

# CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

AUGUST 10, 2023

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**\$100,000**

## TROY LINT STAYS HOT, WINS PBA50 MORGANTOWN CLASSIC

by Jill Winters

Morgantown, West Virginia – Troy Lint is betting on himself this year for the first time and his commitment to the PBA50 Tour is clearly paying off.

After quitting his job to pursue his dream, the lefty with the unbelievable backswing, averaged 246 over four games in the stepladder finals at the PBA50 Morgantown Classic on Thursday, to win his second title of the year. And to do so, he had to defeat two other first-time PBA50 Tour winners this season, a PBA Hall of Famer and one of the other hottest senior bowlers right now, Tom Hess. “You always hear the value of putting skin in the game,” he said. “I never really invested the time because I had a full-time job. These guys are so good and if you are not invested, you can’t really compete.”



Troy Lint

Since dedicating himself completely to being on tour full-time, the Pennsylvania native has

shined. He leads the way in points having made five shows. He has done it all despite dealing with

a knee injury that he believes will likely result in surgery. He recently received a cortisone shot with hopes he can make it through the rest of the season.

“I was in so much pain,” he said. “They were screaming my name and I was doubled over in pain. I couldn’t even look up.”

“As soon as I get my knee healthy, I am going to be better next year,” Lint said confidently.

During the title match, Lint threw one of his worst shots in the first frame leaving the 3-5-6 and covered it. He made a move off of that shot and never looked back. He responded with a double falling behind Hess by 10 pins early.

Both players had single-pin spares in the fourth frame before Lint went off the sheet with eight straight strikes for 269. It was heartbreak

The Southern California 2023 Junior Shootouts this week at Harleys Simi Bowl on August 13, Bowlum Lanes August 19th and Oak Tree Lanes on August 20th.

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## California's Zavala & Parkin Finish in Top 7 at "The Luci"

by Frank Weiler

The Final Team Standings Follow:

Rank	Team	Total Pins
1.	McEwan/Simonsen	8,873
2.	Pluhowsky/Jones	8,755
3.	Asbaty/Tackett	8,664
4.	Janack/Hanrahan	8,639
5.	Clemmer/Stubler	8,607
6.	Zavala/Rash	8,595
7.	Parkin/Janawicz	8,536
8.	Johnson/Ruiz	8,371

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HOUSTON, TX. – Our CALIFORNIA gals “strike” again on the PWBA Tour. **Stephanie Zavala** and **Missy Parkin** finished sixth and seventh respectively at the just completed PBA/PWBA Storm Striking Against Breast Cancer Mixed Doubles Tournament.

The tournament was started in 2000 by Donna Connors in honor of her late friend Luci Bonneau

to raise money to fight breast cancer. Since the tournament is dedicated to Luci Bonneau it has come to be known as “THE LUCI”. Over \$1 million has been raised for the cause.

At this year’s event Stephanie teamed up with Sean Rash while Missy teamed up with John Janawicz.

The tournament was won by Danielle McEwan

and Anthony Simonsen. After the qualifying round of eight games Team Parkin/Janawicz was in fourth place with Team Zavala/Rash in seventh place.

Both teams moved on to the Finals of eighth games of Match Play.

With teams earning thirty bonus pins for each Match Play win the team standings continually shifted after each game.

Team Parkin/Janawicz moved as high as second place early during Match Play while Team Zavala/Rash rose as high as first place midway during Match Play.

It was only because **Anthony Simonsen** averaged a huge 248 during the eight games of Match Play that his team broke past the rest of the field to win the tournament.

