

RCSC raises bowling fees

The Recreation Centers of Sun City Board of Directors approved an incremental increase in bowling fees, effective Sept. 1.

Bowling fees at both Lakeview, 10502 W. Thunderbird Blvd., and Bell, 16810 N. 99th Ave., lanes will increase 15 cents per game to \$2.40 for RCSC cardholders and \$2.65 for guests during the peak season. Locker fees will increase to \$16 per year. There will be no increase in the cost of shoe rental.

Bowling fees during May through August will also increase 15 cents per game to \$1.90 for RCSC cardholders and \$2.15 for guests.

RCSC bowling centers have not had a fee increase since 2008 and remain the lowest bowling fees in the West Valley, according to Joelyn Higgins, RCSC communications director. Open play at

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Fees

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most bowling centers in the surrounding metropolitan area is \$4.95 per game while bowling fees in Sun City West are \$2.40 for their cardholders and \$2.90 for guests, she added.

"For most bowlers, this increase is minimal. It will end up costing them less than a buck more," said Randy Johnson, RCSC bowling director.

Most bowlers typically bowl three games each time they visit a bowling center and during league play, he added.

In the last few years, the bowling centers have had a great deal of remodeling and equipment upgrades, all in the best interest of Sun City bowlers, according to Mr. John-

son. There have been scoring-monitor upgrades, new paint, new flooring, required software upgrades, plus a host of other items that needed to be done to keep the RCSC bowling centers state-of-the-art.

"The RCSC and the Board of Directors desire quality bowling facilities for our cardholders and guests," said Carole Martinez, RCSC board director and chairwoman of the Bowling Committee. "When an increase was suggested, the board members did all they could to minimize the impact of any additional cost."

Inspections were also recently completed by the United States Bowling Congress on all RCSC bowling lanes, approaches, foul lights and pinspotting at both bowling centers. A few minor issues were identified and will be resolved before the fall bowling season begins, according to Mr. Johnson.

Bowling for players

Open play is up

By Cecilia Chan
Independent Newspapers

More advertisement, a snack bar and freebies were some of the ideas league bowlers tossed about to put more pump back into the game.

Bowling at the Recreation Centers of Sun City has been in the gutter for the past few years.

"I think the reason bowling has

gone down is when I started bowling I was a stay-at-home mom," said Kate Nelson, who is from Milwaukee, bowling capital of the world. "Bowling was an outlet. Now women work and don't want to learn to bowl and it's not a sport you pick up at 65."

RCSC's two bowling houses — Lakeview and Bell — showed a 30 percent drop in lineage in the past 10 years, said Gene Zylstra, RCSC

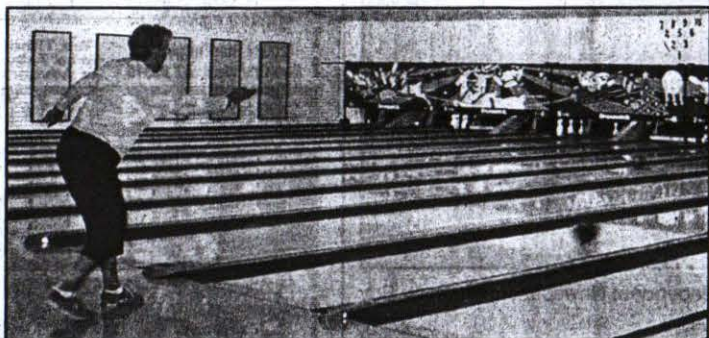
director and chairman of the Bowling Standing Committee. The Lakeview house holds 24 lanes and Bell, 16.

Besides raising fees, RCSC instituted open play to those 55 and older outside Sun City and offers bowling classes with a fee in an effort to attract more bowlers.

"We got these training sessions that helps get them in there," Mr. Zylstra said. "Open bowling has increased."

Year to date lineage for open,

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Independent Newspapers/Cecilia Chan

The women's Sunrisers Bowling League hits the lanes at Lakeview.

Bowling

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bowling showed a 6,000-plus jump from 2003, Mr. Zylstra said.

However, league bowling is not doing as well. Year-to-date numbers showed league playing down by 20,000-plus lines, "which is our bread and butter," he said.

"When I came here 10 to 20 years ago I did bowl a lot and the leagues can tell you they were full," he said. "The alleys were completely full and they had five-member teams and now it's gone down. Some of our people are getting older and can't bowl and as a result leagues that normally have five people, some have four and some have three and so that has decreased the number of lines bowled."

The RCSC board discussed the

possibility of closing one of the houses.

"If we continue to lose money at the rate we are losing, we might have to consider closing one of the houses," Mr. Zylstra said. "Nothing is definite."

Mr. Zylstra pointed out, however, bowling nationwide is ailing.

"Bowling for whatever reason has declined over the last 10, 20 years," he said. "It's been declining all over the country. Apparently people have more to do than they use to."

Shirley Pittman, with the Sunrisers Bowling League, suggested give-aways to attract more players such as one free game for every three games paid.

"People will come," she said of her proposal.

Also, tables with seats for eating and a snack bar where players can buy junk food such as potato chips or hot dogs would lure in bowlers

to Lakeview, she added.

Kitty Hoberg, Sunrisers president, said more promotion is needed, informing outside seniors they can play in Sun City's lanes.

And the RCSC board should take a survey of new residents to see if they would be interested in bowling so leagues can contact them to play, she said.

"Bowling is cyclical," said Ms. Hoberg, whose in-laws operated a bowling business for 30 years. She suggested making the game more interesting by staging turkey shoots.

Board Director and Treasurer Bud Hantke had said RCSC needed to raise bowling revenues by \$80,000 with fee increases in the next two budget years.

Next September, league bowling goes to \$2 a line from the current \$1.67 a line and open bowling increases to \$2 from \$1.70 for residents and increasing to \$2.30 from

\$2 for guests. All open bowling fees for the summer also are proposed to increase by 25 cents, beginning May 1, 2005.

Despite the hike, bowling in Sun City is still a bargain, said Margaret Berry, RCSC bowling manager. She sees more advertisement as an avenue to attract outside play especially among seniors moving into Surprise.

"We need to bring bowling to at least up to point where we can break even," she said. "Right now we are down in league play but we are seeing new players coming in for open play. If we keep getting more bowlers we don't have to keep raising the prices and keep it at a rate that is affordable. This is a senior community."

Post your comments on this issue at newsblog.info/0302

News editor Cecilia Chan can be reached at 972-6101 or cchan@newszap.com

Sun City bowling rates going up

STAFF REPORT

Despite a recent hike in bowling rates, the Recreation Centers of Sun City Budget and Finance Committee is proposing another rate increase for September and May 2005.

The announcement came Thursday in a regular meeting of the RCSC board of directors.

With a 2004 year-to-date deficit of \$79,868, RCSC bowling finances have fallen on hard times. But Bud Hantke, RCSC treasurer, is hopeful the bowling budget will bounce back with the fee increases.

The RCSC board will consider the proposal and vote on it in December.

Effective Sept. 1, the proposed increases would take resident league bowling from \$1.67 per line to \$2 per line and guest league bowling would go from \$2.10 to \$2.30.

Charges for open play bowling would rise from \$1.70 to \$2 for residents and from \$2.10 to \$2.30 for guests.

Resident and guest league members wouldn't see a change in their open play fees, which are \$1.70 for residents and \$2.10 for guests.

If the proposal is adopted, the summer months would also see an increase in their discounted fees beginning May 1. Bowlers 55 and older would pay \$1.25 instead of \$1 and those under 55 would pay \$1.75 instead of \$1.50.

Bowling deficit crimps RCSC

Food services foundering

KATY O'GRADY
DAILY NEWS-SUN

The Recreation Centers of Sun City is looking at ways to stem the red in bowling and food services, with last-resort options including closing a bowling center and reducing menu options at the Liberty Bell Cafe.

Already this year, bowling is showing a net loss of about \$66,200, which mirrors a \$66,000 loss for the same

eight months last year. August alone this year saw a deficit of \$34,100.

The centers was expecting bowling to lose money, and budgeted a \$99,000 loss for the first eight months, meaning the division is actually within budget, said Director Gene Zylstra.

"I think everybody's aware that bowling just seems to be declining," he said. "We're doing what we can, but unfortunately, league bowling is declining faster than we'd like."

Zylstra said rates will be increased at the end of 2005

Centers, ASU connect. See story, Page A5

and in 2006 to help make up some of the difference. The increases are still being considered, but could be similar to increases this year: 10 cents a lane for open bowling and 20 cents a lane for league bowling.

"It will probably be that much or more," he said. "But no matter what we do, we are way under any of the bowling lanes around us."

Zylstra said Sun City's leagues have fewer teams, and some of those teams are

composed of fewer players. A decline in bowling's popularity is occurring nationwide, he said.

"We've pretty much done everything we can to increase it," he said. "And there's no indication our younger residents will take up bowling."

The bowling committee is considering its options, but if all else fails and one of the bowling centers must close, Zylstra said it's likely to be the one at Bell Recreation Center, since it is smaller

than Lakeview Lanes.

"It's not something we'd like to do," he said.

Food services also is facing severe income shortages, with August showing a \$35,400 deficit. For the year to date, that division is down \$117,800. The first eight months of 2004 showed a deficit of \$109,000, said Director Bud Hantke, the board's treasurer.

"That definitely is going the wrong way," Hantke said.

One option being considered to address the problem is reducing the menu options at Liberty Bell Cafe. That idea and others are still under

consideration, and Hantke said he will update the board as options are narrowed.

In other news from Thursday's board of directors meeting:

- Director Norm Dickson said the bid committee has accepted proposals of \$72,000 to purchase a pump station and \$58,000 to install it at Lakes West to replace the broken one. Installation of the new pump station will be done Dec. 1 through 20.

- Director Nadine Meis said the Oct. 3 show at the Sun Bowl has been moved to Sundial because of overseeding at the Sun Bowl.



Sam Martin is making up for lost time after taking a 30-year break from bowling. Martin rolled a perfect game in Bell Lanes on Aug. 30. His wife, Charlene, is bowling in the background.

Perfect game turns SC bowler into hot commodity

RICH BOLAS
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sam Martin has been getting a lot of phone calls.

Most come from bowlers trying to recruit the 63-year-old Sun City resident for the upcoming season.

"The phone has really been ringing off the hook," Martin said. "Even my barber asked me to join his league."

Martin has become a hot commodity since he rolled a 300 game on Aug. 15 in Bell Lanes.

"It didn't really sink in that I bowled a 300 until the next day," said Martin, a right-handed bowler who accomplished the feat on lanes

1 and 2 in the Sun City facility. "After I rolled seven or eight in a row, I wasn't really nervous because I figured that I had my limit, that was all I was going to get."

Martin got more than he expected in becoming the second bowler to roll a perfect game in Bell Lanes this year. He's just the third bowler in the history of Bell Lanes to roll a 300 game.

Martin moved to Sun City last July and decided to resume bowling after a 30-year hiatus. His work as a union representative as well as other athletic pursuits kept him away from the sport until retirement.

"My wife and I decided to start bowling when we moved here," said Martin, who participated in the Kings and Queens League last winter. "She had never bowled before and I had never tried golf so we both decided to take up those sports."

With league bowling set to resume this month, the couple decided to practice on Aug. 15 in Bell Lanes.

Martin's first game provided no indication of what would transpire later in the afternoon.

"I think I had four splits in that first game and finished in the 120s," said Martin, who was experimenting with a 16-pound ball he brought

with him from Omaha, Neb.

"It was a hook ball, and I figured if I was ever going to control it, I might as well try it in practice," Martin said. "I'm the kind of bowler who rolls a lot of strikes, but I'm not too good at spares."

"Martin didn't need to worry about spares in the second game, rolling 12 consecutive strikes for a 300.

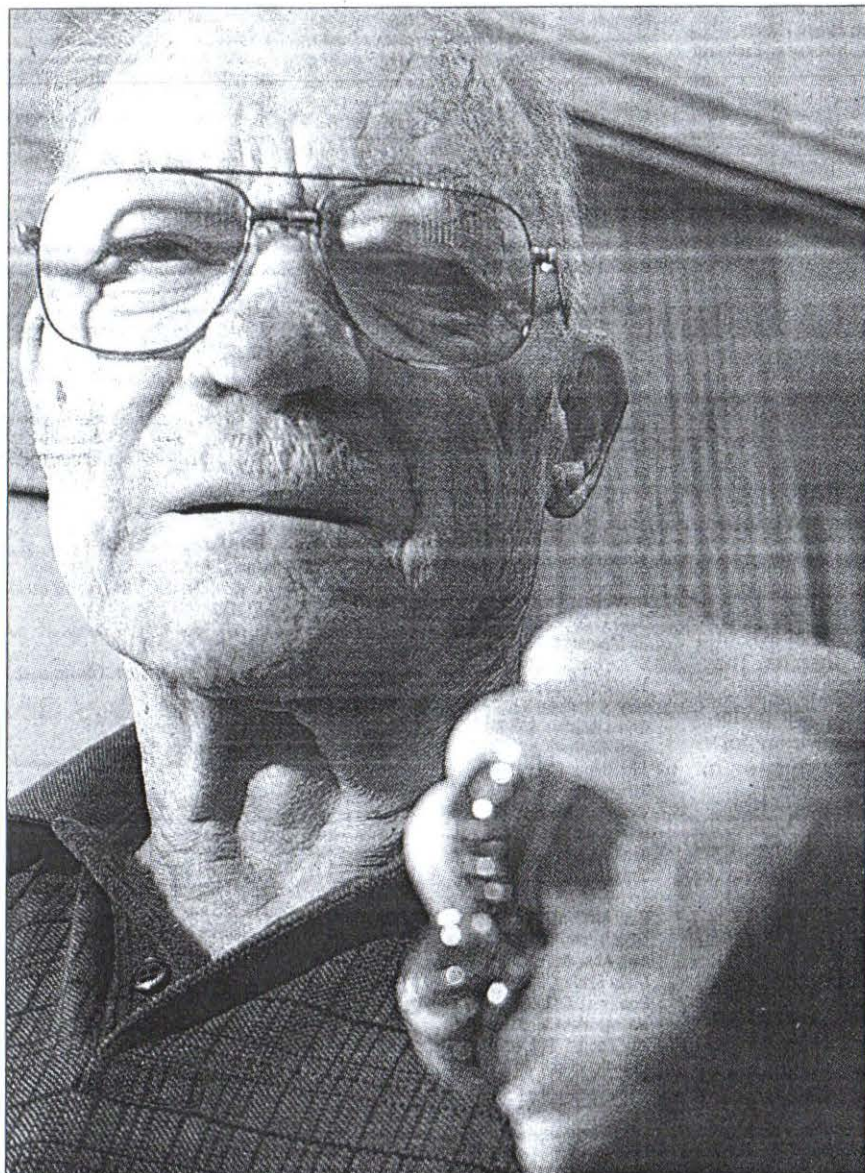
"I was more nervous than he was," said Charlene Martin, who was on hand to watch her husband's feat. "I was afraid to talk to him as he got closer to 300."

Now she has other concerns — like when the phone will stop ringing in their Sun City home.

QUITE A LIFE

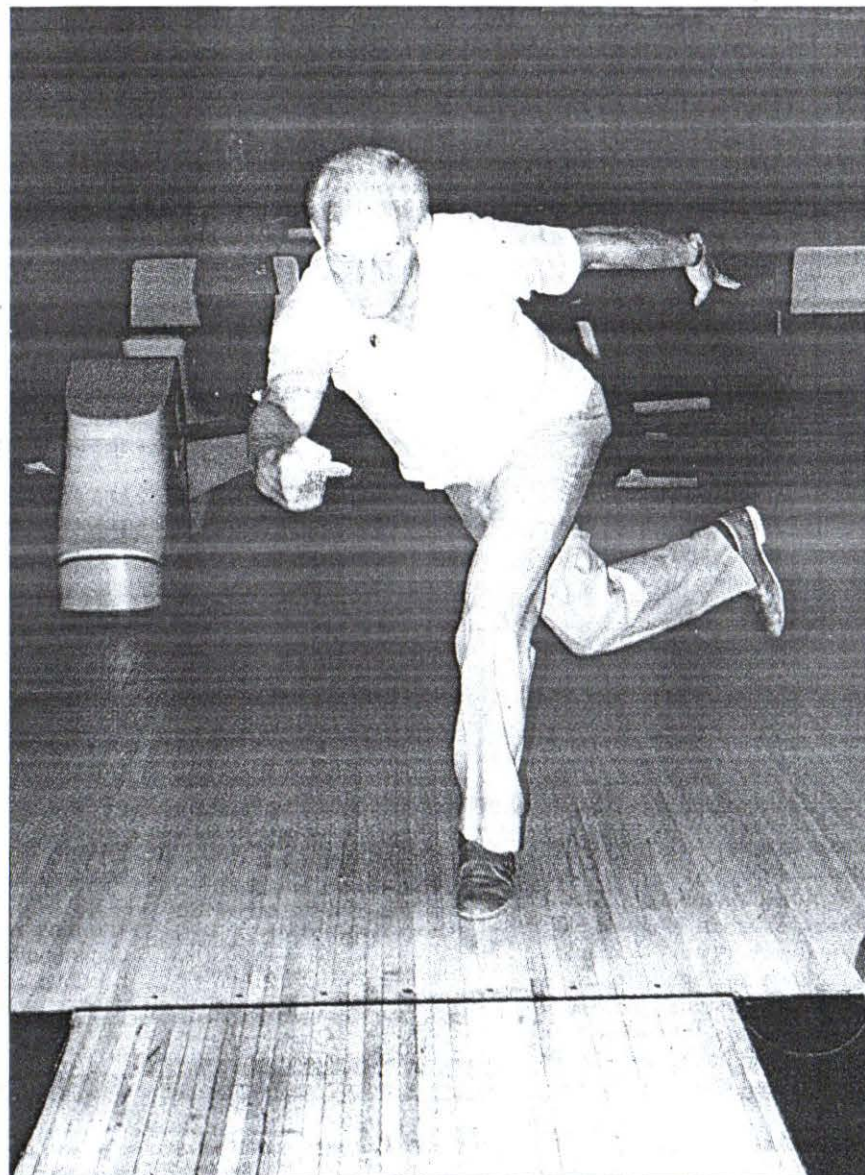
DAILY NEWS-SUN

MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2004



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

John Lundahl displays rings he received from the American Bowling Congress for rolling two of his four 300 games.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

This 1988 photo shows the form John Lundahl had in dominating the Sun City bowling ranks.

