

For immediate release

July 25, 2010

Bowling association annual meeting Aug. 2

HAMMOND -- Those attending the annual meeting Monday, Aug. 2, of the Greater Calumet Area USBC Bowling Association will elect two men into the organization's 24th Hall of Fame class.

The Association's Hall of Fame committee has placed the names of Tim Bales, of Valparaiso; John Blasko, of Whiting; Dave Bohlin, of Dyer; Jim Kamizeles, of Hammond; and Bill Slateritz, of South Holland, into nomination.

The top two vote getters will be inducted at the 24th Annual Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet in December.

All sanctioned GCABA members are eligible to vote, but are required to show their sanction card to gain admittance.

The group will also vote on a proposed dues increase from \$7 to \$10 for local dues. National dues are \$10. The GACABA has not had a dues increase in five years.

League officers will also be able to pick up league supplies for the 2010-11 season beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 2, at Dynasty Banquets, 142nd Street and Calumet Avenue, Hammond.

Biographies of the Hall of Fame candidates follows:

Tim Bales

*Maintained averages from 212-242 for 20 years.

*300 game in state tournament, 2005

*Indiana American Legion Dist. 1 Doubles Champion, 2009.

*Longtime Plaza Lanes youth bowling coach

*Longtime GCABA board member

*Six 800 series (824 high)

*Six 300 games

*15 11-in-a-row (299, 298, 297, 290)

John Blasko

As the Association Manager for the Greater Calumet Area USBC Bowling Association, Blasko for more than 10 years used his outstanding management skills to watch over the 5,000-member organization.

Known as "The Bulldog," Blasko processed thousands of major and minor awards for GCABA members. If a bowler received a ring or watch or a patch or the recent magnet awards, Blasko was the one who filed the paperwork with the USBC and delivered it to the bowler.

Blasko is also a longtime GCABA board member.

Other accomplishments:

* Bowler for 55 years

* Elected in 2010 to Indiana Bowling Association Board of Directors.

* Joined GCABA Board in 1996

* Retired from Inland Steel Co.

* Captain of many teams in Inland Steel leagues at Plaza Lanes, Castaway's Bowl and Sun Bowl.

* Team organizer for National and State Knights of Columbus tournaments.

* Indiana Knights of Columbus State Athletic Chairman responsible for state bowling and softball tournaments (eight years). Brought State K of C

bowling tournament to the area twice.

- * Continues to bowl at least three leagues a week.
- * Has bowled many Indiana and National championship tournaments
- * Set pins at Whiting Community Center
- * Began bowling at 15 in Whiting High School intermural program.

Knights of Columbus:

- * Whiting Council Knights of Columbus office and Grand Knight (1979-80).
- * Whiting Council Knights of Columbus Council and Corporation Treasurer (20 years).
- * Appointed Knights of Columbus District Deputy (two years) by Supreme Council.

Dave Bohlin

Award scores: 21 300 games

Six 800-plus series (826 high twice)

Two 299; Ten 11-in-a-row

Bohlin has recorded 300 games in the ABC championships (Toledo, 1991), the Indiana State Championships and the GCABA Championships. One of his two 826 series came in State Tournament competition.

*GCABA Bowler of the Year three times, 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2007-08

*Only person to record two 300 games in The Times tournament.

GCABA titles:

- * Singles: Two. Back-to-back years at Plaza Lanes
- * Doubles: Three. w/Bruce Patterson, Benjie Garrison and Charlie Tapp
- * All-Events: One (LanOak/Lynwood, 2000)

* Team: Six. Beauty Guard (5-man team), Ridin' the Lefties, Olympia Lanes (2), Ridin' the Lefties II and Ridin' the Lefties Again.

* Team Challenge: Four or five team championships

USBC tournament: 202.5 average for 22 years and has recorded four 700 series, including one in each event.

*Longtime GCABA Board member

Jim Kamizeles

*Recorded first 300 game in the history of the Times Classic at Bowl Era, 1978 semifinals.

*1983 Times Classic A division champion, with third-highest pinfall ever at that time.

*GCABA Handicap Team champion, 1977-78 at Moeller Lanes.

*GCABA Handicap Team champion, 1979-80 Kenwood Lanes.

*10 or more league championships

*Seven or more high average awards

*Three 300 games

*One 298 game

*Two 11-in-a-row awards

*High series: 790

*Numerous YABA awards as a junior bowling in the mid 1970s.

Bill Slateritz

*ABC Team All-events title, 1973 (with GCABA Hall of Famers Alfie Cohn, Joe Trombetta, Dave Norton and Gordy Baer)

*50 ABC tournaments; 191 average

*Longtime member of the Josten's team in the Northwest Indiana Classic league

*Two Illinois State team titles; Illinois state Doubles title with Ed Besse

*Won McMillian's Classic, 1958

*Two Chicago Metro team titles

*Won Chicago Metro Doubles with Dave Norton

*4th place ABC Team event, 1973; 9th ABC Team event, 1974

*Five 300 games; One 299 game

*High Average: 216; One 800 series (827 in 1983)

*First scratch bowler to reach finals of "Beat the Champs," 1964.

*Five awards for highest score in the nation over the years, including a 3,681 team series in the Munster Major at Munster Lanes.

*Helped organize Hoosier All-Stars and Midwest Bowlers Association.