

DECEMBER 3, 2020

CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

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2020 PBA Tour Player Awards Finalist Nominees Selected

Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year, Steve Nagy Sportsmanship and Tony Reyes PBA Community Service Honors to be Announced on Dec. 18

NEW YORK, NY – In what was one of the most challenging and unprecedented years in the history of the PBA, the Tour's brightest stars showed up to compete on and off the lanes. For 2020, these stars will be honored in three categories – Chris Schenkel PBA Player of the Year, Steve Nagy Sportsmanship Award, and the Tony Reyes Community Service Award.

Player of the Year honors will award the Tour's top player, the Nagy Sportsmanship Award will be given out to the player who has shown exemplary sportsmanship, and the Reyes Award will recognize a PBA member who has done extraordinary community service and/or charitable contributions in the calendar year.

There will be no Harry Golden Rookie of the Year for 2020 due to the complications created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Rookie players will be eligible for the award in 2021.

Player of the Year nominees consist of the top eight earners in the 2020 season. Candidates in alphabetical order: are, Australia's Jason Belmonte; Bill O'Neill of

Langhorne, Pa.; Kris Prather of Plainfield, Ill.; Sean Rash of Montgomery, Ill.; Mo.; Anthony Simonsen of Little Elm, Texas, Sweden's Jesper Svensson, EJ Tackett of Bluffton, Ind., and Kyle Troup of Taylorsville, N.C.

The PBA Player of the Year will be selected by a panel of veteran bowling writers and the entire PBA membership. The Nagy Sportsmanship Award winner is selected by PBA Tour players who have bowled in at least half of the current season's tournaments. The Reyes Award recipient is selected by a special panel of PBA leaders.

The annual awards will be announced by PBA CEO Colie Edison and PBA Commissioner Tom Clark during a special presentation awards show on Dec. 18. More details to be announced at a later date.

Last year's winners of the PBA's four prestigious awards were Jason Belmonte, Player of the Year; Mykel Holliman, Rookie of the Year; Martin Larsen, Nagy Sportsmanship Award, and Chuck Gardner, Tony Reyes Community Service Award.



Wes Malott Wins for The Portland Lumberjacks in the First-Ever PBA League All Star Clash

NEW YORK, NY — 2020 will go down as the year most of us will want to forget, but it's certainly been very memorable for Wes Malott and the Portland Lumberjacks!

Malott emerged as the first-ever PBA League All Star Clash Champion taking down Hall of Famer and longtime doubles partner, Dallas Strikers' Norm Duke in the final round of unpredictable and always exciting sudden-death style special event at Bowlero Centreville.

"In this type of format, it can really go anyway, said Malott. "To know that I have these guys (referring to his Lumberjack teammates) supporting me on the sidelines in this particular environment. I wouldn't

want it any other way. This win is for all of us!"

The Lumberjacks, who won back-to-back PBA League Elias Cup championships just two months ago in the same building have built a franchise winning team with strong chemistry and trust in the two-time PBA League MVP Malott.

"This is the franchise player," said Lumberjacks teammate Kyle Troup about Malott in the first round of competition. "We know he has ten back every shot and he's chopping down the competition one shot at a time."

The Lumberjacks support for Malott never faltered throughout the competition.

"Wes is sharp, he has

good ball reaction and a lot of confidence," added Troup about Malott's game in the tenth round with three players remaining.

Troup was right as Malott outlasted eleven PBA and PWBA Tour professionals to capture the \$50,000 first-place prize for his team.

It was not all smooth sailing for Malott, who had a lucky break in round five getting a late strike. All players struck in the round, forcing a roll-off between the remaining eight competitors. Malott easily struck in his next shot to continue his champion run.

Stealing the show for the first ten rounds of the competition was Danielle McEwan of the Miami Waves, one of two PWBA Tour

players who brought her A-game to compete against the best in the world.