OVER

Bowling doesn't begin to tell Sun City man's story

John Lundahl has had quite a life for a man who has already cheated death twice.

Lundahl retired at the end of May as a monitor in Bell Lanes.

The 81-year-old holds the distinction of rolling one of two perfect games in Bell. Lundahl rolled the first in 1988 and his accomplishment stood alone until Lewie Faulds of Surprise equaled the feat last month.

"For some reason, bowlers tend to leave more corner pins at Bell," Lundahl said. "You don't get the light-pin strikes you do at Lakeview (the other Sun City bowling center)."

Lundahl's bowling success, which includes four perfect games, merits only a chapter or two in the Utah native's story.

This is a man who has drunk from a bottle filled with more than a lifetime of memories.

Lundahl served as a paratrooper in World War II and later worked in law enforcement in Aspen, Colo., and the Marshall Islands, north of New Zealand.

He also worked as a prison guard on death row in San Quentin, Calif. That's where he served as the "house mother" to notorious killers such as mass murderer Charles Manson as well as Sirhan Sirhan, the man who assassinated Robert F.

Kennedy.

"As the house mother, it was my job to bring them coffee, change of uniform, things like that," Lundahl said. "Manson was always very polite, although I always felt his manners were fake."

"Sirhan Sirhan always made me test his food before he ate. I always thought that was funny because here was a guy on death row and he was afraid of being poisoned to death."

Lundahl left San Quentin after four of his friends and fellow guards were killed in a prison uprising.

Lundahl had been scheduled to work that day, but had switched shifts with his neighbor, another guard who wanted to make extra cash by working on a Saturday.

Lundahl's neighbor turned out to be one of the victims of the uprising, which started when a gun had been smuggled to a prisoner.

"I was supposed to be working that shift," Lundahl said. "I couldn't go back to work there after they killed four of my men."

The San Quentin uprising represented Lundahl's second brush with death.

As a paratrooper in World War II,



**RICH
BOLAS**

Lundahl and other trainees sat aboard a plane on the tarmac at a North Carolina air base.

Moments before departure, another officer boarded and commanded the plane for a different assignment, chasing off all of the paratroopers.

They watched in shock from the ground as the plane exploded into flames seconds after takeoff, killing all aboard.

Bowling has always been a pleasant diversion for Lundahl, who took up the sport when he turned 35.

"The first year I had a 144 average and it went up from there," Lundahl said. "I made myself a good bowler through hard work."

During his Sun City heyday in the 1980s, Lundahl could almost always be found in the bowling centers, improving his craft.

"John was a good bowler because he was a hard worker and he kept it simple," said Joe Caparella, a Washington resident who bowled against Lundahl in the 1980s. "John was always very determined — he would go out there, find his spot, then give it some speed."

"We used to have some great battles going back and forth during league play."

That hard work helped Lundahl raise his average from 144 that first year to 200 in his fifth year of bowling.

"I used to practice a lot, but one time I rolled a 300 in practice and decided to go home," Lundahl said. "I figured what's the use of practicing after you roll a perfect game."

Even cancer couldn't beat Lundahl.

In 1980, he was diagnosed with rectal cancer and underwent a colostomy procedure.

Lundahl kept on bowling.

"I wanted to show other people that you could still get out there and bowl," Lundahl said.

"I figured it was an advantage because if I got diarrhea, I could keep bowling when other people would have to run to the bathroom."

Health woes finally forced him to make concessions 10 years ago.

After being diagnosed with poly-myalgia, inflammation of the joints, Lundahl decided to quit bowling.

He continued to work at Bell Lanes until his retirement at the end of May.

Lundahl and his wife plan to move to Hawaii, where he will take enough memories to last more than a lifetime.

Rich Bolas is the sports editor of the Daily News-Sun. He can be reached at 876-2523 or via e-mail at rbolas@aztrib.com.

Late-night bowling may open to young adults

By Charlene Patti Bisson
Independent Newspapers

● See Opinions
Page 4

Sun Citians have spoken on how they feel about opening up the bowling facilities and it appears residents are split.

The Independent received more than 50 Speak Out calls regarding whether the Recreation Centers of Sun City Governing Board should continue to allow non-residents 55 and older to use the bowling facilities and if the facilities should be opened up to people 55 and younger. (The

Independent could not print all the calls in this week's edition. See Opinions.)

RCSC Bowling Committee Chairman Gene Zylstra mentioned the idea of allowing adults younger than 55 to use its bowling facilities at the April 29 RCSC Governing Board meeting.

According to the director, Sun City bowling facilities are usually empty after 8 p.m.

Opening the bowling facilities to adults 18 and older for only league play may be an additional source of revenue.

"It is something we (Bowling Committee) are considering," he said. "We are looking after 8 p.m. when lanes are available. This is open for discussion. We are looking for additional revenue."

Director Zylstra explained very few bowlers use the facilities at night and league play for adults, 18 and older may

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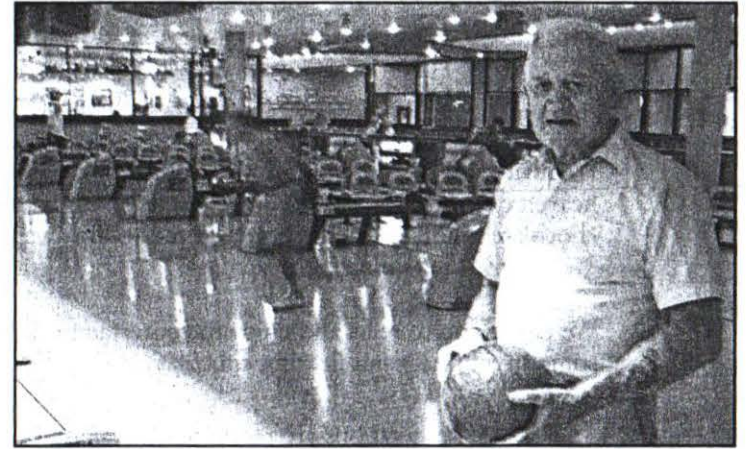


Photo by Matt Loeschman/Independent Newspapers

Sun City resident Elwood Griffith takes a break from bowling last week at the Bell Recreation Center. The Recreation Centers of Sun City Bowling Committee is considering allowing adults younger than 55 to use its bowling facilities for league play after 8 p.m. Mr. Griffith bowls at the Bell Recreation Center about twice each week.

Bowling

Continued From Page 1

be feasible. Before adult bowling leagues would be permitted the RCSC Governing Board must approve the idea.

Bell and Lakeview recreation centers have bowling facilities. Bell, 16810 N. 99th Ave., has 16 lanes and Lakeview, 10502 W. Thunderbird Blvd., has 24 lanes.

The Recreation Centers of Sun City West Bowling Committee has not considered that sort of measure to RCSCW bowling chairman Bob Beaupre's knowledge.

He said the community does allow limited league play for non-residents 55 and older. Allowing outsiders to play has proven successful.

"Bowling with controlled neighborhood play keeps bowling in the black," the bowl chairman explained. "While we struggle with loss lineage in the community with the addition of Sun City Grand and other retirement communities our lineage is slightly ahead (over last year's numbers)."

He said non-residents league play is subject to RCSCW Governing Board approval. The RCSCW Director invited citizens to attend the monthly Bowling Committee meetings open to the public. The next meeting is set for 1 p.m. May 20 in the Men's Club.

Sun City West has one 30-lane bowling facility at the R. H. Johnson Recreation Center.

Director Beaupre also

encouraged Sun City West to attend the 1 p.m. May 19 budget resident forum at Palm Ridge Recreation Center, where next year's bowling budget will be discussed.

Director Zylstra cleared up misinformation printed in the Sun Cities Independent, May 5, 2004 edition.

Director Zylstra said bowling is not experiencing a budget deficit. He said he was comparing budget figures from the prior year.

Director Zylstra said bowling revenue has decreased by about \$16,000 in 2004 when comparing to 2003 figures year-to-date. Open play is down by 1,084 lines and league bowling is down by 234 lines in comparison to 2003.

"Leagues are pretty solid," Director Zylstra said. "We don't have as many people

using open play."

He explained open and league bowling was opened to non-residents 55 and older this past bowling season in Sun City. The RCSC Governing Board decision at its April 29 meeting was to update its board policy regarding play for non-residents.

Director Zylstra said open play persists during all bowling hours as long as lanes are available.

"In no way are the residents inconvenienced by outside open play," he said.

One new regulation the governing board did approve April 29 was to allow those 55 and older to participate in bowling instruction classes, which used to be limited to Sun City residents who hold a valid RCSC membership card.

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

May 5, 2004

SC opens alleys to non-residents

RCSC directors hope to bring down increasing deficit

By Charlene Patti Bisson
Independent Newspapers

Northwest Valley bowling enthusiasts have more places to bowl — at least if they are 55 and older.

The Recreation Centers of Sun City Governing Board unanimously has approved permitting non-Sun City residents to participate in open bowling from 5 to 8 p.m. Treasurer Bud Hantke and Director Art Little were absent during the April 29

vote.

Non-residents can also attend bowling instruction classes and participate in league bowling.

Directors made the decision with a recommendation from the Bowling Committee because bowling continues experiencing a budget deficit.

"We have a \$16,000 deficit year-to-date," said RCSC Governing Board Director Gene Zylstra, who is chairman of the Bowling

Committee. "I believe bowling has to exist on its own and obviously our revenue keeps going down."

According to the director, league bowling is down 234 lines while open play is down by 1,084 lines during the current budget year.

Sun City has bowling alleys at Lakeview and Bell recreation centers. Bell sports 24 lanes and Lakeview has 20 lanes.

Non-residents will pay a guest fee and must show

proper identification.

RCSC member Anne Stewart spoke against the measurement.

"I have a major problem

with this," Ms. Stewart said. "Bowling should be a benefit of the members. Keep us

What do you think?

Do you think the Recreation Centers of Sun City should allow non-residents 55 and older to participate in open bowling? Should people 55 and younger be allowed to partake in open bowling? Let us know what you think. Your opinion counts. Call Speak Out at 445-2892 or e-mail suncitynews@newszap.com.

See **Bowl** — Page 3

OVER

Bowl

Continued From Page 1
closed."

RCSC Governing Board Director Ken Fold expressed his support.

"We are trying to do this to raise money," Director Fold explained. "If you as a member are denied to use bowling then the board can rescind its decision - but they (bowling alleys) are not (full)."

RCSC member Mary Cobb believed it was OK to be creative in diminishing the bowling deficit.

"I think we need to have open minds about this or it (bowling) may not exist," Ms. Cobb said.

RCSC member Bill Gill agreed.

"I believe the members will have priority," he said. "I don't think they will lose availability. Keep in mind the members come first."

Mr. Gill also recommended the possibility of opening up the golf courses to the public to help bring down golfer fees.

"If they (non-residents) want to play it will hold down the golf prices," he

If you go

- Directors/members exchange
9 a.m. Monday, May 17
at Lakeview Social Hall
No. 2
- Quarterly membership meeting
9 a.m. Thursday, May
27 at Sundial Auditorium
- Regular board meeting
Thursday, May 27 after
membership meeting

said. "I am not against open bowling or golf."

According to RCSC Governing Board's March 25 approved regular meeting minutes, effective Sept. 1, open bowling will increase 10 cents per line to \$1.70. League bowling will rise from \$4.80 to \$5 and guest fees for league bowling will remain \$6.30.

Director Zylstra invited Sun Citians to visit the bowling alleys because from May 1 to Sept. 1 it costs \$1 for open play for RCSC members and \$1.50 for guests.

"We are trying to encourage members to play," he said. "You can't beat that."

Sun Cities match nation in bowling trends

Recreational use up, league play in gutter

ANNIE KARSTENS
DAILY NEWS-SUN

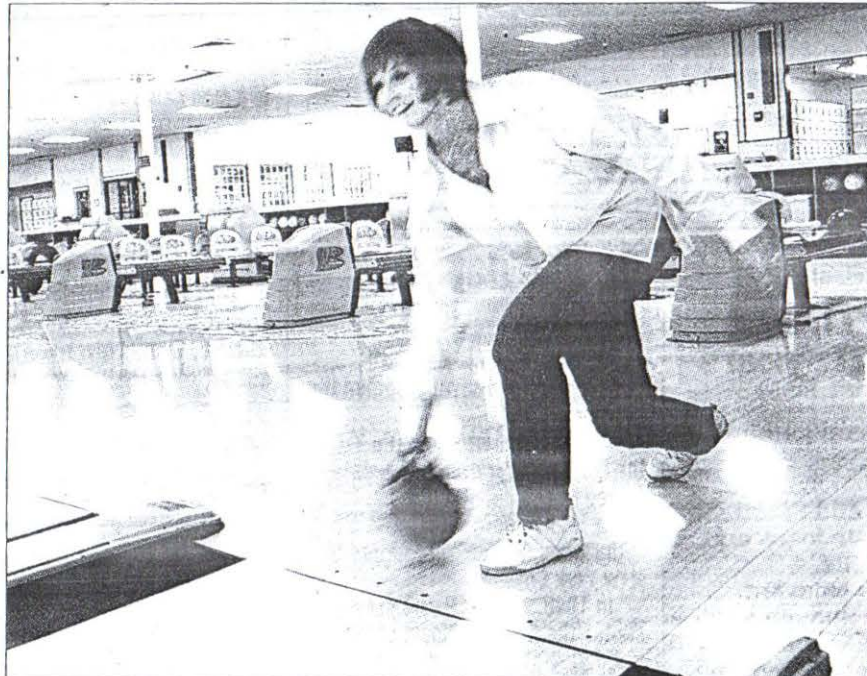
Bowling in America isn't what it used to be and Sun City is no exception.

Though recreational bowling is in, league bowling is in the gutter.

Lakeview Lanes at 10502 W. Thunderbird and Bell Lanes, 16810 N. 99th Ave., experienced a decrease in league bowling action in 2003 from 2002, but an increase in recreational, open play usage in 2003, said Gene Zylstra, Recreation Centers of Sun City board member and chairman of the bowling committee.

In 2003, 8,088 fewer lines were recorded by the 28 bowling leagues at Lakeview and 10,325 less lines were bowled by the 24 leagues at Bell, for a total of 18,413 less lines bowled last year than in 2002, Zylstra said. However, in terms of open-play, or strictly recreational bowling, 1,828 more lines were bowled between the two alleys in 2003 than in 2002, he said.

Mark Miller, communications director for the national Bowling



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Janet Zanotti bowls at Lakeview Lanes in Sun City Wednesday. She belongs to Sun City Country Club league.

Headquarters in Wisconsin, said there is a nationwide shift in bowling practices since around 1980, when more than 9 million people were registered bowlers who belonged to sanctioned leagues. Today, that number has dropped to 3.2 million. On the flip side, the number of recreational bowlers ages 6 and up who bowled at least once a year has

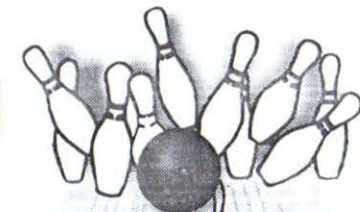
increased from 55 million in 2001 to 70 million in 2002, he said.

"If you look back 20 to 30 years ago, 80 percent was league bowling," Miller said. "There's been a huge shift from league play dominating the sport to more open play taking the lead."

Less people are dues paying, sanctioned league bowlers that

Bowling

Here is a look at bowling in Sun City and nationally.



SUN CITY

LEAGUE BOWLING

- Lakeview Lanes: 8,088 lines down in 2003 from 2002.
- Bell Lanes: 10,325 lines down in 2003 from 2002.
- TOTAL: **18,413** lines down in 2003 from 2002.

OPEN-PLAY

- Lakeview Lanes: 2,183 lines up in 2003 over 2002.
- Bell Lanes: 355 lines down in 2003 from 2002.
- TOTAL: **1,828** lines up in open-play bowling in 2003 from 2002.

NATIONALLY

LEAGUE BOWLING

- 1980: 9 million people registered league bowlers.
- 2003: 3.2 million registered league bowlers.

OPEN-PLAY

- 2002: 70 million people 6 and older bowled at least once per year.
- 2001: 55 million people 6 and older bowled at least once per year.

SOURCE: GENE ZYLSTRA, RCSC
CHAIR OF BOWLING
COMMITTEE;
MARK MILLER,
NATIONAL
BOWLING
HEADQUARTERS

CHARLES WADE/DAILY NEWS-SUN

belong to the three major bowling associations: American Bowling Congress, Women's International Bowling Congress and Young

American Bowling Alliance. Both Zylstra and Miller agree

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OYER

From A1

that times are changing for bowlers across the country and in Sun City. Many Sun City leagues have gone down from five-person teams to four-person teams, which would reduce the number of lines played, Zylstra said.

"We're getting older and some of that has a bearing on whether we can bowl or can't," he said. "We have so many opportunities to participate in so many clubs, and I'm sure it's hard for some people to decided to bowl or play cards or golf or join a dance club. It's definitely easier to play cards than to bowl."

Miller recognized that in its traditional form, league bowling is a regimented sport with consistent schedules. Bowling is a sport that is dramatically affected by societal habits, he said.