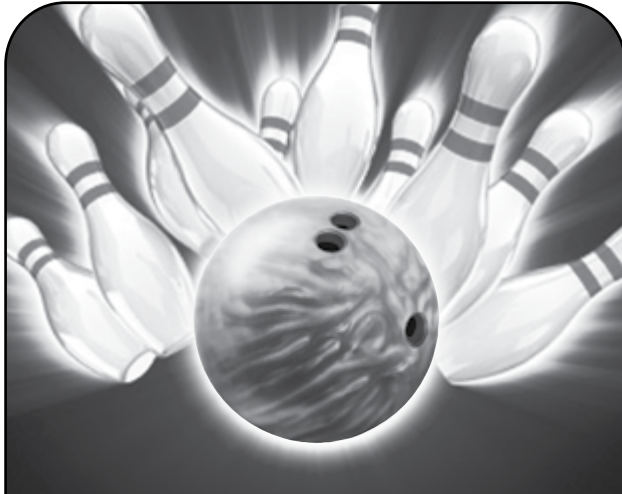
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**CAMPBELL, MCCOWAN WIN U12 TITLES AT 2023 JUNIOR GOLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Gene J. Kanak

INDIANAPOLIS – Ryan Campbell of Clinton, South Carolina, and Alexandra McCowan of Anaheim, California, are the 2023 Junior Gold Championships 12-and-under division national champions.

Ryan got to the winner's circle by striking on seven of his first eight shots enroute to a 230-144 victory over Kristofer Wagner of Deland, Florida, during stepladder finals action at Royal Pin Western

With the victory, Ryan was able to fully erase the disappointment of last year's runner-up finish and officially add his name to the very decorated list of Junior Gold champions.

When asked how it felt to join such a legendary group, Ryan wasn't sure how to respond.

"I'm speechless. I never thought I was going to be on that list of great bowlers, but now I am," Ryan said. "Winning takes a lot of weight off my back because now I can actually tell people that I won Junior Gold."

And Ryan didn't just win; he won impressively.

The two-hander started the title match with three strikes in a row before coming in light and leaving the 2 pin in the fourth.

Undaunted, Ryan converted the spare easily and then ripped off a four-bagger in frames five through eight to put the match away before either player stepped up for their final frames.

"It was around the seventh frame when it hit me that I was going to win," Ryan said. "I was on a roll, and Kristofer had a few splits in a row at that same time. When I knew I had won, it was a feeling that I've never had before in my life. I've never been so nervous and so happy."

Part of Ryan's happiness was due to the realization that he'd bested a very strong opponent to get to the winner's circle.

Kristofer made that quite clear during his 256-168 semi-final victory over No. 3 seed Miles Gordon of Columbus, Ohio.

Kristofer started that match with six strikes in a row before his seventh shot crept high, leaving the 6-9-10 and ending his bid for perfection.

Nevertheless, Kristofer converted the spare and struck on three of his final four shots to breeze to victory.

Unfortunately, Kristofer was unable to maintain the momentum during the title match.

After starting spare, strike, spare, spare, Kristofer split during four of the next five frames, allowing Ryan to establish an unsurmountable lead and take home this year's U12 boys national title.

It's a victory that Ryan will carry with him as he takes the next steps in his bowling career.

"I never thought this was going to happen, but it feels incredible," Ryan said. "Now, I'm just going to keep working hard and continue striving."

**U12 Girls**

Alexandra led this year's U12 girls division from wire to wire, so it was fitting that she capped her impressive week of bowling off by defeating Jayne Juhasz of Ormond Beach, Florida, 188-160, to take home the 2023 U12 girls national title. Both bowlers were solid throughout the title match, but as had been the case all week long, in the end, Alexandra's striking power was just too strong.

Alexandra notched clutch doubles in the third and fourth and sixth and seventh frames to establish a 33 pin lead over Jayne with just three frames to go.

Jayne delivered a flush strike in the eighth, but when her first shot in the ninth came in light and left a 4-5 split, it was clear that Alexandra would be taking home this year's title.

Nevertheless, Alexandra maintained the same cool, business-like expression and body language that she'd displayed all week long.

When asked later how she managed to stay so relaxed and under control, Alexandra made it clear that that's just how she is.

"That's just kind of the way I appear all the time," Alexandra said. "Also, I had a pretty good head start, so I wasn't nervous at all."

That shows just how poised Alexandra is because most bowlers would've been a bit uneasy after watching Jayne's performance in the semifinals.

Jayne was in complete control of her nerves and the lane conditions during that battle with No. 3 seed Isabella Jones of Edinburgh, Indiana, locking in on the 1-3 pocket and staying clean enroute to a comfortable 200-155 victory.

