

## TOURNAMENTS GALORE! IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR

By Tom Brendgord

### U.S. Open Qualifier: A Great Falls Affair.....

There is an old expression that the more things change, the more they stay the same. That couldn't be more true than what happened at the US Open Qualifier conducted February 28 & March 1 in Helena. So what really did change and what stayed the same?

First of all, the champions were different than in 2008. Mike Christensen and Doris Kimmerle, both from Great Falls, were the men's and women's respective winners replacing Tony Woodward (Helena) and Julie Redfern (Billings) from last year. Another change from last year (and this was a good one) was an increase in women's entries from 18 to 34. Also in the change category, of the top 24 men this year, only eight of them made the cut a year ago. This year's top 24 men sported a lot newer and younger look.

What stayed the same? The men's entries were 106 compared to 105 in 2008, which only signifies another wonderful job done by Sleeping Giant Lanes owner, Michelle Anderson. The women's top 16 had eight the same as last year (50%). Both of last year's winners were in the hunt this year with Woodward (16th) and Redfern (10th). Kimmerle won this event before in 2007. Helena's John Brodersen continued his mastery in this event placing 3rd after getting 2nd in 2008 as well as several first place finishes in the past. And the scoring conditions were as tough as ever, symbolic of what should be contested on in a US Open tournament.

Both championship matches were all Great Falls finals with Bruce Steffani and his daughter Amanda Jensen placing second respectively.

#### U.S. Open Qualifier - Men

1. Mike Christensen - Great Falls
2. Bruce Steffani - Great Falls
3. John Brodersen - Helena
4. Brad Muri - Billings
5. Mike Carrette - Great Falls
6. Travis Peters - Missoula
7. Zac Wooten - Whitefish
8. Jim Orham - Bozeman
9. Willie McGee - Great Falls
10. Dirk Thompson - Missoula
11. Chris Knudsen - Columbia Falls
12. Jim Ouellette - Missoula
13. Nathan Beebe - Great Falls
14. Tom Sroczyk - Helena
15. Mark Hodges - Butte
16. Tony Woodward - Helena
17. Jason Steiner - Bozeman
18. Doug Prewett - Helena
19. Lewis Dobie - Bozeman
20. Jon Conger - Missoula
21. Theron Conger - Missoula
22. Chris Dunbar - Billings
23. Leroy Thom - Libby
24. Kaleb Stanton - Whitefish

#### U.S. Open Qualifier - Women

1. Doris Kimmerle - Gt. Falls
2. Amanda Jensen - Gt. Falls
3. Brenda Rathbun - Butte
4. Guyla Streit - Fort Benton
5. Barb Lankford - Gt. Falls
6. Dawn Hanninen - Missoula
7. Mary Porter - Missoula
8. Terri Johnson - Helena
9. Karen Brockemuehl - Boz
10. Julie Redfern - Billings
11. Amber Lorenz-Clark - Msls
12. Brandy Bruch - Missoula
13. Tina Davis - Missoula
14. Maryann Robison - Florence
15. Debbie Martinich - Butte
16. Sheila Thomas - Bozeman

### State Tournaments Coming to Anaconda, Billings, Missoula and Butte.

Some go for the fun. Some go for the competition. Some go because of tradition and some go just because it is there. But regardless the reason, state tournaments are a huge and integral part of bowling in Montana. If you are planning a road trip to one of these tournaments, here is some helpful information.

It all starts with the Montana USBC Open state tournament. This year's event is being held in Anaconda and runs for eight big weekends starting March 28th. The team event is scheduled for Cedar Park Lanes and the doubles & singles will be at Copper City Bowl. Even though Easter is the second weekend in April, it will not interfere with any state tournament scheduling. The Open will run for eight consecutive weekends ending May 17th. The reason for eight weekends this year (as opposed to six in 2008) is because it is being held in much smaller bowling centers than what was available in Missoula last year. Entries close on May 1, 2009. Ranie Kelly is the tournament director.

