

Delegates reelect Gene Mays president

Susan Ryan and Darron Mayes voted vice presidents

March 22, 2014 — Delegates to the Nation's Capital Area USBC Association (NCAUSBCA) Eighth Annual Membership Meeting held Sunday at Bowl America Gaithersburg reelected President Gene Mays of the District for a one-year term beginning August 1, 2014. Mays defeated Second Vice President Larry Gonzales, Fort Washington, Md., in balloting to determine NCAUSBCA's leader for the 2014-2015 season.

Delegates also elected Hall of Famer Susan Ryan, Springfield, Va.; and Darron Mayes, Waldorf, Md.; to the respective offices of fourth and fifth vice president. Larry Gonzales; Willie Graves Jr., Mitchellville, Md.; and Hazel Wallace, Dale City, Va.; will return as vice presidents but will do so in different offices—Gonzales (second to first vice president), Graves (third to second), and Wallace (fourth to third).

Incumbent directors elected for a two-year term ending July 31, 2016 included Cynthia Black,



Darron Mayes

Waldorf, Md.; Sondra Blakey, Forestville, Md.; Connie Brown, Alexandria, Va.; James Butler, Mitchellville, Md.; Dwight Franklin, Largo, Md.; Hall of Famer Jim Lewis, Waldorf, Md.; Woody Stewart, Annandale, Va.; Michael Tinsley, Seat Pleasant, Md.; and Helen Toms, Adelphi, Md. Meanwhile, Ronald Holton, Clinton, Md.; Karen Jost, Alexandria, Va.; and Adam



Gene Mays will lead NCAUSBCA through the 2014-2015 season.



Susan Ryan



Bruce Merriman speaks on one of his two amendment proposals.

Mitchell, Ashburn, Va.; will begin new terms as directors beginning August 1.

At the Youth Representation Meeting held prior to the Annual Meeting, Ruth Adams, Germantown, Md.; Hall of Famer Thomas E. Dale Jr., Stafford, Va.; Diane Garrett, Cheverly, Md.; and Dominic Parham, Landover Hills, Md.; were elected by the youth to the board for a two-year term. In addition, Dale was elected to be a Virginia State delegate for the 2014-2015 season.

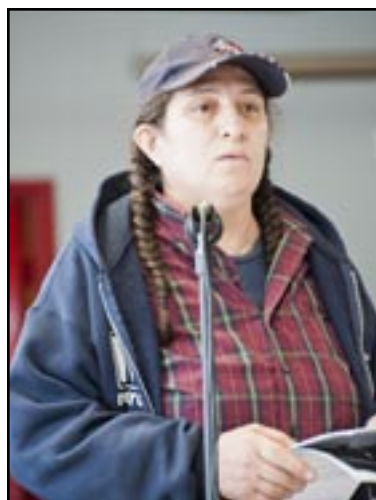
Individuals elected to serve as delegates to the 2015 United States Bowling Congress (USBC) Annual Meeting include Jane Andrews and Andre Andrews of the District; Robert Ashley III, Centreville, Va.; Cynthia Black; Connie Brown; Phyllis Cook, Silver Spring, Md.; Andrea Dale, Stafford, Va.; Larry Gonzales; Ronald Holton; Darron Mayes; and Hazel Wallace.

On a separate ballot, Robert Ashley III, Connie Brown, Judith Butler, Woody Stewart, and Hazel Wallace were elected to serve as delegates to the Fall 2014 and Spring 2015 meetings of the Virginia State USBC.

Amendments proposed by Hall of Famer Bruce Merriman and adopted by the delegates included adjustments to the time to submit qualifications in writing for any candidate running for a director or officer position from 24



Margaret Sherrill (left) and Joanne Kreiser were among the delegates who offered views on the proposed amendments.



hours to 72 hours prior to the submission deadline to allow additional time for the review of credentials. Delegates also approved a change whereby the term for an elected officer will be two years, with a maximum of two consecutive terms in each officer position. In addition, the elections for president and vice presidents 2 and 4 will



Berlin Myers

take place in even-numbered years, and elections for vice presidents 1, 3, and 5 will occur in odd-numbered years. Lastly, presidential candidates must have served at least one full term as an NCAUSBCA vice president, and vice presidential candidates must have served at least one full term as an NCAUSBCA director.

