



MAKE YOUR 2011 NEW YEARS RESOLUTION: SUPPORT OUR VETERANS

Happy New Year from BVL! Here's an easy resolution to keep: Support BVL National. Through your donation to BVL, you can help us maintain important and popular programs for our veterans. **BVL provides grants to every VA Medical Center and State Home in the nation.** In addition, thanks to your support, we are able to continue these key efforts that make a positive impact on those who have served our country. Among our most requested: **"Re-Creation."** This dynamic performance troupe lightens the hearts of thousands of veterans each year in VA Hospitals and Veterans Homes in every state. Thanks to BVL, these talented young men and women

travel around the country touching the lives of those who have served our country. And, with your help, "Re-Creation" can continue their tours. We think their new troupe is better than ever! See a show when they are in your area!

VA National Sports and Arts Programs.

- Golden Age Games.
- Wheelchair Games.
- Creative Arts Festival.
- Winter Sports Clinic.
- Summer Sports Clinic.
- National TEE (Training/Exposure/Experience) Tournament.

Veterans from every VA facility around the country participate in these annual events. Through these events, veterans are encouraged to take the first step in

becoming involved in recreational and therapeutic programs, which build healthy bodies and mend spirits. (See reverse.)

BVL/VA Annual Bowling Tournament.

Each spring for more than 60 years, BVL has sponsored a mail-in bowling tournament that attracts hundreds of veterans in teams representing VA facilities around the country and provides bowlers of all skill levels a chance to enjoy competition and build camaraderie with fellow veterans.

For 2011, we have an exciting new program that provides associations a unique opportunity to reach out to our returning heroes at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Bethesda Naval Medical Center.

New Fundraising Kit Available

Give your BVL campaign a lift by ordering a free our new fundraising kit. It's chock-filled with tips, ideas and materials to help spread the word about BVL. Get your kit today by visiting www.BowlforVeterans.org While you are there, sign up for our eNews, so your association can stay current about BVL programs and activities.

Recognize an active duty service man or woman, reservist or veteran for their service to our country!



Through BVL's "Operation: Honor Force" you can send a

public tribute to a loved one, community member or teammate. See who has already received a 'thank you' in your state!

<http://www.bowlforveterans.org/OHFmap.html>



We Salute You!  Sponsored By
XYZ USBC, Assn. Inc.
 123 Main St.
 Anytown, USA 11111
Thanks For Your Service 

For our wounded warriors, Walter Reed and Bethesda Naval are the first stop back on U.S. soil. Due to the nature of so many of the injuries, very often our young men and women can

spend months and even up to a year recuperating at these facilities – far from family and friends. To help boost spirits and provide an opportunity to step away from the hospital wards, BVL

is coordinating a series of special evenings of bowling fun! Attendees will enjoy a night of bowling as well as a special gift package. Sponsoring associations will be recognized with center signage and cards with the gift. Please consider sponsoring a night of bowling fun for this very important audience. Visit our website to learn more this program.

BOWLERS TO VETERANS LINK

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THANKS TO STATE CONTRIBUTIONS: POPULAR BVL PROGRAMS CONTINUE

Almost 1,000 local and state USBC Associations joined in the BVL effort during the 2009-2010 fund raising season, with many associations continuing their leadership role in the BVL campaign. "We are so thankful for the wonderful work being done by our BVL volunteers across the country," remarked BVL Board of Directors Chair Darlene Baker. "There are some truly special groups whose endeavors have catapulted them to the top; and we are proud to recognize the phenomenal campaigns coordinated by the Minneapolis USBC and the California State USBC as our clear local and state association leaders."

While the Minneapolis USBC support of BVL has been long-standing, it is only in the recent past where they jumped ahead of the pack. Last year, that local association alone raised almost \$20,000 for BVL. At the same time, the perennial state leader is California, which implements a statewide BVL tournament as their central fundraiser. This year, California contributed over \$122,000 to BVL.

In addition to providing every VA Hospital and State Home in the country a grant for recreational programs and services, BVL National also funded a myriad other programs, including "Re-Creation" and National Special Events.

