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BVL

First and foremost, I hope this email finds you safe and healthy during these very trying times. I know firsthand this has been challenging over the past 3 months and I am sure you are ready to get back to your jobs, staff, and bowling centers more than ever!

Even though state meetings and the USBC Convention have been canceled or postponed, we hope to visit many of you later this year.

As you probably have read, BVL recently donated \$100,000 to two Veterans Association national programs that were identified by the VA as areas where a BVL grant could have the most immediate impact. These programs are designed to keep a virtual personal connection during the COVID-19 pandemic with programs that address essential ongoing physical therapy and mental health needs such as depression and suicide prevention. We are so very proud to put your donations to work to support our veterans, especially during this crisis.

Understandably many associations were not able to conduct/complete their championship tournaments. These events are critical to your Association's success, and they are also one of the largest annual fundraising events for BVL donations.

Fortunately, many of you were able to raise funds for BVL before the start of the pandemic. If you have those donations and have not yet been able to send those in to the BVL office, please consider sending those BVL funds into our office when your association offices are cleared to reopen. We are aware your fiscal year is July 31st (as is ours), and we would like to process these funds for this year if possible.

Thank you for everything you do for our veterans. Please stay safe and healthy until we can see each other again!

Sincerely,
PLEASE..

Libbi Fletcher Send checks to:

BVL USBC Consultant BVL attn: Mary Harrar

E: libbi.fletcher@gmail.com 11350 Random Hills Rd. Suite 800

Fairfax, Va 22030

Centers and opening

Please help us to help our states proprietors get back to business.

Even if you are not personally ready to go back to a center, these centers need to have time to prepare for next season. They face many challenges in these times and will be ready for us only if allowed the time to get things done. Our centers take care of us all season long, now is the time to take care of them. Without them we have no bowling in the greatest bowling state in the U.S.

Attention Bowlers!

The Michigan Bowling Industry Needs Your Help!

The Governor's office has overlooked bowling centers in reopening plans. We need YOU to help let them know that bowling centers should be included in reopening plans NOW!



Lodge A Complaint with Michigan!
Or contact your local legislator

Call: (517) 335-5858

E-mail: owensR4@michigan.gov

E-mail: AdamsZ@michigan.gov

With the recent CDC findings that the virus is not contagious through surface contacts, we feel bowling centers can easily provide all the safety protocols in reopening NOW!

2020 Scholarships winners

This year's class of scholarship recipients have faced a different landscape in the world. Our unprecedented times have seen most important senior events cancelled or postponed indefinitely.

Sadly, the Michigan State USBC and the state wide bowling community may not get the opportunity to honor these young men and women in person. (although we are still hoping for an awards banquet.)

Despite the world crisis, each one of these 2020 graduates have taken the situation in stride and are looking forward to their next steps with optimism. We salute our recipients and their peers on their resilience in these uncertain times.

It is with much pride, we present the following individuals and honor them for their accomplishments both on the lanes and off.

Blossom King

Blossom King of White Pigeon and the Sturgis USBC started bowling at the age of four. Bowling has always been a family tradition. Her first bowl.com average in the Snoopy league was a 59. Blossom will now post a 196 yearbook average for the abbreviated 2019-2020 season. She has a high series of 703 and a high game of 268. She has competed in twelve (she was entered this year) state youth tournaments. Blossom has competed in fourteen local association tournaments. This fall, she will bowl collegiality for Trine University in Angola, Indiana. Bowling is a club sport at Trine and Blossom will become a member of the Thunder Bowling Team.

At Trine University, Blossom will be in their General Studies curriculum with a Pre-Law core. She would like to one day to work in the field of Criminal Justice. Trine University was a good fit for Blossom as it is very close to home. It is a short fifty minutes ride back to her family. The other great thing for her at Trine is she already knew the coach. He just happens to own her hometown center, Sturgis Bowl.



Blossom was a very involved student at White Pigeon Junior/Senior High School. She was a member of the National Honor Society and served as the club's secretary this past year. Blossom was a leader in the group's annual Operation Christmas fundraiser. She was part of the Interact Club, the secretary of student council, and a participant in Youth in Government. Blossom earned varsity letters in volleyball, track, and softball during her four years in high school. Showing her creative side she entered an art piece in a student exhibit at "Art Bounce" at the Carnegie Center in nearby Three Rivers.