"It's a big commitment, and Americans today in general are just not that committal," he said. "Some of the older fraternal groups, are experiencing dramatic drops in membership, like leagues are, partly due to the necessary structure of groups."

Seniors may also balk at the price to join a sanctioned league, some requiring fees of about \$20 or more to join, Miller said. Bowling also has more to compete with these days, such as the Internet, cable TV and the expansion of senior activities, he said.

In fact, the fastest-growing group of bowlers is children 6 and under who go to bowling alleys for birthday parties, Miller said.

Zylstra said the decreasing number of leagues hurts revenues that the lanes bring in, as fees are associated with the lanes and aren't covered by residents' recreation cards.

"Impact is obviously on revenue," Zylstra said. "It's guaranteed revenue if you've got leagues, you're going to get more lines."

In order to adjust to the decreased usage, Zylstra said the lanes have been opened up to anyone 55-years-old and older, they can also join some of Sun City's existing leagues. This effort may go a step further in the future — the RCSC board and bowling committee are discussing the option of opening the lanes after 8 p.m. to even more outside communities, Zylstra said. People who would take advantage of this offer may come from Phoenix or other communities, but would have to meet age requirements and be part of an established league.

According to their recreation center newsletter, Sun City West's Johnson Lanes has also seen a decrease in the total lines bowled yearly: 10,586 fewer in 2003 than 2002.

Sun City West began inviting seniors from outside their community to bowl at Johnson for the

first time this season, said Marie Forman, assistant manager at Johnson Lanes. League membership was dropping slightly until the visitors were allowed to bowl at Johnson, she said. Not all of the leagues that bowl in Sun City West are sanctioned leagues, but come together consistently nonetheless, she said. Forman hasn't noticed much fluctuation in open-play, but said that guest bowlers are adding to their revenue.

Margaret Berry, bowling manager for both Bell and Lakeview Lanes, said there are lifelong bowlers who she can always count on.

"As long as they can walk, they will bowl," Berry said, adding that the problem isn't with them, but with the new generation of Sun Citians.

"Our new retirees that are coming in just aren't getting involved in bowling as much."

Berry said that since leagues from outside Sun City been permitted use Bell and Lakeview lanes, usage and revenue have improved.

"They are very valued customers," she said. "They also offer an opportunity for Sun City bowlers to join their leagues."

Shirley Olson, secretary of the Sun City Country Club bowling league, bowls with her 32 member league at Lakeview Lanes. Her league isn't sanctioned or registered with any national association, but they enjoy

coming together as an organized group.

"It's just a fun thing," Olson said. "It gets people at the Sun City Country Club together so we can get to know each other better."

Olson has bowled all her life and said it's unfortunate that league bowling is down, but is encouraged that recreational bowling is becoming more popular.

Glendale resident Loretta Walker joined the Sun City Country Club league last year and had never bowled before she joined. She doesn't mind that her league isn't sanctioned or registered.

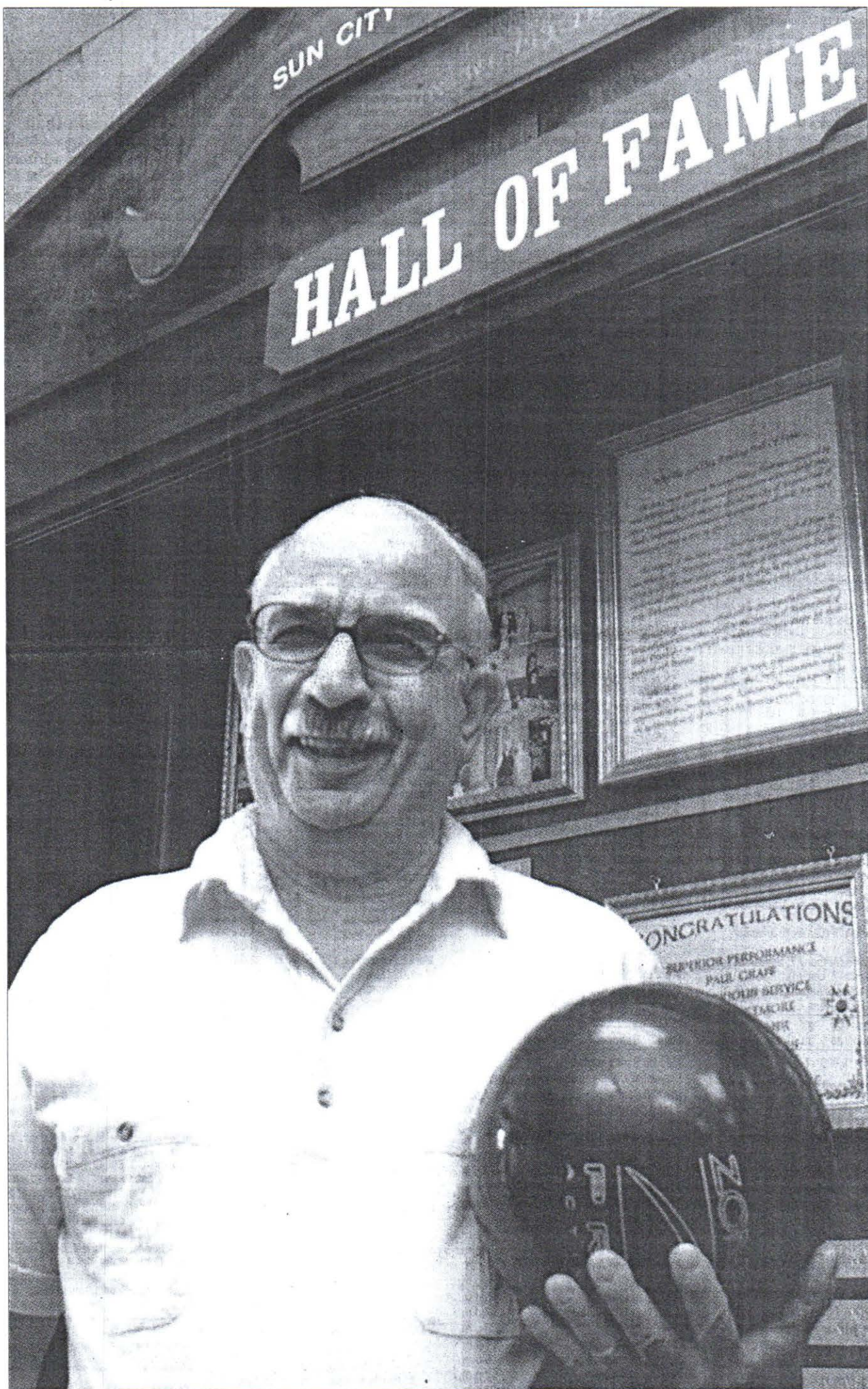
"I love it. If I was in this seriously they wouldn't have me," Walker said with a laugh. Her bowling partner chimed in and added that Walker was named the leagues most improved player of 2003.

Holly Davison of Sun City isn't part of a league or an organized group, but loves to bowl recreationally.

"We have a good time," Davison said. "Bowling is a nice relaxation for us and this way, there's no competition."

Davison understands that Sun Citians are often too busy to commit to specific meeting times leagues enforce.

"Maybe people are so busy that they don't want to add one more thing to their already full schedules."



JOY LAMBERT-SLAGOWSKI/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Paul Graff carries a 180-plus average in three Sun City leagues. Graff and two others — Marty Zehner and Larry Wetmore — will be inducted into the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame on Feb. 28.

OVER

Bowler adds induction to schedule

RICH BOLAS
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Paul Graff used to have an easy time figuring out his bowling schedule.

He simply marked a calendar in his Sun City home to keep tabs on his thrice-weekly outings.

"That was when we first moved here nine years ago," Graff said. "Now I've got so many other things going on that I have a hard time finding a spot to mark anything on the calendar."

Despite the demands on his time, Graff's bowling schedule just got a little busier.

The 73-year-old will be inducted into the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame during ceremonies at 11:30 a.m. Feb. 28 in Palmbrook Country Club in Sun City.

Graff will be inducted into the hall based on superior performance. Bowlers must carry a minimum 170 average for at least five consecutive years to earn induction in that category.

Two other bowlers — Marty Zehner and Larry Wetmore — will join Graff as the Sun City Bowling Class of 2004. Zehner and Wetmore will be inducted based on meritorious service for their contributions to the sport.

Graff carries an average which varies between 183 and 188 in three leagues — Monday Night Senior Men, Huffers and Puffers, and Sun City Classic.

"I've been bowling in a league at least once a week since I was 18," said Graff, who is vice president of the Sun City Historical Society as well as president of Sun City Meals on Wheels.

"When we moved to Sun City, I signed up for league play three times a week and I keep that schedule even in the summer."

Graff said he has never taken his game or himself too seriously.

"I'm not one of these guys who has five or six different bowling balls and another ball to pick up spares," said Graff, a right-handed bowler who had a personal-best 290 game in Avondale several years ago. "I use one bowling ball because I believe you should only have to use one ball for any pin if you do it the right way."

Bill Wise said Graff's easy-going personality makes him the consummate teammate.

"He's a great observer of bowling styles, but he's not pushy with his advice," Wise said. "I know he's helped my game."

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

November 6, 2002

SC opens bowling to all senior citizens League, open bowling OK'd

By **Mike Russo**

Independent Newspapers

The Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc. Board of Directors last week unanimously approved an amendment to a board policy to attract more bowlers to Sun City's two lanes.

During its Oct. 21 formal study session, the board agreed to allow outside residents age 55 or older to bowl in Sun City. The amendment passed last week will allow bowlers 55 or older to participate in open and league play to generate revenue for the Bowling Division.

"The real income comes from league, not open bowling," observed Jerry Swintek, board president.

"We are losing bowlers and we need to do something to attract bowlers so we won't have to raise fees for our residents," said board member Beverly Davis.

"As you know, bowling has been losing bowlers every year," Mrs. Davis said. The problem is not confined to Sun City, she noted.

Mrs. Davis said bowling participation was down 4.8 percent nationwide last year. "In the year 2001-02, ABC lost 72,848 members; WIBC lost 82,051 members, representing a total loss of 159,899 members," she said.

Mrs. Davis explained that part of the reason for the decline in bowling participation is more Sun City residents

See **Lanes**— Page 5

Lanes

Continued From Page 1

are working now than in recent years and don't have as much time for recreation.

"The baby boomers at 55 years of age are here, but are still working," she said. "Only a few have retired."

Bowling revenue has declined considerably over the last few years, according to Bud Hantke, board treasurer.

Revenue totaled \$575,000 in 1999, when bowling was a break-even proposition for the Rec Centers, Mr. Hantke noted.

In 2000, income dropped to \$557,400 and was almost \$20,000 less the following year — \$537,660. "Through the first nine months of his year, income has been \$370,663," Mr. Hantke said.

Revenues have totaled \$443,964 for the same period, leaving the Bowling Division with a deficit of \$73,301 through the end of September.

With the continued decline of income, the Rec Centers projects a loss of \$80,000 in 2003, unless there is an infusion of revenue, according to Mr. Hantke.

To emphasize the decline in bowling revenues, Mr. Hantke noted that lines bowled at Lakeview Lanes in 1987 totaled 328,700. In contrast, total lines bowled at Bell and Lakeview in 2001 amounted to only 367,245.

Mrs. Davis hopes Sun City's attractive bowling rates will attract newcomers.

"Bowling is so much more expensive outside of Sun City," Ms. Davis said.

Outsiders will have to pay the guest rate of \$2.10 per line for outside bowling. The fee will be the same for league bowling plus the league charge. Sun Citizens pay \$1.60 per line.

The Rec Centers plans to place notices in newsletters of nearby retirement communities, such as Westbrook Village, Ventana Lakes, Sun City Grand and Sun Lakes. Newspaper ads may also be placed, according to Mrs. Davis.

Mrs. Davis mentioned that Sun City has allowed senior citizens from neighboring retirement communities to participate in league play since 1998, and some Sun City Grand residents have taken advantage of the opportunity to bowl in Sun City leagues.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2002

Bowling funds ruling leads to confusion

By Sean L. McCarthy
The Arizona Republic

Both Sun City and Sun City West need to increase revenue at their bowling alleys.

In Sun City West, bowling committee Chairman John Orr announced at a residents' forum last week that the answer would not mean allowing outsiders, specifically residents in neighboring Sun City Grand, into their leagues.

"It is a dead issue as long as I'm here," Orr said.

The governing board for the Recreation Centers of Sun City, on the other hand, is ready and eager to allow other retirees to bowl at Bell Lanes and Lakeview Lanes. The board voted this week to open up the lanes to non-residents.

Problem is, board President Jerry Swintek said, there is "some confusion" among board members about exactly who can bowl and when.

Swintek said Wednesday that some on the board wanted and thought they had approved a motion inviting anyone 55 and older to join Sun City's bowling leagues, but "the motion came out that we were offering it for people 55 and older for open bowling." The difference between open and league bowling is money.

"League bowling is what brings in a ton of money," Swintek said.

And money is what Sun City needs, because residents are not bowling as often as they used to.

Sun City's previous policy, adopted by its bowling committee, only accepted non-residents from Sun City Grand. Swintek said the board wants to extend the invitation to retirees from Ventana Lakes, Westbrook Village, Sun Valley and other communities.

"I hope to get this straightened out in the next couple of days," he said Wednesday.

Procedurally, however, Swintek and the board may need to wait until the next open meeting, scheduled for 9 a.m. Thursday at the Sundial center, to clarify the community's non-resident bowling policy.

Rec Centers bowlers relax restrictions on outside bowlers

Lineage in decline for years

By **Mike Russo**
Independent Newspapers

The Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc. Board of Directors approved a measure to stimulate interest in bowling and stem the decline of bowlers using Sun City lanes.

The board agreed during last week's formal study session to allow all people 55 years of age or older to participate in open bowling at both Bell and Fairway lanes in an effort to infuse some revenue into the Bowling Division.

The action had been recommended by board member Beverly Davis.

"We are losing members all the time," Mrs. Davis said. "It is not just here in Sun City, but nationwide." She read a report that indicated bowling participation is down more than 4 percent nationwide.

"We have lost leagues, bowlers and lines in recent years. It is going down everywhere," Mrs. Davis said.

"We have been losing bowlers for health reasons,

death, moving from the community," she continued.

Mrs. Davis noted that she once bowled in five leagues per week and is now down to once a week due to time constraints.

Sun City's Bowling Division has experienced several years of declining lines of bowling.

"Bowling lineage at both centers is now equivalent to the lines bowled at Lakeview about 1990," said Jerry Swintek, board president.

Lines bowled at Lakeview Lanes in 1987 amounted to 328,700, according to Bud Hantke, RCSC Board treasurer. "In 2001, total lines bowled at Bell and Lakeview were only 367,245. "Not much more than Lakeview alone when I first moved here," he said.

Mr. Hantke noted bowling revenue has declined considerably over the last few years.

Revenue totaled \$575,000 in 1999, when bowling was a break-even proposition for

See **Bowlers** — Page 5

Bowlers

Continued From Page 1
the Rec Centers, according to Mr. Hantke.

In 2000, income dropped to \$557,400 and was almost \$20,000 less the following year— \$537,660. "Through the first nine months of his year, income has been \$370,500," Mr. Hantke said.

With the continued decline of income, the Rec Centers projects a loss of \$80,000 in 2003, unless there is an infusion of revenue.

"It is evident we have to do something," he said.

"We are looking to open up our bowling lanes to allow bowling by all seniors in the public," Mrs. Davis said.

"If we do this, we can hold our costs to the residents," and not have to raise rates for Sun City keglers, according to

Mrs. Davis.

Mrs. Davis mentioned that Sun City has allowed senior citizens from neighboring retirement communities to participate in league play since 1998. "We have two teams from Sun City Grand," she said.

Board member Gene Zylstra said he thought it was a good idea.

"If we open this up, we can increase our revenues," Mr. Zylstra said.

Although the motion approved last week limited participation of outside residents to open bowling, Mr. Swintek said the intent was allow outsiders to participate in league play also.

He expects to the board to consider such a revision during its Oct. 31 meeting.

"The intent is to go to nearby retirement communities, like Ventana Lakes and Westbrook Village, to have resi-

dents form a team and join a league," Mr. Swintek said.

"The real income comes from league, not open bowling," he added. "We need to expand that so we can get some more activity there (on the lanes)."

Board member Norm Dickson said, "We have fixed expenses, now we have to support the facilities. The money has to come from somewhere to maintain these facilities."

"We have to generate income either from the activities or increase the (residents') assessment fees," he continued. "Those are the choices we have."

"We think this is a financially sound course to take," Mr. Dickson concluded.

While many of the board members spoke in favor of allowing more bowling participation by outside residents, Anne Randall Stewart, community activist, spoke in

opposition to the plan.

"The Sun City Formula Registry opposes open bowling and making bowling self-sufficient," said Mrs. Stewart, who represents herself as a spokesperson for the Sun City Formula Registry. She said bowling should be subsidized through recreation fees if bowling cannot turn a profit on its own.

She urged to the RCSC Board to "stay within the facilities agreement."

"Our amenities are for our exclusive use," Mrs. Stewart said.

"We are going to lose the Del Webb lifestyle," she protested.

Mrs. Davis responded, "No Sun City seniors will be displaced by opening up bowling."

"Before we lose our beautiful bowling alleys, open it up," urged resident Camilla Kuberski.

RCSC board OKs nonresident open bowling

REVENUE BOOST: \$2.10 per line could spare income woes

JOHN SOKOLICH
DAILY NEWS-SUN

In an effort to boost revenue for bowling and golf, the Recreation Centers of Sun City opened one game to nonresidents and did away with a discount for another.

Both votes were taken and approved at the formal study session Monday, but neither of the items was posted on the agenda.

At the study session, which was posted 30 days prior to Monday, the RCSC board voted to open nonleague bowling to nonresident seniors and to cut the guest discount for golf on community courses.