Director Berlin Myers, a Hall of Fame member who chairs the BVL Committee, noted that \$97 was collected in special BVL cans that were left on each of the tables in the meeting room. Also:

- Director Thomas E. Dale Jr., delivered an \$850 check for BVL that represented funds collected at the Youth Championship Tournament.
- Director Ruth Adams presented a check for \$805 for BVL from the bowlers of Bowl America Gaithersburg.

Myers concluded her remarks by saying she expected the association to top \$25,000 in total BVL donations this season.



Judith Butler announces a winning ticket number.

Other news from the meeting:

➤ Director Judith Butler reported a total of \$194 was generated in donations made by the attendees for three raffles to support Bowl for the Cure®. Tavawyaha Batts and Hall of Famers Jonathan Emery and Jim Lewis were the raffle winners.

➤ Vice President Karen Jost, a USBC director, led the discussion of the proposed USBC amendments that will be

voted on at the USBC Annual Meeting in April in Reno, Nev. (The amendment summaries as well as the desires expressed by NCAUSBCA delegates on the legislation appear on page 5.)



Karen Jost

➤ Director Tavawyaha Batts announced that Cynthia Black, a fellow director who serves as secretary of the Monday Mixed League at Potomac Lanes, was chosen as “NCAUSBCA Secretary of the Year.”



Cynthia Black expresses her appreciation after learning of her selection as the association’s “Secretary of the Year.”

➤ Gary Parsons decried the emphasis on “fun” expressed in bowling’s marketing efforts over the past 40 years. He also presented an [idea for a league](#) that would feature the seven highest-average bowlers from each area center to help elevate the sport of bowling and generate interest and involvement in it.



Gary Parsons

➤ Immediately prior to the meeting’s adjournment, Hall of Famer Ray Brothers made a motion that the association pay all bills. It was seconded and passed by the delegation.



Ray Brothers



USBC Director Anthony Colangelo, a guest at the meeting, responds to a question.



Adam Mitchell, who was elected as a director, makes a nomination from the floor.



Clay Stone spoke on his own behalf as a director candidate.

USBC 2014 index of proposed amendments

LEAGUE RULE

A Rules Proposal No. LR 1
USBC Playing Rules • Chapter 4, League Rules
Rule 115a, Dismissal of a League Officer or Player
Item 2

Allows notice and a copy of the complaint to be sent via eMail.

Proposer: Evelyn Peoples, Spring, Texas

TOURNAMENT RULE

R Rules Proposal No. TR 1
USBC Playing Rules • Chapter 6, Tournament Rules
Rule 313, Free or Reduced Entries

Allows tournament managers to change the amount of prize money when offering reduced entries.

Proposer: Karl Kielich, El Paso, Texas

BYLAWS

A Bylaws Proposal No. B 1
USBC National Bylaws • Article VI, Meetings
Section A, Annual Meeting • Item 4b

Removes the maximum restriction on local dues and allows for the local Board of Directors to determine the dues.

Proposers: Karl Kielich, El Paso, Tex.; Chrissy Lee, Belford, N.J.; Raymond Vogel, Brick Township, N.J.; Richard Black, Tacoma, Wash.; Bob Ashley, Centreville, Va.; Lowell Lovgren, Kelso, Wash.; Dennis Hacker, Perryville, Mo.

A Bylaws Proposal No. B 2
USBC National Bylaws • Article III, Membership and
Dues • Section B, Dues

Changes local dues maximum from \$10 to \$15.

Proposer: Greater Sacramento Area USBC

A Bylaws Proposal No. B 3
USBC National Bylaws • Article III, Membership and
Dues • Section B, Dues

Removes the current local dues maximum. If the local dues are at or above \$10, dues cannot be raised more than \$2 per fiscal year.

Proposer: William Chestnut, Cantrall, Ill.

Bylaws Proposal No. B 4
USBC National Bylaws • Article III, Membership and
Dues • Section B, Dues

Changes state dues maximum from \$1 to \$5.

Proposers: Betty McCann, Gurnee, Ill.; Laura Heller, Rockford, Ill.; Kandy Birmingham, New Berlin, Wis.; Kristi Reidi, Independence, Ia.

