



THE BOWLERS TO VETERANS LINK

The BVL Board of Directors:

*Darlene Baker, Chair, USBC
Wally Hall, BPAA
Gary Anderson, USBC
Elaine Hagin, Member Emeritus, USBC*

Be sure all state and local associations are recognized for the 2008-2009 season.

Contributions should be received in the BVL office no later than May 31!

BVL BEGINS 67TH YEAR OF SERVICE TO AMERICA'S HEROES

In 1942, a group of bowlers made a promise to the troops returning from the battlefields of Europe: We will not forget your sacrifice. Sixty-seven years and \$36 million later, through the Bowlers to Veterans Link (BVL) that promise still stands.

BVL was founded to provide the 'extras' not funded by the government which help boost the morale and brighten the spirits of our active duty and veteran service men and women.

Thanks to BVL programs, entertainment and the arts and sports and recreation are helping to ease the stress

of duty on the front lines and provide a distraction from long hospital stays.

For those on active duty, "Bowlers Salute America's Troops" has sent more than 500 units a little slice of



home and a lot of fun. The kit includes a 26' long portable carpet bowling lane complete with rubberized pins and ball.

Veterans recuperating at VA Medical Centers can count on BVL to provide music, the arts, games, sports equipment (and much more) to add some smiles to their often long and lonely days.

At the Columbia (MO) VA Hospital, BVL dollars were used to take the veterans bowling and to the movies. They also held several holiday events with decorations and special treats.

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"The BVL donation is a tremendous way to honor our veterans and show them their sacrifices are not forgotten. BVL makes a meaningful impact on the day to day lives of our patients. Thank you for all you do!"

*Nathan Witt,
Voluntary Service Chief
Harry S. Truman Memorial
Veterans Hospital*

BVL'S "TOP TWENTY" STATE AND LOCAL AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR 07-08 FUNDRAISING SEASON

During the 2007-2008 league season, USBC associations in hundreds of small towns and big cities around the U.S. coordinated tournaments, conducted raffles, and campaigned their leagues to support BVL.

"We are so lucky to have the best volunteers out there helping us meet our

goals," explained BVL Board of Directors Chair Darlene Baker. "Thanks to their dedication, we can make a difference in the lives of literally thousands of veterans."

In the 2007-2008 season, the Top Twenty local association list includes some old favorites and some new ones as

well. Perennial leader, Nation's Capital Area USBC Assn., once again claimed the number one position, raising \$19,004.34!

Representatives of the top five state and local associations contributing to BVL National will receive special awards at the USBC convention in Reno. con't.....back page

BOWLERS TO VETERANS LINK

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“67TH YEAR OF SERVICE”.... CON’T

On behalf of our patients and staff, thank you for your generous donation to support the 2008 National Creative Arts Festival. The commitment you’ve shown to our veterans and its programs demonstrates your concern for America’s Heroes.”
Pat Moreno,
VA Loma Linda Healthcare Services

In North Carolina, recreational therapists purchased board games, DVDs, bingo cards and prizes... In Washington State, it was a shuffleboard set and a ring toss game. In New York, BVL monies were used to arrange for pet and garden therapy...the list goes on and on...

BVL also supports the tours of the very popular entertainment troupe “Re-Creation.” From Port Charlotte (FL) VA comes this praise: “There are no words to sufficiently articulate how much this show means to us... This show is spectacular. You could not

imagine what a difference you have made and continue to make in the lives of our veterans.”

BVL has been a long time supporter of four national veterans events which bring veterans from every state to compete at a national level. Like the other events, the National Creative Arts Festival encourages veterans to get involved in recreation therapy, helping speed recuperation, boost morale and build camaraderie.

Another long running BVL program is the annual BVL bowling tournament for veterans receiving care in the VA

Medical Center System. Now in its 63rd year, the tournament provides vets from coast to coast the opportunity to compete for trophies and bragging rights.

Whatever the program, BVL makes a difference in the lives of our veterans!



They rolled for us.
Now, let's roll for them.

Support America's Heroes

In 1942, a group of bowlers made a promise to the troops returning from the battlefields of Europe: We will not forget your sacrifice.

Through the Bowlers to Veterans Link (BVL), spirits are higher, and the days are brighter for thousands of active duty and veteran service men and women. BVL brings entertainment, the arts, sports, and recreation to boost morale and speed recuperation.

BVL makes a difference everyday in the lives of those who have served our country. Please join with us to ensure that our promise is kept.

Visit www.bowlforveterans.org
or call 703-394-6392.

NEW PRINT PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT UNVEILED

A new print public service campaign launched this spring calls on all bowlers to join the BVL effort to support America's service men and women.

Associations interested in copies of the ad for their printed or on-line publications can obtain copies at www.BowlforVeterans.org or by contacting the BVL offices.

Visit the BVL website
www.BowlforVeterans.org

Does your association have a special BVL Volunteer?
 Nominate him or her for BVL Volunteer of the Month!

Sign up for BVL eNews

Conduct a “Heroes in Our Midst” campaign and salute the active duty service men and women and veterans in your hometown.

“TOP TWENTY” STATES... CON’T

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Virginia | 11 Pennsylvania |
| 2 California | 12 Ohio |
| 3 Illinois | 13 Massachusetts |
| 4 Georgia | 14 New York |
| 5 Michigan | 15 Minnesota |
| 6 Kansas | 16 Connecticut |
| 7 North Carolina | 17 South Carolina |
| 8 Texas | 18 New Jersey |
| 9 Iowa | 19 Wisconsin |
| 10 South Dakota | 20 Mississippi |

“TOP TWENTY” LOCALS... CON’T

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Nation's Capital Area USBC Assn. | 11 Greater Aurora USBC Assn |
| 2 Joliet Area USBC WBA | 12 Grand Strand USBC Assn |
| 3 Minneapolis USBC | 13 Greater Petersburg USBC WBA |
| 4 Greater Anchorage USBC Assn | 14 Greater Carlyle Bowling Assn |
| 5 Greater Richmond USBC WBA | 15 New London USBC WBA |
| 6 Hampton BVL Committee | 16 Syracuse USBC WBA Inc. |
| 7 Norfolk USBC BA Inc. | 17 Greater Buffalo USBC Assn |
| 8 Metro Detroit USBC Assn. | 18 New Haven County USBC Assn |
| 9 Greater Fredericksburg USBC | 19 Essex County Bowling Assn |
| 10 Sioux Falls Regional USBC Assn | 20 Greater Charlotte USBC Assn |