McEwan, who competed in the PBA Summer Clash in June, used the experience to her advantage, plus the anchor position in the event's format to knock out Philadelphia Hitmen's Dom Barrett in round one, Silver Lake Atom Splitters' Chris Barnes in round three, Phoenix Fury's Liz Johnson in round four, L.A. X's Jason Belmonte in round six, NYC King-Pins' Pete Weber in round seven, and Las Vegas High Rollers' Francois Lavoie in round eight. Remaining players were eliminated in roll-off ties. The 12 All Star players were selected to represent their teams by

continued on page 4



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The Education of A Professional Bowler – Part 3

by Frank Weiler

Recently I received a bowling instructional pamphlet from a dear friend and member of the California Bowling Hall of Fame. The pamphlet was written by a PBA Champion from the past. While the pamphlet was written nearly fifty years ago there are pearls of wisdom worth sharing with today's bowlers. I will do that in a series of short articles.

This time I will share what our champion felt was the fourth of the "SIX KEYS" to successful bowling:

1. **Maximize Your Natural Ability**
2. **Physical Conditioning**
3. **Knowing Your Game**
4. **Knowledge of The Sport of Bowling**
5. **Confidence**
6. **Mental Attitude**

Were you born a bowler? When you were old enough to start bowling did you know enough about the sport of bowling to average 200? You may be the exception, but I have never met anyone who was born a bowler. I have never known anyone who was born with knowledge of the finer points of our sport. No one is born a bowler.

"TO BOWL YOUR BEST, YOU MUST KNOW THE SPORT OF BOWLING". Bowling knowledge is learned. It is absorbed. It comes from watching, listening and questioning. Bowling knowledge comes from practice, experimentation, trial and error. Then there is more watching, listening and questioning. Then back to the lanes for more practice, experimentation, trial and error. If you want to be a great bowler, you have to dedicate yourself to the sport. There are no shortcuts. The "Educated Bowler" is a bowler who has dedicated hours to learning everything about the sport of bowling.

LISTEN UP. Develop your skill of observation. Learn to pay attention to detail. Practice on focusing on details regarding the people in your life. Start paying attention to how friends walk, talk and move. Teach yourself to remember details about each friends' peculiarities. Then take notes about each friend so as to prepare for your observation skills regarding bowlers. When it comes to watching other bowlers, you can start by watching every PBA and PWBA tournament competed on television. You can also go to YouTube and watch bowling. Focus on those professionals whose style is similar to your own style.

When you watch a professional bowler focus on every aspect of their game, from set up to release. Break down their game piece by piece so when you break down your game piece by piece you can make adjustments to improve your own game. Take everything you learn by observation to the lanes and try it out. Whatever works should be added to your arsenal and what doesn't work can be discarded.

CONTINUE OBSERVING. THERE IS ALWAYS MORE TO LEARN.

LISTEN UP. Develop your listening skills. Teach yourself to pay attention to the details of every conversation. Learn to focus on what every person says. Focus so you remember what you heard. Then apply your improved listening skills to bowling.

Seek out the better bowlers in your area and engage them in conversation. Ask questions about bowling and listen closely to their answers. Learn from what you hear. Learn from other bowlers' ideas, from other bowlers' experiences. Learn from other bowlers' successes and from their failures. Absorb everything about bowling that you can. Absorb everything you can about bowling balls, ball layouts, shoes, lanes, lane patterns, lane conditions and adjustments.

Take everything you learned by listening to the lanes and try it out. Whatever works should be added to your arsenal and whatever doesn't work can be discarded.

CONTINUE LISTENING. THERE IS ALWAYS MORE TO LEARN.

LISTEN UP. Become a regular visitor to your local Pro Shop. Listen to what your Pro Shop operator has to say about everything bowling. Listen and learn everything possible about bowling balls, ball layouts, shoes, lanes, lane patterns, lane conditions and adjustments. Ask questions and listen some more.

Take everything you learn from your Pro Shop Operator to the lanes and try it out. Whatever works should be added to your arsenal and whatever doesn't work can be discarded.

CONTINUE VISITING YOUR LOCAL PRO SHOP AND LISTENING. THERE IS ALWAYS MORE TO LEARN.

LISTEN UP. While using the above learning methods are great for getting to know all about the sport of bowling there is one more thing you can do to learn more. That would be employing a bowling coach.

In the Southern California area, I recommend MARK BAKER for instruction. He is a former PBA star and champion who currently is a TEAM USA coach. We are very lucky in this area to have access to a coach from our National Team. I suggest all bowlers serious about improving their game to contact coach MARK BAKER and learn from the best. When you work with Mark you will get to know the sport of bowling.