Bylaws Proposal No. B 5
USBC National Bylaws • Article III, Membership and
Dues • Section B, Dues

Removes the current state dues maximum. If the state dues are at or above \$1, dues cannot be raised more than \$2 per fiscal year.

Proposer: William Chestnut, Cantrall, Ill.

Bylaws Proposal No. B 6
USBC National Bylaws • Article III, Membership and
Dues • Section B, Dues

Changes national dues maximum from \$10 to \$7 and increases local maximum dues from \$10 to \$13.

Proposer: Kevin M. McMackin, Slidell, La.

Bylaws Proposal No. B 7
USBC Merged Local Bylaws • Article IV, Membership and
Dues

When membership is purchased after March 15th, it includes the balance of the current season and the next.

Proposer: San Diego USBC

Bylaws Proposal No. B 8
USBC National Bylaws • Article IV, Board of Directors
Section A, Eligibility

Reduces the number of delegate directors to nine.

Proposer: USBC Legal and Legislative Committee

The complete text of the amendments is available at: <http://usbcongress.http.inter-napcdn.net/usbcongress/bowl/convention/pdfs/2014/ProposedAmendments.pdf>.

NCAUSBCA DELEGATE VOTING RESULTS: A=ADOPT R=REJECT

“We have to restore the sport again”

Below are selected comments regarding a new league proposal made by Gary Parsons during his presentation at the NCAUSBCA Eighth Annual Meeting held March 16, 2014 at Bowl America Gaithersburg.



Gary Parsons reviews some notes during his presentation.

People who bowl on Saturday night bowl for fun. People who bowl in leagues for the most part bowl for other reasons. *Fun* is a pedestrian byproduct, an adolescent byproduct, of bowling for something that’s a challenge. People *don’t* bowl for fun; they bowl for *challenge*.

The premise for bowling as an institution for the last 40 years has been just that: *People bowl for fun*. That’s why we’re in a decline.

From the 1930s to 1972, bowling grew. Bowling was promoted and understood as a *sport*. And that was because of television and movie theaters, where people went to get their news. Bowling was *always* promoted as a sport.

Why is *sport* the essential aspect of this institution? It serves the same function as actually God does for society.

What is the definition of the word *religion*? Religion is a sociological term; it means “rebinding.” A *legion* is a binding force; it rebinds the people. You can have secular religion; the Washington Redskins serve as that purpose—it rebinds the people because we have a very transient area.

Bowling helps rebind the people—the sport rebinds us. It serves the function of religion. If you just bowl for fun, you do it as a scatter thing—you occasionally do it. But what rebinds people constantly to participate in the activity is the *challenge* and the *sport* of bowling.

[The year] 1972 was a turning point of our institution. Bowling since 1972 has been promoted as a *recreation*, an escapist recreation—no wonder you're in decline. We have to restore the *sport* again; it's as simple as that.

It's *not* the economy, stupid. It is how [bowling] is perceived and how it is marketed. People in Arlington [Texas] want bowling to be perceived and marketed as a recreation because you have some key people down there who are making a lot of money recreationally. They don't care about this sport, and they don't care about this institution. We have to turn this around, and we have to generate *genuine enthusiasm* for bowling again.

My proposal is this: This association starts a league, taking the top seven people in each center, with five active each [session]. You bowl probably on Sunday nights. Each center will present their top five bowlers in a four-game [format], with the "fifth" game total pins. Individual points count. After all, if you have high average or the most individual points, you create controversy on who the best bowler is in the association. You create genuine interest. If Bowl America Shirley wins, you create great interest in what the best house is. You create controversy, you create interest, you create people who want to be on this team. You create interest in youth bowlers who'd like to be on this team.

This is what you're going to have to do to turn this around because I see no other way to generate *genuine interest* in the sport again.

This association can run this league; you can have people who run this league and generate income for this association. Generate income for the proprietors. It is a no-lose proposition.

If you do this, you will also serve yourself and possibly leadership foundations, so that if Baltimore does it, now you can have a "Beltway Battle." If that's successful—which it will be—you can have a state championship. And then you can go to Reno and have a national house championship: *Who has the best house bowlers in the United States?* A true national championship.

This is how you're going to generate interest and save bowling from the bottom up.

Return to [ANNUAL MEETING REPORT](#)