyone. The scratch is 220 with 95 % handicap. Talk to your friends and bowling buddies! This is your tournament! Only you can make this tournament a success or failure. Bring your balls and friends to the biggest tournament of our Association! We know you'll have fun and maybe even win a few

From the Desk of Harry Stewart

Association Manager

Hi everyone! With Winter coming in the real near future we hope that all of our league bowlers have settled in and are enjoying this 2009-10 bowling season! Many things have changed since last year and I believe that there are more changes on the horizon. By now everyone should be aware of the many changes that has occurred with the awards. I have asked National Headquarters not to make anymore changes for the next upcoming year. Between getting all the information, secretaries having to purchase updated programs and just the fact that many bowlers are not getting what they thought they might get, has been a real experience this year.

On a bright note we have secured enough award emblems for the year so we think that everyone will get a little bit of everything. Many of our secretaries are getting the award applications into us with remarkable speed. We are processing some 4 to 5 hundred awards every week. Some are being mailed out while others are being delivered to the centers. If you are looking for awards that you did not receive, ask your counter folks at your centers.

They say it is never to late or too early to start advertising about upcoming events. This years' General Membership meeting will be on May 12, 2010 at Elsie's Bowling Center. There will be legislation for the membership to vote on. In the spring newsletter we will let everyone know what is going on.

Lastly, we would like to thank and wish all of the Minneapolis USBC membership a great and wonderful Holiday Season! You are the reason we dedicate ourselves to you and the sport of Bowling! Merry Christmas !

(continued from page 2)

She bowls at Skylanes in Minneapolis. Second Place was Melissa Baker from Tuttle's, also a new bowler. Third went to Allison Teachout, fourth is Susan Martin fifth was Amanda Georgopoulos Sixth place went to Becky Novoty & seventh place for the ladies was Cindy Siebenaler. The Challenge winners for the men were Keith Chaika with a high score of 769 He bowls at Blainbrook in Minneapolis. Second place for the men went to Brad Louque third was Dray Darrrell fourth went to Tony Wargo, fifth went Chad Mundahl sixth place went to Phillip Andert & seventh place went to Tony Aschman. Congratulations again to all the bowlers. This is an invitation only tournament we had 108 bowlers.

(continued from President's pen)

Tell your friends when you have used Perkspot. Especially, tell your non-member friends what they are missing!

Oh, and be sure to register for our 97th Annual Open Tournament beginning January 9 at Southtown Lanes! ●

Merry Christmas

The staff of the Minneapolis USBC Office would like to say thanks and Merry Christmas to all of our many bowlers! This time of the year is very special to all of us and has a special meaning. Our bowlers and families are the reason that we keep going day after day! You are a very important part of our daily lives! From Mary, Esther, Diana and Harry, we hope that you and your families have the greatest of Holidays and Merry Christmas to all!

President's Pen

Jay Joyner

President, Minneapolis USBC Association

Our membership fees do much more than most of us realize. It is enough that we maintain the integrity of the sport, through lane and equipment certification, we conduct tournaments, we create scholarships for youth, and we raise money for Veterans and Susan G. Komen breast cancer research.

However, in addition to all that, your membership in USBC brings you **buying power**. Two million members of USBC are part of a huge buying club, with advantages as close as your computer. You should go to Bowl.com, the web-site for the USBC. In the upper right area, click "memberships." Below that, click "USBC member rewards". Scroll down and click "Perkspot". You need to sign in by choosing a pass word. Then proceed to the buying area. You can search by a category or store, or for soon-to-expire discounts, or free shipping. Categories include Apparel, Books & Media, Computers & Electronics, Flowers and Gifts, Health & Wellness, Financial and Life Services, Automotive, Cell Phones, Diamonds and Jewelry, Food, Home, Garden and Pets, Toys Kids and Babies, Sports and Outdoors, Travel, Tickets and Beauty and Fragrance. The discounts vary, depending on the category and the store. We can buy on-line from the top names in retail, including Target, Best Buy, Costco, Dell, HP, Dick's Sporting Goods, National, Alamo, and Enterprise Car Rental. Hotels include Ramada, Baymont, Days Inn, Travel Lodge, and many, many more. You can save much more than your membership cost, by checking Perkspot for savings.

(continued in column to right)

All City Teams for 2008-09 are Selected

By Kris Geister, Chair

The Minneapolis USBC has selected their All City Teams for the 2008-09 season! The top ten bowlers for both male and female bowlers were selected based on standings in leagues as well as many tournaments!

Minneapolis USBC Women's All City Team for 2008 - 2009

Lisa Noor - Lisa had the high average in 2 of her bowling leagues. She had 2 - 700's in Tournaments, 3 - 700's in Sport Leagues, 4 - 700's in League Bowling. Lisa had the highest USBC Women's Championship Tournament finish for All Events and Singles from the Minneapolis Association. Plus highest finish at the USBC National Queens Tournament. She finished 3rd in Women's Minneapolis City Singles and 2nd at USBC Women's State All Events.

