



NOVEMBER 2004

## The Special Olympics at Fountain Bowl

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On Saturday, October 16, 2004 the Orange County Special Olympics was held at our center. Our lanes resounded with the laughter and shouts of glee as these special people bowled and had a wonderful time.

On Saturday, October 23, Fountain Bowl hosted the Southern California Regional Special Olympics. Once again the walls echoed with happy sounds of triumph whenever one of the participants succeeded in rolling a ball towards the pins and knocking down even one pin.

During the first squad, all volunteers were from an organization called Team Freedom. This group is part of a larger group called



Freedom volunteer Vickie Thomas, left, of Irvine with Shaun Mac Fatridge and Benjamin Lopez, seated

Continued on page 2: see **Special Olympics**

## SAY GOODBYE TO DENNIS MATHEWS

By now, everyone is aware Dennis Mathews has left Fountain Bowl. A small get-together was held at Fountain Bowl at 5:00 pm on Thursday, October 14, to say goodbye.

Dennis has taken the position of General Manager at Sunset Station's brand new center under construction in Henderson, Nevada which is scheduled to open sometime during March of 2005. He said that it was going to be quite a challenge to oversee the final construction of the equipment in this new center. He is eager to meet this new challenge.

Dennis has worked for Dave Osborn and Gary Forman for 16 years. Dennis started at Chaparral Lanes in San Dimas as the Assistant Manager, and then transferred to Fountain Bowl and as an Assistant Manager under Vince Rodriguez 12 years ago. He worked his way up to General Manager's position.

Dennis will be missed as the big pusher behind all the major events such as the re-



Dennis Mathews. In his serious mode, reflecting, during the interview by John and Dee Ransom, of his plans for the future.

cently concluded Kelly Osborn Annual Fund Raiser, the PBA Tour and many other major events at the center. Dennis is known as the wheeler and dealer to get the local merchants

Cont'd on page 4: See: **Dennis Mathews**

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Phone (714) 963-7888.

Edited by Butch Warren  
Phone (714) 968-0358  
or E-Mail at:  
CWarren4@socal.rr.com

John & Dee Ransom:  
Asst. Editors

To submit articles, contact either Fountain Bowl or Butch Warren.

Cont'd from pg 1: **Special Olympics**

Freedom Orange County Information, which consists of people from companies owned by The Freedom Group, such as the Orange County Register newspaper. Team Freedom co-ordinates approximately 12 events throughout the year to help people who are less fortunate. The Special Olympics is one of these events.

Each volunteer worked with all of the bowlers on a pair of lanes, making sure the bowlers were bowling on the correct lanes, helping them with all of the equipment and showing them how to use it. Volunteers also explained how to locate an ambassador or house volunteer when scoring help was needed.

During the second squad, the volunteers were college students and others who wanted to help. Brandon Campbell, Jackie Tapia, and her brother, Bryan, had originally come to observe. When they became aware that volunteers were needed, they stepped forward. When asked if they had any particular job they were interested in filling, they answered "no". All three were asked to help on the lanes where the wheelchairs and ramps were located. During the second game, Brandon was asked if he was having fun. His reply was, "I'm having more fun helping with the wheelchair bowlers and aligning the ramp than if I was bowling myself!"

There were five wheelchair bowlers who used a special ramp during the first squad, and four wheelchair bowlers and one young lady who was unable to actually roll the ball, but could roll it off the ramp, during the second squad.

One of the second squad wheelchair bowlers was Margaret (Missy) Runnels, who belongs to the Tri-County Regional Center for the Developmentally Disabled. Missy sometimes flies, but loves to take a train to Sacramento to advocate to the state politicians for the disabled. She travels extensively within the tri-counties (Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo) giving lectures and raising funds for the disabled.

If a Special Olympian bowled a 200 or better game he/she received a special award. During the first squad no 200's were bowled. During the second squad three were bowled: Chris Deddo bowled 219 on lanes 1 and 2, Daniel Gangano bowled a 205 on lanes 29 and 30, and



Freedom volunteer Diane Siegfried of Fullerton. Diane said she enjoyed volunteering and helping in these events. The satisfaction and joy was one of the

Pictured left; Brian Tapia, left and coach Peter Bovey congratulating Andrew Startup, center, one of the three wheelchair bowlers during the second squad at Fountain Bowl

Becky Gibson bowled a 210 on lanes 3 & 4.

