



CHANNEL CHATTER

ILLINOIS WOMEN'S BOWLING ASSOCIATION



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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

I will start with extending a sincere "Thank You" to the Belleville WBA for hosting a great Annual Meeting week-end.

Thanks to our delegation for supporting the board's recommendation to charter with USBC as a non-merged association. Illinois WBA does have a congenial relationship with the IBA. However, both organizations recognized that merging at this time is not beneficial.

During the last WIBC convention, I will again have the honor of carrying our Illinois State Flag for the parade of flags. The parade of flags will march up the center aisle of the Tulsa Convention Center at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 23, 2005.

The following article was in my files and I believe it's worth sharing with you:

When You "Zone Out"

It happens to everyone. You are having a conversation with somebody and suddenly you realize that your mind is 50 miles away. You have no idea what your conversation is about. Here are several ways to recover:

STOP AND TAKE A DEEP BREATH. This gives you time to collect your thoughts and get back on course.

BE HONEST, "Sorry I was miles away. Let's get back to the point".

ASK A QUESTION, This takes the pressure off of you and buys you time to regroup your thoughts.

STOP TALKING, Another way to collect your thoughts.

Remember, the object is to get back into the flow of the conversation. It is better to do that than to continue rambling on in hopes that you regain your grip on the conversation.

THOUGHT: NOBODY NEEDS A SMILE SO MUCH AS THOSE WHO HAVE NONE TO GIVE.

MADELINE DOTTA, PRESIDENT

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY

As I write this article, I hope that most if not all of the associations in Illinois have had their annual spring meeting and are in the process of working on their steps for the chartering with USBC, either as a non-merged association or a merged association. The deadline is fast approaching for the letter of intent of May 31, 2005. If anyone needs any help on any of these processes please call the IWBA office and hopefully we can help you.

The Tournament in Belleville will conclude on May 22, 2005. Since the IWBA does have 30 days in which to final-

ize the prize listing and mail all of the tournament checks, I am asking that calls requesting standing, etc, be delayed until after the 3rd of June so that I may get all of the requests for information put together and send to the proper individuals.

Information on the tournament to be conducted in Springfield in 2006 will be mailed to all team captains from this year's tournament around July 1, 2005. Also included in that mailing will be a reservation form for 8 teams or more. If you will be having 8 or more teams coming together, please complete and return the form to the IWBA office by August 1, 2005. Completed entries will need to be in the office by September 1, 2005. Any questions concerning this process should be directed to the IWBA office.

A reminder to the local association secretary that dues for the Illinois Women's Bowling Association for the bowling season 2005-06 will remain at \$2.00. According to the USBC guidelines the state association dues will remain the same as currently charged until the 2006-07 season. Beginning with the 2006-07 season the dues will then revert to \$1.00.

Earlene M. Nelson, Executive Secretary

*"Worry pulls tomorrow's clouds
over today's sunshine."*

IWBA/WIBC THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES!

Recently I attended the IWBA State Convention, "It was a most memorable occasion." Congratulations to the Belleville WBA for a fun weekend and successful tournament.

A sincere Thank You to Madeline Dotta. She was most gracious to assist me in procuring a room at the convention hotel and close to the meeting. Where I go, my step-mom goes. She is pretty much a quadriplegic; but now I could attend the meeting and check on her during the day.

Last summer, I had planned to attend as a visitor. At the last minute, I was asked to fill in as an alternate. I was delighted. I wanted to attend what I felt would be the last IWBA convention, as I had come to know them over the past 25 years. Soon, we would have to incorporate the letters USBC in our state name. I wanted to be there to hear the discussion regarding how we were to charter, but now I could vote on whether our state would remain a "woman's organization."

Saturday morning registration was a buzz with delegates' checking-in and getting their information packets. As I pinned on my badge, I knew that my vote would have a say

in the future direction of the IWBA. President Dotta called the meeting to order and the flags were advanced. The delegates stood in silence for our national flag and clapped as the IWBA and WIBC flags were carried down the aisle. The invocation was given. The meeting began.

Many local associations were looking to the state for some direction regarding joining USBC, the new National organization. Many had questions and comments about chartering either as merged or non-merged. President Dotta said we would address the subject of USBC under 'new business' and there would be a presentation given at the Sunday workshop.