Okay. Get off the couch and start learning about the sport of bowling. Keep reading the BOWLING NEWS and watch for my next installment of "The Education of A Professional Bowler". I promise you will receive great advice. Great advice for aspiring bowlers, professional or otherwise. Stay tuned because in my final installment you will learn the "TOP SECRET" to bowling your best.

"IF A SPORT IS WORTH PLAYING, IT'S WORTH PLAYING WELL".



What A Long Strange Trip Its Been

by Dave Williams

When Dean Lopez of the California Bowling News asked me to step up my production of articles from once a month to once a week, I agreed to the request but didn't really know if I could fulfill Dean's wishes. Now almost a year later, I must admit that I look forward to providing historical commentary on a weekly basis in this corona infected environment, which has greatly reduced the printing of league bowling scores in many publications.

It doesn't always come easy, as I often go into the weekend without a topic, but somehow by Saturday night I have the draft of yet another article ready for publication. As The Grateful Dead once alluded in their famous Skeletons From The Closet album... "What A Long Strange Trip Its Been!"

My writing career began following a three year stint on the Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) in which I barely broke even in a spotty attendance among the national tournaments on the west coast. Usually by the time the tour got to Denver, I was ready to come home, and this prompted Rich Mellott of the Santa Rosa Press Democrat to comment that I lacked the "killer instinct" necessary on the pro tour.

He was right! I also lacked the physical prowess to endure a 42 to 56 game tournament every week (can anyone say sciatica?), much preferring a couple of three game leagues on a weekly basis, with an occasional weekend tournament thrown in for good measure. From that same Grateful Dead album, a poignant line reads... "Set up, like a bowling pin, knocked down, it gets to wearin thin, they just won't let you be."

Before I went to work for AMF in 1978, the Press Democrat asked me to do a four part segment for their sports section entitled "A Pro's View." It was an interesting introduction into the world of writing that included a much appreciated \$1,000 paycheck! By late January of 1978, I had been placed by AMF in San Diego at the Pacific Bowliseum, a unique 32 lane bowling center on the second floor of a shopping center.

Once Cody Skelton, publisher of the San Diego Bowling Beat, had interviewed me and learned of my bowling column that appeared in the Press Democrat, he asked if I would continue a feature on a weekly basis for the San Diego Bowling Beat. The articles came easy for me, and caught the eye of a famous bowling writer, Jim Dressel of the Bowlers Journal Magazine.

Mr. Dressel, along with the California Bowling News and a few other west coast bowling publications, were instrumental in the cataloging of my 300 and 800 sprees that led to my three year experiment on the PBA tour. When Dressel spotted my column in the San Diego Bowling Beat, he contacted me for an update on my transition from professional bowler to bowling center promoter.

Jim continued to highlight my career through his "Inside Line" feature in the Bowlers Journal, as my league and occasional tournament appearances had not been completely curtailed. Then after about a year, Dressel contacted me regarding my success in forming new bowling leagues at AMF locations throughout the western states. He asked if I could summarize in an article for him the secrets to my success, and with the permission of AMF, I gladly accommodated Jim's wishes.

After that initial achievement my articles continued to appear in Bowlers Journal, some with a by-line and some anonymously, but always with the approval of AMF. The same arrangement continued when I joined American Recreation Centers (ARC), a dynamic company that encouraged me to provide as much information as possible for the promotional benefit of the publicly held company.

When I joined Nationwide Bowling Corporation following the acquisition of ARC by AMF, my writing