After each squad everyone outside to the tent which was erected in the parking lot. All awards were presented to the winners as everyone watched them come forward. Their pride of winning was evidenced by how high they all held their heads in the march to the announcer to receive their awards.

Fountain Bowl was extremely proud to have been able to host this memorable event, and looks forward to hosting it again next year.

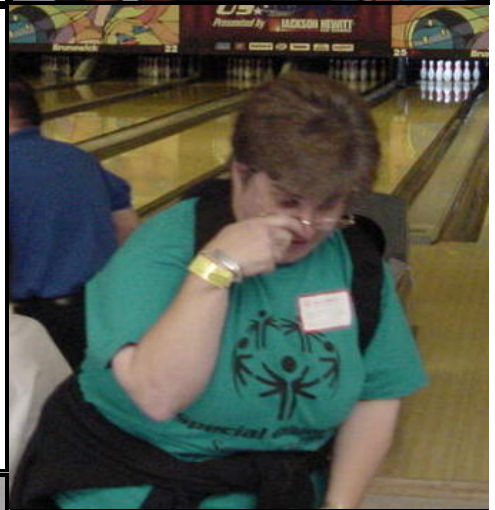


Front row: Andrea Galvin, I, and Margaret (Missy) Runnels.

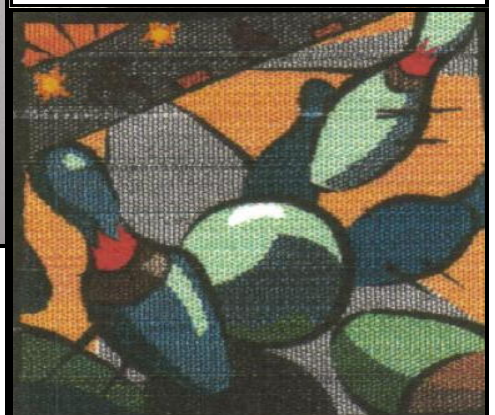
Back row: I to r, Volunteers Brian Tapia sister Jackie, and Brandon Campbell, the one who was having so much fun.



John Velluntin, front center in wheelchair, Shirley Ruffy, and coach Linda Payton on the right



Tamare Morgan, one of the Special People, happy and really having a time of her life



## FOUNTAIN BOWL'S EMPLOYEES OF DISTICTION

Miriam Ann Fortin was born on April 6 in Oxford, Massachusetts, to Beatrice and Trevor Fortin. She was the older of two daughters. Her sister passed away 14 years ago. She lived in Oxford until 1952, and attended Allen L. Joslin Elementary School until moving to Gardena, California. There she finished her education, graduating from Gardena High School in 1956. She went to work right out of high school for Ramo Wooldridge, which is now TRW. She was a technical typist, and her job was to type technical information for the training manuals being used in the newly developing space industry. She worked there until 1959 and left to have a family.



She met Marion (Red) Charles Sickman

when she first moved to Gardena. One day she and the daughter of the friends she was staying with went down the street to another friend's house, and that is where she met Red. He had just moved from Missouri and was also staying at the friend's house.

The couple was married on April 6, 1958, Miriam's birthday. They lived in Gardena until 1970, then they moved to Fountain Valley. They had two boys, Steven, born in 1959, and Charles, born in 1960. Miriam now also has two grandchildren. Her granddaughter, Morgan, is Steven's daughter and was born on her grandpa Sickman's birthday, April 24. Charles has a son named Matthew. Both

grandchildren are now 6 ½ years old. Steven is the Marketing Director for Ramtech, a company in Texas that builds large modular buildings. Charles is the Worldwide Collection Manager for Hewlett Packard.

In 1973 Miriam went to work for a steel fab-

ricator company for almost a year. She quit because her two sons were very active in sports, and she wanted to be a part of all of their activities.

Red is retired from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department after 36 years of duty, including 2 years during this time as a military policeman in the U.S. Army.

