

CALIFORNIA BOWLING NEWS

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USBC HALL OF FAME CAROL MILLER DIES AT AGE 88

ARLINGTON, Texas — The United States Bowling Congress recently learned of the death of hall of famer Carol Miller, who died Saturday, Feb. 5, at the age of 88.

Miller, of Pewaukee, Wisconsin, was inducted into the USBC Hall of Fame in 1997 in the Superior Performance category. Miller's induction was based upon her sustained success at the local, state and national levels.

Miller won the all-events title at the 1967 USBC Women's Championships and a doubles title in 1974 with Jane Leszczynski of Milwaukee. Additionally, she captured more than a dozen titles at both local and state levels.

She represented Team USA at the 1967 International Bowling Federation Masters World Championships in Malmo, Sweden, earning a silver medal in the five-player team event.

Miller continued to work with Team USA as a coach for the women's team, helping the pro-



Carol Miller

gram claim more than 25 medals in zone and world competition during the 1970s and 1980s.

Those accolades not only earned Miller a spot in the USBC Hall of Fame, but they also led to her induction into the halls of fame of the Milwaukee Women's Bowling Association (now Milwaukee Area USBC) and the Wisconsin WBA (now Wisconsin State USBC).

Once her competitive career was over, Miller gave back to her local community and the young people within it by working as a coach and physical education teacher at Washington High School.

Miller was preceded in death by her husband, Calvin Miller, and by parents, Earl and Marie Herb. Miller's passing was mourned by dear friends Jessie Holder and Leah Chapman, who lovingly cared for Miller during her final days, and by the many bowling friends, students and colleagues whose lives she touched over the years.



REMEMBERING TONY REYES AND HIS EVERLASTING SMILE

by Nolan Hughes

Perhaps no smile shined brighter on the PBA Tour than that of Tony Reyes. His smile — that “everlasting, fun-loving smile” as Parker Bohn III described it — never illuminated the world more so than on Nov. 5, 2006.

Reyes made the show at the PBA Motor City Classic, seeking his first career title. He bowled a 299 in the position round to earn the No. 2 seed.

The 33-year-old drew Bohn III in the semifinal. Bohn III's 30 titles dwarfed Reyes's zero, but a first-time viewer would've never known watching Reyes's glowing bravado.

Prior to that season, his ninth on the tour, Reyes rededicated himself to his career after his father passed away in a tragic accident. Wearing his dad's lucky ring and a black Hammer jersey splattered with the Denny's logo, Reyes opened the teased the crowd with a slight grin. He meant business on that day.

He rolled a Hammer Hawg Zilla over the first arrow for an opening strike. He did the same in the 2nd frame. Then again in the 3rd, and the 4th, and the 5th, and all the way through the 9th frame.

Robert Smith was one of Reyes's closest friends on tour. He said they had competed against each other on the California junior circuit since they were 14 and became good friends by 16.

Smith said Reyes often sat in the TV production truck during telecasts. He said Reyes's job was to log the timestamps of potential replays and advise the producers on which replays to use. Smith said he filled in for Reyes on that show, and quickly learned how those on the truck felt about Reyes.

“Tony was the TV crew's favorite, hands down,” Smith said. “The way they were treating it when Tony

was going for 300, it was really awesome to see people high up in different professions really look to him as one of the guys.”

As Reyes stepped up for his 10th frame, Smith will never forget the energy in the truck.

“I can remember, clear as day, (the director) pointing directions out to each of the camera guys on the lanes,” Smith said before paraphrasing: “You do this, you do that — and everybody else shut the f--- up so Tony can shoot 300!”

Reyes went on to defeat Wes Malott for his first career title. After striking in the 10th to secure the win, he pointed to his dad's lucky ring and said “That's for Dad.”

For the last decade, the PBA Tour has been a little dimmer without Reyes's smile. In September 2012, Tony Reyes died in a car accident near his hometown.