The 2009 Women's State tournament starts on April 18th and runs for five weekends ending May 17th. It will be held in Billings this year with the team event scheduled for Sunset Bowl and the doubles & singles at Fireside Lanes. Some Friday night shifts are available this year on May 1, 8, & 15. There are still three divisions this year, but some changes were made to tweak the average limits with the A division now starting at 165 and the C division for 145 and lower averages. An optional scratch team event has been added to both the Women's and the Open tournaments this year. Dale Matthaes is the tournament director and is being assisted by Bert Stiles. Entries close April 27, 2009.

The Montana USBC Youth state tournament will be held on two big weekends starting April 18th and ending April 26th. It is scheduled for Missoula with the team event at Five Valleys Center and the doubles & singles at Westside Lanes. The entry deadline is March 15, 2009. The tournament director is Teri Hodges.

The Pepsi YBC state finals is being held April 3-5, 2009 at Star Lanes in Butte. This event has undergone more major changes even from last year. There will no longer be a national Pepsi Finals. However, the top two finishers in the scratch divisions will all receive a paid entry into the national Junior Gold tournament. Scholarships will still be awarded at all levels, but bowlers in the handicap divisions will no longer have the ability to advance to the national level. Jane Crowder is the tournament director.

The 2009 High School State Championships will be held at Star Lanes in Butte on May 3. This is a one-day event this year. Tom Brendgord is the tournament manager. There are two qualifying shifts with entries allowed up to the start of the final shift (11:30 am) May 3rd.

**Go to [BowlMontana.com](http://BowlMontana.com) (tournament tab) for more information and to download entry forms.**

## SPARE NOTES

By Laurel Walker, President MUSBC

It is hard to believe we are looking down the lanes at the end of this winter's bowling season. Open, Youth, and Women's Championship tournaments are nearing, and you can still get your bowling weekends and times requested. As always, we want to thank the hosting cities for their continued hospitality to Montana bowlers.

Take a moment to be certain that your local association has delegates or alternates lined up to attend the annual meeting in Anaconda on Sunday, March 29, 2009, coinciding with the opening weekend of the Open Tournament. Thanks to Tom Simkins for arranging our meeting rooms and accommodations. We plan to elect officers and directors, as well as take care of the business side of running Montana USBC. Please offer agenda items to me as quickly as you can.

The Tournament Committee Chair Guy Rolison would welcome your input for productive ideas for future tournaments. All committee listings are posted on our web site, so don't hesitate to contact those members to add what you can for the good of the cause.

We offer our thanks to Ruth Sprankle for taking the Women's 600 Mail-a-Graphic Tournament in hand again this year. My own contribution was a case of the good, bad, and ugly, but it is always fun to try. Keep it in mind for next year.

Please consider attending the annual national USBC meetings in Reno this spring. It is near enough that we could enjoy a large Montana delegation.

Thank you to all for your continued work for the good of Montana bowlers. I hope to see you and your delegates or alternates in Anaconda. We will start the business meeting at 9:00 am at the Elk's Hall.

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### Billings Bowler Records Rare Ambidextrous 300s

By Tom Brendgord & Elaine Lohrenz

As bowlers we know that a perfect 300 is something that we all strive for, yet few ever attain. So one can only imagine the uniqueness of rolling sanctioned 300 games with each hand. 24-year old Jason Link of Billings accomplished just that on January 23, 2009 while bowling in his left-handed league at Fireside Lanes. Jason had rolled a right-handed 300 game eleven months previously in February 2008 in a league also at Fireside Lanes.

Although considered highly unusual, the USBC actually recognized the first such happening by Neil Bayes of St. Louis when he rolled a 300 in 1963 (right-handed) and another one in 1970 (left-handed). Although the USBC does not keep track of ambidextrous 300s, some media reports nationally put the total to date at around 100, which is a lot more than what I would have ever thought.

Adding to this oddity is the fact that another Billings bowler, Craig Schweigert, has not only also rolled right and left-handed 300s, but also right and left-handed 800 series. Craig did his first 300 left-handed in Billings in the late 1990's and then followed with a right-handed one in Spokane a few years later.