Miriam started bowling at Fountain Bowl in November of 1974. She and some friends brought their league over from Kona Lanes. Their first meeting was in a tent in the parking lot of Fountain Bowl. This meeting was held in October, one month before the center opened.

In 1987 Fountain Bowl installed automatic scorers, and Miriam was asked if she would like to work there. She has been here ever since as head of the League Record Service, which processes all the scores for the league bowlers.

Miriam and Red have always been involved with their sons. They spent many years enjoying riding dune buggies and motorcycles in the desert when the boys' sports schedule allowed.

Today they are the proud owners of an antique 1930 Model A Ford, which Red has restored to original condition. They travel to various car shows whenever they can.

## The Youth Corner

### News of and for the Youth Bowlers of FOUNTAIN BOWL

The Fall Fountain Bowl youth leagues have all begun and are going strong. A terrific number of kids signed up for the school leagues. On Thursdays by 2:00 pm the house is almost packed, with a senior league that floors at 12:45 pm, a junior clinic at 1:30 pm, and two junior leagues (an elementary school league and a middle school league) that start at 1:45 pm.

Fountain Bowl has eleven sanctioned Junior leagues throughout the week. Currently all of our sanctioned Junior league bowlers are trying to qualify for the upcoming Pepsi Cola Scholarship Tournament district finals to be held at Oceanside, California. The youth bowlers' league scores from November 6-19 are used to determine who will qualify for advancement to the district finals to be held in March. There will be another qualifying window in late January for the new leagues that start up at that time.

Fountain Bowl will host its annual Adult/Junior Thanksgiving Tournament on Saturday, November 27, 2004 at 7:00 pm. This tournament has a format that everyone really enjoys. It consists of 5 games: game one is 8 pin no-tap; game two is 9 pin no-tap; game three is Scotch Doubles where the junior bowler throws the first ball and the adult picks up the spares; in game four the adult throws the first ball and the junior picks up the spares, and in game five the junior bowler bowls on one lane and the adult bowls on the other. Fountain Bowl encourages all adults to bring their kids and bowl in this special event. Flyers with all the details are in the display stand near the entrance to the center.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Submitted by *Shirley Troiano, Fountain Bowl Youth Coordinator*



### THE TOZAI TOURNAMENT at FOUNTAIN BOWL

Fountain Bowl was the host of the Tozai Tournament for two weekends, Saturday and Sunday, November 6-7, and November 13 and 14.

Names of the tournament's division winners will be posted on their website in several weeks,

[www.nikkeibowling.com](http://www.nikkeibowling.com).

The Fountain Pin will contain a detailed report about the Tozai Tournament in the January 2005 issue.

From page 1: Dennis Mathews

**Dennis Mathews**

to donate products and money for these events. His help in organizing and overseeing the many intricate details that are so important to make any event come off in schedule and to be the success that they are is only surpassed by the next event he oversees.

Everyone, all the Ambassadors, employees and bowlers at Fountain Bowl will miss his guidance and help that have made this the greatest Family Center in the United States.



Dennis Mathews, on the microphone at the Kelly Osborn Memorial Fund Raiser, September 2004

**Johannes Cornelius Blyleven, Sr.**

We are sorry to report that another of our old-timers has passed on. Johannes (Joe) Cornelius Blyleven, Sr., 74, of Garden Grove died on October 15 of Parkinson's disease. Joe loved to bowl and for many years was a member of the Senior Casino group on Mondays, whenever he could get a ride. Joe hadn't bowled in several years due to the onset of his illness, but those who remember him sincerely admire his efforts to stay active in bowling even while this disease was slowing overtaking him.

His wife of 58 years, Jenny, seven children and their spouses, and 19 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren survive Joe. One of his children, Bert Blyleven, was once one of the great pitchers for the California Angels baseball team.

Joe's family will hold a memorial at a future date. They have requested that,

**ORANGE COUNTY CLASSIC**

Here is a quick informational update about the Orange County Classic Pro-Am, which will be taking place at Fountain Bowl, Brunswick Orange Bowl, and Saddleback Lanes. Since the event is fast approaching, if you wish to participate in the Saturday, December 18, Pro-Am and bowl with your favorite PBA pro bowler, you need to purchase entries. Cash, Visa, or MasterCard will be accepted after November 24. After that date no checks will be accepted.