“It's been 10 years, but man it's crazy to think it's been that long,” Smith said. “Mike Edwards, Brian Himmler, Jimmie Johnson and me, we still talk about him quite a bit. It's almost like he's still around a little bit.”

Lindsey Wong grew up bowling in the San Jose area with Reyes. They met as junior bowlers and bowled at San Jose State University together before becoming business partners. More than anything, Wong remembers Reyes's willingness to help other people.

He runs an annual PBA regional in Reyes' name. He said Reyes launched the tournament several years earlier in honor of Don Johnson and held silent auctions and fundraising to fight against juvenile diabetes.

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With The 2022 PWBA Season Complete: STEPHANIE ZAVALA and MISSY PARKIN Led CALIFORNIA Women On The PWBA TOUR

by Frank Weiler



Stephanie Zavala bowled well throughout the season. Winning her fourth career PWBA title at this seasons final Tour event, The Tour Championship, Stephanie Zavala, of Downey, jumped to fifth place on this season's Earnings List with \$66,550 earned.

Long time California standout Missy Parkin, of Laguna Hills, had a stellar season placing well on all PWBA Performance Lists. While Missy's season was cut short by injury everyone expects she will be back better than ever.

Missy started the season with a goal of winning PWBA Player of The Year honors. Her strong start to the season indicated she would be a strong challenger for that title. I predict that a injury free season next year will make Missy a strong contender for PWBA Player of The Year.

The final placement of our California stars on the PWBA Performance Lists follow:

EARNINGS	
1. Tour Leader	\$79,300
5. Stephanie Zavala	66,550
19. Missy Parkin	24,600

PLAYER OF YEAR POINTS	
1. Tour Leader	109,250
11. Stephanie Zavala	60,210
20. Missy Parkin	24,000

The 2022 PWBA season is complete. There were twelve tournaments and eleven champions crowned. Breanna Cote, last season's Player of The Year, was the only two time winner this season.

California was well represented by two PWBA champions who

AVERAGE	
1. Tour Leader	214.94
5. Missy Parkin	211.16
21. Stephanie Zavala	205.79

CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND APPEARANCES	
1. Tour Leader	7
12. Missy Parkin	1
Stephanie Zavala	1

MATCH PLAY / TOP 12 APPEARANCES	
1. Tour Leader	11
14. Missy Parkin	4
22. Stephanie Zavala	3

CASHES	
1. Tour Leader	11
19. Missy Parkin	6
Stephanie Zavala	6

WINS	
1. Tour Leader	2
2. Stephanie Zavala	1
Nine Other Bowlers	

I predict next year will be a banner year for California women on the PWBA Tour. The best year ever for our California women since the rebirth of the PWBA. Missy Parkin is due for Player of The Year honors. She will retool her game and win another Major Tournament on her way to becoming the Number One player on Tour.

I also predict that Stephanie Zavala will win two titles next year and finish in the Top Five in most of the Tour's Performance Categories.

My THANK YOU to USBC Executive Director CHAD MURPHY and USBC Senior Director of Digital Media JASON THOMAS for their support throughout the 2022 PWBA season.

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We appreciate everyone coming to bowl as well, and making this tournament a success.



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MIKE CHOI	272	\$20	
GAME 3			
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CARLO ESCUADRA	270	\$70	
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Thank you,
Jeffery Lindenmuth



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A League By Any Other Name... Why Don't We Call It The Average League?

by Dave Williams

Last week's column, "50 Years Of Bowling Memories," stirred up a lot of conversation among all of the bowling editors that I correspond with each week. I'm not sure if they were impressed with the article, or perhaps more excited about publishing a topic that did not focus only on bowling, but rather an addiction that all of us have to some extent... hoarding.

Tony Franklin of thebowlingnews.net (Dallas/Ft. Worth) remarked: "Dave, I'm going to put this article into the next issue as well... this was a fun read!" I'm guessing that he and wife Genie might have the same issue that I have with paper and old documents, since they are editors of a bowling newspaper that was founded 66 years ago, in 1956.