Maybe this isn't so hard to do after all!!

## **Montana Strike Zone**

*The official newspaper of the Montana USBC Association*

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## **Hall of Fame Banquet, Delegate's Meeting/Board Election Headline Huge Weekend in Anaconda March 27-29**

By Tom Brendgord

It starts with a few committee meetings on Friday, March 27th and ends with the Annual Delegate Meeting and MUSBC election on Sunday, March 29th. In between there will be a state Hall of Fame banquet on Friday night, and a Montana USBC board of directors meeting plus Opening Ceremonies for the Open State tournament on Saturday morning. This will all happen at the Elks Club and Country Club in Anaconda except for Opening Ceremonies scheduled for Cedar Park Lanes on Saturday.

The Hall of Fame Dinner starts at 6pm Friday at the Anaconda Country Club with cocktail hour. Dinner will be served at 7pm. Tickets cost \$24. Tickets can be obtained from Ranie Kelly or Bert Stiles 667-2258, email: [fa-talbert@mtintouch.net](mailto:fa-talbert@mtintouch.net). The inductees are Dolores Atchison (Butte), Sandi Beaudette (Anaconda) and Robert & Alice Nash (Thompson Falls), who are being inducted into the Pioneer division.

The Delegate Meeting will start at 9 am on Sunday at the Elks Club. Among other business, the delegates will elect new board members and some officers totaling about half of the board. Prior to the election the delegates will vote on 25 to 30 by-law changes. Most of these changes are very straight-forward. The legislative committee feels that probably #1 thru #25 can be voted on in a single motion. All of them can be viewed on the MUSBC tab at [bowlmontana.com](http://bowlmontana.com).

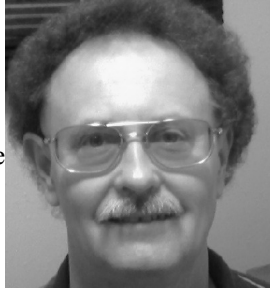
# On My Mind.....

## State Tournaments & High School Bowling

By Tom Brendgord

### Bowling Centers & State Tournaments

Almost two years ago in this column I wrote an article titled "Where Have All The Centers Gone?" In it I mentioned the closing of five major centers totaling 88 Lanes and the potential of many more on the horizon. I also mentioned how these closings are affecting state tournaments



The host city for our major state tournaments is determined by the number of lanes in that city. Specifically, there must be at least 30 lanes or more. That is why Helena, Bozeman and Kalispell are no longer eligible to host. Country Lanes (Bozeman) & Capital City Bowl (Helena) sold, but not as bowling centers and Skyline Bowl (Kalispell) burned down. The Montana USBC has done an admirable job of adapting to the five remaining cities (Anaconda, Billings, Butte, Great Falls and Missoula), but what will they do if and when they start to fall below the 30 lane minimum? And believe me when I say that no city, except maybe Missoula, is safe in today's economic climate.

The Montana USBC tournament committee will soon have to consider contingencies for their state tournaments, for when these centers start to fall, it is usually with no forewarning. Is their system broke now? Probably not. How many available cities do they need to get down to before it is too few? That hasn't been determined yet. Can changes be implemented now that will improve this deteriorating situation? Maybe, but only for open-minded bowlers who appreciate thinking outside the box and don't mind seeing change.

Here are some changes that are certainly worth considering. 1) Reduce the team size to 4 players in the Open. The women are already doing that. 2) Consider lowering the number of lanes in a city to 24 and allow more than two centers to reach that minimum. 3) If a single 24-lane center is used for the entire tourney, designate every shift as both a team shift and a doubles & singles shift. That can easily be done by allocating 8 or 10 lanes for team and 14 or 16 for D & S putting no more than two doubles teams to a pair of lanes. Also, require Friday night shifts. 4) Consider allowing combinations of cities within 40 miles of each other, such as, Bozeman & Livingston, or Whitefish & Bigfork.