Jayne attempted to employ a similar strategy during the title match, but a pair of splits and a missed single pin was just too much to overcome, allowing Alexandra to take home the title.

It was one that she didn't necessarily see coming; nevertheless, she's very happy to have attained it.

"I competed last year, and I didn't do very well," Alexandra said. "So, I wasn't really expecting to do that well this year, but after making the advancers round, match play and now this, I'm really excited." The U12 division featured 102 girls and 226 boys at the 2023 Junior Gold Championships.

More than 3,250 United States Bowling Congress Youth members competed at Junior Gold 2023, traveling across six bowling centers in the Indianapolis area in hopes of winning a sizable portion of the approximately \$450,000 scholarship fund, making a run at a national title and claiming a spot on Junior Team USA.

BowlTV.com provided livestream coverage of every round of the 2023 event leading up to the stepladder finals in each division.

The finals in each division were taped for broadcast on CBS Sports Network with telecasts adhering to the following schedule: U15 (Wednesday, Aug. 9 at 7 p.m. Eastern); U18 (Tuesday, Aug. 22 at 9 p.m. Eastern); and U20 (Tuesday, Aug. 29 at 7 p.m. Eastern).

Michael Hernandez

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# Southern CALIFORNIA 2023 Junior SHOOTOUTS



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Division B - 161-185	\$35	4 GAMES	Division D - Under 135	\$30	3 GAMES

## Southern California Junior Grand Championships @ Cal Bowl • January 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

4 Divisions Compete For

**\$100,000**



# PBA REGIONAL RECAP: CHRIS BARNES CELEBRATES PBA50 WSOB WIN WITH VICTORY LAP AT SPECTRUM LANES

by Chase Kaufman

Chris Barnes, who endured nearly a full calendar year without a win on the PBA50 Tour, ended his title drought at last month's inaugural PBA50 World Series of Bowling in Jackson, Mich. He led PBA50 World Championship qualifying through 24 games, but bowed out in the first round of the Ballard and Monacelli Championship brackets and fell just short of a title in the Petraglia Championship. All the while, Barnes had his eyes on the World Championship, which he eventually captured.



## PBA50 MIKE EATON SR. MEMORIAL CENTRAL/MIDWEST OPEN

Barnes apparently never got tired of winning (or bowling) because he immediately traveled an hour and a half to continue his busy itinerary. For Barnes, this event wasn't just about bowling — it was about honoring Mike Eaton Sr., the proprietor of Spectrum Lanes who recently passed away following a battle with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Barnes said as soon as he saw this event on the regional schedule, he knew it would also be a part of his schedule.

In a post-WSOB PBA50 event, a handful of touring pros made the trek from Jackson to Wyoming, Mich. In a field with multiple national-level players, local Gordon Kaufman grabbed the final qualifying spot at +66 for eight games. On day two, Barnes made a run to cap off his week in Michigan, needing a position-round win against Peter Dohan Jr. to clinch the title. In that round Barnes rattled off a 246 to Dohan's 214 to claim his 34th regional title after winning the first-ever PBA50 World Championship.

## PBA50 Mike Eaton Sr. Memorial Central/Midwest Open Final Standings

Chris Barnes, 2,500 points, \$2,000  
Peter Dohan Jr., 1,500, \$1,200  
Parker Bohn III, 1,150, \$1,000  
Ryan Shafer, 950, \$900

[PBA50 Mike Eaton Sr. Memorial Central/Midwest Open Full Results](#)



## PBA VANESSA BROWN HOMES OPEN

In a double-dose of bowling, Yosemite Lanes in Modesto, Calif., hosted a PBA and PBA50 event during the late July weekend. Hunter Mayes qualified first at +176 for eight games to claim the one seed, but drew a demanding opponent in the 16-seed PJ Haggerty. The first match was close, but Haggerty squeaked out Games 4-5 to move on. From there, the field stood no chance against the 19-time titleist. Haggerty eventually defeated Lanndyn Carnate in the finals, 234-197, to earn his 20th career title.

