

**FOUNDED IN 1942, BVL HAS RAISED \$34 MILLION TO BOOST THE MORALE OF ACTIVE DUTY TROOPS AND VETERANS THROUGH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ENCOURAGE PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELL BEING**

**Associations Join Effort to Ship Portable Bowling Lanes to the Troops**

*Since its introduction last year, this campaign to send portable carpet bowling lanes and equipment to active duty troops has met with huge success. Already, 400 kits have been shipped to Afghanistan, Iraq and a host of other locales worldwide.*



The kit consists of a 26 foot long red, white and blue carpet bowling lane, a 5 lb. rubberized bowling ball and

lightweight plastic bowling pins. The lane, ball and pins, packaged in a nylon carrying bag, can be set up in a few minutes time, whenever a break in the schedule permits.

Campaigns to fund the contribution of a kit to the troops are underway coast to coast. Led by Terrie Brensinger, Daytona Beach, (Fla.) bowlers have already raised enough money to send the lane kit to 12 different former league bowlers from that area currently serving in Iraq. In Tustin, Calif., Jean Farr has helped the bowlers at Tustin Lanes to ship over 10 lane kits.

The lane kit can be purchased from BVL for \$499. However, a promotional/fundraising kit, designed to help local associations raise money for the lane, is available for \$129. More information on the program can be found by visiting [www.BowlforVeterans.org](http://www.BowlforVeterans.org) or calling the BVL offices.

Explains BVL Board Chair Elaine Hagin, "When we first came up with the idea, we sent over an initial shipment of 200 kits. But when our generous sport heard about the effort, everyone wanted to get involved!"



**BVL National Office**

**P.O. Box 2289**

**Rockville, MD**

**20847-2289**

**p 301.881.8333**

**f 301.881.4042**

**BVL Board of Directors**  
 Elaine Hagin, (USBC) Chair  
 Roger Dalkin, (USBC)  
 Wally Hall, (BPAA)  
 Executive Director: Helene Phillips

**"BVL's Best" Awarded at USBC Convention:  
 2004-2005 Top Ten Contributing Associations Recognized**

Top Contributors By State

|               | AMOUNT        |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. CALIFORNIA | \$ 166,197.72 |
| 2. VIRGINIA   | \$ 62,649.67  |
| 3. TEXAS      | \$ 61,979.87  |
| 4. FLORIDA    | \$ 48,301.90  |
| 5. GEORGIA    | \$ 34,994.53  |
| 6. OREGON     | \$ 32,148.96  |
| 7. ILLINOIS   | \$ 29,774.33  |
| 8. NEW YORK   | \$ 28,774.33  |
| 9. COLORADO   | \$ 28,527.10  |
| 10. OHIO      | \$ 26,264.61  |

Top Contributors by Association

|                                | AMOUNT       |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. NATION'S CAPITAL/WASH. D.C. | \$ 26,000.00 |
| 2. DALLAS, TX                  | \$ 20,153.00 |
| 3. ORANGE COUNTY, CA           | \$ 13,500.00 |
| 4. SAN FERNANDO VALLEY, CA     | \$ 11,707.00 |
| 5. VENTURA COUNTY, CA          | \$ 11,000.00 |
| 6. CITRUS BELT, CA             | \$ 10,794.00 |
| 7. HAMPTON ROADS, VA           | \$ 10,750.00 |
| 8. INDIANAPOLIS, IN            | \$ 10,416.13 |
| 9. RICHMOND/CONTRA COSTA, CA   | \$ 8,872.08  |
| 10. SYRACUSE, NY               | \$ 8,715.00  |

## **BVL/VA Sponsors 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Tournament**

President Harry Truman, Former VA Secretary Jesse Brown, and 25-year-old Pennsylvania resident Matthew Newman, share a common bond. They have all participated in the annual Bowlers to Veterans Link/Department of Veterans Affairs Bowling Tournament, now in its 60th year.

“This tournament has a rich history and tradition,” explains BVL Board Chair Elaine Hagin. “When you look through the archives, it’s clear that this tournament holds a special place in the lives of many veterans.”

The tournament is conducted each spring, and is open to veterans receiving care at VA Hospitals, Out-Patient Clinics and Vet Centers. Five person teams roll a total of 45 games, which are then submitted to the Bowlers to Veterans Link for scoring. Seven divi-

sions, based on hospital size as well as physical challenges, even the playing field.

Facilities from coast to coast participate each year in the tournament, with every participant receiving recognition for their efforts. Trophies and a cash stipend are awarded to the top three teams in each division.

“Bowling in the tournament was a lot of fun,” reports Newman, who returned state-side following

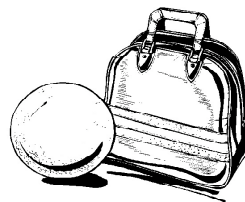
an injury during a tour of duty in Afghanistan. “It was a chance to get out on the lanes and test my skill – it was

especially gratifying because our team came in second in our division!”

Volunteers to help score, transport bowlers and offer general team support are needed nationwide.

More information on the tournament can be found at the BVL website.

## **Let The Games Begin.**



**60<sup>th</sup> Annual BVL/VA Bowling Tournament**

**March 1-31, 2006**

**[www.BowlforVeterans.org](http://www.BowlforVeterans.org)**

## **[www.BowlforVeterans.org](http://www.BowlforVeterans.org): Site for Sore Eyes, Hands and Feet!**

Are you growing tired of struggling to create a new way to educate bowlers about the BVL and our mission? Would you like to add some spark to your BVL campaign and energize your volunteers?

Take a few minutes of your day and visit the newly re-designed BVL website where you’ll see and read about a host of different programs that can make your life easier.

For instance, click on the “Volunteers” section and you can download the new BVL video which you can show at league meetings, dinners, or even before the start of bowling. The video can set the stage for your fund-raising effort with little or no effort!

While visiting the site, you’ll learn about a variety of different ideas that other associations have used to launch their campaigns - from tournaments to spaghetti dinners to raffles.

Plus, you can see a host of items available for order to enliven your fund-raising efforts – car magnets, polo shirts, lapel pins and much more.

On the “Volunteer” pages, you’ll find a simple plan to inject a public relations component to your campaign. There are easy to follow directions and sample press releases for use with local media.

If you click on the “What’s New” pages, you’ll read all about what BVL is doing on the national level and also learn more about BVL’s Volunteer of the Month and Bowling Center of the Month. There is also an opportunity for you to nominate a Volunteer or Bowling Center from your area for this special honor.

At the “About BVL” pages, there are fact sheets, a history of the organization and the BVL Annual Report – all ‘must haves’ for campaign leaders.

Take a trip further around the site and find out about the programs which BVL operates for our veterans in VA Medical Centers, Out-Patient Clinics, Vet Centers and State Homes.

The home page is constantly being updated. Keep abreast of the BVL programs and visit often.

So, sit back, relax and let your mouse do the work for your next BVL event. You don’t have to run yourself ragged preparing for the BVL fund-raising season. Log on and find out more!

**Want to learn all the latest about BVL programs and activities?**

**Sign up for BVL E-News today.**

**Go to [www.BowlforVeterans.org](http://www.BowlforVeterans.org)**