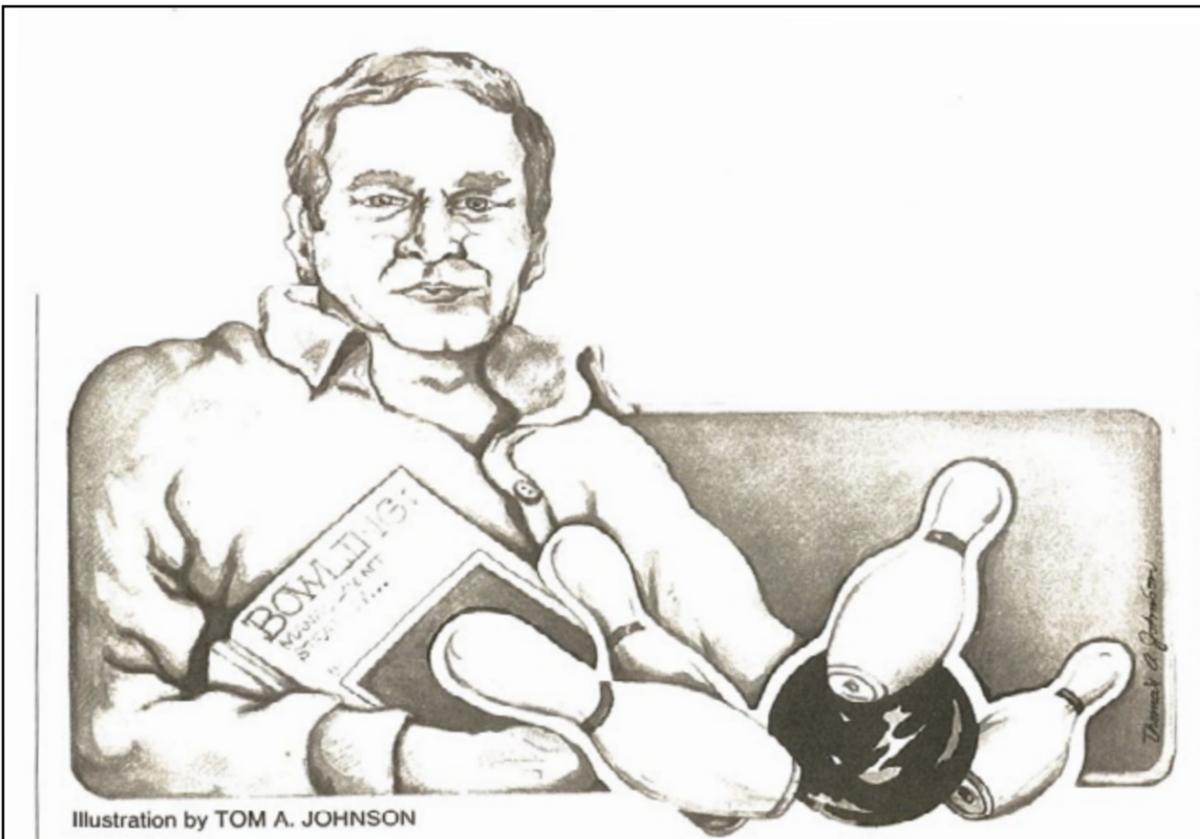


Illustration by TOM A. JOHNSON

In Search of the Elusive League Bowler

Yes, prospective league bowlers are still out there lurking in condominiums, churches, campus clubs and other clusters. It's not too late to capture these audiences via the bowling party.

by DAVE WILLIAMS of the San Diego Bowling Beat

IT'S A NEW season. You've planned, promoted, yes, even prodded, yet a few of those promising league prospects fell through at the last minute. Two teams missing here. A small league gone there. A bigger league pulled out on the Tuesday late shift. Result? A prosperous season—on paper—has now panned out to be less than palmy. There are just a few too many "holes" in your league schedule.

What's a proprietor to do? You can hope that a league or two walks through your doors tomorrow, but you've long given up on miracles in this business. Or you can bite the bullet and hope open play will pick up some of the slack, but you had other plans for your advertising dollar.

Better yet, you can pump up your learn to bowl schedule, and perhaps create some new league prospects there. Or you could try some new and exotic promotions to attract some new clientele.

Then again, you could return to square one and revive the league sales program, or the bowling party. Many proprietors use the bowling party promotion to attract new league bowlers before winter and summer leagues. But they can also be used during leagues to fill out the

Bowlers Journal October 1979 (Reprinted with permission)

career was placed on hold for almost 20 years, with the exception of an occasional article under a pseudonym. Irwin Kaplus, the founder of Nationwide, put it to me clearly when he said, "If those publications want to pay your salary, that's fine, but as long as you're working for me, I don't want you contributing information about our organization."

Throughout those twenty years I never lost touch with Dressel, and later Bob Johnson, who eventually joined Bowlers Journal after stints with the California Bowling News, Bowling Industry Magazine, and others. Once I retired from Nationwide, Mr. Johnson and I renewed our professional relationship when he retained me as a contributing writer for BCM Magazine.

So, for now, everything is good, and the articles keep flowing. A special thanks goes out to Dean Lopez of the California Bowling News, and other publications for their confidence in me. And as the Grateful Dead so appropriately described in their lyrics... "Lately it occurs to me, what a long, strange trip it's been."