These are attractive alternatives that need to be given some thought. There are some downsides to all of them, but there are also many upsides. Our system may not be broke, but it is definitely showing signs of wear. State tournament entries have dropped off immensely in the last ten years. Maybe it is time to do something about it. Talk to your MUSBC rep if you agree.

### 2009 High School State Bowling Championships

High school bowlers, mark Sunday, May 3rd on your calendar. That is the day I will be conducting the annual state high school bowling championships at Star Lanes in Butte. Last year, we changed the format to a team qualifying round with the top 8 boys and top 8 girls teams advancing to a double elimination final. This year it is changing to a one-day event with two qualifying shifts (9 am & 11:30 am) to allow up to 48 teams. Re-entries are not allowed, but multiple teams from the same school are allowed. Singles-only entries are also allowed. Go to [www.bowlmontana.com](http://www.bowlmontana.com) for complete information and to download an entry form.

## Billings Youths Bowl Multiple 300s

By Lynne Corneliussen

Tucker Schaff has bowled two perfect games so far this season. Tucker is a youth bowler in the Greater Yellowstone Valley USBC Association. He bowled his first 300 game ever on December 6, 2008 at Fireside Lanes in the Fireballs League. He bowls for the "Dream Team." His series consisted of a 168, 300, and 175 for a 643 series.

Then on February 14, 2009, Tucker bowled his second 300 game in the Fireballs League on the "Dream Team." His 300 game was in the middle of a 603 series, which also included games of 151 and 152. Tucker is the third youth in recent years to have bowled more than one 300 game in the GYVUSBC Association. The other youth bowlers are Travis Bird, who bowled three 300 games last season, and Chris Dunbar, who bowled two 300 games three bowling seasons ago.



### Calendar of Upcoming Bowling Events

- MARCH:** Gary Gerhardt Memorial - The Bowl (Bozeman), March 14-15  
Family Tourney State Finals - Sleeping Giant Lanes (Helena), 3/21-22  
Youth Traveling League Finals - Sleeping Giant Lanes (Hel), 3/22  
2nd Annual Striketime Scratch Classic - Lucky Strike Lanes (Ronan) 3/21-22  
**MUSBC Hall of Fame Banquet - Anaconda, March 27**  
MUSBC Open Championship-Anaconda-Mar. 28-May 17 (8 weekends)  
**MUSBC Board Meeting - Anaconda, Mar. 28**  
**MUSBC Delegates Meeting & Election - Anaconda, March 29**
- APRIL:** Little's Lanes (GF)-Glenn Rose Scholarship Tourn., Apr 4-5  
Pepsi YBC State Finals- Star Lanes (Butte) - April 3-5  
3rd Annual 20-game Marathon - Lucky Strike Lanes (Ronan), Apr. 4  
MUSBC Youth State Championships-Msla-Apr. 18-26 (2 weekends)  
MUSBC Women's Championships-Bigs-Apr. 18 - May 17 (5 weekends)
- MAY:** Star Lanes (Butte)-**High School State Championships, May 3**  
Teen Masters - Westside Lanes (Msla), May 16-17
- SEPT:** MT.Bowling Jamboree - Helena, Sep. 25-27, 2009

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## NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE

### **STATE 600 CLUB TOURNAMENT**

By Ruth Sprankel

The Montana State 600 Club had an increase of 30 entries for the 2009 Mail-a-graphic tournament which was conducted February 1st - February 14th. Congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who helped distribute entry blanks in their bowling communities.