Even my friend that provided so much criticism (politely, of course) about my collection of papers and broken or outdated electronics, candidly admitted to me this week that he has the same hoarding tendencies, but with different items. I think that we all share in this problem to a certain degree. My mom's weakness was with clothing, while my dad had a collection of tools, pipes and other supplies that would make the manager of a Fastenal Store blush.

But the conversation that brought us to this week's topic was provided by Lynn Matsubara, who is the manager, director and youth committee co-chair for the California USBC Association. She's also the editor of the Cal USBC Newsletter.

It's interesting how our conversation evolved. I mentioned my interest in working at the Bowling Hall of Fame and Museum in Arlington, Texas, when we were chatting about my collection of almost everything bowling. I had discussed this with Jessica Bell, former curator of the museum, but then COVID happened and everything was placed on hold.

"That would be great if you worked at the museum," said Matsubara. "All of your old awards and memorabilia would be cool to display. I have old patches that I framed, and I have old average books for our local associations dating back to the 1930's. I'm trying to figure out how I can scan the books without destroying them."

Can you imagine the history that must be in those old average books? All of the old greats of the game must be in that collection of averages. Names like Howard Holmes, Ernie Soest, Glenn Allison, Fred Riccilli, Foy Belcher, and transplants Don Carter, Hank Lauman and Joe Norris, who migrated from the midwest. Then in later years, a new crop of standouts came on the scene: Norm Meyers, Bud Horn, Barry Asher, Ron Winger and Andy Marzich.

In a phone call to Las Vegas resident Bud Horn, I learned a little more about a couple of the above mentioned stars. Bud always seems to have the perfect comment, most likely because he was a part of Los Angeles bowling history. "I do remember recording the highest average in Los Angeles during the 1958-59 season. There were only three bowlers that were over 200 that year."

Bud said that many of the new crop of players looked to Foy Belcher for advice, especially Barry Asher and Ron Winger. "Belcher was so smooth that you could have placed a glass of water on his head during his approach, and not spill a drop."

As my conversation continued with Lynn Matsubara, I could not help but comment further on those old average books. I remember talking with Carol Mancini a few years ago about a room that she had in the old Burbank office that was filled with nothing but old issues going all the way back to 1940, when California Bowling News began. Carol said that they still had all of them, and they were trying to find an easy way to scan them without destroying some of the older issues in the process.

It's funny that you brought up average books, I said to Matsubara. In my storage units I have one complete file box filled with nothing but old average books from places that I've lived, particularly while moving about the country for AMF. I looked at my list and found an entry for a book that I (should) have for the 1979-80 season, when I recorded a 221 average for 24 games at Rocket Bowl.



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Interestingly enough, the "lane man" in those days at Rocket Bowl was bowling great Hank Lauman, who was mentioned in the list above. Being a student of the game, I was familiar with his name and asked phone solicitor extraordinaire Carl Ritter if he was the same bowler from St. Louis that captained the famous Hermann Undertakers team? At about that moment, Lauman came into the office to punch the clock after completion of his graveyard shift. He was a quiet man and it took me a couple of hours before he opened up about his glory years in St. Louis, and later in Los Angeles.

I remember putting the league together with mostly Rocket Bowl employees, I told Lynn. We bowled on Monday mornings. Karen Crowther (center manager), Carl Ritter, Jim Baker (front desk), and others joined. We had 8 teams of 2, and I think a lot of them did it just so that I could get a sanctioned average for tournaments. We called it The Average League.

"You're not going to believe this," said Lynn, "but I made a league called 'An Average League' so that I could get a tournament average too!! Great minds think alike! It's a singles league and we end with exactly 21 games. It's only once a month at Winnetka Bowl (formerly Canoga Park Bowl). I've been running it since 2015, and we have about 20 people every year."

Matsubara sent me the flyer that you see to promote An Average League. With all of our busy schedules and concerns about the "next" calamity to impact our lives, I wonder if this type of league concept might help to fill the openings that have developed because of indifference for what was once considered the norm? To be continued...



