

Meritorious Service



Ann Letscher grew up in Altoona, Pennsylvania and started ten-pin bowling at an early age. Ann met and married her late husband, Paul, who was a serviceman in the Army. She and her husband had three boys, Marty, Steve and Jerry.

At one point during Paul's career, they were stationed at Aberdeen Proving Ground and although Paul moved on to another base, he and his family returned to the Aberdeen area after Paul got out of the service. Many may know her son Marty in particular who was inducted into the Cecil-Harford Counties Bowling Association in 2002 for Superior Performance.

Marty is married to Sarah Parker and have blessed Ann with two grandchildren, Rachael and Andrew. In 1960, Ann was instrumental in helping to form the Harford County Women's Bowling Association.

The women of Harford County had been a part of the Baltimore County Women's Bowling Association for many years and decided that it would be in the best interest of the women of Harford County to form their own association. From September 18, 1960 through August 1, 1963 the Board of Directors consisted of a President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, Sergeant-At-Arms, and "one representative" from each league. Meeting minutes and historical records are not available to identify the names of the league representatives that attended the earliest HCWBA Board Meetings.

The Association constitution was amended effective August 1, 1963 to split the offices of Secretary/Treasurer and to provide for the election of board directors in addition to the Officers. Minutes from this meeting indicate that Ann was present for this meeting and almost every meeting thereafter during her 12 years of service.

During the early years of the HCWBA there were only five committees. Ann chaired

three of these committees, including the Nominating Committee, Legislative Committee and Audit Committee. Ann also served as a member of the Finance and Budget Committee and many, many sub-committees.

She was elected to be a delegate or alternate to the WISC National and Maryland State Conventions from 1975 through 1978. Ann was THE driving force in the formation of the Harford County 600 Club and became the club's secretary in 1977. She built this club to a very prestigious level where every tournament was an "event" with dozens of competitors, large prize funds, free entries to future tournaments and great fun!

Ann did not just support the sport of Ten-Pin Bowling from the sidelines. She was also an avid bowler herself. Ann was a HCWBA Championship Tournament Champion for Doubles Scratch with her partner Marge Russell in 1962-63. Ann and Marge shot a 1011. In 1968-69 she was team captain and member of the team Mox-Mix that won the Handicap Team Title with a score of 3064. The other members of this team were Minnie Finney, Vergie Logan and two other bowlers that are not listed in the historical records.

In 1960 Ann also won the very prestigious Alaskan U.S. Open Qualifier. Ann bowled 50+ games over a couple of weekends to best a field of dozens of other bowlers for the title. When the tournament field was cut to the top twenty-four bowlers, Ann was 22 2 in head-to-head competition. Unfortunately, the tournament committee ran out of money and Ann was unable to bowl in the national finals.

The accomplishment which Ann is probably the proudest of would be the formation of the Youth Bowling Program at APG Lanes. Ann started the program in the late 1960's and continued acting as the Coordinator through the 1970's. Upwards of 300 youth bowled in this program each and every Saturday.

For Ann Letscher's dedication, enthusiasm and support of the sport of Ten-Pin Bowling, and in particular the Harford County Women's Bowling Association, we are pleased to induct her into the Harford County USBC Women's Bowling Association, Inc. Hall of Fame under the category of Meritorious Service.