As the meeting continued; one by one, business was addressed, motions made, seconded and voted on; awards were presented and members of the Hall of Fame were inducted. Then our lunch break. Afterwards, a memorial service was held for those members who were no longer with us. Sitting in the dim light, I felt a sense of 'tradition' of 'belonging,' of 'continuity.' The lights came up and then Service Awards were handed out and committee reports were heard.

New business was called for, the credentials report found 283 delegates present to vote; all incumbents were re-elected by acclamation; a national delegate was elected; Peoria was approved to host the 2007 tournament.

Finally.... the question of USBC and how the state would charter was addressed. President Dotta told us that the IBA did not want to merge. Delegates present voted 252 to 29 not to merge with the men. It was decided. The Illinois State Association would apply for a charter as a WOMEN'S ONLY organization. The Silver Ball was passed to Springfield for the 2006 tournament. Final reports were given on state clubs. President Dotta read the history of the WIBC FLAG, what the colors meant and how it came to be. We heard the closing resolution and together, we all sang, "May the good Lord Bless and keep you."

Then came the retiring of the flags. The United States flag went first, delegates stood and silence was observed; then the state flag came with a round of applause. Then the WIBC Flag was carried down the aisle for the last time. I just soaked it all up, listening to the applause and seeing many tears flow. 88 years of history was coming to an end. The National tournament and convention wouldn't be the same. It was now, USBC. Yes, I would still bowl, but I would no longer be a member of the largest women's sports organization in the world.

Sunday morning the room was packed. We heard a most informative presentation on USBC from the workshop committee, Director Libby Hall being the spokesperson. Questions were asked of the local representatives. Had they read all the information available on USBC? Did they discuss the options with their members? A standing count was taken on whether they would merge or not merge. Most delegates who stayed for the workshop were considering chartering as non-merged associations. It pretty much followed the vote taken on Saturday. Many local men's associations

were not interested. Neither were a large majority of women's associations. Libby asked the smaller association for their input. Those who felt it would be a benefit to merge, their needs were addressed. All the delegates were presented a step-by-step procedure of what would be required to charter. I'm sure the two and half hour presentation answered many questions. If anyone has more, USBC.COM is the place to go for answers.

The day ended with the Twenty Year Club Luncheon. On my drive home, I thought about the past two days. I thought about my past 28 years as an IWBA/WIBC member. History was made when the WIBC Flag left the room for the last time. What will the next 88 years bring? Will we, as fellow women bowlers, ever see such a women's organization of that caliber again? ..."Of women, For women, By women"... At least at the State level, we will. Thanks to the IWBA members, we will remain a woman's organization, and thanks for the memories. With dedicated hard-working volunteers, I know there will be more to come.

Toria Funderburg, woman bowler!

"Many ideals are becoming real"

TRIP TO BRANSON, MISSOURI

The Bowlers of Illinois will be going to Branson, Missouri on September 22, 23, 24 and 25, 2005 for three days of fun, shows and shopping. Cost of the trip is \$445.00 per person for a double, \$570 for a single, \$420.00 per person for a triple and \$400 per person for a quad. There are several openings and anyone interested in going should contact Earlene Nelson, 402 W. Hamilton Road, Bloomington, IL 61704 or phone after 5:00 p.m. 309/829-2942 or the IWBA Office for a complete itinerary.

DELEGATES BREAKFAST

The IWBA Delegates' Breakfast will be held on April 23, 2005 at 7:00 a.m. The breakfast will be in the Council Oaks Ballroom at the Doubletree Hotel in Tulsa, OK. Only IWBA officers and directors, and elected delegates from Illinois Associations will receive invitations to the breakfast. Table hostesses will be notified of selection.

Jo Wangler, Committee Chairman

NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

BLOOMINGTON WBA

The Bloomington WBA held their annual meeting on March 19, 2005 at the Bloomington Public Library Community Room with 37 members and 2 guests in attendance. A light lunch was served prior to the meeting. Various reports were given, Tournament awards were distributed and the membership of the association voted to be a chartered non-merged association with USBC as recommended by the Board of Directors. The USBC Resolution was adopted and a reorganizational meeting was held with the adoption of the USBC Bylaws and the elections for the Bloomington USBC WBA board was held with those taking office on August 1, 2005.

Submitted by Earlene Nelson, President

CLIN-CLAIR WBA

These are times of change for every bowling association, but we have the leadership to complete the tasks set forth by the United States Bowling Congress (USBC)

It won't be easy but as mothers, daughters and sisters we have all weathered many ups and downs in life and learned to make adjustments. The transition to the new USBC is no different.