Keep on truckin!

Editors Note: I can relate Dave, each week I wonder how can I make a bowling paper with no centers open in California, but with your help, Carol Mancini, Lucas Wiseman, Bette Addington, Frank Weiler, Fred Eisenhammer and other sources.. I get it done.. Big Thanks to all my writers!

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BOWLING CALENDAR

SPECIAL NOTICE: PLEASE CHECK WITH EACH EVENT IF YOU PLAN TO PARTICIPATE TO BE SURE THE CENTER IS OPEN FOR THE EVENT

DECEMBER

by Bette Addington

USBC Open Nationals, National Bowling Stadium, Reno, NV—**CANCELED**, bowl.com (2021 will be in Las Vegas, NV)

USBC Women's Nationals, SouthPoint, Las Vegas, NV—**CANCELED**, bowl.com (2021 will be in Reno, NV)

7-Dec.14 – JAT Virtual Tournament, Westminster Lanes, bowljat.org, venmo: @daveyamo

4-6 – Elite Bowling Club Events, Bowlero Mesa Lanes, Mesa, AZ, 951/419-2751

4 – Elite Bowling Club Doubles Event, 7pm, Bowlero Mesa Lanes, Mesa, AZ, 951/419-2751

5 – Amateur Bowlers Tour, Handicapped Singles, SouthPoint, Las Vegas, NV—**CANCELLED**

5 – Elite Bowling Club 2 squad 5 Gamer, 9am & 1pm, Bowlero Mesa Lanes, Mesa, AZ, 951/419-2751

6 – Elite Bowling Club 1st Swiss (4-person teams), 9am, Bowlero Mesa Lanes, Mesa, AZ, 951/419-2751

6 – Central Valley Masters Trios Tourn., 12 noon, Freeway Lanes, Selma (limited to 18 teams), RSVP Chris Gregory, Facebook Central Valley Masters, centralvalleymasters.com

12-13 – CBT Hndcp. Doubles & Singles w/Scratch Singles, squads: 12/12 – 10/12/2/4; 12/13 – 10/12/2/4, Riverside Lanes, Laughlin, 661/418-8007, cbtbowling.com - **CANCELLED**

13 – The Beast Eliminator #10, 10am, La Habra Bowl, La Habra, thebowling.com, TheBeastHandicapEliminator@gmail.com

13 – HammerPins Open, 10am, Travis Bowl, Travis AFB, 707/631-1331, hammerpins.net/Open

17-20 – CBT No-Tap Beat the Board Doubles & Singles, squads: 12/17 – 1/3/8; 12/18 – 11/1/3/5/30; 12/19 – 10/12/2/4; 12/20 – 10/12/2/4, Bowlero Mesa, Mesa, AZ, 661/418-8007, cbtbowling.com

19 – Victory Bowlers Holiday Classic, Mxd. Team & Doubles Shootout, 9am & 1:30pm, Canyon Lanes, Cabazon, 405/586-0871, victorybowling900@gmail.com

26 – Elite Bowling Club 2 squad 5 Gamer, Canyon Lanes, Cabazon, 951/419-2751

27 – Elite Bowling Club 2 squad 5 Gamer, Canyon Lanes, Cabazon, 951/419-2751

26-30 – 17th JBT Las Vegas Main Event, SouthPoint, Las Vegas, NV, bowljbt.com

31 – Donation deadline for CA Bowling Writers 2020/17th annual Operation Freedom Paws Charity Drive, www.calbowlingwriters.org

Calendar brought to you by California Bowling Writers (www.calbowlingwriters.org)

Email your upcoming events for inclusion to baddington@addington.net

CA STATE REGULATIONS PROLONG OPENING OF LOCAL BOWLING CENTERS

by Bette Addington

Unfortunately, we were dropped back down into the purple tier last Monday. This means we need to work back into the red and then to the orange tier before bowling centers will be allowed to open. And being our numbers of positive cases are steadily climbing, it doesn't look like we will get back into the red tier for several weeks if not a month. Guess we can call Fall leagues now Winter leagues, at best.