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Reyes continued from page 1

When Reyes passed away, Wong renamed the tournament in Reyes’s honor. A few years later, they modified the tournament to a doubles format to honor Terry Leong as well.

“(Tony) always went out of his way to make everybody feel welcome at the event,” Wong said. “I’ve tried to do the same.”

On the lanes, Reyes was a late bloomer. Wong and Smith agreed Reyes wasn’t very good as a junior bowler. Wong said Reyes was a goofy kid who always ran out shots and didn’t take the game super seriously.

The goofiness would never change, but Reyes did begin to take bowling more seriously at San Jose State.

“When he got to college, he got good — and he also got a little crazy,” said Smith, who bowled at San Diego State for one season in 1993. “We wouldn’t even give them high-fives because they were trying to break our hands.”

In 1992, Reyes’s freshman season, Wong said San Jose State qualified for ITC nationals for the first time in forever. For a team with a bunch of “no-name guys,” Wong said, the Spartans stunned the field by making the stepladder finals.

He said Wichita State stars like Chris Barnes and David Garber took note of Reyes, even imitating his run-outs and fist pumps.

Wong said San Jose State returned to ITC nationals in 1993 with almost the same roster; the only change was Wong shifting to an assistant coaching role after graduating. Once again, the Spartans sat near the top of the standings. This time, few were surprised.

After the first day of the tournament, Wong said Reyes and one of the freshmen were goofing around in the hotel room, as college students often do.

“Tony was chasing after him and he jumped from one bed to the other, slipped and fell off and landed on his right ankle,” Wong said. “We thought he sprained it, but as we later found out, he basically broke it.”

He said the team loaded Reyes up with enough ibuprofen to put a hole in his stomach and the women’s team coach wrapped his ankle as tight as possible. For the rest of the tournament, Reyes adjusted his approach by shortening his steps to minimize the pain.

Despite their best player battling a serious injury, the Spartans returned to the stepladder finals. They defeated William Paterson, the defending national champions, in the first match.

Though San Jose State fell to a Wichita State juggernaut in the championship, Reyes was named the tournament’s Most Valuable Player.

“Everybody knew his situation, where he basically broke his ankle, bowled on one foot for the rest of the tournament, and led us to a second place finish at the national championship,” Wong said.

Greg Thompson II worked with Reyes at Off the Sheet Pro Shop in San Jose’s 4th Street Bowl. Thompson II said they met bowling on tour around the time of Reyes’s win and they quickly became close friends. That was usually how it went with Reyes.

“He never met a stranger,” Thompson II said. “You just immediately felt like your best friends with him.”

Thompson II said Reyes meant “everything” to him, describing him as his big brother. When they first met, Thompson II lived in Ohio and worked at a pro shop. He said Reyes knew his boss — Reyes knew everybody — and soon made Thompson II an offer he couldn’t refuse.

“He asked me if I wanted to move to California and run his pro shop,” Thompson II said. “He wanted to keep going on tour, but he needed someone to manage the shop. He paid for me to move out to California. He gave me a place to live, gave me a job.”

Thompson II said he worked at Off The Sheet from 2008 until 2014, including with Reyes on the night of his death.

He said Reyes proudly displayed the iconic Hawg Zilla in the shop. When customers asked about the ball or his pro career, Thompson II said Reyes had a favorite answer, which he always said while flashing his timeless smile: “I’m the most famous one-time titleist ever.”

“It’s not even a joke: It’s the God’s honest truth,” Smith said. “He is the most famous one-time titleist in the history of the PBA. It didn’t matter where we went, he was loved by everybody.”

“Everybody knew who he was, even though he never had the titles to go along with it,” Wong said. “What you saw was really who he was all the time.”

Though his pro career lasted just 14 years, Reyes left an indelible legacy on the PBA Tour.