Outside of school, Blossom has been working part-time at Sturgis Bowl. She works where she is needed and has worked as a waitress, cook, and in the arcade. Her favorite memory in bowling revolves around a high school competition where her opponent needed a spare and one pin to win. Unfortunately for her opponent a disaster happened and she made the spare then rolled the ball right into the gutter. The gutter ball forced a roll-off which Blossom won for the match. At this time like many of us Blossom is really missing her bowling community as it is her passion and her

Zachary Baum

Zachary Baum of Zeeland built a boat with his great-grandfather. The family likes to camp and their favorite spot has a nice lake. So Zach along with his great-grandfather, who just so happens to be the great-grandson of the founder of Chris-Craft drew up plans and built a boat. Once they started the rest of the family pitched in too. The pair named their boat, The Legacy Continues.

Zach attended Zeeland West High School and graduated with a 4.197 GPA. He was a member of the National Honor Society. As part of the NHS, he participated in food, clothing, and blood drives in the community. During high school Zach also ran cross country and lettered in the sport. He also competed for four years on the high school bowling team. Zach started bowling at Northland Lanes in Holland when he was ten years old. At the center, he bowled in local association, state and Pepsi tournaments. Zach has steadily improved his bowling each year and currently has a 192 average with a 725 high series and 286 high game to his credit. Two years ago, Zach moved his bowling to his hometown at Zeeland Lanes. At Zeeland, he has volunteered his time with the Friday Night Rollers, a league of bowlers with challenges. He assists with the running of the league and manually keeps score for the bowlers. Zach will continue to bowl next year at the University of Michigan (Dearborn).

This fall, Zach will move on to U of M-D and study mechanical or electrical engineering. He will also bowl in the Wolverines-Hoosier Conference with the varsity men's team. Zach wanted to go the University of Michigan and the chance to bowl collegiality made the choice of the Dearborn campus, the perfect fit.

Before Zach moves on to the next journey in his life, he will once again work at Dutch Village in Holland. This will be his fourth year at the local historical attraction. He has played many roles at the local landmark. Most recently, Zach was a Dutch dancer. He has also given presentations on such things as shoe carving, old farm living style, and original Netherlands cheese making. This year he is slated to work in the general maintenance department.



Isabell Young

Isabell Young of Adrian will be attending Olivet College in the fall. She will be majoring in Chemistry with a core study in forensic science. When she is done with her undergraduate studies, Isabell hopes to transfer to Michigan State University and pursue a Master's Degree in Forensic Science. At Madison High School, Isabell competed in Future Health Professionals (HOSA) events. This year, she competed in the medical spelling competition. She placed 2nd in the regional competition but opted not to go to the state competition because it conflicted with a high school bowling tournament. Isabell along with the rest of the HOSA group did charitable work in the community. Ironically, this fall the HOSA group trained elementary school kids in proper hand washing technique.



During her life she has been influenced by many health professionals that sparked her interest and now future plans.

Isabell will finish her high school career with a 4.07 GPA despite a very busy calendar. She was a member of the National Honor Society. She participated in the school's drama department and had a leadership role in this year's musical theater production of *Hairspray*. Isabell accomplished all of this while holding down a part-time job at Culver's. Since the pandemic she has been working double shifts at the restaurant. In what spare time Isabell has she loves to read and does some doodling. In addition, she volunteers her time to fill out forms and deliver meals to the seniors in her area.

A lifelong bowler Isabell started on the lanes at Hudson Lanes in Hudson at the age of three. At eight, her family moved to Adrian and she joined the youth leagues at Lenawee Recreation. She has competed in state, local, and Pepsi tournaments with her Saturday youth league. Isabell has bowled for her Madison

High School team for four years and has been voted Most Valuable Player every year. In the fall, Isabell will become a collegiate bowler at Olivet. She chose the school because it is a small, welcoming community with a friendly coach.

Noelle Phillips

Noelle Phillips of Traverse City will be off to St. Louis, Missouri in a few short weeks to start her collegiate career at Marysville University. Noelle will become a member of the Saints bowling team this year. When Noelle visited the campus of Marysville she loved the feel of the campus and the welcoming atmosphere of the bowling team. It felt like a good fit for her as she starts her journey to become a physician assistant.

Noelle started her career as a bowler at Parkview Lanes in Cadillac. She learned to love the sport and made lifelong friends. In 2009, Noelle's family moved to Traverse City and she started bowling at Lucky Jack's. Although Noelle has some other interests bowling is her biggest passion. Noelle has a high average of 169 and has had a 652 series and a 267 game. This year she entered the Michigan State USBC Youth Masters for the first time and won the female division. Noelle works at Lucky Jack's and does a little bit of everything. She works the front counter, arcade, and sometimes waitresses at the center. Her future plans in bowling include trying to participate in tournaments like the USBC Queens and the PWBA tour.