STRING MACHINES VERSUS PIN SETTERS

The topic of String Machines has been creeping into the sport of bowling. There are several recreation-only facilities like The Firehouse here in Bakersfield that use the string machines. And, at the time, we thought they were there as a nostalgic thing and knowing places like The Firehouse would only have open play bowlers, it was never given a second thought.

But, as of late, articles are starting to circulate about the possibility of these string machines replacing the pin setters we have had in our bowling centers for years. What?!? The possibility is only testing the waters to see what everyone thinks. USBC, as of November 9, 2020, published an article titled, "USBC Affirms String Pinsetters are Non-Approved Equipment." Article states, "String pinsetters may not be used in USBC-certified competition, including USBC-certified leagues and tournaments." It went on further to say, "USBC is clarifying its position relates to string pinsetters following the recent announcement from the International Bowling Federation, stating it will allow the use of the machines in IBF competition." USBC finished by stating, "USBC is in the process of conducting research related to string pinsetters. USBC plans to complete an initial phase of the study and publish the results in 2022."

Just a little history here. Pin Setters (Free-Fall Machines), were introduced by AMF in 1946. In 1952, AMF put the 82-30 model automatic pinspotter into full production. In 1963, AMF introduced the 82-70 model pinspotter.

String Machines were invented in the mid-60's and string machines lift and re-spot the pins by connecting them to a drive mechanism using cords. String machines have fewer parts, require fewer adjustments and demand less maintenance than the free-fall machines. In 1973, Mendes (QubicaAMF's predecessor), introduces the Mendes String Pinspotter for duckpin and five-pin bowling. In 1990, Mendes introduces the venerable ME-90 which quickly becomes one of the most successful string pinspotters. In 2002, Qubica acquires Mendes and introduces the TMS string pinspotter for tenpin bowling. In 2019, QubicaAMF introduces the EDGE String pinspotter, the world's most innovative string pinspotter.

I hope to have more information on this topic for my next column. In the meantime, if any of you have comments on this subject (pro or con), please either email them to me (baddington@aparchitects.net) or text to me.

All Star Clash continued from page 1

having the highest number of PBA or PWBA titles on each team, with an impressive combined total of 248 Tour titles.

2020 PBA League All Star Clash Results

- Wes Malott, Portland Lumberjacks
- Norm Duke, Dallas Strikers
- Danielle McEwan, Miami Waves
- EJ Tackett, Motown Muscle
- Francois Lavoie, Las Vegas High Rollers
- Pete Weber, NYC KingPins
- Jason Belmonte, L.A. X
- Walter Ray Williams Jr., Brooklyn Styles
- Liz Johnson, Phoenix Fury
- Chris Barnes, Silver Lake Atom Splitters
- Sean Rash, Brew City Ballers
- Dom Barrett, Philadelphia Hitmen

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Thanks for the response to my list of vanished bowling centers. So many I can picture in my head.

Each center had its own personality. Usually, the result of the managers knowledge, desire and consent of owner. Some managers wore a bowling shirt, could fix a machine, clean a lane or wipe up a spill.

My favorite was the guy who played a good game of pin ball, drink with the customers and manage a "quickie" in the back of the building!! I can name 3!!!

Kona Lanes was T.V. action city. **Grand Central** was home to 27 ten game midnight marathons.

Del Rio Lanes hosted the "Hot Pots" every Saturday night. Blue Chip Bowling was everywhere.

All of these (and hundreds more) were the ideas of managers who knew how to "Get er' Done!!

My readers would love to hear about your favorite centers or managers.

Write it and email to news@californiabowlingnews.com and don't forget to sign it.