The golf discount that was cut was the one used by annual fee card holders for their guests, who were charged \$20 for an 18-hole round. Without the discount,

the guest golfers will be required to pay \$32 per round on regulation courses.

In addition, the board voted to "look into" a proposal made jointly by the golf and operations sides of RCSC to invest \$225,000 to get a new computer system that would provide a seamless network between the golf and membership offices.

All the votes were done under item C-1 on the agenda, "Directors' Open Discussion."

Earl Feierabend, director of centers operations, made

the computer system proposal. He said he wasn't aware that he was to make such comments until a few minutes before the meeting started.

RCSC President Jerry Swintek said the votes were taken in accordance with the Open Meetings Law, even though several of the 12 residents at the meeting said the votes came in violation of the law. Swintek stuck to his guns and reported to the residents that because the RCSC is a nonprofit organization, it doesn't fall under the same

rules that apply to other government bodies for open meetings.

Arizona Revised Statute 38-431(5) states: "Public body includes all quasi-judicial bodies and all standing, special advisory committees or subcommittees of such a public body," which is defined as "all corporations and other instrumentalities whose boards of directors are appointed or elected by ... political subdivision."

The board's vote to open bowling to any senior outside the community for nonleague

play came in response to fewer and fewer Sun Citizens using the alleys.

"We're having a hard time finding Sun City bowlers," said Director Beverly Davis. "Many are bowling less or have moved or cannot bowl at all anymore. I know that I used to bowl five times a week, now I am bowling once a week if I am lucky."

Nonresidents have been allowed to bowl in Sun City bowling leagues since 1998 to boost bowling numbers, but

See Nonresident open, A5

From A1

Davis said that is not enough to make bowling survive. She said nonresidents should be permitted to use the lanes during open bowling to boost revenue.

Sun City charges \$2.10 per line for nonresidents, which Davis said should be attractive to bowlers since other bowling alleys in the Northwest Valley charge between \$3 and \$4 per line.

Dropping the guest discount for golfers was another matter approved by the board Monday, also to bring in additional revenue.

After approving eliminating the discount, board members discussed offering other discounts to guests, such as having a punch card for guests. Those proposals were tabled for further discussion.

Director Gene Zylstra said he would approve having other forms of discounts for guest golfers, but he wanted the discounts to be across the board, not just for avid golfers.

"I think that if there is a discount to guests, it should be for all golfers, not just those who have an annual fee card," he said.

The vote to "look into" a

proposal to improve RCSC's computer system would not be a capital expense until next year.

RCSC's computer system for tee-times and golf operations is due for an annual upgrade, which will cost somewhere in the vicinity of \$26,000, according to Feierabend. Although a new system would cost \$200,000 or more, the benefits would enhance the operations throughout all recreation centers, he said.

Feierabend said a new system would accommodate e-mail for all employees and integrate the golf and membership operations.

As such, members would be issued a single card for membership and annual golf pass holders. The seamless system would be set up to take automated tee-times and provide a network infrastructure to expand computing capabilities in the future.

The votes taken Monday are expected to be discussed briefly at the RCSC's regular monthly meeting scheduled for 9 a.m. Oct. 31 at Sundial Recreation Center, Boswell Boulevard and 103rd Avenue.

John Sokolich can be reached at 876-2526 or jsokolich@aztrib.com.

FEB. 6-12, 2002

SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT

Bowling rates to increase in Sun City

By Mike Russo
Independent Newspapers

Sun City bowlers will have to dig a little deeper into their pockets as of Sept. 1 to pursue their avocation.

The Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors

unanimously approved a new bowling rate structure during its Jan. 31 meeting.

Winter bowling fees will go up from \$1.50 to \$1.60 per line for residents and from \$2 to \$2.10 per line for non-residents.

Summer season fees, May 1 through Aug. 31, will increase

10 cents per line, to \$1.35 for residents and \$1.85 for non-residents.

Punch card rates for residents will remain at \$12 for 12 games during the summer and \$12 for 10 games during the winter.

For non-resident bowlers, punch card rates will be \$15 for 12 games during the summer and \$17 for 10 games during the winter.

All rates were recommended by the Bowling Standing Committee, noted board Secretary Bev Davis.

Ms. Davis said the rate increases were necessary because "bowling has been losing money and leagues are attracting fewer bowlers. We need to raise revenue."

Despite the increases, Ms. David noted, "We are still below the fees outside Sun City."

Recreation Centers bowling revenues for 2001 were down \$13,240, dropping from \$531,533 to \$518,293.

Bowling losses would have been even greater were it not for the fact that two leagues of Sun City Grand residents, one from Arizona Traditions and one from Sun Village bowled in Sun City's two centers.

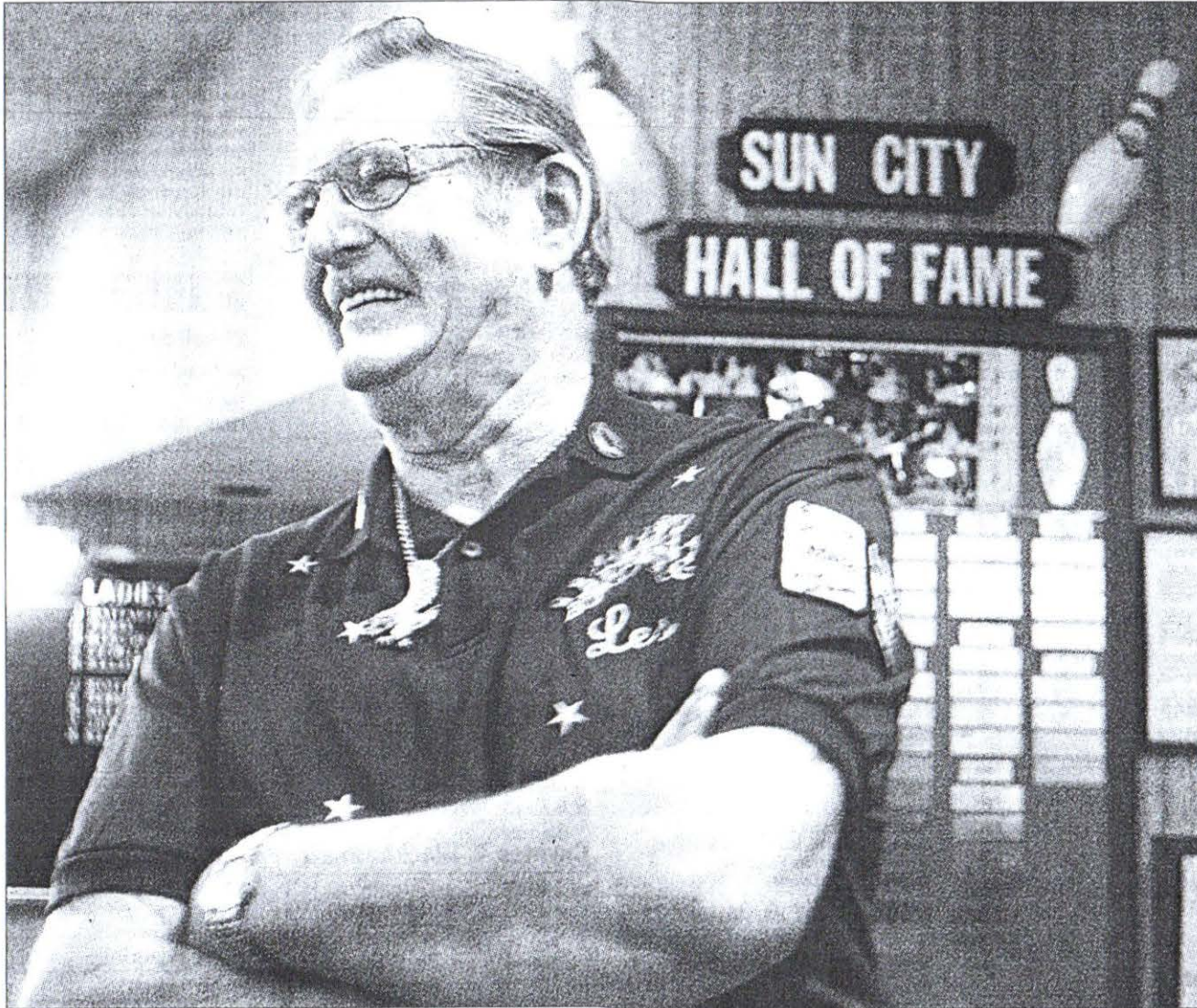
"They all pay guest fees," Ms. Davis said. "If we didn't have them, we would be in worse shape than we are now."

Although none of the board members opposed the fee hike, resident Anne Stewart, speaking from the audience, said, "We are opposed to any rate increase and don't care what is charged outside Sun City."

"More members may want to bowl more if it is cheaper," she said.

Daily News-Sun • Thursday, Jan. 24, 2002

SUN CITY BOWLING HALL OF FAME



JOY LAMBERT/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Les Berg will be one of five bowlers who enter the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame in February.

OVER

Sun City resident turns bowling into video game

RICH BOLAS
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Les Berg may go from the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame to the Academy Awards.

The 69-year-old has added a new weapon — film — to an arsenal which has already qualified him for induction into the hall of fame in February.

Berg began using videotape at a practice session Tuesday to find any flaws in a delivery which has produced a 187 average in three leagues this winter.

"My wife came out with me and we set up a camera on a tripod in Bell Lanes," the Minnesota native said. "I talked into the camera's microphone and made notes and then I went home that day and critiqued the film.

"I've already made some changes and gotten good results from the videotape."

From B1

"I always check on the lane conditions and make changes accordingly," said Berg who has twice rolled a personal-best 288 game and has a personal-high 694 series. "A lot of guys gripe about the lanes and don't change their games.

"I take what the lanes give me and make my adjustments."

Berg and four others will be inducted into the bowling hall of fame during ceremonies Feb. 23 in Sun City Country Club. The others in the Class of 2002 are Connie Howard, James Cotter, Howard Ruby and Tony Salerno.

Berg qualified for the hall of fame in the superior performance category. Men must maintain a minimum 170 average for at least five consecutive years to earn consideration.

"The first things I look at in a bowling teammate are if they have a good personality and are a good sportsman," said Harold Hoffman, one of two bowlers who nominated Berg for induction.

"That's what I noticed about Les. Then I noticed he's a great bowler, too."

Berg is a late bloomer.

The retired Navy veteran didn't try bowling until the 1970s and then stopped playing until he

Berg also uses an unorthodox one-handed bowling style, never touching the ball with his left hand.

"I start at my waist and hold the ball just with my right hand," Berg said. "It's style which keeps my arm straight and avoids any unnecessary movement."

Hoffman said he didn't even notice Berg's bowling style until they'd bowled for a couple of weeks.

moved to Sun City in 1994. Berg's average quickly jumped from 140 to 180 in the Arizona desert.

He attributed the leap to the three C's — concentration, consistency and confidence.

"There's not much of a chance to bowl when you spend 20 years in the Navy," said the right-handed Berg, who also volunteers as a Sun City bowling instructor. "I spent a lot of those years on ships at sea."

Berg uses three 16-pound bowling balls that he wheels into the lanes in a bag which looks like carry-on luggage headed to an airport.

Two of the balls are made of reactive resin, which give his shots a better hook into the pocket. The other is a polyurethane which rolls straight and makes it easier to convert spares.

See SC bowler, B3

"I never thought about it at first," Hoffman said. "As a Navy man, I'm sure he's got to have a lot of strength in his arm to make that method work."

Berg said news of his hall of fame induction caught him off-guard last fall.

"It was a shocker and a great surprise," Berg said. "Now if I can just get a 300 game before St. Peter calls for me."



MOLLIE J. HOPPES/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Christmas came early for Janice and Gordon Smith after Gordon won \$3,375 in a bowling promotion in Bell Lanes.

Sun Citian strikes it rich with Bell Lanes contest

MARC BUCKHOUT
DAILY NEWS-SUN

It's one of the best investments Gordon Smith has ever made. On Dec. 3, the Sun City resident turned 50 cents into \$3,375.

Smith cashed in, breaking the bank, with a three-game series of 598 in the Bell Recreation Center bowling alley. The series wasn't spectacular for Smith, who is averaging 195 per game in his Monday league.

Smith came up big when it counted.

"My last game was going so bad I wasn't even thinking about breaking the bank," Smith said. "After I made the first strike in the third game (in the sixth frame) the house stopped to watch my last two attempts. When I made the last one I was jumping up and down."

During league nights, bowlers contribute 50 cents to the pot. To break the bank a bowler has to get nine strikes during the course of a three-game series. The trick is the

house designates the nine frames the bowler has to get the strikes in prior to the start of play, with three in each game.

Smith and his wife, Janice, have bowled in Sun City leagues since moving here four years ago from Sacramento, Calif.

Smith had never broken the bank and neither had anyone else for the past 18 months, which caused the jackpot to swell.

Smith said he didn't think Dec. 3 would be his night either. After opening with a 183 Smith improved to a 245 before struggling in the third game in which he finished with a 170.

"Consistency and concentration are the keys to being a good bowler," he said. "I wasn't very consistent that night, but I had some luck on my side."

Smith also had 50 years of bowling experience going for him. During that time the kegler has competed in national, state and senior tournaments. Smith has two 300 games and rolled an 808 series last

February.

Despite those feats, Smith said breaking the bank tops the list.

"Those other ones are nice accomplishments, but you don't get anything for doing them," he said.

"We've bowled together forever and have always had a lot of fun. This was really exciting though. He's been so close so many times," Janice said. "The times when he's gotten eight out of nine we've talked about it and said how nice it would be to win it. To do it with Christmas coming up makes it even better."

Gordon joked that he wouldn't see any of his winnings.

"She said nice shot, now give me the money," Gordon said.

Christmas had already arrived early for the Sun City couple.

"I bought her a new set of dishes that she had been eyeing for a while and I got myself a new bowling ball," Smith said.

On Monday, Smith broke out his new ball, two weeks after breaking the bank.

Sun City bowling rates to rise in September

By JULI NESSETT
Independent Newspapers

Sun City bowlers will notice a rate change when the new season begins Sept. 1.

"We really can't go too many years without raising them a little bit," said Beverly Davis, Recreation Centers of Sun City director and chairman of the Bowling Committee.

The increase of 10 cents per line was approved unanimously by the RCSC board of directors during its Jan. 25 monthly meeting.

The new RCSC membership rate will be \$1.50 per line and the guest/non-membership rate will be \$2 per line.

Ms. Davis said the increase was necessary due to a decrease in lineage and rising costs.

However, in comparison with bowling lanes outside of Sun City, it is still cheaper to bowl at the recreation centers.

Brunswick Mission Bell Lanes in Glendale charges \$1.65 per line for league members and prices for non-league members range from \$2.69 to \$3.69, depending on the day and time, according to Dave Smith, Mission Bell Lanes assistant manager.

RCSC league members pay approximately \$6 per week for league bowling, while Brunswick league costs range from \$13 to \$15.

An amendment was also approved by the board, which changed the wording of the dress code policy.

The code now states, "Proper attire is required by activity participants at all times in the bowling centers including the billiards and shuffleboard areas."

Women may wear bowling attire but bathing attire, halter tops and

tube tops are not permitted. For men, the policy remains basically the same, however, undershirts, tank tops or shirts with offensive language or design are prohibited.

Bowling center personnel will now monitor this policy, which will also be observed in the coffee shops at Lakeview and Bell centers.

Members are expected to inform guests of the policy.

Loaner shirts will be available at the centers for people unaware of the policy.

In other board action, a contract for \$18,500 to \$19,500 from McGlandrey and Pullen, LLP, was unanimously approved for audit and tax preparation services of the 2000 records.

Directors also approved a contract for \$101,615 to re-roof the auditorium roofs of the East and West halls at Sundial Recreation Center.

Unanimous approval was also given to increase facility rental rates, effective Feb. 1. The new rate list can be obtained at the Club Office.

It was also announced during the meeting that director Ted Haupt had submitted his resignation Jan. 22, citing health reasons as the cause for his decision.

Jerry Swintek, board president, announced Jan. 25 that Bud Hantke was appointed to fill the vacancy. Currently Mr. Hantke heads the auditing division of the Legal Affairs and Auditing Committee, of which he has been a member for seven years. He also serves on the Election Committee and was a member of the Centers Properties Committee for several years.

"The board is delighted to have Mr. Hantke aboard," said Mr. Swintek.

Hall Opens Doors to 5 Bowlers

By **Jeremy Pearlman**
Independent Newspapers

The Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame Board of Directors has elected five bowlers for its 19th annual enshrinement.

Sun City residents Connie Howard, Les Berg, James Cotter and Howard Ruby will be inducted for their superior performance on bowling lanes while living in the community, while Tony Salerno will be inducted for his meritorious service.

Any Sun City bowler can nominate a fellow bowler in the community for the honor.

To be selected for performance, a player must have an average of 170 or higher for five consecutive years.

Induction ceremonies will be held Feb. 23.

Connie Howard began bowling at 17 when the boyfriend of one of her friends needed an extra person on his team and asked Mrs.



HOWARD

Howard to join. She has been bowling ever since.

The captain of the only league team she plays on, Mrs. Howard was excited about her impending induction.

"I'm tickled to death," Mrs. Howard said. "I'm very, very happy about (being elected). It's a nice honor."

In addition to her bowling endeavors, Mrs. Howard has been tap dancing since 1992.

Les Berg was bowler of the year for 2000 and has garnered numerous bowling awards and championships since starting to bowl in the community in 1995.

"I was more than thrilled for the honor," Mr. Berg said about



Photo by JEREMY PEARLMAN/Independent Newspapers

Posing together at Bell Lanes in Sun City are two of the recently elected members of the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame. From left, Les Berg and Howard Ruby. The two were elected for their performance on the bowling lanes of Sun City.

being elected.