Fear of change may make you want to stand still, but you can't. Your association must establish steps to accomplish the transition to USBC whether you plan to become a merged or non-merged association. Your current officers and directors are the best candidates to start the transition. So get started.

Let's make Illinois associations the best bowling associations in USBC!

Submitted by Jo Wangler, IWBA Director

DECATUR WBA

HOW TO SPEAK USBC

The first two words you need to know is the difference between "Merge" and "Charter".

In the simplest terms 'charter' means you want to join the USBC organization. The Letter of Intent conveys to USBC your intention to join (charter). It provides for the continuation of supplies, awards and sanctioned average recognition. It also conveys your willingness to abide by USBC Bylaws, USBC Association Policy Manual and meet Performance Standards set by USBC. The Letter of Intent must be submitted to USBC by May 31, 2005. Associations can 'charter' as a 'non-merged' and continue to serve their current constituency base, i.e., BA: Men and Women, WBA: Women only, YABA: Youth only.

Merge means your association wishes to form a single association serving men, women and youth bowlers. A 'merged' association will be governed by a single association board of directors made up of a combination of men, women

and youth members. Those associations that have decided to 'merge' must also send in their Letter of Intent by May 31, 2005.

If you have not decided the issue of whether to merge or remain as a 'non-merged' association, don't let it cause you to miss the deadline of May 31, 2005 – simply send the Letter of Intent and mark it as 'non-merged'.

If you have questions on about whether to 'charter' or how to 'charter' contact the IWBA office immediately. Time is running out!

FOX VALLEY WBA

The 2nd tournament of the 2004-05 bowling season for the 500 club was held at Bowlway Lanes in Elgin on January 16, 2005. It was a sanctioned Triples Tournament (3 woman team) The 1st place winners of the tournament were Peggy Fetting, Michelle Fetting and Courtney Senior with an 1883. Second place Linda Curley, Lisa Thompson and Wendy Kerchner with an 1814. In Third place was Jerri Craker, Kathy Grocke and Lori Cain with a 1784.

The last tournament will be held at Wauconda Bowl on April 3, 2005. This will be a Humdinger Tournament bowling 4 games across 8 lanes and dropping the lowest game. The annual meeting of the 500 club will be held at this time and all 500 club members are urged to attend. Elections for various offices will be held at this meeting.

The FVWBA Annual tournament was held at Bowling Green Sport Center during the month of March, 2005.

Submitted by Karen Keniston, Publicity Chairperson and 500 club secretary

FULTON WBA

The Fulton WBA participated in the Bowl for the Cure fund raiser this past month. Bowl for the Cure is a nationwide breast cancer awareness and fund raising initiative sponsored by the WIBC. This season, Bowl for the Cure celebrates its 5th anniversary. Through the efforts of bowlers, more than \$3 million has been raised for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and its Affiliates since 2000. The Fulton WBA held 50/50 drawings at several of the league bowling times and also collected team donations for the Foundation. Through the leagues that participated \$260.52 was collected. We hope this could become an annual fund raiser as it is for a good cause. Thanks to all who participated in our fund raiser.

GENESEO WBA

The annual spring banquet was held at the Moose Lodge on Thursday, March 3, 2005. New inductees into the Hall of Fame are Jackie Tumusonis, Kitty Reedy and Lorraine Remour for their service to the association and their love and

dedication to the Sport of bowling.

Winners of the City Tournament were announced. First place was Hawkeye ChemDry II with a score of 3273. Members of the team are Annette Klavon, Debbie Gorman, Nicole Miner, Traci DeSplinter and Teresa Lynch. Second place went to Absolute Construction and third place was Trinity Medical.

Doubles event winners were Jennifer Anderson and Carla Sletten with a 1382. Finishing in Second were Melinda Haverland and Cindy Hancock. Third place finishers Pam Calhoun and Donna Juchcinski.

Singles winner Nicole Miner with a 735, second place LaRae DeKezel and third place Dot Bross.

All events winner LaRae DeKezel with a 2047. Melinda Haverland was second and Nicole Miner was finished in 3rd place.

The Della Barret Award went to Nicole Miner with high scratch game of 257.