## PBA Vanessa Brown Homes Open

### Final Standings

PJ Haggerty, 2,500 points, \$2,200  
Lanndyn Carnate, 1,500, \$1,500  
Nickolas Freiberg, 1,150, \$1,100  
Allex Zieg, \$1,100

[PBA Vanessa Brown Homes Open Full Results](#)



## PBA50 VANESSA BROWN HOMES CLASSIC

The PBA50 Tour also took on the 38-foot Wayne Webb pattern in Yosemite, where Rich Corwin smoked the conditions, going +226, higher than anyone in the PBA division. Unfortunately, he fell as the one seed in the first round, leaving the door open for everyone else. Gerald Vertigan knocked out David Leverage in the first semifinal, while Rick Meneley defeated Anthony Braga in the other semi. In the finals, Vertigan shot a 201 to Braga's 188 to pick up his second career title.

## PBA50 Vanessa Brown Homes Classic

### Final Standings

Gerald Vertigan, 2,500 points, \$2,000  
Rick Meneley, 1,500, \$1,400  
Anthony Braga, \$1,100  
David Leverage, 950, \$1,100

[PBA50 Vanessa Brown Homes Classic Full Results](#)



## PBA WWW.GOODBOWLER.COM OPEN

After the performance Anthony Neuer put on at this event, Anthony Neuer is indeed a good bowler. Neuer smashed the Mark Roth pattern, averaging over 254 for his eight games; through two advancers rounds and six more games, he dropped his average from an astounding 254.63 to just a measly 253.71. It wasn't over yet, as Neuer still had one game to win as the top seed in the stepladder. Alex Cavagnaro defeated Eric Cornog 249-212 in the first match, then defeated Peter Fox 258-204. But in the finals, Neuer continued his astonishing performance, winning 278-193 for his fourth regional title.

## PBA www.GoodBowler.com Open

### Final Standings

Anthony Neuer, 2,500 points, \$2,500  
Alex Cavagnaro, 1,500, \$1,300  
Peter Fox, 1,150, \$1,100  
Eric Cornog, 950, \$1,000

[PBA www.GoodBowler.com Open Full Results](#)

## PBA50 U.E.I. CHRIS LINDQUIST/PROGRESSIVE/GERDEMAN INSURANCE AGENCY CENTRAL/MIDWEST CLASSIC

In a post-post-PBA50 WSOB event, Bowling Green, Ohio, hosted 96 bowlers. The PBA League's Chicago Breeze manager Jason Couch led the eight-game qualifying round at +323, but with plenty of games to go and plenty of bowlers behind him, he had plenty of work to do. But through the three advancers rounds, Couch, much like Neuer, still led and took the one-seed for the stepladder. In the opening match, Brian LeClair defeated Dan Knowlton 245-178, but LeClair was then defeated by Brad Angelo 211-169. The lefty couldn't be beaten in the end, as Couch won 216-189 for his 27th regional title and first in the PBA50 division.

## PBA50 U.E.I. Chris Lindquist/PROGRESSIVE/Gerdeman Insurance Agency Central/Midwest Classic Final Standings

Jason Couch, 2,500 points, \$5,000  
Brad Angelo, 1,500, \$2,600  
Brian LeClair, 1,150, \$2,000  
Dan Knowlton, 950, \$1,500

[PBA50 U.E.I. Chris Lindquist/PROGRESSIVE/Gerdeman Insurance Agency Central/Midwest Classic Full Results](#)

**PBA50** continued from page 1

for Hess, working on a double in the seventh, he had a pocket 7-9 for a few seconds before the 7-pin went down. Hess's next shot on the right lane was a brutal stone-8 as Hess went down on all fours in disbelief. Those inside Suburban Lanes were shocked. He gathered himself and got the spare in the foundation frame.

"I put a lot of pressure on him by striking (in the eighth)," Lint said. "He threw the ball great. He stoned a 9 then an 8 (on the right lane)."

Lint got the win 269-227 and the two players shared a friendly embrace. Lint earned a unique Mountaineer trophy and a check for \$7,500.

"That was pretty amazing especially to bowl four of my friends too," Lint said about his stepladder run. "It's so tough to win out here. Everybody is brutal."