For the past several years Noelle and her family have collected funds for BVL. They spend about two weeks hitting every league in Traverse City and soliciting donations for the cause. Noelle's father is a Marine veteran and he has been active in this effort for some time. The family is especially devoted to BVL because the charity supports veterans with all kinds of disabilities. Noelle is a student at Traverse City West High School and will graduated with a 3.2 GPA. In college, she has a goal of maintaining a 3.8 GPA to get into a Physician Assistant Program after her undergraduate degree. Noelle is all about bowling but she has a soft spot for farm animals. You could say she is a closet farmer. This year, she secretly brought baby ducks into the house. The family fell in love with them, so they are still part of the family unlike the goat she brought home before that. It is only fitting that she will be attending a university whose mascot is a St. Bernard named Louie.



Noah Samuels

Noah Samuels cannot remember a time in his life that music did not play a part. The 2020 Plymouth/Salem High Senior comes from a musical family. Both of his parents were actively involved in the music field. Noah would like one day to work as a music producer and a background singer after graduation from Lawrence Technological University. At LTU he will major in music technology. Noah is currently a drummer/percussionist at his church New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church. Noah is involved with the high school choir and is a student director of the high school choir clubs. Noah's second love is bowling. In high school bowling he was team captain for three years. He was a four year varsity starter on the team. Noah started his bowling career at Super Bowl in Canton. He bowled in their Strike Force bowling program for fourteen years. Noah was also a member of the Western Wayne Youth Travel Classic. His highest USBC certified average is 215. His 844 high series was bowled in WWYTC league play as was his high game of 300. At LTU, Noah will bowl for the school's bowling team. He decided to become a Blue Devil because of the power ranking of the team, the current members of the team, and the strength of the program. Along with their technology department the university was a good fit for him.

Noah who maintained a 3.4 GPA was a student leader in school. Noah was a leader in student athletics at his high school as part of the Student Organization of Salem Athletics (SOSA) Executive Board. This student group promotes athletics by attendance at events and fundraising for the betterment of all. Noah was also a student ambassador for Salem High. In that role, he mentored incoming freshman during their sometimes chaotic first year. One of Noah's letters of recommendation mentioned his friendship with a boy with special needs and the writer admired Noah for his kindness. The letter stated the boy had a hard time making friends. Noah became this young man's friend. When questioned about this friendship Noah just said, "We have fun". The mantra Noah likes to live by is "If you are have passion about something don't let anyone tell you, you can't do it".



Levi Kiefer

Levi Kiefer of Auburn had the kind of bowling season his senior year most would dread. An injury to his arm during his freshman year would cause him to have to sit out his senior season. In October, Levi had to have surgery to repair a triangular fibrocartilage complex tear (TFCC). His role this year in bowling would be that of cheerleader. This was a hard pill to swallow for the twice awarded Saginaw Valley All Academic Student/Athlete. During his freshman year, Levi broke his arm but still made the Junior Varsity Bowling Team. He was however, sometimes called up to be on the Varsity Team. The silver lining in all of this, was he got to compete in both the junior varsity and varsity end of year tournaments. The bad news was this break would lead to his recent surgery. Levi however, counts his bowling moments as his best part of high school. He enjoyed sharing the times with his teammates and all the cheering, support, and excitement during their high school competitions. Levi plans on bowling in leagues and tournaments in the future. He may even sub with his father and brother in their Friday night league this fall.



Levi believes in service to others. He has volunteered his time in various ways to help his community and his sport. Levi was a scorekeeper at Monitor Lanes during Bay City's most recent visits from the Michigan State USBC Youth and Women's Championships. He has also kept score for local Bay City Tournaments. Levi has logged over 100+ hours of service to his church and the local Knights of Columbus too. Levi is the dishwasher annually at St. Brigid's weekly Lenten Friday Night Fish Dinners. He volunteers to wash the dishes because no one else wants to do it and it is something he does not mind doing. He washes more dishes for the Knights of Columbus pancake breakfasts. These fundraising activities provide scholarship dollars for kids to attend St. Brigid's Catholic Grade School. Levi attended St. Brigid's from kindergarten through eighth grade. He feels the school gave him a strong foundation for the future and he would like to see more kids be able to experience that same benefit. This year the dinners and breakfast had to be cancelled and Levi is worried about the loss of fundraising revenue.

Levi is a student at Western High School in Bay City. He will graduate with a 4.146 grade point average. He has excelled in mathematics in his high school career and scored a perfect 800 on his SAT Math II Subject Test. He will study Economics at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in the fall. Levi would like to tie his passion for the environment and his economics degree into a career in government or law someday. In addition, to this scholarship from the Michigan State USBC Levi was also awarded two additional scholarships based on his merits.

**We wish all the best to the graduates of the Class of 2020
and share our hopes for bright futures.**

This email is brought to you by the Michigan State USBC Board of Directors. We welcome your articles, comments and suggestions for the "Ten Pin Topics"

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or email us at: tenpintopics@gmail.com

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