Carol,

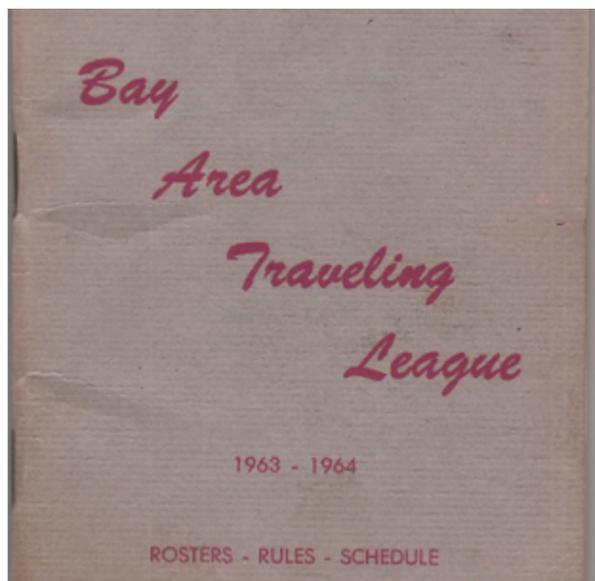
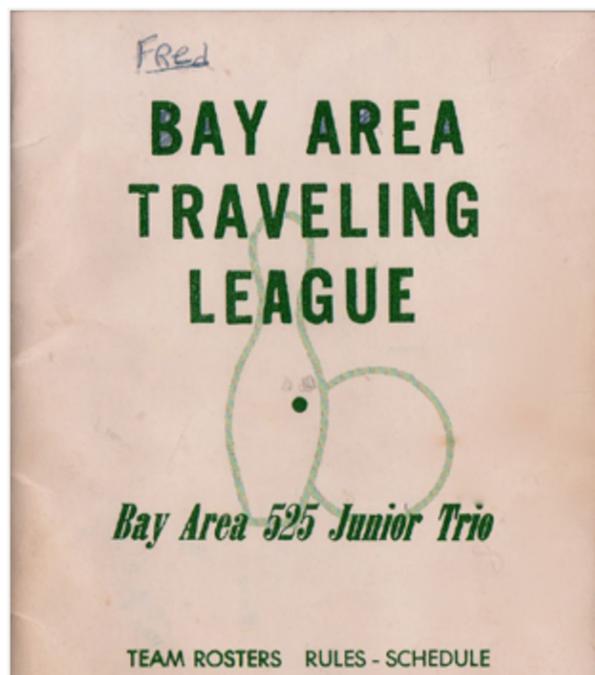
Two bowling lane managers from my early years (1955 - 1964) were: Dick Aultman from Llo-Da-Mar Bowl (Hank Lloyd, Ned Day, Hank Marino) on 5th & Wilshire; and Mel Yanick from Santa Monica Bowl on 26th & Wilshire.

Both Dick and Mel (and their staff) were very supportive of junior bowling, had leagues and tournaments for all age groups, and always had time to "coach" the young ones.

Llo-Da-Mar and Santa Monica each had a team in the "Bay Area Traveling League" — there were ten teams from ten bowling alleys in the Santa Monica Bay area. The other lanes / teams were Carolina (Pines) Lanes; Imperial Bowl; El Dorado Bowl; Samoa Lanes; Crenshaw Bowl; La Tijera Lanes; King Pin Lanes; Rodeo Bowl; Mar Vista Bowl -- (as I remember the lanes changed through the years).

I had my first 700 series in one of these leagues.

Fred Hoyt



Thanks, I can tell you more about other managers that I always thought did a great job at their respective lanes

The California Bowling Writers has adopted Operation Freedom Paws!
Operation Freedom Paws nonprofit organization was founded by "California Bowler and Veteran" Mary Cortani in 2010 that has provided service dogs and training support to veterans and others who suffer from post-traumatic stress syndrome, complex PTSD, traumatic brain injury and other physical, neurological, psychological and mobility needs. According to experts, service dogs help empower people with disabilities to live quality lives.
Operation Freedom Paws carefully matches clients with their specially chosen four-legged companions, most of which come from rescue shelters. The partners then begin a 48-week program which trains the clients to train their own dogs. At the end of the program, they're certified together as service dog teams.

Make donations payable to CBW and mail to Treasurer Tina Martin, 57 Shields Lane, Novato, CA 94947-3877.
 "We are pleased to continue supporting Vets."

Donation deadline: December 31, 2020

2020 Our 17th Annual Charity Drive



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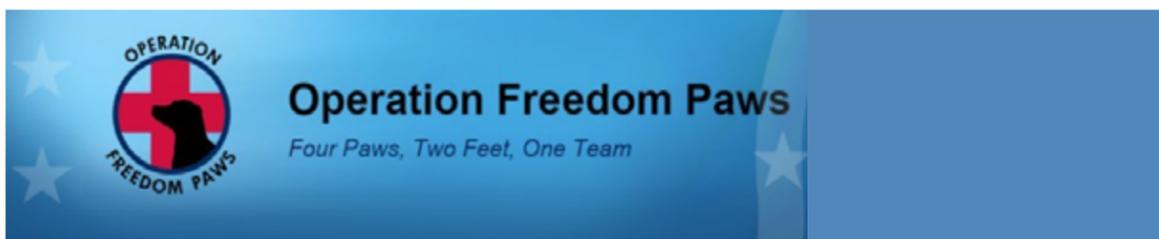
"Four Paws, Two Feet, One Team"

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www.calbowlingwriters.org

thank you.