Bohn III said Reyes would’ve won more titles had the opportunity been available. It’s easy to look at the years Reyes lost and wonder what could have been, but the “what if” questions only make his lone victory all the more meaningful.

One moment to share his talent and charisma, his smile and laugh with the world. One memory to be shared with bowling fans for eternity. One win for his dad.

Every year on the anniversary of his death, Thompson II and many of Reyes’s closest friends reconvene in a virtual “Toast to Tony.” Carl Ong, another of Reyes’s close friends, organized the event in 2013. Friends and family reminisce about Reyes, sharing stories of his extraordinary life.

Beyond anything Reyes achieved in bowling, he will be remembered for who he was off the lanes. From his brilliant smile, to his willingness to help, to his hippie roots, to his laugh. Oh, his laugh — the one so “ridiculously loud and obnoxious” Smith said it could wake the dead.

“He’s bigger than life,” Thompson II said, before correcting himself. “He was bigger than life. Whenever he walked into the room, everybody knew: Tony’s here and we’re about to have a good time.”


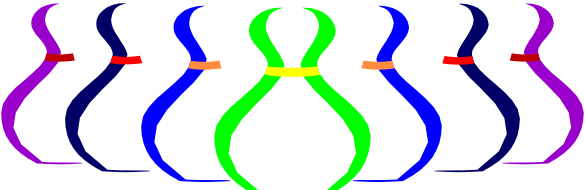
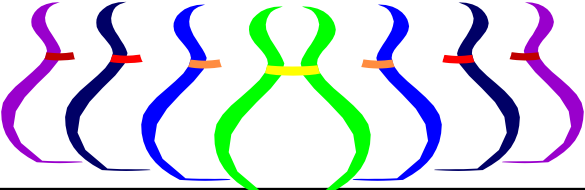
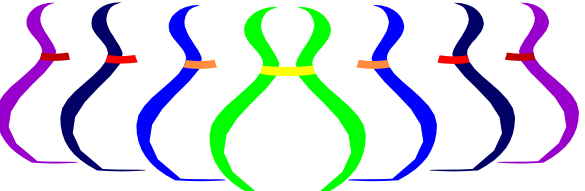
To uphold the legacy of Reyes, the PBA created the Tony Reyes Community Service award in 2013. The honor annually recognizes a current PBA member who does extraordinary community service, charitable and/or educational contributions over the course of a PBA Tour season.

Past winners of the Tony Reyes Community Service award:

- Parker Bohn III, 2013
- Missy Parkin, 2014
- Ed Godbout, 2015
- Rhino Page, 2016
- Del Ballard Jr., 2017
- Chris Barnes, 2018
- Chuck Gardner, 2019
- Danny Wiseman, 2020
- Warren Eales, 2021



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36th Year!

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INVITATIONAL

Family Ties Pulling Away With Two Weeks To Go

by David Yamauchi

DOWNEY - The Brunswick Invitational turned into the home stretch with just two weeks to go in the round after Monday's competition. Family Ties was looking strong all round and was looking to extend their lead in the league with just 10 points left up for grabs after tonight.

In the "A" match, Family Ties with their league-leading 17-3 record met up with US Foods sitting two games back at 15-5. Family Ties came out strong taking the first two games and dropped the last game by enough to hang on for total pins. The 4-1 result takes Family Ties to 21-4 and they will be in the "A" match next week. Mikey Villarreal was big for Family Ties with a 760 series while Gabriel Martinez was right on his heels with a 731 for US Foods.

In the "B" match, Finishing Touch Floors and Forest Lanes put their 13-7 records up against each other. Finishing Touch Floors started the night strong with two 900+ games but Forest Lanes came up big in game three with a 985-856 win and a 15-pin steal of total pins and the 3-2 result. Brad Jones was huge for Forest with a 729 series while Ramsey Basurto's 746 and Joe Pepitone's 724 series were high for Finishing Touch Floors.