Lint has been focused on setting goals for himself this year. The PBA50 Player of the Year frontrunner has one to check off his list.

"It's been a really good season, but I still have one more goal and that is to win another major," Lint said.

Three first-time PBA50 winners faced off in the first two matches. In the opening match, it was a battle of two lefties between Lint and Michael Haggitt. After two single-pin spares to start, Lint put together a five-bagger while Haggitt had just two strikes through seven frames. Lint went on to win 246-183.

Next up, Lint went head-to-head with Dan Knowlton. Knowlton missed two 10-pins in the first five frames and left a pocket 7-10 to fall behind Lint by 33 pins. After Lint's only open of the show in the seventh frame, he responded with four straight strikes for the 225-173 win.

Match three was another battle of the left-handers. Jason Couch and Lint were all even through four frames. A 4-7-10 split in the eighth frame proved costly for Couch. Lint threw three out of four final strikes for the 244-195 win.

Lint will get his chance at another major title starting Monday as the PBA50 Tour heads to Virginia for the Bud Moore PBA50 Players Championship. The winner of that event will receive \$20,000.

**MATCH SCORES:**

- Match 1: Lint def. Haggitt 246-183
- Match 2: Lint def. Knowlton 225-173
- Match 3: Lint def. Couch 244-195
- Championship match: Lint def. Hess 269-227

**2023 PBA50 MORGANTOWN CLASSIC FINAL STANDINGS:**

- 1 Troy Lint \$7,500
- 2 Tom Hess \$4,000
- 3 Jason Couch \$3,000
- 4 Dan Knowlton \$2,500
- 6 Michael Haggitt \$2,000

Full results are available here: [PBA50 Morgantown Classic | PBA](#)

# To The Editor:

Good afternoon all!

I just saw the article about Russ Johnston. There is so much more to tell but it would take up your entire paper. Since 1963 Russ was an Icon in the SB bowling industry. Building an amazing community & culture. I, as so many others were lucky enough to be part of that community.

He truly was a once in a lifetime person, amazing memory, incredible personality, trustworthy, loyal & selfless. He instilled many of those qualities in the people he surrounded himself with.

He had a beautiful family & taught them many life values. He will be talked about forever in our city as the best bowling community leader ever!!

Thank you for placing Russ on your front page as he so deservedly should be!

Steve Davis  
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- Pain with Pregnancy
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- Ear Infections
- Wellness

# Beating The Odds

by Dave Williams

While reminiscing about all of the closed bowling centers that have been immortalized in the form of vintage t-shirt designs from our last installment (*What's Up With All The Classic Bowling T-Shirt Designs?*), I wondered if a more appropriate title for surviving bowling emporiums might be, "Beating The Odds?"

Although I don't consider myself a glutton for punishment, I decided to take a look at another of my favorite places for bowling nostalgia, "Dr. Jake's Bowling History Blog." One of the more interesting subsections of Dr. Jake's blog is his collection of matchbooks. It's also another look into all of the bowling centers that have closed in recent years.

Most of the matchbooks are listed by order of entry into the category, so it's easy to pick up from where we left off in an article that included matchbook cover designs from AMF Rocket Bowl (Chatsworth, Calif.) and ARC Futurama Bowl (San Jose, Calif.), in June of 2022 (*When Does A Bowling T-Shirt Become A Collectible?*).

One of the newest entries from June of 2023 is for **AMF Circle Lanes** in Bloomington, Illinois. AMF acquired the center in 1983, and their custom at that time was to retain the existing manager if at all possible, for an easy transition. Bill Myers, general manager of the 34 lane center, decided to remain with AMF and became one of the best managers in the chain.

Bill could always be counted upon to give every promotion idea a fair shot. He amazed me on more than one occasion when he would send a handwritten note about a particular marketing idea and his incredible results. Circle Lanes opened in 1959 at an estimated cost of \$750,000, according to *The Pantagraph*, a local newspaper. The center closed in 2014, not long after the acquisition of AMF by Bowlmor.

