

"Meritorious Service"

Paul L. Rothlisberger, Sr. was born April 30th. 1914 and lived most of his life in Havre De Grace. He now resides in Bonita Springs, Florida where he has spent winters since retiring in 1974.

Paul began bowling in 1942 of Aberdeen Proving Ground. In 1943 he formed the Civilian & Enlisted Men's League (C&E) at A.P.G. He served as this leagues secretary from 1943 through 1945.

In 1946 Paul organized the Harford County League which bowled at Academy Lanes in Aberdeen. Moving to Ideal(Harford)Lanes in 1957 and still in existence today (Name changed to the Jerry Farm Memorial League in 1993). This is the second oldest tenpin league in Maryland and was the first league that the American Bowling Congress sanctioned in this area. Paul managed to get this league sanctioned although the original lanes did not meet all ABC specifications. He served as this leagues secretary from 1946 through 1975. In 1948 he began the now common practice of printing weekly sheets for each bowler.

From 1950 through 1957 he held various offices in the Baltimore City Bowling Association (board of Directors, 1st Vice-President, and part of one season as acting President). In 1952 he helped to conduct the first Baltimore City Association Tournament.

In 1957 Paul was instrumental in starting procedures to form a Local Bowling Association in Harford County through ABC field representative Robert Lynch. In 1958 the Aberdeen Bowling Association was formed. Paul served as Association Director through 1962 when the Aberdeen Bowling Association became the Cecil-Harford Counties Bowling Association and continued to serve in that capacity until 1966.

From 1958 through 1963 Paul conducted the Ideal Lanes Annual Tournaments, Featuring Team, Doubles, Singles, All Events; Men's and Women's Divisions; these tournaments were the forerunner to today's Annual Championships.

In 1957 when the Ideal Lanes in Aberdeen opened, Paul voluntarily organized leagues for the house. Of the more than 15 leagues he helped floor that first year, nine are still part of the weekly schedule at Harford Lanes.

During the years 1957 through 1965 he was secretary or statistician for 23 leagues and 220 teams at Aberdeen, Bel Air, and A.P.G.

Although unknown to most of today's local bowlers, Paul Rothlisberger's mark is on

many of the activities and services that they enjoy. For his ground breaking work and dedication to the modern sport of tenpins, the Cecil-Harford Counties Bowling Association is proud to induct Paul L. Rothlisberger Sr. into its Hall of Fame for Meritorious Service.