A Sun City resident since 1994, the 69-year-old has had several long periods of his life where he stopped bowling.

In the military for 20 years, Mr. Berg also worked for Marriot.

Since he has been playing in the community he has averaged between 183 and 187.

Mr. Berg attributes the coaxing of a neighbor for getting him started bowling in Sun City and the people he bowls with for the reason why he has continued to bowl.

"The people I bowl with are just fantastic," Mr. Berg said.

He currently bowls in three leagues.

James Cotter thinks he's just an average bowler.

Though hobbled



COTTER

recently from the after effects of a stroke he had in August, Mr. Cotter is currently averaging 172.

"I am bowling even though I'm not as good as I was," Mr. Cotter said. "It will come back."

A Sun City resident since 1987, the 72-year-old said he has been bowling for a long time.

In what he calls his prime, Mr. Cotter averaged between 195 and 200.

Though he may not be scoring quite so highly anymore, he has no plans to quit.

"I like to bowl. I don't care if I don't do any good or not," Mr. Cotter said. "It's good for exercise."

Howard Ruby started bowling when he and his wife moved here almost 15 years ago.

Prior to moving to Sun City, Mr. Ruby's form of athletic competition was pitching horseshoes, something he did for 30 years.

"I really think horseshoe tour-

naments helped me a lot," Mr. Ruby said.

He has bowled in several senior tournaments and currently bowls in three leagues.

His highest series has been 689.

"(Bowling) is a lot of fun," Mr. Ruby said. "There are good people to bowl with and good people to be around."

While the rest of the 2002 Hall of Fame inductees will be honored for their achievement on the alleys, Tony Salerno will



SALERNO

be enshrined for his work with mentally handicapped bowlers.

A certified bowling coach since 1995, Mr. Salerno has been involved with the Sun City Youngtown Special Activity Center in the mid-1990s.

"I think I have more fun with the kids than they have with me," Mr. Salerno said. "It's really a wonderful atmosphere."

The 76-year-old helps keep score, provide instruction and give bowlers from the group high-fives.

Though being inducted for his non-playing efforts, Mr. Salerno can bowl.

Though early in the season Mr. Salerno is holding a 196 average.

He has also bowled a 714 series in league play.

Mr. Salerno currently bowls in one league.

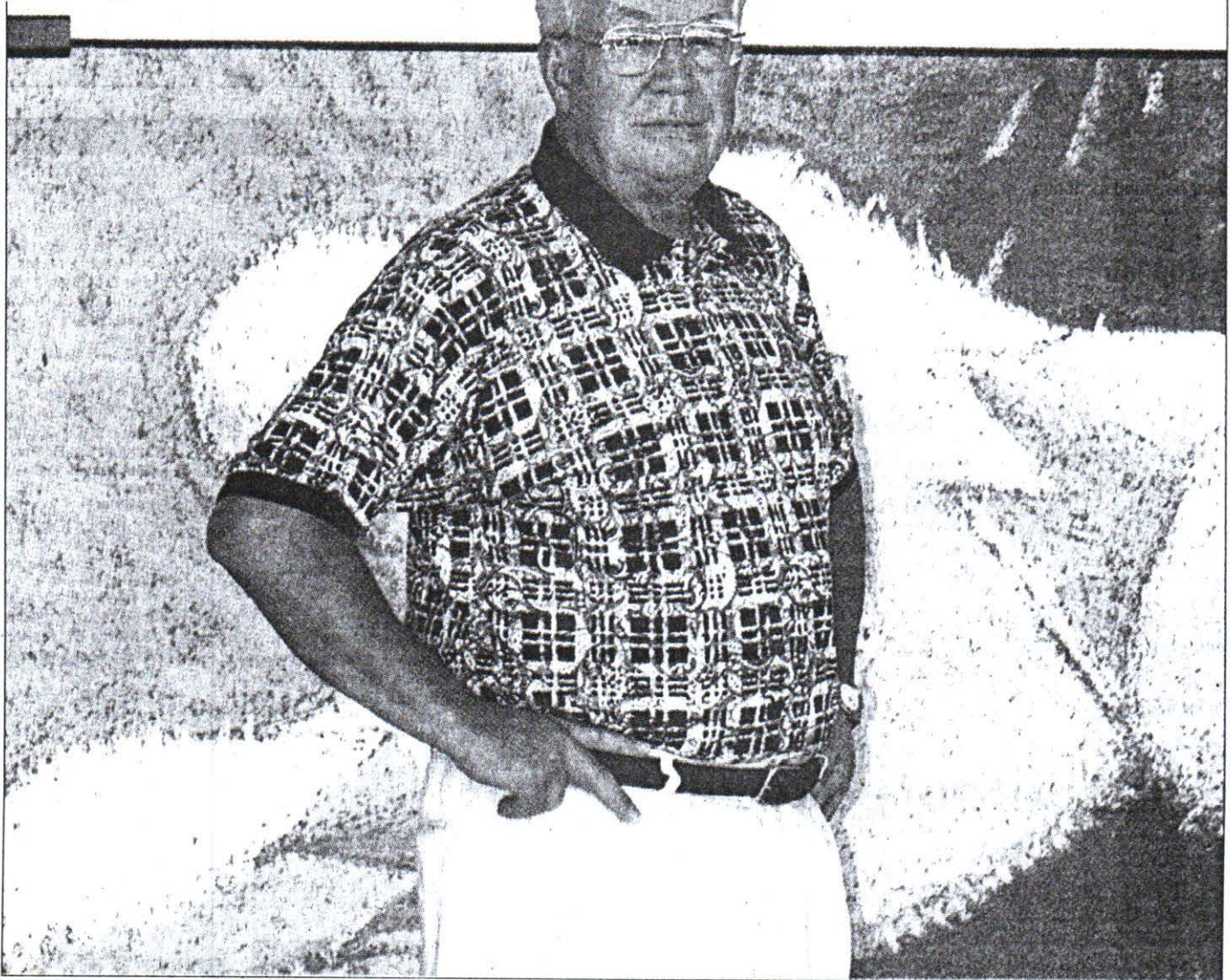
“

I'm tickled to death,"

Connie Howard

On being elected to the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame

Daily News-Sun • Wednesday, March 28, 2001



STEVE CHERNEK/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Bud Hantke rolled a perfect game in the Pin Krackers League last Wednesday.

Sun City resident rolls 300 game

RICH BOLAS
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Douglas "Bud" Hantke figured it would be a tough night when he arrived at Lakeview Lanes last Wednesday.

The Sun Citian had trouble getting his fingers into his bowling ball and shared those concerns with teammates in the Pin Krackers League.

"I complained to a couple of guys that my fingers must have swelled from golfing," the 68-year-old Hantke said. "But after a couple of practice balls, it didn't cause any problems."

Practice made perfect — literally — for Hantke.

The Wisconsin native proceeded to roll 12 straight strikes to begin league play and finished with a 300 game, the first sanctioned perfect game in more than three years in Sun City.

"Every one of my balls was right in the 1-3 pocket," said Hantke, who rolled a perfect game as a 26-year-old in Milwaukee in 1958. "They were all clean hits."

The historic accomplishment occurred on lanes 5 and 6 in Lakeview.

Hantke said he didn't start thinking about perfection until he had eight consecutive strikes.

"After that eighth frame, I started talking about anything except bowling

with my teammates," Hantke said. "I just took a deep breath in the last frame and told myself to let my natural abilities take over."

With bowlers from the other 23 lanes watching, Hantke finished with three more strikes in the final frame to complete the feat.

"This one meant more to me than when I was 26 because my wife and all my friends were here to watch it," Hantke said. "Besides, when I was 26, I thought there'd be a lot more perfect games for me. Obviously, it doesn't work that way."

The retired Internal Revenue

See Sun City, B3

OVER

From B1

Service accountant credited Ron Shone with a helping hand in the 300.

Four weeks ago, Shone refurbished a bowling ball for Hantke, the same ball used for the perfect game.

Hantke bought the ball 18 months ago, but discarded it

after his scores dropped in recent weeks.

"It was a reactive resin ball and it absorbs the oils used to treat the lanes," Shone said. "Bud hadn't been cleaning his bowling ball and that's why his scores dropped."

Shone used a cleaning solution and a scrubbing pad

on the ball and returned it to Hantke.

"I teased him that I expected him to average 215 after I gave it to him," Shone recalled. "I was wrong. He's up around 230."

Shone downplayed the impact of the refurbished ball on Hantke's performance.

"It's not the ball, it's the

driver," Shone said. "That's why we call Bud the 'Great One.' He's not just a great bowler. He's a great man."

Hantke needed the second game to recover from the emotion-packed 300. He followed with a 193 before finishing with a 245 for a 738 series, a personal best.

"I needed a game to get my

feet back on the ground after the 300," said Hantke, who was appointed to the Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors in January. "I rolled a strike on my first ball in the second game and then it hit me."

The 300 game was just the start of a week to remember for Hantke.

Two days later, he shot a personal-best round of 76 at South Golf Course.

"I don't have any explanation for why it happened, but I'd sure like to know," Hantke said. "I went out and bought a couple of lottery tickets that week.

"That's where my luck stopped."

PEAK PERFORMANCE

Sun City bowler rolls record series

RICH BOLAS
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Gordon Smith has scaled the highest peak in Sun City bowling.

The New York native set a record with an 808 series in the Monday Night Super Fun League in Bell Lanes Feb. 26.

LOCAL BOWLING

His games of 276, 273 and 259 represent the third 800 series in Sun City history. The 808 eclipses the old series mark by two pins, based on information supplied by Sun City bowling officials.

"It was just one of those nights where the lanes were set up perfectly for me," the 65-year-old Smith said.

Bowling accomplishments are nothing new for Smith, a retired employee with the Campbell Soup Co.

Smith rolled perfect 300 games in 1990 and 1994 and previously had a 799 series.

"The 800 series ranks right up there with the perfect games," the right-handed bowler said. "In some ways, the 800 series was more of a challenge since I had to do it over three games.

"I was more nervous the first time I rolled a 300 because everyone in the house stopped bowling and watched me during the 10th frame. I'm not sure anyone besides my teammates knew what was going on during the 800 series."

Smith said he had no premonition of things to come that night. He didn't think about an 800 series until midway through his final game.

"It usually takes me a while to adjust to the lane conditions," said Smith, who moved to Sun City four years ago from Sacramento, Calif. "But the lanes were perfect that night and I got off to a great start."

Smith's wife, Janice, bowls with her husband in the

Sun City league.

She said he remained calm throughout the record-setting night.

"I think I was more excited than he was," she said. "If I had been him, I would have been a nervous wreck."

Smith carries a 203 average in the Monday Night Super Fun League. He also averages 207 in two leagues at Mission Bell Lanes in Phoenix.

"I've always said that I don't consider anyone a 200 bowler unless they can do it in more than one house," Smith said. "Doing it in more than one bowling center is a better test."

Smith's grandfather introduced him to bowling 50 years ago.

"I carried about a 160 average for the first 10 or 15 years I bowled," Smith said. "Then my average started to creep up and I've been averaging 200-plus for the last 10 years."

Smith credited part of his improvement to technological advances in bowling balls. He uses a state-of-the-art reactive resin ball, which pulls the ball more consistently into the pocket.

"I've got a traditional four-step approach and I throw the ball with medium speed," Smith said of his bowling style. "My ball breaks 10 to 15 boards, which is a pretty big hook."

Smith also uses a second ball with a straighter trajectory to pick up the 10 pin on spares.

There's few accomplishments left for Smith on the bowling lanes.

That's why he's set his sights outdoors for his next athletic accomplishment.

"I've been playing golf for 40 years and I've never had a hole-in-one," said Smith, a 14-handicapper. "I play three times a week so that's what I'd like to get."

OVER



JOY LAMBERT/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Gordon Smith set a Sun City bowling record with his 808 series in the Monday Night Super Fun League in Bell Lanes.

Tuesday, July 4, 2000

Daily News-Sun

Bowling star didn't learn until she moved to Sun City

STAFF REPORT

Rose Wetmore loves to roll her amber and black bowling ball down the lane to knock down all 10 of the bowling pins. And because of her help in Sun City bowling lanes over the past 20 years, she was awarded the June volunteer of the month award by the Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors Thursday at their monthly meeting.

"I love bowling," said Wetmore, a resident of Sun City since 1975. "I would bowl constantly if my body let me."

She had never bowled before coming to Sun City, but she decided to begin to learn with her husband, Larry.

Wetmore took lessons in 1984 and 1985, and was such a good student that she became an instructor in 1985. She organizes weekly classes and devotes many hours to helping others learn to bowl. Wetmore was the director of bowling for three years and has served as league adviser at Bell Lanes for several years, retiring from the position last year. She has headed the No-Tap at Lakeview Lanes for eight years, and served as secretary of the Sun City Bowling Association for a year.

For the past nine years, Wetmore has been



Wetmore

Hall of Fame.

Wetmore is vice president of the Bowling Hall of Fame board of directors and has been the Belle Scratch League secretary for the past six years.

Her average is 160, and she said she believes her best score was 279.

Wetmore is in the National 600 Bowling Club and received the Phoenix Women's Bowling Association League's Secretary Award.

"I really enjoy bowling," said Wetmore, who has a daughter in Montana. "I've spent so much time bowling."

the secretary of the RCSC Bowling Standing Committee, providing the committee members and directors with minutes of the meetings.

She served as president of two bowling leagues and in 1992, she was inducted into the Sun City Bowling

'At my age I'm glad to be walking much less bowling'

VF
BOWLING



Daily News-Sun • Tuesday, Aug. 1, 2000

JOY LAMBERT/DAILY NEWS-SUN

Tess Carr, left, applauds a teammate with friend Frank Stazio. Carr will celebrate her 98th birthday Friday.

BIRTHDAY BOWLER HITS 98

MARC BUCKHOUT
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Tess Carr has become a source of humility and inspiration all at once.

Teammates and competitors alike in the Arizona Birds Bowling League at Lakeview Lanes just shake their heads and smile at Carr, who's still sending bowling pins scattering less than a week shy of her 98th birthday.

Teammates surprised Carr with a birthday celebration Monday, the last day of the summer league.

"I just enjoy bowling," said Carr, who tied for team's high average with a 143. "I've been doing it forever. I'd like to bowl two or three times a week, but I'm only in one league right now."

Frank Stazio has been Carr's teammate for the last six years.

"She'll knock your eye out making those spares," Stazio said. "We call her, 'Old Deadeye' because she just doesn't miss."

Those bowling skills helped Carr post the second-highest game (191) and second-highest series (504) among women in the mixed league.

"Tess is just amazing," said teammate Norma Jones. "She's a great bowler, she still drives herself everywhere and she still does all her own yard work."

Orville Jones said he marvels at his teammate.

"She's something else, very independent," Jones said. "She says bowling keeps her going. Look at her - she's like a boxer waiting for the bell to ring. She can't wait to get after it."

Carr said that taking care of her yard and bowling are two things she really

enjoys.

"I don't smoke and don't drink so I'm still in pretty good shape," she said. "At my age I'm glad to be walking much less bowling."

"But I was born active so it doesn't surprise me."

It might be a fun activity, but Carr still takes bowling seriously.

Jack Gannon recalled being on a team with her a couple of years ago.

"The first two or three frames she wasn't doing well and she just didn't have the flair or swagger she usually does," said Gannon, who has known Carr for 15 years. "I finally told her to get it together and the next frame she got a strike."

"She came back and yelled at me for not getting on her earlier."

Sun City Rec Centers looks to attract bowlers

Summer rates will hopefully bring in new keglers

By JULIE RIDDLE
Independent Newspapers

On the hunt for new bowlers and a solution to declining numbers of keglers, the Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors discussed solutions during its monthly meeting May 25.

With the summer season officially under way, Sun City's bowling lanes are collecting dust, according to Director Beverly Davis. The board is hoping that summer rates approved earlier this year will bring in more players.

"We are trying to do something to bring in people," Mrs. Davis said. "What better place to be than a bowling alley? Where else can you go to be cool?"

Current rates per game are \$1.25 for members, \$1.75 for non-members. Three games come at a cost of \$3.50 for members, and non-members can bowl four games for \$4.50.

An employee shortage is wreaking havoc on Rec Centers operations, said Director John Powell.

”

*We are trying to do
something to bring in
people.*

Bev Davis

"We are short of help in almost every location except bowling," he said.

In the case of food service, more employees working overtime to compensate for lack of workers is causing costs to jump.

"Food service is down, so we are looking very closely at what we are doing," said Treasurer Harold Boudrie. Golf, too, has taken a hit in the wallet.

"The financial condition of the golf course is a little behind last year; play is down," Mr. Powell said.

With the terms of several board members nearly expired, the search for replacements is under way.

"Candidates can pick up packets June 13," said outgoing Director

Dick Ohnstad "It is an opportunity to be actively involved."

Other seats to be filled include that of Mr. Powell and Jerry Swintek. Packets containing information about the election process will be available at Lakeview Rec Center June 15. Petitions, required to have 100 signatures, must be returned by Oct. 15.

The plan to institute Sun Cities Area's Transportation's emergency services, the details of which are under consideration, was lauded by board member Marge Murphy.

"It will be a boon to people in the area. The long-range planning committees are working on a solution with Sun City, Sun City West and Youngtown."

Board President Bob Briscoe gave an update on the progress of Steve Ravenkamp, installed as Sun Cities golf manager earlier this month.

"He has been working extremely hard trying to get everything in order," he said. "I think everyone will see something dramatic happen in the next few months."

Sun City bowling lanes to open to outsiders

By JULIE RIDDLE
Independent Newspapers

Sun City's bowling alleys should be a little busier next month.

The Recreation Centers of Sun City board of directors approved a plan recently that would allow punch cards for open bowling to be sold to non-residents who bowl in RCSC leagues. Punch cards will be \$17 for 10 games in the winter, effective Sept. 1, and \$18 for 12 games for summer bowling, effective May 1.