Next up on the list of matchbook cover designs that brings back memories for me is **Rancho Bowl** in Santa Maria, Calif., the home of PBA color analyst Randy Pedersen. What I remember most about Rancho Bowl is the regional event that they held every year. Following the pro-am segment of the tournament, the owners would provide a free barbecue steak dinner for all the pros! I don't ever remember bowling very well at Rancho Bowl, but the barbecue was a Santa Maria experience that will never be forgotten.

Another bowling center that we have commented on before, **Mickey Mantle Bowling Center** in Dallas, is next on the list of new entries. Many professional base-



**Mickey Mantle promotes Brunswick Products (1956)**

ball players became bowling proprietors during the 1950's and 1960's, as we highlighted in an article that appeared in most publications in either October or November of 2022: *It Ain't Over Til It's Over... Many Famous Baseball Players Became Bowling Proprietors.*

In addition to Mickey Mantle, some of the other noteworthy baseball stars that became bowling proprietors included: Yogi Berra and Phil Rizzuto (Berra and Rizzuto Lanes), Nellie Fox (Nellie Fox Bowl), Gil Hodges (Gil Hodges Lanes), Stan Musial and Joe Garagiola (Red Bird Lanes), Duke Snider (Duke Snider Lanes) and Pee Wee Reese (Pee Wee Reese Lanes in Louisville, Kentucky).

**Country Club Bowl** in San Rafael, Calif., next on the list of matchbook memorabilia, has a special remembrance for me. As a youngster of not more than 15 years of age, I ventured to Country Club with Mark Wetch, an older friend that had a car, to participate in their annual Christmas Singles and Doubles event for junior bowlers. I rolled a score that was completely over my head at the time - a 759 series on games of 212, 258 and 289. It was the second highest score in the country that year for junior bowlers in my age group (another testament to how bowling scores have changed in 50-plus years).

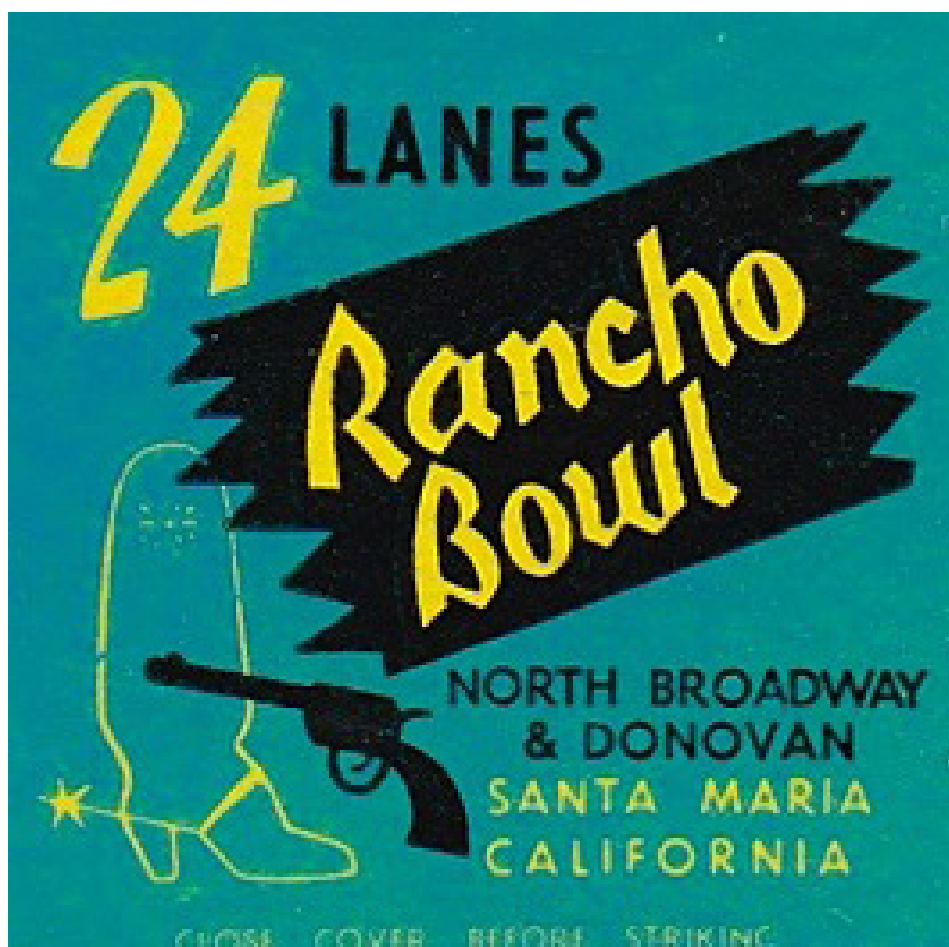
During the last 15 years, I became familiar with **Slate Bowl** (the next matchbook memory), in Slatington, Pa., a part of pro bowler Bill Reese's bowling chain in the states of New Jersey and Pennsylvania. It was built in 1958, next to the Slatington Airport, and alongside the famous Lehigh River that was one of the waterways used by George Washington during the Revolutionary War.