#### **2009 Montana State 600 Club Tournament Prize List**

80 Entries at @\$10.00 = \$800.00

5:1 Ratio – 16 Places Paid

1 <sup>st</sup> – Lorraine Hodges, Bigfork	758	\$110.00
2 <sup>nd</sup> - Jane Crowder, Billings	736	\$ 95.00
3 <sup>rd</sup> - Lory Jennings, Billings	735	\$ 75.00
4 <sup>th</sup> – Jean Summers, Hamilton	720	\$ 70.00
5 <sup>th</sup> – Diane Henry, Greybull	716	\$ 55.00
6 <sup>th</sup> – Darla Dunham, Billings	709	\$ 50.00
7 <sup>th</sup> – Melony Eriksen, Billings	707	\$ 44.00
8 <sup>th</sup> – Marjie Spinler, Rudyard	705	\$ 42.00
9 <sup>th</sup> – Shanna Fredrickson, Billings	698	\$ 40.00
10 <sup>th</sup> – Mary Lynn Purcell, Billings	697	\$ 38.00
11 <sup>th</sup> – Denise Chambard, Missoula	690	\$ 36.00
12 <sup>th</sup> – Pat Hartle, Billings	685	\$ 34.00
13 <sup>th</sup> – Joann Davis, Billings	684	\$ 32.00
14 <sup>th</sup> – Sue Hiller, Billings	682	\$ 30.00
15 <sup>th</sup> - Elaine Wilkinson, Cardwell	680	\$ 25.00
16 <sup>th</sup> – Darlene Loran, Billings	679	\$ 24.00

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#### **Master/Masterettes Tournament Results - 2009**

The Master/Masterette Scholarship Tournament was held in Helena at Sleeping Giant Lanes on Saturday, Jan 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. There were 70 youth that bowled in the preliminary on Saturday – 40 in the Handicap Division and 30 in the Scratch Division. The top 16 from each division moved on to match play finals on Sunday. Four awards were given out for Saturday – High Scratch Game to Josh Forbes (Helena) and Alan Johnson (Helena) with a 279, High Scratch Series to Matthew Sears (Missoula) with a 1,272 for six games, High Handicap Game to Jacob Haan (Billings) with a 198, and High Handicap Series to Cameron Leavitt (Butte) with a 1,352 for six games. Tournament winners in match play were:

Scratch–1<sup>st</sup> place Travis Bird-Blgs; 2<sup>nd</sup> place Matthew Sears-Msla; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Josh Forbes-Hel; 4<sup>th</sup> place Kyle Mclean-Hel

Handicap – 1<sup>st</sup> place Jessica Adams-Helena, 2<sup>nd</sup> place Shannon Eaton-Cut Bank, 3<sup>rd</sup> place George Barrett-Cut Bank, 4<sup>th</sup> place Jacob Haan-Billings.

High weekend scores:

Helena: Josh Forbes – 279,253, ; Alan Johnson- 279, 219; Kyle McLean – 256, 235, 212; Ryan Collick – 243, 211, 201; Erin Murphy – 225; Jacob Brask – 222, 203; Tevin Charlton – 205; Daniel Murphy – 203; Ryan Loendorf - 200

#### **Master/Masterettes (cont.)**

Billings: Cody Fergen – 252, 226, 223,210 ; Cordell Bird – 247, 212; Travis Bird – 235, 225, 222, 216; Kasey Corneliusen – 234, 202; Damon Winslow – 222, 206, 201; Taylor Dunbar – 214, 213, 206

Missoula: Matthew Sears – 244, 230, 222, 204; Matthew Weber – 227, 202; Ryan Sears - 212

Great Falls: Joleen Martinich – 234, 222, 216, 204

Kalispell – Jared White – 236, 225, 221, 214, 211;

Laurel: Trevor Jellison – 243, 203, 202;

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#### **A Story of Hope**

By: Ruth Sprankel

*Hope*... Is a very familiar word that we bowlers use. I hope I bowl well today; I hope I get another strike; I hope we win this game, etc. To people whose lives have been touched by breast cancer, the word “*Hope*” has a totally different meaning. *Hope* for a cure!

The Thursday Night Mixed League at Sunset Bowl in Billings has always been a supporter of USBC’s annual Bowl for the Cure Event to benefit the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Once again this year, league secretary, Rosalie Dedmore, asked a group of bowlers to come up with a fundraiser – and they did!