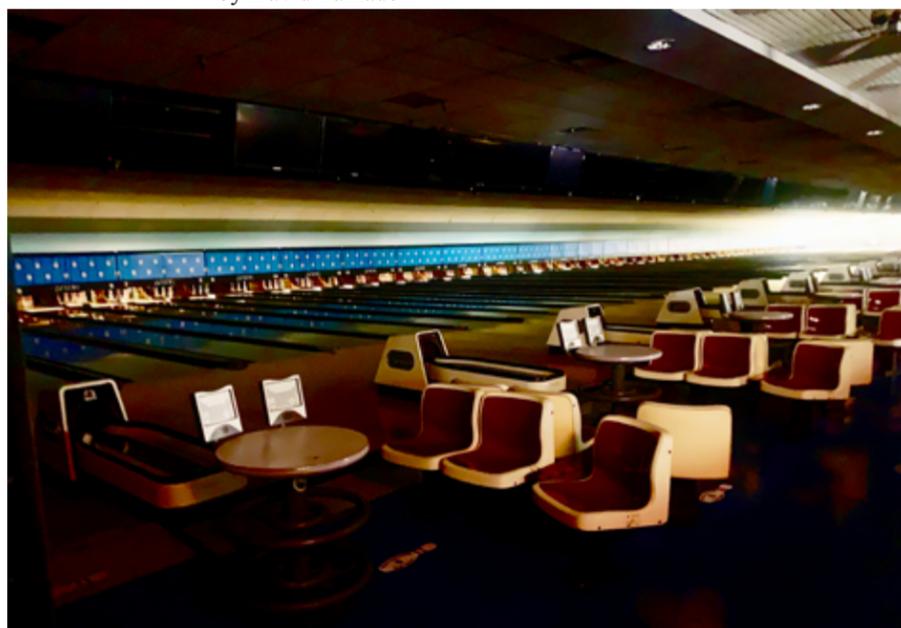
www.calbowlingwriters.org

Drive Underway To Help Save California Bowling Centers

by David Yamauchi

California – The Southern California Junior Bowling Foundation was founded with the goal of growing and supporting youth bowling in Southern California. The group has found a new emergency goal- trying to raise funds to help bowling centers reopen in California.

Bowlers, including many prominent nationally recognized youth bowlers, have been unable to participate in the game they love due to the overbearing restrictions placed on bowling centers by the State of California. While other businesses have been permitted to open, bowling proprietors have seen their doors closed and lights off since mid-March. The frustration was escalated when bowling centers in 49 of 50 states were permitted to open while Californians lanes sat dormant in the dark.



Bowling is a big part of many people's daily lives. Seniors are suffering from missing their weekly exercise and social activity. Many junior bowlers are missing their opportunity to earn college scholarships due to their inability to practice. The SCJBF has

recognized that it has become essential to help open bowling centers immediately. The SCJBF has started a Go Fund Me campaign to help raise money for the fight to open bowling centers in California. At a time when many proprietors are

struggling and centers are on the brink of closing forever, you can help with the fight. We would appreciate any donation big or small to help with the cause. Log on to www.gofundme.com/helpbowling and help today!



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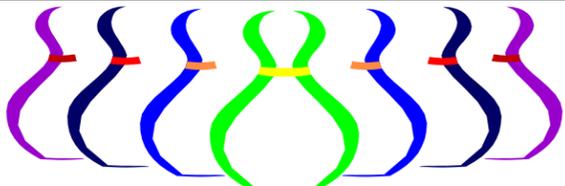
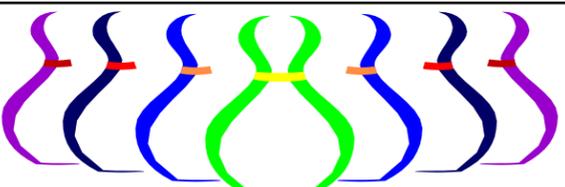
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