There are several ways to purchase tickets:

- 1 Telephone: 1 (800) PBA-PRO~AM [1 (800) 722-7762] or (714) 963-7888 (Fountain Bowl)
- 2 In person: Visit Fountain Bowl at 17110 Brookhurst St., Fountain Valley, CA 92708
- 3 On-line: Go to [WWW.pba.com](http://WWW.pba.com)

Additionally, the Professional Bowlers' Association has informed us that they have changed two of the squad starting times. The first change concerns the second squad of the **Round of 64** on Thursday, December 16, which has been moved back to 6:00 pm from 5:00 pm. The second change is on Friday, December 17. The last squad, the **Round of 8**, has been moved from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

If you are a volunteer planning to work either of these events, contact your department supervisor to make sure s/he is aware that you know about the changes. If you are a spectator, please note the time changes and plan accordingly.

For further information concerning this event, visit one of the three centers and pick up a brochure that will explain what the events are and when they take place or log onto [www.pba.com](http://www.pba.com). Other than the starting time changes of the two squads, as of this date everything is as scheduled.

**THE ANNUAL BVL DRIVE BY WIBC**

It's that time again. You must have noticed those women in uniforms walking through the lanes during your league donation and handing you that little slip of paper for you to fill out. This dollar is for the **Women's International Bowling Congress' ANNUAL BVL** drive.

BVL stands for **Bowlers to Veterans Link** and is a national bowling fundraiser. Every year at about this time the women of WIBC throughout the nation hit our bowling centers and take up a collection to donate towards aid for our veterans



instead of flowers, any donations be made to: The National Parkinson Foundation, Inc. 1501 NW 9<sup>th</sup> Ave., Bob Hope Road, Miami, Florida, 33136-1494.

in the Veterans Administration Hospitals. The Veterans in the VA Hospitals receive only the basics for their stays in the hospitals. Everyday needs, such as tooth paste, robes, slippers, books, magazines, televisions, and transportation vehicles are luxuries not supplied by the VA.

This money is used exclusively for these items throughout the United States.

Your dollar, along with \$15 cost to bowl in the tournament in January, are the donations you make towards this great cause. It will cost you an additional \$5 to get into the prize pots.

The tournament is going to be held on Saturday and Sunday, January 22-23, and 29-30, 2005 at Forest Lanes in Lake Forest.

The Orange County WIBC has annually lead the nation by raising the most money for this cause for the last several years. To continue to lead in this effort the OCWIBC ladies work hard and are proud of their accomplishment.

## INTERVIEW WITH MONA OSBORN

By Dee and John Ransom

In this last (but not least) of our series of interviews with Fountain Bowl's management personnel, Mona Osborn recently sat down with Fountain Pin (FP) folks and revealed a little about herself that should really interest many of us. After all, it is her pleasant smile and knowledgeable demeanor that first greets us when we come to bowl. Also, her great sense of humor, wit and natural personal charm

make for a warm reception for all of us. And, she's pretty, too! Can you believe she's worked for FB for 26 years? And where does she get all that energy? Yes, she is indeed one of the vital cogs in the group of big wheels who run the best bowling center in Orange County. Mona Cherie Porter Osborn is also the boss's wife; she's married to Dave Osborn, Vice-President of

Operations. It seems both of them have great tastes in spouses!

**FP:** *What is your title here, and what are some of your primary responsibilities?*

**Mona:** I'm the Asst. Manager of the Center. My most important job is to hire employees to work the front desk and train them in all the services required of those who man it.

**FP:** *Your responsibility is huge! Not only must the desk personnel be well trained and be able to make a good first impression for the house, they also need to know how to solve the many and varied problems bowlers have on the lanes, with the training rails or scoring equip-*

*ment. I've seen many days when the desk is literally swamped with open bowlers, league bowlers waiting to pay lineage, and moms or dads waiting to get details on holding a birthday party at the Center. And, Fountain's desk personnel, yourself included, handle all situations with enthusiasm and grace. You might say that the front desk is the "nerve cen-*



*ter" of the House, right?*

**Mona:** That's pretty close to it!

**FP:** *What part of your job do you most enjoy?*

**Mona:** I especially like working with all the people, and particularly the kids.

**FP:** *How long have you been with FB?*

**Mona:** I came to Fountain Bowl in 1978 after graduating from high school.

**FP:** *Where are you from, or where do you call 'home'?*

**Mona:** I grew up in Big Bear Lake here in California. I'm number eight of ten kids in our family. However, I now call Fountain Valley "home."