The committee went to work on finding a sponsor for the event. Barbara Scheppele, owner of Cooper Creative Advertising & Design was most generous in a donation to help fund the project. The committee received donations from other bowlers and local businesses to hold a Gift Basket Raffle for league members only. All six baskets were valued at over \$100.00 each and the 48 league members purchased \$514.00 in tickets (that’s an average of over \$20.00 per person). The night of the drawing was even more festive with league bowler Bev West baking 48 “huge” pink ribbon cookies.

In the meantime, Rosalie arranged a bowling ball raffle with tickets sold in the month of February. The newest Brunswick ball, The Rattler, was donated by Joe Canino of The Bowlers Edge Pro Shop with 100% of the proceeds going to Bowl for the Cure. \$518.00 was taken in by that event and the lucky winner was Steven Stephenson.

In addition, Helen Johnson, a retiree of KOA, traditionally obtains pledges from employees and retirees of KOA. In her usual fashion, she obtained a whopping \$955.44 in pledges.

A total of \$1,987.44 was raised for this very worthy cause! It goes to show you what a bunch of determined bowlers can accomplish when they put their minds to it! Committee members for this most successful event were Darla Dunham, Helen Johnson, Jan Bengé & Ruth Sprankel.

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# NATIONAL NEWS

## Major Changes Coming to Youth Program

By Tom Brendgord

The USBC Board of Directors has approved several major changes to USBC Youth programs effective for the 2009-10 season. The reason for the changes is to boost youth membership in certified leagues and to provide a more efficient and rewarding system for them. Key changes to the youth program include:

1. Bowling centers will have the option to directly process memberships, averages and awards to USBC. In many areas, local associations will continue this function; however, bowling centers will be able to make the choice to take sole responsibility or continue to work through local associations for Youth processing.

2. A USBC Youth Basic Membership (\$5.00) option has been added for youths in leagues that meet for 12 or fewer sessions. The USBC Standard Membership (\$17) and Junior Gold Membership (\$30) remain unchanged. For the Junior Gold program, the new average requirement for girls has been adjusted to 150; the boys will remain at 175.

3. The youth awards program will undergo significant changes in an effort to better match awards to the skill level of the youth bowler. Included will be special awards for ages 12 and under plus a return of the 300 game and 800 series rings.

4. The age requirement will be changing. USBC Youth memberships will be available to bowlers who have not reached their 20th birthday on or before August 1st of the current bowling season.

These changes are expected to make local USBC associations that are already strong even stronger. At the same time this gives bowling proprietors a way to partner with USBC directly to grow their youth participation.

## If You Bowl The USBC Women's National Championships, You Might Want To Read This!

By Tom Brendgord

The USBC Women's Championships will undergo some major changes in 2010 beginning with the building in which it will be contested. Instead of an existing bowling center, it will be held in a specially constructed arena setting in El Paso, Texas.

Although the physical setting is something new in a non-Reno year, this change pales in comparison to the other changes that the Championships entrants will face. The Women's Championships has undergone several divisional changes in its history, but has always been based on bowlers' actual score. The current format being contested this year in Reno features five average-based divisions, but the final standings are still determined by scratch scores.

That will all change in 2010 when three average-based divisions will be used and all of them will be contested using 100% handicap. The Diamond Division will be made up of bowlers with averages of 180 and higher with handicap based on 220. The Ruby Division matches bowlers with averages from 150-179 using handicap based on 180. The Sapphire Division is for bowlers with an average of 149 and below with handicap based on 150. Optional scratch prize funds will be available and scratch titles will still be offered in team, doubles, singles and all-events.

According to Jack Mordini, USBC Vice President of Tournaments and Events, based on research, these changes are what the bowlers in this event want.

I guess that only time will tell. Although many of these changes make a lot of sense, collectively they are huge. Some are bound to meet with some resistance. My guess is that the Diamond Division will draw the most dissension.

