

McCook Splitsville News

Issue #4



December 2009



Forest Lanes Fourth In Green

In 1961 Mick, George and Steve Stepanic purchased a piece of property that was a corn field from Dan Bailey and Anna Furey. They then built a bowling center consisting of 12 lanes and named it Forest Lanes. They added 4 lanes in 1980 making Forest Lanes the largest center in the McCook Association.

Mick was the last brother to operate the center. A few other people obtained Forest Lanes on land contract and ran it for a short time. Ed Masters ran it for some time. Next, Dave and Theresa Firth and Mark and Veronica Beresford were partners for about a year. It was finally sold to Bertha, Bruce and Jamie Wright on January 6th, 1992. The Wrights are still operating the bowling center.

Forest Lanes has been flooded about 5 times. The worst being in 2000. It took a lot of work to get the center back up and running. They are still doing things to improve it. They were well prepared for the last flood that came though. They kept it from flooding with the use of sump pumps, sealing all the doors and some hard work. Along

with all the repairs, they added automatic scorers in 2002. The Wrights also added a large addition known as the beer garden. It has a Tiki Room with a beach scene mural painted on the wall. They hold corn-hole league and tournaments in the summer.

Helping Bruce and Bertha run the business are their grandsons, Chip and Taylor, Bertha's brother Bill, Gary Harold, Dale "Stick" Man, Vaughn Erb, and Vera Fox. Jamie takes care of the lounge and the many banquets that are held at the lanes.

Bowling at Forest has been and probably always will be a generational past time. In the beginning, Mick and Edith Stepanic had four generations bowling: Mick and Edith, great grandparents, Rena Taylor, grandmother, Holly Taylor Abel, mother, and her son, Brandon Abel.

The Wrights' have several family members currently bowling: three sons, Bruce II, Jamie, and Brian "Munch", three grandsons, Chip, Taylor and Conner. Sisters June and Bonnie, a brother Bill, nieces Missy, Stephanie and Barb, nephews Troy, Alex and Trent also Charlie and his wife Holly.



Women Hall of Fame members from Forest are Dora Mae Clapsaddle 1981 General Welfare, Edith Stepanic 1983 General Welfare, Harriet Bowman 1987 General Welfare, Pauline McGoogan 2004 General Welfare, Peggy Knestrick 2007 General Welfare, Bonnie Roudebush 2008 General Welfare and Mary Houchins 2008 Bowling Ability. Peggy and Bonnie are the only mother and daughter combination in the McCook HOF.

Men Hall of Fame members are Mick Stepanic, Ray Scott, Howard Batcl, George Stapanic and Joe Patlyski. Mick and George are brothers.

Holly Taylor Abel held the highest average in the McCook Association for a number of years. Her highest being a 198. She was the second McCook bowler to roll a 700 series with a 719. Her high game was a 280. More recently, Mary Houchins also held the highest McCook average with a 200 in the 2001-02 season. Her high game was a 290 and high series was a 737.

In 1981, Francis Abel, Holly's husband, rolled the first 300 game at Forest Lanes. Fred Miller rolled a 300 game on October 30, 2001. His first game of the series was a 300 and his second game was a dutch 200.

Stella Hillyer, Edith Stepanic's sister, was the first McCook bowler to win an Ohio State bowling medal. In 1981-1982 she had the second highest game in her division with a 278. Dora Mae Clapsaddle was another good bowler from Forest. She also won a State bowling medal and some BPAA tournaments.

Peggy Knestrick, is one of the two 81 year "young" ladies that bowl at Forest. She has bowled in a lot of State and National tournaments. Also, Rose Bowman has returned to the lanes this year after taking a few years off from bowling.

The Leagues at Forest Lanes are: Mondays, Mens' National; Wednesdays, Ladies Afternoon Delight; Wednesdays, Men; Thursdays, Buckeye's Women League and Saturdays, the Youth League.

The Youth program was started in the 70's by Judy Altenhot and Edith Stepanic. They coached the league for a number of years. Vera Fox is now the coach for the youth. A team consisting of Chip Wright, Jess Fritzpatrick, Jonanthon Owsley and 7 year old Connor Wright won the regional's and advanced to the State and won that also!

Chip Wright bowled on the Minerva High School League four years. His average was a 208. For try outs he rolled a 770 series. Taylor Wright is now on the high School team, averaging 205. He rolled a 730 series for try outs!

