



THE BOWLERS TO VETERANS LINK
Roll a High Score and Help a Vet

During the 1994-1995 league season, Ron Woods, then a proprietor in Florida and a high average bowler, concluded he had enough watches, patches, and awards for his various honor scores. He petitioned the (then) American Bowling Congress to offer honor score winners the option of donating what would be the cost of their award to the Bowlers to Veterans Link (BVL).

Sixteen years later the program has generated thousands of dollars for BVL, thanks to Ron, who is still contributing today, along with hundreds of his fellow high scoring bowlers. This effort has helped ensure that countless BVL programs continue to provide recreational and therapeutic programs and services to boost the spirits and brighten the days of those who have served our country.

Another frequent contributor through this program is BVL spokesperson Johnny Petraglia, Jr. who sees this alternative as a win-win for all honor scorers. "I genuinely believe that this is the best option -- rolling a 300 is wonderful, but using that skill to lend a helping hand to America's service men and women is even better-- why not give to those who have fought for our country?"

Greater Buffalo USBC Association Manager Bill Palumbo took this idea and brought it one step further, creating a world of good for veterans while at the same time recognizing those honor scores for which his area bowlers never applied. Bill explains, "I was looking for a way for the bowler's honor scores to appear on bowl.com even though they never turned in an application. I felt their scores should be in their records even though they chose not to apply for an award.

"We had a pile of Honor Score Awards which, for one reason or another, our bowlers never decided to act on," Bill says. "Our association is a supporter of BVL and we believe in what they do for our veterans, so it just seemed to make sense to take care of these aging awards and support BVL."

During the 2010-2011 league season more than 200 bowlers contributed to BVL through this effort. See Honor Score contributors at www.BowlforVeterans.org

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