Deb Lantto - Deb had the Association High Average of 224, was high average in 2 of her bowling leagues, had 15 - 700's in League, 2 - 700's in Tournaments. Deb finished 1st at Minneapolis Women's City Tournament in Singles and All Events. She finished 9th at USBC Women's State All Events and 3rd at the local Queens Tournament.

Kim Wirth - Kim had 3 - 700's in Tournaments, 1 - 700 in a Sport League, 1 - 300 game in a Tournament. She finished 2nd at Minneapolis Women's City All Events, 3rd at USBC Women's State All Events and 2nd in USBC Women's State Singles.

Kris Geister - Kris had 2 - 700's in Tournaments and 2 - 700's in Sport Leagues. She finished 1st at USBC Women's State All Events and Singles. She finished first at the local Queens Qualifier and the local Minneapolis 600 Club tournament.

Julie Patnode - Julie's 801 Series was High Series in the Minneapolis Association, had 12 - 700's in League and 1 - 700 in a Tournament. She finished 3rd at the USBC Women's National Tournament in Singles, 2nd in Minneapolis Women's City Singles, and 6th for All Events.

Minneapolis USBC Honorable Mention Team, 2008 - 2009

Sharon Carlson - Sharon had 4 - 700 series in league. She finished 5th at the USBC Women's State All Events & 3rd in Singles.

Dawn King - Dawn was high average in 2 of her leagues. She had 2 - 700's in tournaments and 2 - 700's in league. Dawn finished 7th in All Events for Minneapolis Women's City Tournament and 10th in All Event's for Women's State tournament.

Tracey Magnuson - Tracey had one 700 in tournament play this year. She was the 2nd highest qualifier at the National Queens Tournament.

Katie Peterson - Katie has 2 - 700's in league last year. She finished 4th at USBC Women's State All Events.

Michelle Murman - Michelle was high average in her one league. She had 2 - 700's in tournaments and 2 - 700's in league play.

Minneapolis USBC 2008 - 2009 Female Bowler of the Year

Lisa Noor



Minneapolis Men's 08 09 All City Team

David Langer - David was high average in both of his leagues. He had 3 - 800's in league play, 1 - 300 at the USBC State Tournament and 1 - 300 in league play. In the Minneapolis City Open Tournament, he finished 2nd in All Events. At the USBC State Tournament, he finished 1st in AE's and 3rd in Singles. He had top 10 finishes in the Minnesota Masters and Minneapolis Masters.

Sam Lantto - Sam was high average in one of his leagues and 3rd high average in the other. Sam placed 1st in AE's and 5th in Singles at the Minneapolis City Open Tournament. He placed 5th in AE and 4th in Singles at the Minnesota State Open Tournament.

Robert Slayton - Robert was high average in his one league. He had 1 - 300 and 1 - 800 in league play. In the Minneapolis City Open Tournament he placed 4th in AE and 1st in Singles while finishing in the top 10 for Minnesota State All Events and the Minnesota Masters and Minneapolis Masters Tournaments.

Carl Fietek - Carl was high average in his two leagues. His 241 average was high in the Mpls. USBC Association. Carl also finished in the top 6 places in Minneapolis City Open Tournament Singles, Minnesota State Open Tournament Singles, and Minnesota Masters and Minneapolis Masters.

John Hommes - John was in the top 3 averages in his 2 leagues. He finished 2nd in All Events and 5th in Singles at the Minnesota State Open Tournament. Plus a 2nd place finish in the Minnesota Masters.

Minneapolis Men's 08 09 Honorable Teams

Daron Hansen - Daron was high average in his one league. He had 1 - 300 game in league and finished up 3rd in the Minnesota Masters Tournament. He had top 10 finishes in the Minnesota State USBC Tournament for Singles and Minneapolis USBC City Open Tournament All Events.

Clark Poelzer - Clark had the 5th high average in his league and had 1 - 300 in Tournament play. In the Minnesota USBC State Tournament he finished 3rd in All Events and 2nd in Singles. He was the highest qualified finisher in the Minneapolis Masters Qualifier.

Dave Oulman - Dave was 5th high average in his league and had 2 - 800's in league and 3 - 300's in league play. Dave was the highest Minneapolis for USBC National Tournament in All Events and 7th in All Events for the Minneapolis City Open Tournament.

John Foss - John was high average in one of his leagues and 2nd high average in the other. John shot an 858 series on Jan. 22, 2009 at River City Lanes, that was the highest series in the Minneapolis Association for 2008 - 2009. He also had 2- 300 games and 2- 800's all in league.

Roger Buetow - Roger had 2nd and 3rd high averages in his 2 leagues and bowled 1 - 300 game in league. He finished up 4th in the Minnesota State Open Tournament in All Events.

Minneapolis USBC 08 - 09 Bowler of the Year

David Langer



Merry Christmas!