The Youth League was named for Ray Scott who passed away. He always sponsored a team and supported them in anyway he could. Bruce's friend "Stick" had a saying. When anyone complained about conditions he would ask, "Did you roll one pretty strike? If so keep doing the same thing!".

Bruce and Bertha hope that their grandchildren continue with the business!

Vice President, Joan Enterline
50th Year Historian






Words from the Board

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Happy Holidays to all my fellow bowlers and their families. 'Tis the season of joy and cheer.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped to make candy this year. A special thanks to our Ways and Means chairman, Kathy Fleishour, for having everything so organized. We provided lunch for the workers this year, thanks to Joan & Bill Enterline, Linda & Lucinda Oyer, and Peggy Knestrick for food contributions. Candy sales were up this year and that's because we get wonderful support from our association members. THANK YOU!!!!

I have been enjoying our newsletter with all the information on the bowling establishments and their histories. Please let us know what you like or dislike about the newsletter. If you have something to put in the newsletter, please give it to your director.

Ham tickets are on sale, best ham I have ever eaten! Be sure to get your ticket on a chance to win one!

The new year brings with it the entries for the McCook Association Tournament and the Adult/Youth Tournament, which are held in March.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR to all of you.

BONNIE ROUDEBUSH

My Mom was my inspiration that got me into bowling. She started before I was born, so I basically grew up in the bowling alley. Mom would take me with her and she would lay me on a blanket on the floor. The ladies would have a fit so I got held a lot!!!

Sixteen years ago, I started on a team with friends. I eventually went to bowling two nights a week like Mom! We are on the same team now on Thursday nights. Mom and I had always bowled on different teams at tournament so it was not until 2004 that we got to bowl doubles together.



Last year Mom and I had the pleasure of another family member joining our team. Jami was in the womb when our mothers bowled together 31 years ago! Welcome aboard Jami!! I look forward to many years of fun with you!!

Ladies, you have all become my extended family and I have had many great memories with all of you. I hope you all have a joyous holiday season.

Lucy
Director #4 Forest Lanes

Forest's Generations



Peggy Knestrick, along with her daughter, Bonnie, and granddaughter, bowl in adult leagues while three of her great grandchildren bowl on the youth league.



June Hardy, along with her two daughters and three granddaughters bowl on adult leagues while two of her great grandsons bowl on the Saturday morning youth league



Jane Blazer bowls with her daughter and granddaughter. Her granddaughter just joined the league this year.

Alley Chatz



"Ladies Afternoon Delight League"

Wednesdays

Bea Miracle , Sec'y / Treas.

Well, it looks like winter is just about to begin and I for one am not looking forward to it !! High Average still remains as Julia Ward with 165.22. High Scratch Series is Joan Enterline with 571. Team Scratch Series is Joe Ray's Auto Tech. with a 1381, Team Scratch Game is B & T Trucking with 504. Joan Enterline also holds High Scratch game of 232. Not a lot of awards to report due to the change of averages by USBC this year.

"Buckeye Women's League"

Thursdays

Janie Beadnell, Sec'y / Treas.



The Buckeye Women's League is having a very good season so far. There has been quite a lot of 500's bowled not only from high average bowlers, but lower average bowlers as well. Krystal Robinson currently holds high average with a 164 and she also has high actual series with a 586. Christa May has High Handicap Series with a 697 and she won the turkey that was given away the week before Thanksgiving. I would like to thank Jamie and Bertha for donating the turkey. On behalf of our league we wish everyone a Happy Holiday Season.



Mark Your Calendars

- December 25th Have a Merry Christmas!
- January 1st Happy New Year!
- February 27 & 28 OWBA Convention
Dayton
- March 13th & 14th Adult /Youth Tournament
JD Lanes,
Entries close February 28th
- March 19th -21st McCook Team
Carroll Lanes
Entries close January 31st
- March 27th & 28th McCook Doubles & Singles
Atwood Lanes
- April 9th McCook Spring Banquet
Dellory Community Center
- May 2nd McCook Seniors
JD Lanes

50th Anniversary T-Shirts



To help celebrate our Golden year, we are making available to you our 50th Anniversary Logo T-Shirts. The logo is located at the pocket. They come in a variety of colors: Yellow Haze, Sky Blue, Gray Ice, Natural and White, and sizes range from small to 5X. Not all colors are available in the larger sizes. See your director for more ordering information. The price is only \$8.50.

Congratulations to the Sugardale Ham
Winners!

And

A big "Thank You" for supporting our candy
sales again this year!



*From All of Us, To All of You
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!*