Submitted by Nancy Lyford, Secretary

JACKSONVILLE WBA

Nancy Chapman, President of the NWBW has notified Dottie Konrad, Secretary of Jacksonville WBA that her entry in the non-professional category for Column has won first place for the Brunswick Award. This is Dottie's 5th award in various years starting in 1996, 1997, 2003 she won second place and in 2002 and 2005 first place. Congratulations to

Dottie Konrad on winning this award

JOLIET AREA WBA

I hope all Associations are preparing their Letter of Intent. Remember the due date is May 31, 2005. I would not leave it to the last minute, since I have heard USBC has been returning them to different locales for more information. We sent our Letter of Intent in and are waiting to hear from USBC. We also changed our Bylaws at our last Board meeting, which will be approved May 10th. April 28 our Audit Committee will meet to finalize our current accounts, assets, and liabilities, so it can also be presented at our Organizational meeting. Finally, all Officers and Directors have filled out new resumes and those were sent to the Nominating Committee. We feel confident that everything will be in place by August 1, 2005.

The first week in February the Joliet Area Women's Bowling Association collected 50/50's for the Susan G. Komen Foundation for Breast Cancer. So far we have collected over \$8400.

This year we tried something new for our city tournament. We went to two different bowling centers. Team Event was held at RiverFront Lanes in Wilmington and Channahon Lanes for Doubles and Singles. We provided weekends, two morning squads and seven night squads. The women seemed to like the new format and we were excited that several of the night squads were almost filled. Plans are to

repeat this process for the 2006 tournament, since our entries were increased by five teams. Out of 86 teams entered 23 were four man. We were also excited that we gained two more teams in this division this year.

Finally, I hope to see you in Tulsa for our last WIBC meeting. I know it will be very emotional for many of us that have been involved not only in bowling, but also serving our local and state associations. I am very proud that we have 14 ladies from our board that will be in attendance not only for the meetings, but also to bowl in our last WIBC tournament, and also attend the dinner Saturday night. Joliet wants to continue to serve our bowlers as a Non-Merged Association to USBC and we are excited and very proud to be the new chartered members of our association.

Libby Hall, JAWBA President and IWBA Director

JOLIET AREA WBA ADDITIONAL NEWS

Plainfield's Nikki Lunsford, a former international intercollegiate champion, earned in Venezuela, showed her JAWBA that she's truly graduated--to historical happenings in the JAWBA tournament. First, she led her Windy City Popcorn team to a successful title defense with a 687 series for the 3,199 winner, handicapped to the first-place handicap 3,230. at Wilmington's Riverfront Lanes.

Then, at the just-concluded individual competition events at Channahon Lanes, Nikki, 34, made a clean sweep of ALL of them. While others have made a sweep of the scratch championships, they did not claim the handicap victories also. In catapulting her and perennial partner Vickie Trouper (1997 IWBA doubles champ included) into the doubles championship. Nikki rolled the 63rd tourney's first 800 series, and her first, an 806 on games of 248-279-279. She then went on to the best scratch 2,234 all-events outputs or a 248-plus tourney average. Since she entered with a 203 average, the same scratch totals won the top handicap money also.

Inviting those interested, to the Joliet - USBC Phase II Transition Workshops May 21 and 22 at the Hurrah casino and Hotel in downtown Joliet. At your preference, a Workshop will held each day from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Continental breakfasts, workshop and materials are free. Register by calling (414) 423-3383.

Submitted by Mary Jane Sporar, Publicity Chairman

PEORIA WBA

Peoria is busy with tournaments this month. We held our handicap Mixed couples tournament at Chillicothe Bowl in February. Our local city tournament just finished after three weekends of great bowling at Plaza Lanes. The local men's association also held their city tournament this March.

We held a joint meeting with the Men's Greater Peoria Bowling Assoc. and our local YABA and we have agreed to charter with USBC as a non merged association pending approval by our membership at our Annual meeting which will be held on April 3rd.

The girls are making final preparations for the trip to Tulsa for the final farewell to WIBC.

The next few months will be filled with plans for the Relay for Life, 4th of July parade and many more projects. Peoria sends greetings to all and don't forget to check out our great website.