**FP:** *How did you first get involved in the bowling business?*

**Mona:** As I mentioned, I came to Fountain Bowl in 1978. It just so happened that my neighbor in Big Bear was moving here to become General Manager of Fountain Bowl and he offered me a job! I had never had the chance to bowl before coming here, because at that time Big Bear Lake didn't have a bowling center. Later, they did actually build a center, but unfortunately it burned down.

**FP:** *What are your personal future plans?*

**Mona:** I'd like to continue to work to improve Fountain Bowl and retire, say in "ten years." Then, I'd like to spend more time golfing and traveling with my husband. I would always like to have more time, too, to spend with our children and grandchildren.

**FP:** *How would you describe yourself for our readers?*

**Mona:** I guess I'd have to say that I'm easy-going, happy and like to have a lot of fun!!

**FP:** *Is there anything else you would like our readers to know about you or FB?*

**Mona:** Well, I'm secretary of a Thursday night league, "Mona's Kids", which goes to places such as Mexico, Tahoe, and Hawaii. We have a great time bowling and traveling! I'm also the secretary of a travel league that bowls in several Orange County bowling centers monthly on Sundays. So, I really like the game and the involvement with the people.

**FP:** *Mona, thank you for giving our bowlers and friends the chance to get to know you better!*

## SENIOR MOMENTS



Bonnie Fleming



Millie Lamlein



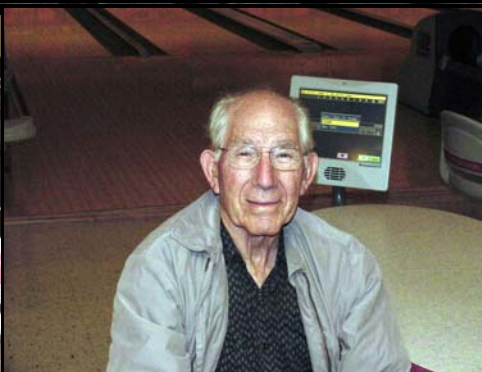
Elsie Woods



Sterling Beam

## Senior Birthdays Birthdays, not the year. To some it is hard to remember that long ago.

Joe Gorum Oct. 2  
Ilean Wenzel Oct. 12  
Elsie Woods Oct. 17  
Bonnie Fleming Oct. 18  
Sterling Beam Oct. 21  
Millie Lamlein Oct. 23  
Ilene Little Oct.30  
Judy Greenhaw Nov. 4



Joe Gorum



Ilene Little



Judy Greenhaw

## Florence (Flo) Vivian

One of Fountain Bowl's Seniors has passed on. Florence Vivian, of Cost Mesa, known to everyone as Flo, has passed away on September 16, 2004. She was an avid bowler involved in many of the of the center's senior activities. She had a remarkable and unforgettable personality. Throughout her 94 years of life, her outgoing nature, quick wit and general love of life endeared he to many. She had many good friends.

Flo was born August 8, 1910 to George and Katie Hutton in Kadoka, South Dakota. She passed away at Hoag Memorial Hospital, Newport Beach. Her two sons, Richard Thomas and wife, Marian, of Pensacola, Florida, and Robert Thomas and wife Ginny, of St. Helen's, Oregon survive her. She also has a sister, Carol May, and a brother, George Hutton, as well as seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

John Keach, her loving mate, was greatly appreciated for the tender care he provided for many years. Flo and John traveled all over the United States to participate in senior bowling events. As the picture indicates, Flo was an accomplished bowler who won an abundance of ribbons and trophies over the years.

On Tuesday, September 21, John and Flo's two sons held a luncheon at the center. Her friends and fellow bowlers thereby gave tribute to the fine and fun lady she was.