Resident Harold Coons, who addressed the board, expressed his dissatisfaction with allowing non-residents to take advantage of Sun City's facilities.

"I think we are getting out of hand here. We now allow outsiders who don't pay the recreation fees — that is out of order. I think we should explore other avenues. I just don't understand."

Director Beverly Davis defended the practice, saying the financial need is too great and pointed out that resident usage is declining, especially in summer.

"Golf is down, bowling is down. We are not getting people to participate like we used to. If we don't let (non-residents) in, the members' rec fees will go up. We are doing our best to help in that manner," she said.

Allowing non-residents in is has worked in the past, Ms. Davis said.

"Two years ago we allowed the residents to bowl in our leagues, and it helped us a great deal," she said.

This summer, Lakeview Lanes will be closed July 16-30, and Bell Lanes from July 30 to Aug. 13.

A measure to change golf fees for both regulation and executive courses was also approved during the meeting.

The rates, effective May 1 through the end of individual course overseeding, are: for residents, 9 holes on a regulation course will be \$5, and \$10 for 18 holes. On executive courses residents will pay \$4 for nine holes and \$8 for 18 holes.

Non-residents will pay \$7.50 for 9 holes on regulation courses, \$15 for 18 holes. On executive courses the rate will be \$6 for 9 holes and \$12 for 18 holes.

DECEMBER 22-28, 1999 — SUN CITIES INDEPENDENT —

Bowling punch card approved in effort to hike income

By LORA BERRY
Independent Newspapers

Flagging interest in bowling and resultant decrease in revenue has led directors of the Recreation Centers of Sun City Inc. to adopt a bowling punch card. It is hoped the punch card, good only for open bowling, will stimulate interest in the game and get more Sun Citians involved in bowling.

The card will cost \$12 for 10 games and is for the purchaser's use only and is non-transferable. A minimum of two games must be bowled per outing.

Bowling revenues generated by the Recreation Centers' two bowling centers is down \$25,800 from the year-to-date budget.

In other board action:

- The Capital Preservation Fee, named in Board Policy No. 24, will now be called the Capital Preservation/Improvement Fee.

Marge Murphy's resolution is intended to aid future boards in understanding the purpose of the policy. She wants to make sure they address the need to improve the Recreation Centers to compete with surrounding communities. "We want people to find Sun City as beautiful as we all found it when we first came here years ago," said Murphy.

The Capital Preservation Fee, which was approved in August and enacted on Oct. 1, assesses a \$700 fee to first-time Sun City property owners.

Capital Preservation Funds are not to be used for normal operating

or maintenance expenses. Expenditures must be for a minimum of \$100,000 and must be approved by the board.

Ed McCrea cast the only dissenting vote. He cautioned that the word "improvement" could be subject to interpretation, resulting in actions that the Board did not intend. McCrea's term as a director expires Dec. 31.

Helen Thiel, the board's administrative assistant, pointed out that the documents would all need updating because of the increase in fees and that this change to the policy could be done at the same time.

- An improved benefits package was approved for full- and part-time employees.

"With the booming economy, Sun City needs to stay competitive in the

job market," explained Director Dorothy Hirtzel.

The package includes increased vacation time and job reclassifications which will allow for higher salary ceilings.

"It was a significant change (in the policy)," said Mrs. Hirtzel. "We've got twenty-four employees who have been here fifteen-plus years." These employees were only able to earn a maximum of three weeks of vacation time, the same as those who had been there a much shorter time, explained Mrs. Hirtzel.

Hirtzel, who's board term expires Dec. 31, will continue to volunteer her time to the Club Organization committee, but also looks forward to having a little more free time. "Now I can take ceramics or china painting," Mrs. Hirtzel said.

Daily News-Sun • Wednesday, Dec. 15, 1999

Board approves bowling discount

STAFF REPORT

Bowling discounts will soon be available to members of the Recreation Centers of Sun City.

The RCSC Board of Directors approved the creation of a bowling punch card at its meeting Thursday in Sundial Auditorium. The card will save the purchaser 20 cents per game in bowling.

Under the current price plan, 10 games cost \$14, or \$1.40 per line. With the bowling punch card, the same number of games can be purchased for \$12, or \$1.20 per line. The purchaser must bowl a minimum of two

'People who want to bowl want to increase their skill level. We think we could get a lot more open bowlers by offering a small discount to those who want to practice.'

John Powell, chair of golf and bowling

games.

The punch card will be an incentive to residents who want to bowl, but don't want to spend the money to practice, said John Powell, a RCSC director and chair of the bowling and golf committee.

"People who want to bowl want to increase their skill level. We

think we could get a lot more open bowlers by offering a small discount to those who want to practice," he explained.

The discount will be available for members in open bowling only.

"This is nontransferable. It's not for the resident and his buddy," Powell said.

Tuesday, March 16, 1999 Daily News-Sun, Sun City, Ariz.

Bowling-fee hike approaches

By JEFF OWENS
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Sun City bowlers can likely expect to pay a little more for lanes this fall.

Recreation Centers Board of Directors Vice President John Powell said the board will "probably" vote to pass his motion to raise rec centers' bowling fees by 15 cents per game at next week's Thursday board meeting in the Sundial Recreation Center Auditorium.

If the motion is approved, bowlers will pay \$1.40 per game starting in September, up from the current price of \$1.25.

Powell said the hike is intended to offset steadily decreasing bowling revenues and slightly increasing ex-

penses.

"Bowling seems to be waning a little bit" in Sun City, Powell said. "We've had a drop in lines bowled every year for the last four or five years. Unfortunately, the costs haven't gone down."

They have not indeed — rec board Treasurer Harold Boudrie said bowling expenses for January 1999 were about \$3,200 over budget. With the 15-cent increase, Boudrie said bowling revenues should stay in the black through 2001.

The proposed increase is scheduled "to coincide with the leagues starting in the fall," Boudrie said.

With 1998 year-end bowling income budgeted at \$577,392, Recreation Centers of Sun City racked up \$541,274 — more than \$35,000 short of the

expected amount.

Even with 1998 year-end bowling expenses tallying up \$550,930 — more than \$25,000 below the budgeted \$576,132 — income still fell short of expenses by \$9,656.

The board recently approved a new summer rate, raising the cost of a bowling punch card from \$10 for 12 plays to \$12. The rate will be in effect from May 15 to Aug. 31.

In other action, the board is scheduled to vote on motions which will, if passed:

- Grant a charter to Sun City's 40th Anniversary Club.
- Increase the 1999 capital golf budget by \$60,000 for landscaping improvements at the Quail Run, Willowbrook and Willowcreek golf courses.

Bowling fees to rise 15 cents

RCSC also charters anniversary club

By JEFF OWENS
DAILY NEWS-SUN

Bowling fees at Sun City recreation centers will increase 15 cents in August and September, from \$1.25 per game to \$1.40.

The Recreation Centers Board of Directors voted unanimously to approve the rate hike at its Thursday meeting.

The increase is intended to offset dwindling bowling revenues and fund repairs for rec center bowling facilities. New electronic scoring equipment is likely to be installed in mid- to late May.

"It's much needed and very timely," said John Powell, sponsor of the motion.

The increase will affect leagues, some of which start in August, and will go into effect for open bowling Sept. 1.

Powell noted that even with the

increase, "costs are still lower than other facilities in the Valley."

"We have to have this money right now," said Treasurer Harold Boudrie.

The directors also unanimously approved a motion granting a charter to the Sun City 40th Anniversary Club.

Director Ed McCrea called the action a "formality" intended to "bring them under our insurance umbrella."

Voting was not unanimous on two motions to grant \$35,000 to the Quail Run Golf Course and \$25,000 to the Willowbrook and Willowcreek for desert landscaping improvements — the motions passed 6-2, with directors Jim Matise and Marge Murphy voting against them.

In other action, the board voted unanimously to approve Director Dick Elton's motion that the board's Outdoor and Other Sports Committee be disbanded in favor of having each recreation center coordinate its own clubs.

3-26-99



Steve Chernek/Daily News-Sun

Gilbert Blondin has bowled in Sun City for 18 years. The 86-year-old Michigan native will be inducted into the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame Feb. 27.

Left turn

Sun City southpaw receives bowling hall pass

By MAGGIE REED
DAILY NEWS-SUN

It took a while, but it was worth the wait.

After 65 years of bowling, 18 in Sun City, Gilbert Blondin will be inducted into the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame Feb. 27 during ceremonies in the Lakes Club.

Blondin will enter based on superior performance, which requires a minimum 170 average for at least five consecutive years.

"I think it's really great," he said. "It shows they appreciate my being involved."

Blondin and three other bowlers make up this year's class of inductees. The others are Stanley Beyer, Alene Dawes and Don Oyan.

"It's a little overdue," Paul Graff said of Blondin's induction. "It

should have been sooner. He's a nice fella. He's never out of sorts, even after a bad game."

Mel Vondra is one of Blondin's teammates.

"He's a real nice guy," Vondra said. "I haven't been bowling with him that long but he's a good bowler. I don't bowl that well and he has patience with me."

The 86-year-old Blondin bowls in the Oakmont Men's League. He also serves as a substitute for teams on Friday nights.

"I sub almost as much as I bowl on my regular team," Blondin said. "I like to bowl so I sub."

Blondin carries a 158 average this season, although he carried an average well over 170 from 1984 to 1995.

"I had heart problems this year and it went way down, but it's coming up again," he said. "I average above 500 series now each week."

Blondin began bowling in his native Michigan, where he carried his highest average of 184. He also had his highest game in Michigan, a 278.

"The place I worked for needed bowlers for a team so I started," he said. "That's the way most people get started," said Blondin, who was a tool and die maker for 35 years.

Blondin said he enjoys everything about bowling, including the exercise.

"I like the competition and being with other people," he said. "It doesn't make a difference if you're poor or a millionaire. Everybody's equal out here."

Blondin said being a left-handed bowler works to his advantage.

"I roll a hook ball every time and I'm good at picking up spares," he said.

Daily News-Sun

Thursday, May 21, 1998

Bowling fees may fall

Rec board considers lowering guest fees, opening lanes to non-residents

By DAVID MILLER
Staff writer

Guests in Sun City bowling alleys may soon pay less to hit the lanes. And there may be a lot more of them, if a new plan proves effective.

In a motion going to the board next week, the Recreation Centers of Sun City board plans to cut fees for guest bowlers, from \$2 to \$1.75 per game.

Also, a move to open bowling to other retirement communities is being considered.

Recreation Director John Powell said the motions are designed to make Sun City bowling more attractive. "The general consensus is that it will help the bowling community."

While some have been negative about opening up to outsiders, Powell said he believes Sun City is willing to become less insular, if it helps the bottom line.

"Through the course of time attitudes have mellowed out a little bit," he said Wednesday.

Less mellow were reactions to another bowling measure recently withdrawn by the board. That measure would have lowered guest fees to the same rates paid by Sun City residents and league players.

Guests would also have paid a \$5 seasonal fee under that plan, but bowlers complained that non-residents should shell out more than Sun Citians.

Unhappiness with that plan drew a larger-than-usual crowd to a recent board meeting.

Now, directors have an idea that they hope will satisfy everyone. It cuts guest fees — and hopefully will

bring in more players — but it continues to charge guests more than residents.

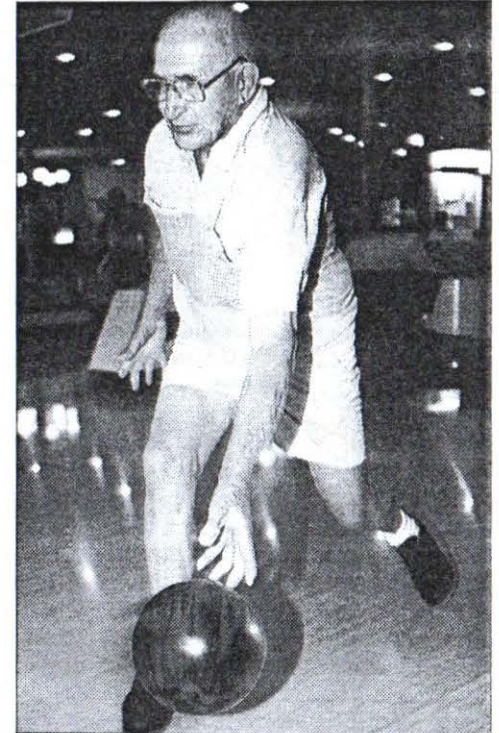
Residents now pay \$1.15 per game, a rate that increases to \$1.25 in the fall. Guests now pay \$2, but under the new provision they would pay \$1.75, beginning Aug. 14.

Former Director Dick Austin is one of those who opposed the recent measure. But the new plan is much more to his liking.

He also favors opening lanes to outsiders. "It's the only way for bowling to get in the black," he said.

Austin also believes the lower guest fee will be a boon to outside players. "Some bowlers I talked to thought \$2 was too high."

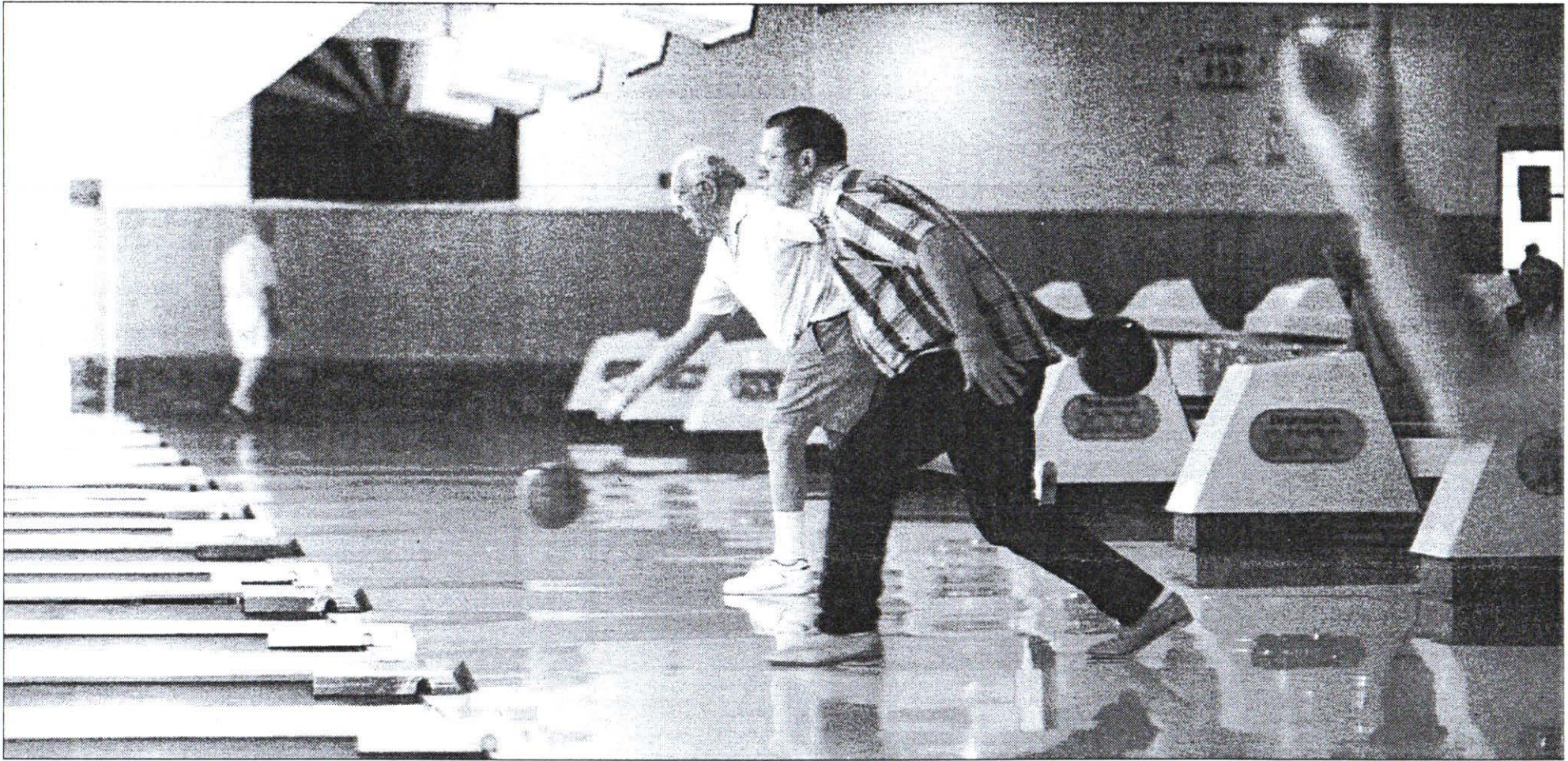
The recreation board meets at 9 a.m. Thursday, May 28, at Sundial Recreation Center Auditorium, 14801 N. 103rd Ave. The public is invited to attend. For information, call 876-3000.



Steve Chermek/Daily News-Sun

Willard Holgate, 82, bowls at Lakeview Lanes Wednesday. He and his wife and a group of friends get together and bowl twice a week.

OVER



Steve Cherek/Daily News-Sun

Bowlers hit the alleys at Lakeview Lanes Wednesday. A motion to lower guest fees and open the lanes to bowlers from outside Sun City will be

considered next week by the Sun City Recreation Centers Board of Directors.

Rec board entertains bowling fee reduction

By DAVID MILLER
Staff writer

League fees at Sun City bowling lanes likely will fall next week, following a board vote.

The motion, presented to the recreation board Monday, is designed to lure league players into the community.

Some, however, are questioning whether cutting fees is the right way to make up declining revenues.

The recommendation, submitted by Director John Powell, would cut "line fees" paid by bowlers from outside the city.

Now, league bowlers who aren't Sun City residents pay \$1.75 per line, or game. But under the change they would pay a seasonal fee of \$5 and hand over \$1.25 per game.