Submitted by Betty, Nancy, Sharon & Ladean

SPRINGFIELD WBA

Springfield Women's Bowling Association Local Tournament was held March 5th, 6th, 12th and 13th at King Pin Lanes. Here are the final standings-

(5 – woman team scratch) – Just Us 3,370 – (5 – woman team handicap) – 1st – Lickity Splits 3,349 – 2nd Pennell Forklift No. Two 3,428 – 3rd Just Us 3,370 – 4th Circle Tree Golf 3,366-5th Waverly Bowl 3,363

(3 woman team scratch) – Just Us Trio 1,872 – (3 woman team handicap) 1st That's Right 1,997 2nd Pin Action II Trio 1,965 3rd Shofner Motorsports 1,959 4th The Onewayers 1,939 and 5th Claissic Wax 1,912

(Doubles Scratch) Stade/Carter 1,415 (Doubles Handicap) 1st Moreland/Kuchar 1,444 – 2nd Stade/Carter \$1,415 – 3rd Jones/Vincent 1,394 – 4th Jack/McKane 1,379 and 5th Montgomery/Montgomery 1,367

(Singles scratch – Janet Vincent – 752 (Singles Handicap) 1st Janet Vincent 752 – 2nd Tammy Jones 749 – 3rd Ruth Butler 748 – 4th Angela Hirstein 744 and 5th Kathy Stade 740

(All – Events scratch) Janet Vincent 2,160 (All Events handicap) 1st Janet Vincent 2,160 2nd Kathy Stade 2,148 – 3rd Tammy Jones 2,132 – 4th Cassie Harris 2,108 and 5th Jane Rosa 2,079

(Senior event scratch) Della Weakley 615 (Senior event handicap) 1st Della Waskley 693 – 2nd Ramona McDonald 680 – 3rd Helen Drennan 652 – 4th Phyllis Bast 650 and 5th Joy Section 638. Congratulations to all the winners.

Submitted by Mary Lynn Bartolomucci, Springfield WBA Publicity Chairman

WAUKEGAN WBA

Waukegan WBA announces Hall of Fame and congratulations go to the 2004-05 inductees who will be Merilee Miller, Meritorious Service; Georgia Bizzell-Jones, Superior Performance; Francis Payne, Bowler of Yesteryear; and Louise Kutzler, Secretary of the Year. A dinner will be held in October to honor these ladies.

In December the Waukegan WBA held their Annual Senior Tournament with Sherry Bickett winning the tournament for the actual and handicap divisions.

March 12th and 13th kicked off the Waukegan WBA's 37th Annual Tournament. The tournament will conclude March 20th.

Waukegan has also voted to charter with USBC.

Submitted by Betty McCann, Secretary

IBA/IWBA STATE SENIOR

Eight individuals will be competing in the National Senior tournament being held in Reno, Nevada May 3-4, 2005:

They are:

Gladys Williams from Loves Park, Esther Torry from Washington, Bonnie Dunn from Milan and Libby Hall from Joliet for the women's division..

Those attending for the men's division are: Joseph Hassell from Harvey, Joe Higgins from Chicago, Levon Baldrige from Matteson and Timothy Matthew from Hazelcrest.

Congratulations to all eight and best of luck and good bowling!

Submitted by Marty Glenn, IWBA State Senior Committee

IWBA TWENTY YEAR CLUB LUNCHEON

107 members attended this year's meeting and luncheon. New members Marlene Folts, Nancy Booi, Barb Speiser, Carolyn Helms, Joanne Morris, and Linda Hartema were in attendance.

Members collected and will be donating \$145.00 to BVL and \$135.00 to the IBHF&M. \$17.75 was collected in fines.

Dues were raised to \$1.00 starting with the 2005-2006 season.

I would personally like to thank each and every person that volunteered, either at check-in, counting money, hostessing, gift distribution, donated prizes, etc. Where would we be without our VOLUNTEERS?

Melinda M. Calvert, 20 Year Club Chair

“A handful of patience is worth more than a bushel of brains.”

Upcoming Events

WIBC Annual Meeting – Tulsa, OK April 23, 24, 2005

IWBA Delegate Breakfast , April 23, 2005 7:00 a.m.

IWBA Tournament ends on May 22, 2005

ISYABA Annual Meeting June 12, 2005 – Bloomington, IL

IWBA Workshop June 25, 2005, Quincy, Illinois

**OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
ILLINOIS WOMEN’S BOWLING ASSOCIATION:**

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www.geocities.com/IWBA_bowl/

or illinoiswba.org

THANKS

**On behalf of the IWBA Souvenir/Social/Courtesy Committee,
I want to thank the ladies of the Belleville and Peoria WBAs
for their help at the Guest Table during the annual meeting.
Your help gave the committee members time for our other
assignments. Thanks again**

Jo Wangler, Committee Chairman



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