# Montana High School Bowling 2009 State Championships

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## Earl Anthony Selected as Greatest PBA Player

The late Earl Anthony, who was the Professional Bowlers Associations' first career millionaire was recently selected by a panel as the PBA's greatest player in its first 50 years. Anthony, with 43 career PBA titles, barely edged Walter Ray Williams, Jr, who currently has 45 titles. However, Walter Ray was not disappointed by his runner-up finish. He was quick to point out that Anthony won his titles in about 400 events compared to his 600 to 700. Here is a list of the top 30 finalists. Just for the record and to satisfy anyone's curiosity, 23 are right-handed and 7 are left-handed.

- |                            |                      |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Earl Anthony            | 16. John Petraglia   |
| 2. Walter Ray Williams Jr. | 17. Carmen Salvino   |
| 3. Dick Weber              | 18. Wayne Webb       |
| 4. Pete Weber              | 19. Dave Davis       |
| 5. Mark Roth               | 20. Dave Soutar      |
| 6. Mike Aulby              | 21. Amleto Monacelli |
| 7. Norm Duke               | 22. Mike Durbin      |
| 8. Don Johnson             | 23. Dave Husted      |
| 9. Marshall Holman         | 24. Jason Couch      |
| 10. Parker Bohn III        | 25. Steve Cook       |
| 11. Don Carter             | 26. Chris Barnes     |
| 12. Billy Hardwick         | 27. Jim Stefanich    |
| 13. Brian Voss             | 28. Harry Smith      |
| 14. Dick Ritger            | 29. Del Ballard Jr.  |
| 15. Nelson Burton Jr.      | 30. Tommy Jones      |

## USBC Senior Masters Shifting to Las Vegas

The USBC Senior Masters will be held June 7-12 at South Point Hotel, Casino and Bowling Center in Las Vegas instead of the previously announced venue in Tucson, Arizona. The change, which was mutually agreed upon, will allow for an increase in the maximum number of entries from 288 to 384. South Point will also host this event in 2010. The Senior Masters drew large fields the last two times it was held in Las Vegas in 2004 and 2005. It is expected to do the same this time.

All USBC members over 50 years old and with an average of 190 or higher are eligible. Entry forms are available at bowl.com. With an estimated prize fund of \$125,000, bowling legends, such as, Dave Soutar, John Petraglia, Mark Roth and defending champion, Kenny Parks are expected to compete.

## Ho Hum! Another 900 Series is Rolled

By Tom Brendgord

Rich Jerome Jr. from Baltimore, Maryland became the 12th bowler to roll an approved 900 series on December 22, 2008. For those purists like myself, who don't believe in such perfection, the good news is that it was the first one rolled in two years. The bad news is that there is now twelve perfectos rolled since Jeremy Sonnenfeld (Nebraska) rolled the first one on Ground Hogs Day 1997. That amounts to one per year since then. I suspect that Puxatawny Phil must not have seen his shadow that day, for it has been clear sailing ever since. There was even three 900s rolled in one year - 2006. Anyway, congratulations to Mr. Jerome. Maybe I am just jealous!

# *Westside Lanes & Fun Center*

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## TEEN MASTERS

- May 16-17, 2009
- Qualify to bowl the national Teen Masters in Las Vegas
- Singles shifts: May 16 & 17 at 1 p.m. each day
- Entry fee: \$75 (until May 3) - includes new Ebonite bowling ball. \$90 after May 3.
- Team event: Sunday, May 17 9 a.m. (only shift). \$250 entry fee until 5/3, \$290 after
- [www.teenmastersbowling.com](http://www.teenmastersbowling.com) for more information

### Featuring:

- ◆ 36 State-of-the-Art Lanes
- ◆ Full Service Café
- ◆ "Vegas" Style Casino with Live Poker
- ◆ Large Banquet/Meeting Room available
- ◆ Batting Cages
- ◆ Miniature Golf

## **BOWL DOG LOUNGE**

- Happy Hour Monday - Sunday 4:30-6 PM
- Karaoke Thursdays and Saturdays
- Live Music most Fridays



1615 Wyoming - Missoula, MT

**STOP IN AND SEE US!**

(406) 721-5263