California	\$ 122,795.72	Wisconsin	\$ 5,927.19
Virginia	\$ 32,435.37	Nebraska	\$ 5,043.90
Texas	\$ 26,710.75	Indiana	\$ 3,749.05
Georgia	\$ 22,943.63	North Dakota	\$ 3,666.72
Tennessee	\$ 22,185.17	Mississippi	\$ 3,329.90
Minnesota	\$ 21,995.83	Arkansas	\$ 2,426.51
Kansas	\$ 16,805.04	Missouri	\$ 2,391.51
Washington	\$ 16,309.08	Idaho	\$ 2,019.00
North Carolina	\$ 15,012.95	New Hampshire	\$ 1,910.84
Michigan	\$ 14,945.85	Delaware	\$ 1,524.00
Illinois	\$ 14,357.06	Maryland	\$ 1,485.60
Ohio	\$ 10,919.69	Maine	\$ 1,108.00
Iowa	\$ 10,013.94	Oklahoma	\$ 1,040.00
Pennsylvania	\$ 9,492.25	Alabama	\$ 1,000.00
Alaska	\$ 9,131.78	Arizona	\$ 1,000.00
Florida	\$ 9,042.80	Rhode Island	\$ 500.00
New York	\$ 8,618.10	Vermont	\$ 463.00
Colorado	\$ 8,041.45	Montana	\$ 355.50
Connecticut	\$ 7,510.90	West Virginia	\$ 251.65
South Carolina	\$ 7,258.68	New Mexico	\$ 169.00
South Dakota	\$ 7,210.17	Wyoming	\$ 141.00
Oregon	\$ 7,111.96	Hawaii	\$ -
New Jersey	\$ 6,943.00	Kentucky	\$ -
Nevada	\$ 6,816.69	Louisiana	\$ -
Massachusetts	\$ 6,745.68	Utah	\$ -

BVL SUPPORTS NATIONAL SPECIAL EVENTS FOR VETERANS

BVL Volunteer Sandra Eckert (Ft. Collins, CO) has seen for herself BVL dollars at work and she has a wish.

"I wish all the BVL contributors could see what an impact BVL programs have on our veterans," Sandy explains. "Because BVL is so much more than a hospital grant for a TV or trip to a ball game. Through BVL's funding of the National Veterans events, we help provide a whole new outlook on life; giving vets an opportunity to get involved in sports or the arts. This gives them a new direction and the skills to work toward new goals."

Wheelchair Games

Sandy with Victor and Gene from the Northwest Team



Creative Arts Festival

L to R: Mike Lynch, President and CEO of Help Hospitalized Veterans; Butch Kesler and Harry Stewart, Minneapolis USBC; Rita Navarreté, past National President of the Amer. Legion Aux; Jerry Molnar, Director of the Tomah VA Medical Center.



While attending the National Veterans Wheelchair Games and the Winter Sports Clinic, Sandy has met athletes from across the country. "When our local association works with BVL National, we know that, together, we can make a real difference in these programs."

BVL supports six different special events, two of which were new this year.



TEE Tournament

L to R Iowa State USBCWBA Director Sally Reighard; Paul George, TEE tournament manager; Iowa State USBCWBA Sgt-at-Arms Carma Bouska, Iowa State USBC Director and BVL Tournament Manager Connie Rommel.

Connie Rommel, along with a contingent of representatives from the Iowa State USBC WBA, attended the new TEE (Training Exposure Experience) Tournament.

Here's what Connie had to say, "This is so worth the money BVL donated to sponsor this event. To see these visually impaired veterans up and enjoying the sport I love, I'm hooked....I'll be there!"



Summer Sports Clinic

Another new event is the Summer Sports Clinic. Coordinator Sandy Trombetta outlines a number of important facts about the SSC:

- Helps keeps injured vets healthy and, thus, them out of the hospital.
- Encourages participation of caregivers—teaching them how to get involved.
- Gets veterans engaged in community activities.

Trombetta notes that by incorporating active engagement early in the care of our veterans, they will stay healthier as they age and, thus, require less care, creating a win-win situation for the veteran and the system.

For more photos of these events, visit www.BowlforVeterans.org