Sun City bowlers would continue paying \$1.25 per game.

The motion saw support from the board and likely will pass in a vote. But some questioned the wisdom of cutting fees in order to make money.

"In golf, if we have a problem with the finances, we raise rates. But with bowling we go the other way," said General Manager Jim Warfield.

However, Powell called the move a way to jump-start league play. Though in the short run it means less money coming in, in the long run it brings in bowlers, he said.

"We have to encourage more bowlers to come in, more leagues and more teams," Powell said. "We don't feel we can compete with bowling outside Sun City."

He also noted that, unlike golf, bowling is not gaining in pop-

ularity.

"We're trying to revitalize the sport," Powell said.

President Don Pritchett said he'd like to try something else as well — opening up lanes to other seniors.

Now, Sun City alleys are open to local bowlers and those from Sun City Grand and Westbrook Village. But some would welcome retirees from across the West Valley.

"We have to open it up to the surrounding communities," said Pritchett.

Local bowlers play at Lakeview and Bell Recreation Centers.

The bowling motion will be the only one facing the board next week. Another move presented by Chadbourn would have limited recreation presidents to one term.

"I think one year is sufficient," he said.

Other directors, however, said the move could cost the board valuable experience.

"We already have a lot of checks and balances," said Vice President Bud Moriarty. He noted that directors work well together and have a good relationship with management. "What could be better?"

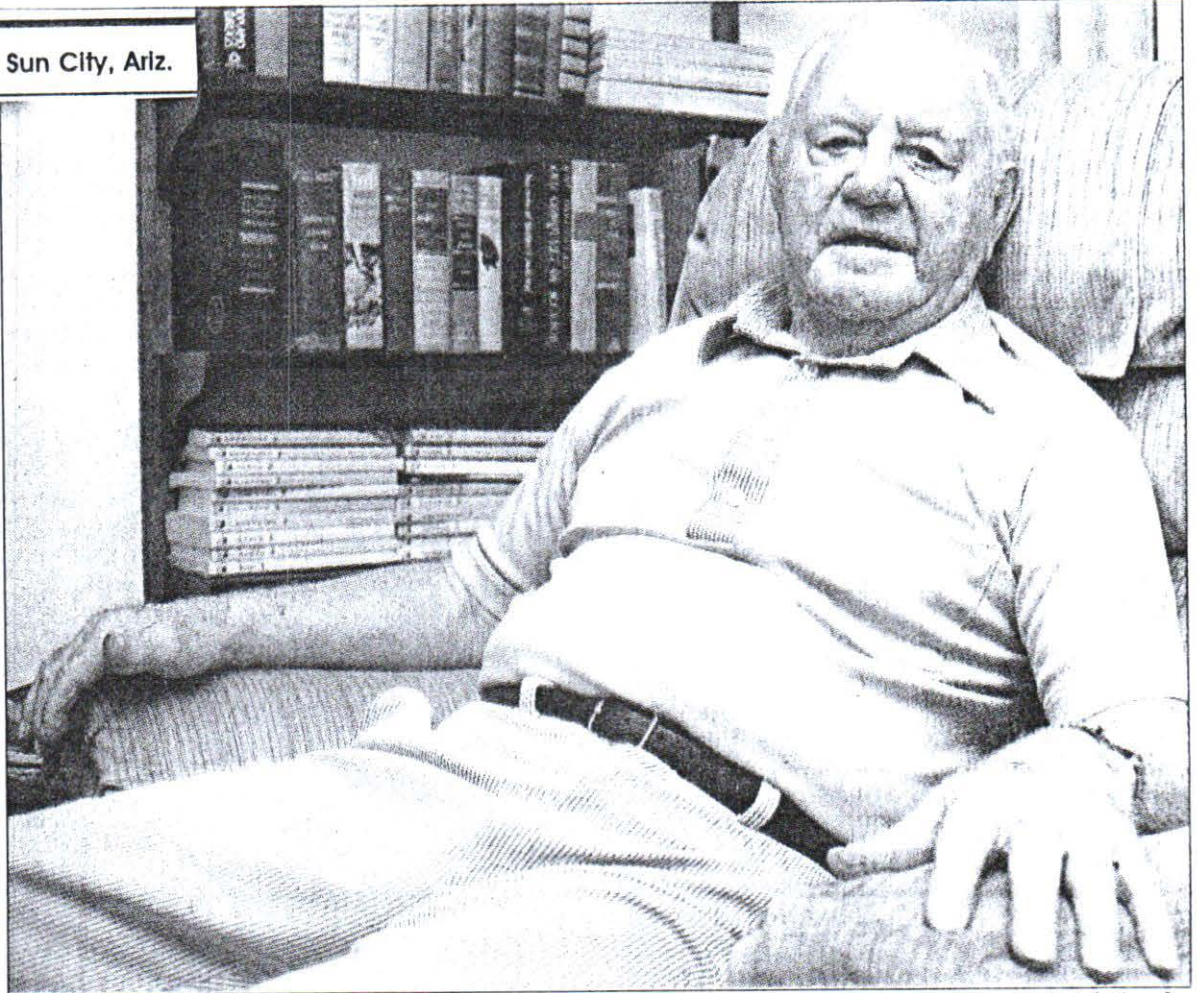
"If we'd had that, we would've lost Don (Pritchett) in his second year," said Director Ed McCrea. "I think he's done an excellent job."

Chadbourn said the move was not intended to denigrate the performance of any particular president. After some debate, he decided to drop the motion.

The board next meets the public at 9 a.m. Thursday, April 30, at Sundial Recreation Center. For information, call 876-3000.

Deteriorating health has kept John Benedict away from the bowling lanes for the past six years. The Michigan native will enter the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame in March.

2-2-98



Gregory Harris/Daily News-Sun

Roll call

Sun City resident makes bowling hall of fame

By RICH BOLAS
Sports editor

John Benedict hasn't gone bowling in six years.

Deteriorating health has forced him to use a walker, keeping him away from the Sun City lanes he used to frequent three or four times a week.

Bowling

Benedict's absence has made the hearts and minds of the Sun City bowling community more appreciative of his impact on the sport.

The 85-year-old Michigan resident will be one of three persons inducted into the Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame during ceremonies March 28 in the Lakes Club.

"I think he should have been in the hall of fame long before this," said Charles Gilbert, who nominated Benedict for induction. "I think when he stopped bowling a lot of people forgot about him."

Benedict will be inducted for

superior performance and meritorious service. He will be joined in the Class of '98 by fellow inductees Dallas Barker and Les Casady.

Male bowlers elected on performance must maintain a minimum 170 average for at least five consecutive years. Those inducted based on meritorious service must spend at least five years as a bowling volunteer.

Benedict served as the president of the Sun City Men's Classic League between 1981 and 1982 and is credited with starting a number of leagues, including one for service clubs which is in its 30th year of existence.

"John was an inspiring leader and has done much to promote the fun and pleasure of bowling in Sun City," said Mark Keymer, a former bowling teammate. "Bowlers liked to both bowl with and against him."

Benedict had a personal-best 257 game and 660 series. His average hovered around the 180 mark dur-

ing his peak bowling years in Sun City.

"I used to put a small hook on the ball," said Benedict, a retired special education teacher. "All the trophies I've received for bowling I've given away."

Benedict also organized the Sun City Bowling Travel Club, which competed against bowlers from Phoenix and Peoria. The league's season culminated in a trip to the Showboat in Las Vegas to take on bowlers from Nevada.

"John was nothing flashy as a bowler," recalled Gilbert, who began bowling with Benedict 18 years ago. "He just got the job done and was a good guy to have on the team."



The Sun City Bowling Hall of Fame induction ceremony begins with a reception at 11 a.m. on March 28 in the Lakes Club, 10484 Thunderbird Blvd. For information, call 977-0093.

On a Roll

'Veteran' bowling team's average is 86 — years old!

By **GEORGE WITKOWSKI**
Independent Newspapers

The spirit of competition, the fun of the sport and the camaraderie between friends are the primary reasons a local church bowling league continues to thrive after two decades.

The 16-team Church Fellowship League was organized 20 years ago. For the past 12 years teams have met Friday mornings at Bell Recreation Center Lanes.

Duane Van Wegen, 84, is captain of the Lakeview Methodist men's bowling team.

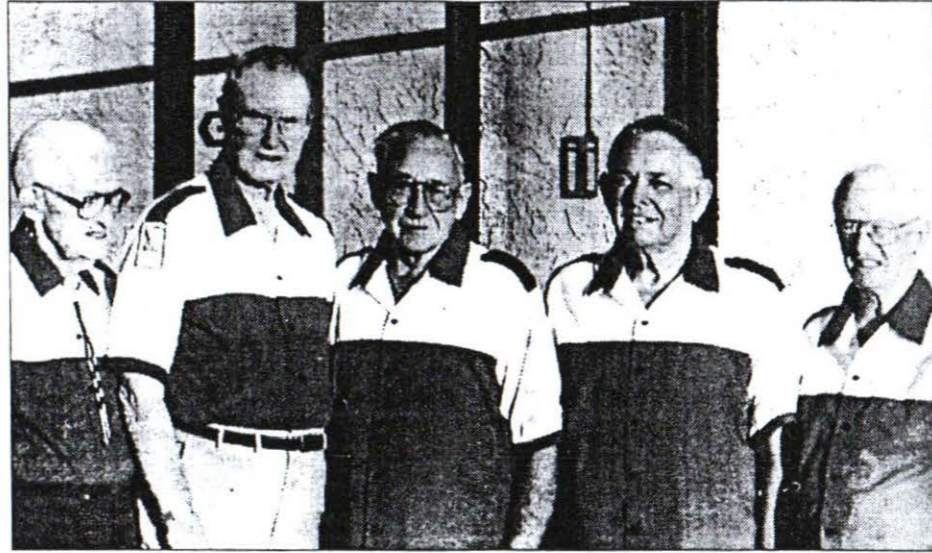
"I don't know how this (the formation of the league) began but it was just a case of trying to recruit a bowler from church membership," Van Wegen says.

The Lakeview Methodist men's bowling team has one of the more veteran lineups in the league with its first five bowlers averaging 86 years of age.

Its most senior bowler, Lee Corbin, 92, bowls every day and was one of the original members when the team was formed 20 years ago.

Mr. Corbin has lived in Sun City for "20 to 23" years and maintains a 140 to 145 average. Corbin, who enjoys the fellowship of the league, is in three leagues and recently bowled a 202 game. His high game is 249.

Members of the Lakeview Methodist men's bowling team are, from left, to right, Lee Corbin, Cliff Green, Duane Van wegen, David Hughes, Don Kelly.



Clifford Green, 90, has been bowling for 45 years and has a 153 average. He enjoys the company of the league.

"It's the fellowship. We have a great time and we kid each other about things," Green says.

Glen Stutting, 89, has been living in Sun City for 18 years and has a 130 average.

"I've known one of the guys (Van Wegen) for 16 years and we've bowled on the same team," Stutting says.

Don Kelly, 82, has been bowling for 50 years and maintains a 152 average.

"I enjoy the fellowship. It's a bunch of nice men," Kelly says.

"And they all bowl pretty well for a bunch of old men."

Don Johnson, 80, who has the highest average at 163, enjoys the companionship of the league and the friends that he's made.

David Hughes is the youngest of the group, at 74, and is in just his second year with the team.

"I have a 138 average and I can't believe it's that low," he says, adding that the camaraderie of the league is its best asset. "The fact that your team makes a good shot or the other team makes a good shot doesn't matter.

"It's not dog-eat-dog and I've never seen anybody get mad," he adds.

”
“It's not dog-eat-dog (competition) and I've never seen anybody get mad.”

Van Wegen has no trouble agreeing with Hughes and says the league is something that all church league bowlers look forward to each week.

"I enjoy the fellowship and it's good comradeship," he says. "There are no disagreeable situations among team members."

Recreation Centers of Sun City, Inc. raise bowling fees

By KATHLEEN WINSTEAD
Sun Cities Independent

Sun City bowlers will soon be paying higher rates to bowl at recreation center alleys.

The new rates, which go into effect May 1, apply to nearly everything from the cost to use the lanes right down to the rental of shoes.

The Recreation Centers of Sun City Board of Directors agreed during a special meeting last week to increase bowling rates. President Art Williams was the only director

to oppose the increase.

Increases include:

- Basic fees will rise from \$1 to \$1.10 per line;
- Guest bowling fees will be upped from \$1.50 to \$1.75 per line;
- Locker fees will go from \$6 to \$12 per year;
- Shoe rentals will rise from 50 cents to \$1 per pair;
- The "Learn to Bowl" fee will increase from \$4 to \$5.

Bowling Committee Chairman George Hartman says the fees are

being raised to prevent the bowling alleys from becoming "a drag on the rest of the (rec centers) organizations."

Bowling has continually lost money for the centers. Rec Centers officials say bowling fees were down \$1,121 in 1993 and down \$3,755 in January.

"We're trying to see if we can prop (bowling) up by trying to increase the lineage," Mr. Hartman says.

He says although the centers'

alleys are used more than commercial alleys, leagues are not plentiful at Sun City bowling alleys. Traditionally, leagues are bowling alleys' bread-and-butter.

"Our problem is one of trying to get leagues to come out in Sun City at eight o'clock at night," Mr. Hartman says.

"If we can, hopefully, increase the bowling lineage, we might be able to build bowling up so it breaks even."

According to bowling alley employees, the 24 lanes at Lakeview Lanes and 16 at Bell

Lanes, which are open 8 a.m. until late at night, are occupied by leagues almost every night. At Lakeview, league play begins at 5:30 p.m. and again at 8 p.m. several nights of the week, employees say.

At Bell, leagues play at 8 a.m. and 12:30 and 5:30 p.m. daily and at 8 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

But Director Max Domino insists "there are league availabilities every night after 8 p.m. at both Bell and Lakeview. The early leagues are full."

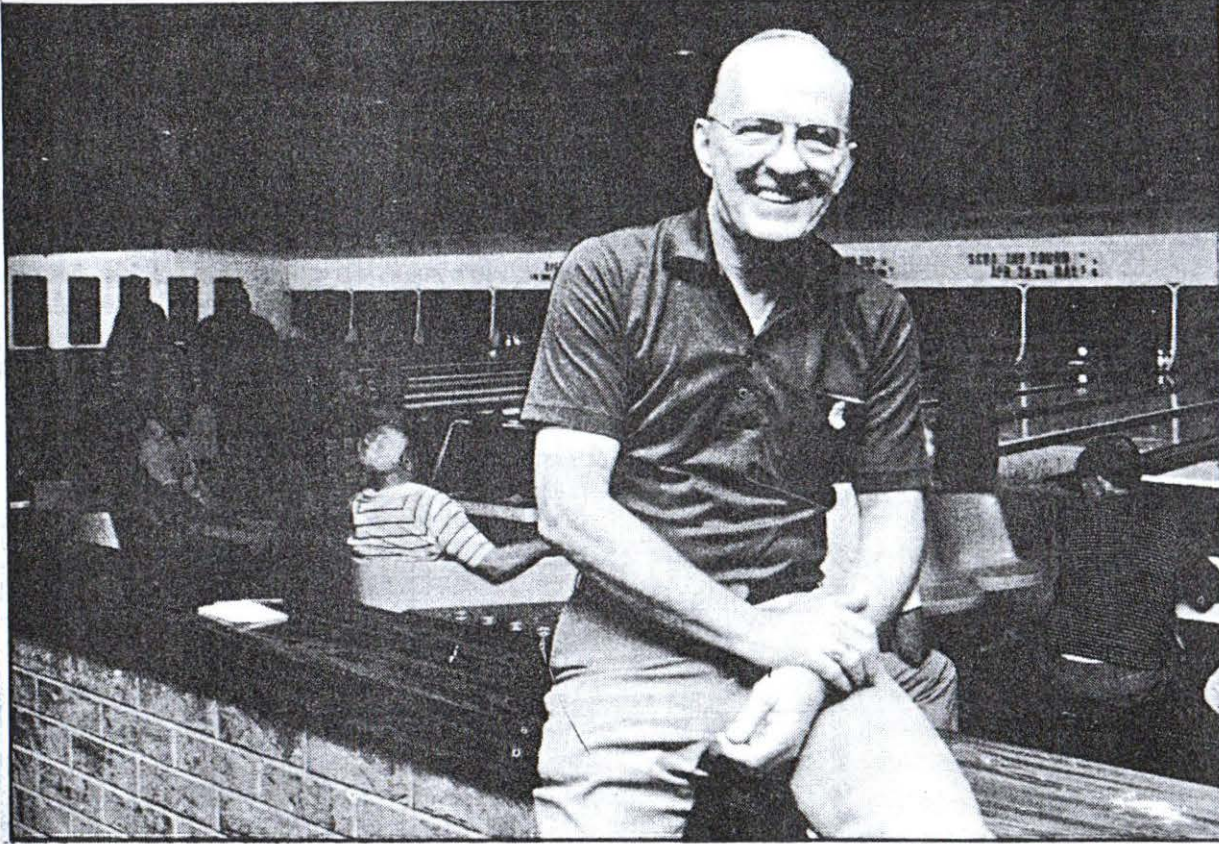
Although fees will increase, Mr. Hartman points out it's more expensive to bowl elsewhere. For example, the cost of bowling at Luke Air Force Base is \$2 a line. At alleys outside Sun City, the cost of bowling is about \$2.75 a line.

"You can't bowl anywhere for \$1.10 a line. The bowling people recognize they're receiving a tremendous benefit."

Mr. Williams, however, feels raising bowling fees is unnecessary.

"I'm just opposed to increases when I feel we have adequate funds," he says.