I wonder if Bill Reese is related to Pee Wee Reese? You can read all about Slate Bowl, and the rest of Bill's bowling chain in an article that appeared in March of 2021 in most publications: *Pro Bowlers Coming To The Rescue Of... Bowling!* Bill is also an accomplished singer, and still performs with his "At the Hop" band regularly. Unfortunately, Slate Bowl did not survive the COVID crisis, and remains an empty building that was sold in 2020.

The new and existing entries of matchbooks continues for many, many pages. I culled part of the list to include only locations from California, Texas and Arizona. Take a look through the list and see if there are any locations that you remember and have a fond memory that you would like to share. We will include your memories in a future installment. Here's the list, and happy hunting...

- Downtown Bowl, San Jose, CA
  - La Cienega Lanes, Los Angeles
  - Park Bowl, San Francisco
  - Rheem Valley Bowl, Rheem Valley, CA
  - Sunnyvale Lanes, Sunnyvale, CA
  - Bridgeman's Bowl, San Jose, CA
  - Alhambra Bowl, Sacramento, CA
  - Encino Bowl, Encino, CA
  - 4th Street Bowl, San Jose, CA
  - Bowlero Mar Vista, Mar Vista, CA
  - Mercury Bowl, Pico Rivera, CA
  - Parkway Bowl, El Cajon, CA
  - Hi Score Lanes, Oakland, CA
  - Citrus Belt Lanes, San Bernardino, CA
  - Hollywood Star Lanes, Los Angeles
  - Wilshire-La Brea Recreation, Los Angeles
  - Anaheim Bowl, Anaheim, CA
  - 5 Points Bowling, El Paso, TX
  - Zangs Bowl, Dallas
  - Boedeker's Bowling Alley, Dallas
  - Mesa Bowling Alley, Mesa, AZ
- (most, but not all of these bowling centers have permanently closed)**

• Photo and matchbook illustrations provided by Dr. Jake's Bowling History Blog  
 • Circle Lanes Beat the Pro flyer provided by Dave Williams


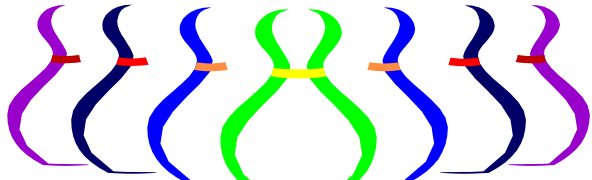
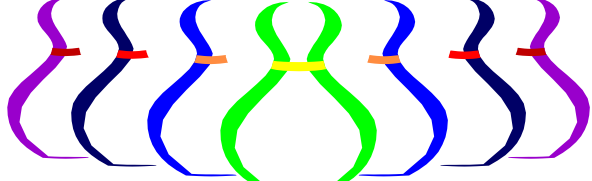
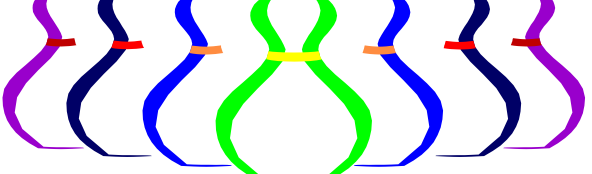


**Rancho Bowl Matchbook**



**Country Club Bowl Matchbook**

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