

FOUNDED IN 1942 BY THE SPORT OF BOWLING, BVL HAS RAISED \$35 MILLION TO BOOST THE MORALE OF ACTIVE DUTY TROOPS AND VETERANS THROUGH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO ENCOURAGE PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELL BEING.

BVL Confirms Sponsorship of National Veterans Events

...Playing the guitar, hitting the ball over the net, practicing a new dance move, picking up that spare...For many Americans, these are typical outlets for fun and recreation. But for some very special Americans, activities like sports and the arts mean so much more. Those special Americans are our hospitalized veterans. And for far too many, life's simple pleasures are elusive, as they struggle to overcome the health and medical issues that often put these actions out of reach. But, thanks in part to the Bowlers to Veterans Link, music, art, and sports are once again part of their lives.

For more than 20 years, BVL has helped sponsor four annual events which provide thousands of veterans an opportunity to enjoy the fun and fitness of sport or the uplifting boost of the arts: the National Veterans Crea-

tive Arts Festival, the National Veterans Golden Age Games, the National Veterans Wheelchair Games and the National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic. Each competition brings veterans together to test their talents against fellow veterans.

BVL has renewed its sponsorship for these programs in 2008, which kicks off with the National Veterans Winter Sports Clinic scheduled for March 30- April 4 in Snowmass Village, Colo. Sandra Eckert and Maryanne Dinkey of



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BVL at USBC Convention: Workshop and Booth

If you plan on attending the USBC Convention in Kansas City, be sure to put two important activities on your "to do" list:

- 1.) Sign up for the workshop entitled "USBC Charities" featuring BVL! It's scheduled for Wednesday, May 7 from 8:30 to 10:00 am.
- 2.) Visit the BVL Booth on Wednesday between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm or Thursday between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm.

The workshop will include an overview of BVL pro-

grams and activities and how BVL is making a difference every day in the lives of our nation's active duty and veteran service men and women. Participants will hear from representatives of associations conducting successful BVL programs and about additional benefits of running a BVL campaign—including positive community feedback and media attention for their good efforts.

New materials for associations for the 2008 season will be available at the BVL exhibit .

BVL National Office

We've moved!

Please note the new BVL address and numbers

11350 Random Hills Road,
Suite 800
Fairfax, VA 22030
p. 703.934.6039
f. 703.591.3049
www.BowlforVeterans.org

BVL is guided by representatives of the USBC and the BPAA. We are the sport's oldest and most successful charity with more than \$35 million raised to date

BVL Welcomed into Three Prominent Organizations

The Bowlers to Veterans Link was recently accepted into three highly-regarded veterans and active duty military organizations, signaling BVL's continued growth into leadership positions within the veterans and military communities.

BVL was appointed an associate member of the Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service National Advisory Committee. This is a federally - chartered committee created to advise the Under Secretary for Health at the VA regarding volunteer activities at the VA Hospitals. Capping off that

appointment, BVL became the newest member of the VA Veterans Day Organizing Committee. This prestigious committee is charged with the coordination of the national Veterans Day observance held annually at Arlington National Cemetery, and promotion of Veterans Day activities throughout the United States.

Most recently, BVL was accepted into the "America Supports You" network. Coordinated by the Pentagon, this group of more than 300 organizations, companies, and celebrities is recognized for their dedication to our service men and women.

BVL Confirms Sponsorship...con't

the Fort Collins United States Bowling Congress Association will attend on BVL's behalf.

"Through the years, the BVL has demonstrated its belief in the positive effects of sports rehabilitation. Their sponsorship of the Winter Sports Clinic is a further testament to this core belief and to the organization's dedication to bettering the lives of our wounded warriors," commented Disabled American Veteran National Adjutant Arthur H. Wilson.

Maria Gray, BVL Chair for the State of Missouri, represented BVL at the Creative Arts Festival recently. Gray explained her feelings about the event, "I came to realize that the veteran participants in their respective categories demonstrate extraordinary artistic expression despite their physical or psychological challenges. Winning is not everything and the mere opportunity to be recognized takes precedence."



Last year, the National Wheelchair Games were held in Milwaukee. Lisa Vint, publisher of the Windy City Bowling News attended. Vint related her experience: "One of the bowlers had just recently come back from Iraq. When he first came in he was quiet and withdrawn. By the time we finished, there were 'high fives' all around and each bowler wanted a picture of the group of athletes and volunteers!"

David Fields, President, Greater Pasadena (Tex.) USBC Association, represented BVL at the National Veterans Golden Age Games in August, 2007. He said this, "My respect for the BVL was greatly enhanced after seeing the results of our fund raisers and donations in action. I now know that the bowling industry, USBC, and especially BVL are held in high regard by all involved and our sponsorship was greatly appreciated."

To help assure BVL's continued support of the annual competitions, contributions may be made specifically to the sponsorship of these events. Please note your wishes with the contribution.

The schedule of the remaining 2008 events is as follows:

28th National Veterans Wheelchair Games

July 25—29, 2008

Omaha, NE

22nd National Veterans Golden Age Games

August 20—24, 2008

Indianapolis, IN

2008 National Veterans Creative Arts Festival

October 20-26, 2008

Loma Linda, CA

Stamp Collecting for Veterans

Many league associations have long support the Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service program by collecting stamps for delivery to veterans as part of their rehabilitation program. In order to participate, simply set aside the stamps for donation. Stamps which are accepted are commemorative, priority, express, high value U.S. and foreign stamps, both mint and used. Accumulations of like stamps and collections are especially needed. You may forward the collected stamps to:

VAVS National Stamp & Coin Club
Southern Ariz. VA Healthcare System (9-135)
3601 South 6th Ave.
Tucson, AZ 85723
Maurice A. Storck, Sr. President

Collaborate with WalMart to Donate Portable Carpet Bowling Lane to VA Hospitals and State Homes

Thanks to the WalMart charitable giving program known as "Community Grant Funding." BVL has been able to donate a carpet lane kit to the Fayetteville, Ark. VA Medical Center. These kits, which have been shipped overseas to provide fun and recreation for our active duty troops, can also serve as an excellent therapy tool for veterans recuperating in a hospital setting — especially if they cannot get out to a bowling center. Bowling not only provides an outlet for physical recreation but social interaction as well. Here's what the Fayetteville VA Medical Center Director had to say, "Our Recreation Therapists were very excited to received the BVL carpet bowling lane and equipment which will provide many opportunities for them to use as a therapeutic tool and for leisure time activities for our veteran patients during their hospital stay...Thank you!"

If your state or local association would like more information to either purchase a kit for distribution to your area VA Medical Center or work with WalMart to donate a kit, please contact the BVL office.

Top 20 State Contributors for 06-07

Below is a listing of the top 20 states with contributions to BVL. This is a compilation of all donations from the states, including Memorials, Honor Score Awards and personal donations.

California	\$204,612.51	Oregon	\$16,972.81
Virginia	\$54,599.37	Indiana	\$16,434.58
Texas	\$42,652.97	Louisiana	\$14,715.90
Ohio	\$27,157.53	New York	\$14,171.10
Georgia	\$26,334.59	Kansas	\$14,125.30
Minnesota	\$24,626.11	Alabama	\$13,938.35
Florida	\$23,720.62	New Jersey	\$9,905.18
Colorado	\$21,166.51	Missouri	\$8,973.65
Illinois	\$20,558.42	Michigan	\$8,642.70
Tennessee	\$18,059.06	Massachusetts	\$8,368.44