Sun City's 1st bowling manager retires



Daily News-Sun photo by Mollie J. Hoppes

FROM THE BEGINNING — Bill Neel, who has been the only bowling division manager of the Recreation Centers of Sun City for 19 years, is retiring. *DAILY NEWS-SUN 3/28/90 A-3*

By JACQUE PAPPAS
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Bill Neel is trading in his bowling ball for a place in the pines.

Neel, general manager of Sun City's bowling alleys for 19 years, is retiring. His last work day will be Friday.

"This place is just wonderful. I've really enjoyed my many years managing the bowling lanes here," Neel said. "But my wife and I are going to build a house in Strawberry and take it easy."

Neel has been working to better the community's bowling lanes since before they were built.

In May 1971, Neel was hired by Del Webb Corp. to manage what would soon be Sun City's first bowling alley.

"Lakeview (Lanes) was just an empty field when I first came here," Neel said. "I started organizing leagues with a lot of help from a lot of people."

By Oct. 4, 1971, Lakeview opened with 16 lanes and a billiard room. In April 1976, Bell Lanes opened. In 1979, eight additional lanes were added to

Lakeview.

"We were averaging about 85 lines (games) per lane per day when the average is about 50 or 60. We had four shifts of leagues and two-hour waits. The play was outstanding," Neel said.

Since the time Neel managed the bowling lanes from their infancy, the price of a line has increased from 55 cent to \$1.

"But that's not bad when you consider the price has only gone up by 45 cents in 19 years," he said. "That's less than three cents a year."

But that's not to say Neel hasn't seen his share of controversy in the bowling division.

In 1980, Neel said a group of residents formed a boycott to oppose an increase in the bowling line fee from 55 to 65 cents.

"But it was something bad that turned out good," Neel said. "We had one of our best years because people bowled more."

One of the most memorable controversies surrounding the bowling lanes was in 1984 when smoking was prohibited inside recreation center facilities, in-

cluding the bowling alleys.

"That smoking issue actually broke up friendships here," Neel said.

Neel said Lakeview Lanes, 10502 W. Thunderbird Blvd., was the first bowling alley in the state to use automatic scoring machines.

"We've been the front-runners in bowling and I think that's why we have had our success here," Neel said.

Neel, 62, was in the bowling business for 18 years in Ohio. He moved to Sun City from Glendale in 1978.

His successor is John Darling, who has been in bowling management for more than 40 years.

"These facilities are well maintained and updated. Bill's done a fine job of taking care of these stores (lanes). I don't know of any two centers that are in any better physical shape than these two," Darling said.

Darling, 57, owned a bowling alley in Montana and worked for facilities in California and the Phoenix area.



Daily News-Sun photo by Stephen Cherneck

Women bowlers join Sun Cities goodwill effort

By WALTER L. DOZIER
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — The Sun City vs. Sun City West get-acquainted bowling matches have been expanded to include competition between women bowlers as well as men.

The men have already bowled matches in Sun City at Lakeview Lanes and in Sun City West at Johnson Lanes.

The first competition to include women is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 16, at Johnson Lanes, 19803 R.H. Johnson Blvd. in Sun City West.

"We'd been planning on this all along," said Dick Austin of Sun City, a director of the Sun City Bowling Association.

Austin and Jim Hill of Sun City West organized the get-acquainted matches in late August with the hope of promoting competition and better communication between residents of the two communities.

"I mentioned to Jim Hill that we should try getting a women's team from each place," Austin said. "It was a joint effort."

Austin said he then talked with bowlers Virginia Alms of Sun City West and Marion Dut-

ton of Sun City, who organized the women bowlers.

"Virginia came to the match in Sun City West," Austin said. "She wanted to know why the women couldn't bowl. It materialized from that."

Dutton said she's looking forward to bowling on the plastic bowling lanes in Sun City West. In Sun City, the lanes are made mostly with a wood surface.

"I think it's going to be fun," said Dutton, who has lived in Sun City for seven years.

"The only problem I can see is getting enough reserve people on hand so the same five people won't have to bowl all the time," Dutton said. "It will be a chance to bowl against someone other than those in your league."

Alms said she is also looking forward to the competition.

"Why not?" Alms said. "I'm a daring person and I love competition."

The Sun City team has won the two get-acquainted matches already held.

A return match is scheduled for 8 p.m. Sept. 23 at Lakeview Lanes in Sun City.

WAY TO GO — From left, Marion Dutton and Dick Austin of Sun City and Jim Hill and Virginia Alms of Sun City West give clinched-fisted approvals to the Sun City vs. Sun City West men's and women's bowling match scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 16 at Johnson Lanes in Sun City West, 19803 R.H. Johnson Blvd.

Sun Cities plan 'get acquainted' bowling match

By WALTER L. DOZIER
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — The first-ever bowling competition between Sun City and Sun City West this Friday is being billed as a "get acquainted" match.

The match will feature two five-man teams and will be at Lakeview Lanes, 10626 W. Thunderbird Blvd. in Sun City.

Friday's event is the brainchild of bowlers Dick Austin of Sun City and Jim Hill of Sun City West.

"Initially it was my idea to do this," Austin said. "But I got the support of the (Sun City) bowlers. Jim Hill got the Sun City West bowlers interested.

"We're very optimistic that this will work," Austin said. "We've planted the seed and we hope it carries over into women's bowling."

Austin said the purpose of the "get acquainted" match is to promote better relationships between residents of Sun City and Sun City West through bowling.

Austin said residents of both communities have endured needless strained relationships for a number of years and he thinks that it is now time to make amends.

He said bad feelings for past conflicts aren't going to make the situation better.

"There's enough blame to go around on both sides, too," Austin said. "We're working to improve upon it (relationships).

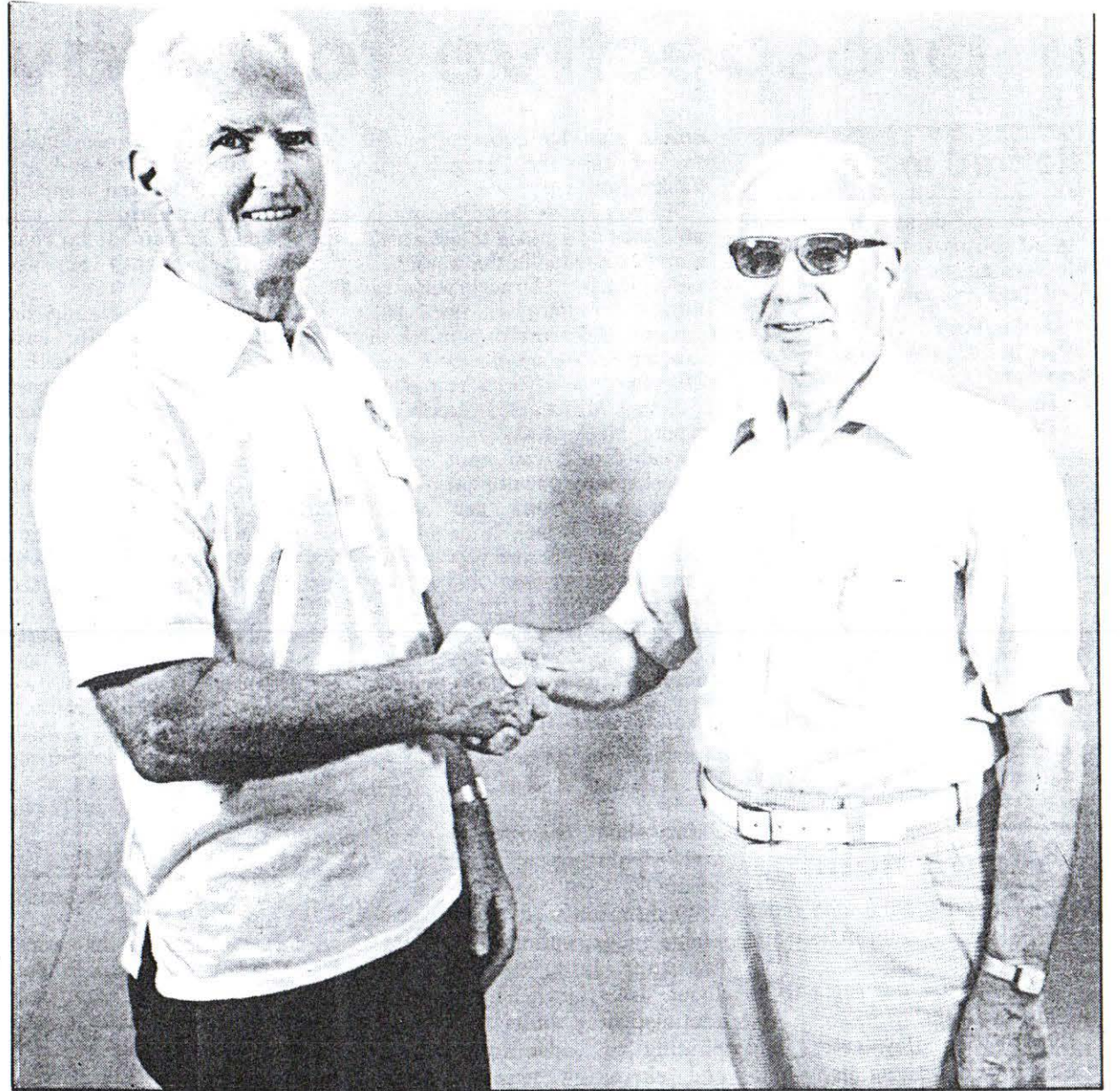
"I'm trying to accentuate the positive and forget the negative," he said. "I've heard the saying that the Agua Fria River divides Sun City and Sun City West. I'd like for the Agua Fria River to connect Sun City and Sun City West."

Hill, who has lived in Sun City West for about a year, said he is not privy to the past problems between the two cities and doesn't care to be.

"Reaction to the idea has been positive from the people that I've asked to bowl," Hill said. "They have really been excited about doing this.

"I'm new, so I'm not aware of the politics from the past," Hill said. "The only negative I've heard is from some people who were here from the beginning."

Hill said his initial idea was to form a traveling league that would play in both cities, but that idea has been put on hold for now.



GETTING ACQUAINTED — Jim Hill of Sun City West, left, and Dick Austin of Sun City put the final touch to an agreement

that will match bowlers from both communities in a first-ever competition Friday night at Lakeview Lanes in Sun City.

Daily News-Sun photo by Patrick Knight

Bowlers react favorably to 'get acquainted' match

Teams plan second match

By WALTER L. DOZIER
Daily News-Sun staff

SUN CITY — Sun City defeated Sun City West by 288 pins Friday night at Lakeview Lanes in Sun City in the first-ever bowling competition between the two cities.

A crowd of nearly 60 people watched the two five-man teams square off in what organizers hope will be the start of regular bowling competition between Sun City and Sun City West.

"It was great," said Dick Austin of Sun City. "The turnout by the spectators was really nice. We hope it will generate more interest in bowling."

Austin and Jim Hill of Sun City West organized the event with the hopes of bridging the

gap between Sun City and Sun City West. For a number of years residents have been alienated because of what Austin called "past conflicts".

"I've lived in Sun City West for seven years and I've never bowled in Sun City before," said Mike Sabel. "I think this is good."

The Sun City team — Austin, Lee Schubert, Joe Subat, Doug Barton and Charles Gilbert — charged out to an early lead in the first game of the three-game match and never looked back.

Barton's 213 game led Sun City to a 97-pin victory, 934-837, in the first game. The Sun City West team, which was made up of Hill, Chester Kaweki, Paul Finkler, Sabel and Fred Madlo — was led by Finkler's 211.

"They picked up 70 pins in the last frame," Finkler said of the Sun City team. "We missed a couple of pins and they got a

triple. That was the difference."

In the second game, Barton's 177 led Sun City to a 79-pin victory, 820-741. Hill's 184 game paced Sun City West.

Sabel, who bowled a three-game 442, said he had some problems with the wood surface lanes at Lakeview. He said at Johnson Lanes in Sun City West the lanes are plastic.

"There is a difference but I just shot bad tonight," said Sabel who has a 168 average. "I was way off."

"But you've got to give the Sun City bowlers credit. They shot good."

"We just couldn't seem to catch fire," Sabel said. "But we don't have any sore losers. It was all in fun."

Subat of Sun City had the high game of the evening. His 220 in the third game led Sun City to a three-game sweep, 917-805.

"Not bad for an old man who is 78 years old," Subat said. "Not bad at all. I missed two spares but I can't complain."

The teams are planning a rematch next week in Sun City West but no date and time have been set. Sabel said he thinks the plastic surface lanes in Sun City West may hurt the Sun City bowlers.

Austin agrees.

"It could make a difference," Austin said. "The approaches on plastic and wood are different. We'll have to see."

Individual three game totals on Friday were: Sun City, Schubert, 509; Austin, 528; Subat, 559; Barton, 560; Gilbert, 515.

Sun City West totals were: Kaweki, 459; Finkler, 547; Sabel, 442; Madlo, 382; Hill, 553.

Senior Citizens Give Young Folks Bowling Lesson, Sweep Loop Honors

Top award: in the Jacks and Jills bowling league, composed of 16 two-couple teams, mostly younger people from Glendale, went to four couples from Sun City and Youngtown at the annual awards banquet Saturday at the Wagon Yard restaurant.

The league's split-season campaign ended May 2 with the annual Sweeper night during which the Sun City and Youngtown teams rolled for the league championship.

Winner of the second-half season with a garrison finish was Brite Lite Corp. Team members are Mr. and Mrs. Earl Emerson and Mr. and Mrs. Gus Meyer.

THEY WON three of four points in the final match of the season in April to earn second-half honors by one-half point.

First-half season winner was the Youngtown Medical Center team composed of Mr. and Mrs.

Ole Olson, former Youngtowners, and Mr. and Mrs. Andy Wagner of Sun City.

In the rolloff the Olson-Wagner combination won the first game by 17 pins and lost the second by seven pins.

THE THIRD game was equally as close until the seventh frame, when one of the Emerson-Meyer team members ran into split trouble, the opponents got "hot" to win the final game and total pins by a wide margin.

Achievement awards for most improved bowlers went to Sun Citizens Katie Meyer for the women and John Kopelman for the men.

Other couples from the retired cities area who competed in the league were Mr. and Mrs. John Kopelman, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Snyder, Mr. and Mrs. George Carpenter, Mr. and Mrs. John Van Epps, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Tiefenbach, Mr. and Mrs.

Harry Hicks, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Kneller, Mr. and Mrs. Mahlon Shearer, Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Hulman, Mr. and Mrs. James Thompson, and Mr. and Mrs. James Bassett.



VICTORS IN Glenfair Lanes' Jack and Jill bowling league was Brite-Lite Corp. team of senior citizens. Displaying first-place trophies are (from left, front row): Mrs. A. H. Meyer, sponsor's representative Jack Schwartz, and Mrs. Earl Emerson. Back row: A. H. Meyer, Earl Emerson, and team substitute Joe Kreuzer.

(News-Sun Staff Photo)

Bowling League Slates Run-Off Play Saturday

A run-off will be played at 1 p. m. Saturday at Bolero Lanes in Maryvale to determine the championship of the Sun City Bowling League.

Pitted against each other will be the leaders for the first and second halves; First National Bank of Arizona and Germond's Insurance teams.

GERMOND'S captured the top spot at the end of the first half, while First National took it in the second half. Final standings in terms of games won and lost also placed First National at the top.

Distribution of \$1,042 will be made to the eight teams in the league in the order of their final standings.

A MEETING of all league members is scheduled for 9:30 a. m. Saturday at the Community Center to discuss plans for the next season.

Standings of the teams for the second half and for the season were announced as follows:

SECOND HALF

	Won	Lost
First National Bank	34½	19½
Del E. Webb No. 3	33	21
Del E. Webb No. 1	30	24
McClellan's Nursery	30	24
Collins Union Service	27½	26½
Germond's Insurance	24	30
Del E. Webb No. 2	24	30
Brice Hardware	13	41

SEASON

	Won	Lost
First National Bank	65½	39½
Del E. Webb No. 3	65	40
McClellan's Nursery	60½	44½
Germond's Insurance	57	48
Collins Union Service	53½	51½
Del E. Webb No. 1	50	55
Del E. Webb No. 2	39	66
Brice Hardware	29½	75½

MAY 3, 1962

1961-62 Season

FORE!

WHOOOPS! WRONG SPORT THIS ABOUT BOWLING

By a bare five-point margin, the Germond Insurance Co. bowling team defeated First National Bank of Arizona to take the Sun City League championship Saturday at Maryvale's Bowlero Lanes.

First National's Sun City branch had taken the second half of the split season after the Germond team won the final half.

The final score, including handicaps, was 2,746 to 2,741.

Walker Guy, 12644 Augusta Dr., won the trophy for the player showing the greatest improvement during the season. Andy Germond donated the trophy, and presented it personally to Guy.

Captains for the two teams were Mel Phelps, 12648 Augusta Dr., for the Germond team, and Tom Leonard, 10402 Sun City Blvd., for the First National Bank.

Individual scores, without handicaps, were as follows:

Germond Ins. Co.	
Ralph White	434
Ross Kidder	492
Forrest McGlynn	455
Mel Phelps	416
Bill Mann	461
Total	2,260
1st National Bank	
Tom Leonard	438
Clarence Thill	442
Carl Keller	390
Oggie Pawlak	553
Roy Litzen	478
Total	2,291

1961-62 Season

SUN CITY SENIOR BOWLING LEAGUE--First league in S.C.

A senior men's eight-team bowling league began in Sept. 1961 and continued to function until May 1962 when a playoff was held to determine Sun City's first league champion. The leaders of the first and second halves, First National Bank of Az. and Germond's Insurance Co., met at Bowlero Lanes (now Capin's Dept. store site at 51st Ave. and Indian School, Rd). Germond Insurance Team emerged victorious and were league champions for the 1961-62 season.

1962-63 SEASON

After seven weeks of bowling in the 2nd season, the league standing had Desert Venetian Blinds team ahead by just one half game.

OVER