Threadworks, the low of the 13-7 teams, met up with Westminster Lanes at 12-8 with Westminster trying to keep the winning going and Threadworks trying to bounce back. Threadworks started the day strong taking the first two and building a triple-digit lead for total pins but Westminster Lanes didn't give up taking the last game by 146 to steal the 3-2 result. Paul Varela led Threadworks with a 638 set while Michahel Barnett was big for Westminster posting a 691 series.

Bowlum and Bowling Guys were the middle of the matches with both teams just barely over .500 going into tonight. The night belonged to Bowlum as the

swept through Bowling Guys for the 5-0 win. Butch Jackson was big for Bowlum with a 730 series while Bowling Guys was paced by Preston Epps' 676 set.

Cal Bowl and Junior Amateur Tour put their 10-10 records on the line in the 9 vs. 10 matchup. Scores were low on the pair as Junior Amateur Tour ground out two wins, but dropped game three to Cal Bowl and Ramon Torres' 286 game. J.A.T. takes the 4-1 win led by Kevin Valmonte's 652 set while Ramon Torres paced Cal Bowl with a 666 series.

Professional Approach was the low of the 10-10 teams as they battled 8-12 HB Complete Builders. This match was all HB Complete Builders as they swept through Professional Approach for the 5-0 win. HB Complete Builders was led by Kevin Cowden's consistent 669 set while John Struckman led his shop guys with a 612 set.

Allied Paving, DV8, J.K Inc. and Jiffy Lube rounded out Monday's matches. Allied Paving and DV8 matched up with DV8 coming out strong taking the first two games but Allied Paving roared back to overcome a 203 pin totals deficit posting a 1047 game and taking the 3-2 win. Jeff Carr paced DV8 with a 731 set and Juan Zavala was big for Allied with a 707 set. J.K. Inc. took 4 from Jiffy Lube led by James Blythe's strong 724 set while Max Castillo paced Jiffy Lube with a 603 series.

The Financial Advisor's Pot was a tie between Gabriel Martinez and Terry Hatley (278) for \$115 each. Sidepots went to Bobby Hornacek (268) for \$38 with 2nd to Steve Guerreri (246) for \$19. Second game sidepot was a tie between Gabriel Martinez and Terry Hatley (278) for \$28 each. SuperPot went to Butch Jackson (259) for \$114 with 2nd to Mikey Villarreal (247) for \$57. Come on out and watch Southern California's Richest League put up some big scores next Monday at 8:00!

TOP 10 TEAMS ROUND ONE			
Family Ties	.....21	Westminster Lanes	....15
Bowlum	.....17	Threadworks	.....15
Forest Lanes	.....16	Junior Amateur Tour	..14
US Foods	.....16	HB Complete Builders	.13
Finishing Touch Floors	15	Cal Bowl	.....11

TOP 10 THIS WEEK			
Mikey Villarreal	.....760	Brad Jones	.....729
Ramsey Basurto	.....746	James Blythe	.....724
Jeff Carr	.....731	Joe Pepitone	.....724
Gabriel Martinez	.....731	Juan Zavala	.....707
Butch Jackson	.....730	Kyle Duster	.....702

SUPER SWEEPER POT
Sponsored by Dean Sanderson of Transamerica Financial Advisors Inc.
1st Terry Hatley 278 \$115 • 1st Gabriel Martinez 278 \$115

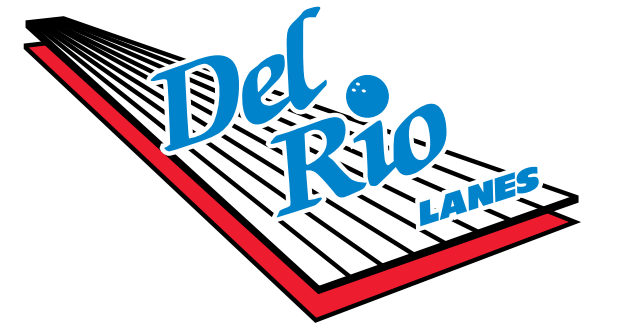


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