

# Rolling Along

Oxnard-Joslyn Lawn Bowls Club, 350 North C Street, Oxnard, CA 93030 Fall 2014



## President's Message

by Ron Creager

Fall is here even though it still feels like summer with the warm days and cool evenings. The mornings have been cool and perfect for bowling. Wuhwa and Demo have done a wonderful job of keeping our green in good condition. It is not an easy job and they have put countless hours in.

Several members have enjoyed bowling on Friday afternoons and having dinner afterwards. With the shorter days coming, bowling will start at 3:00 instead of 4:00 so there is time to get a couple hours in before the shadows grow too long. All are welcome to come.

In September, I was invited to play in a Fours Tournament at the US Open with Chris Kennedy, John Trindade and Bruce Phillips down in Orange County. Due to the extreme heat, Chris had to drop out so Mac McManus stepped in to fill his spot. Then Mac and I played in a Pairs Tournament. The excellent competition, sportsmanship and opportunity to meet lawn bowlers from all over the world was well worth the effort.

With the year coming to an end I would like to take this time to thank everyone for their confidence and support. It has been a privilege and honor to serve with a board that has the best interests of the club and game. I especially want to thank Wuhwa Hsu for the hard work learning how to maintain our Green (Brown) to the excellent playing condition it is in. I know it is not easy dealing with so many armchair quarterbacks, including myself.

I look forward to another wonderful year and with your continued help I hope to bring more new members to the game we all love. Happy Bowling, Ron

## Membership

The club would like to welcome our new member Mike Jung. Wishing you good bowls and happy days on the green. We need to keep our eyes open for recruiting opportunities for new and returning members.



## Super Shots Club

Club members on a super shot team in the past three months were Priscilla Zarate, Paul Samuels, Doris Sneddon, Tom Hodgens, Bob Smith, Gloria Brown, Dick Gibson and Rich Purcell.

Members submitting a form to "BowlsUSA Super Shots" should also add the team names on the bulletin board list for inclusion into the newsletter.

## Class is in Session

by Armand Escalante

Reprint from Winter 2004 newsletter.



### LAWN BOWLING IRRITANTS

Did you know that there are lawn bowling irritants that diminish the pleasure of the game? No, I am not

referring to anything in the air or mixed in with the fertilizers or insecticides that the greenskeeper must use on the playing surface. The irritants that I am referring to are little things that some of us do and that are not all covered in the book of rules. During the past year I have made a collection of the top ten "irritants" that have been suggested to me by members to our club. There are several other "irritants", but here are the top ten:

1. Players who don't stay on the mat for a couple of seconds after bowling to receive information from their skip.
2. Skips that yell unnecessary comments to their team members like "You're too wide, too narrow, too heavy, etc." Note: These things should be obvious to the player who has just delivered the bowl.
3. Players who wander off when it is their turn to bowl and have to be called to come and bowl.
4. Players that when making the point count kick bowls prematurely and don't use towels for counting point bowls.
5. Skips who don't communicate with their team members. For example, telling them whether the team is "up" or "down".
6. Players who get on the mat and start bowling without looking for directions from the skip as to which hand to bowl or what shot to attempt.
7. Vices who are in or moving around the head when the opponent is on the mat instead of staying back and not moving. Note: This item is definitely covered in the book of rules.
8. Skips who are so tired or disinterested that they attempt to conduct their game while sitting on a bench.

9. Bowlers who after bowling step backwards (ouch, my toes!) instead of exiting the mat in a clockwise direction.

10. Leads who loiter around the head and interfere when the vices are trying to agree on the point count.

It is not my intention to end the instruction year on a negative note, but we need to examine our bowling

habits and if we are producing any of the above mentioned "irritants" let's each one make an effort to change for the purpose of making lawn bowling even more pleasurable for everyone.

## Priscilla Zarate

Priscilla with her pals



My humble beginnings started in Texas. The youngest of three girls, I was not the spoiled brat you might think I'd be. We worked hard at our family restaurant, and I learned early on the value of good work ethics.

At 19, I left my native Texas and married a really cool guy. Dan and I met in Notre Dame, Indiana, during a 3-month summer visit with my sister. Our courtship was short, but we corresponded by mail for a year. Everyone said it wouldn't last, but this year we celebrated our 36<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Who knew!

My greatest adventure has been raising our two sons, Javier and Andres, who are now grown men. Javier recently married, and I'm soon to be a grandma! Andres recently moved out of the area to join his fiancée in Duarte. While they were in elementary school, I returned to college and earned my Bachelors Degree in Sociology and Art History at UCSB. I worked a great many jobs, and later became a school administrator. Working with college students was a gratifying experience that lasted 15 years.

As to hobbies and interests, I have been a choir member at Santa Clara Church since 1984. I am a collector of many things, but ceramics and folk art are a favor-

ite. My love of quilting led me to start a small quilting bee with friends from all over Ventura County. We rotate our get-togethers, so that everyone has a chance to be a hostess—because in addition to sewing and visiting, eating seems to be right at the top of the list of what we like to do (especially trying each others' dessert recipes).

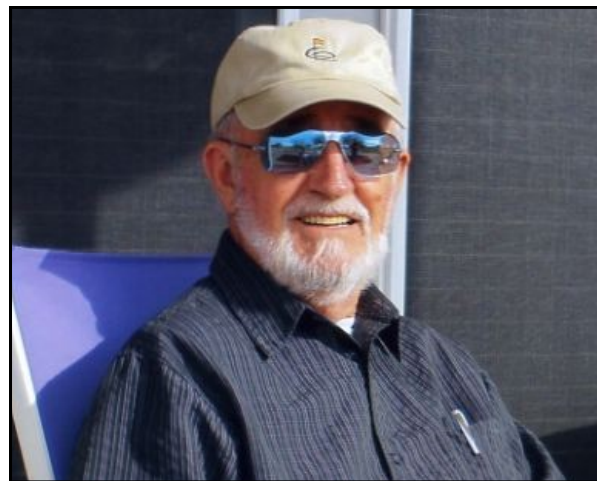
Simple everyday pleasures are what truly capture my heart, like drinking wine with my husband in a shady spot under our Mimosa tree, exercising our two huskies (if truth be told, they exercise me), gardening, quilting, reading, and preparing exotic food dishes. I am truly blessed with a great circle of friends of all shapes and sizes and love to entertain them with food and music. Lawn Bowling is my latest craze, and I couldn't ask to play with a nicer group of people! Soon we will have our first granddaughter, and who knows what great adventures she will bring.

With a humble heart, I am blessed with a good life.

by Priscilla Zarate

## In Memory of Jules Bilodeau

July 28, 1931 to August 17, 2014



My dad, Jules Bilodeau, touched many countless lives who are all better for it.

- Faithful and caring husband
- Devoted father
- Loving brother, Uncle, Grandfather, and great grandfather
- Valued servant, neighbor, engineer and friend
- A child of GOD who thirsted to know and commune with his Father in heaven

I am honored to call him father and would like to share a few memories and ways in which he touched lives, including my own.

My dad was raised in humble circumstances in New Hampshire. His parents immigrated to the US from Canada as young adults and he grew up with his sister Theresa, and brothers Conrad and Leo, all of whom he loved dearly. He was raised speaking French and learned English gradually as a teenager. He did not finish high school as he worked full time instead to support the family as required.

The Korean War broke out and he enlisted in the Air Force, as did his brothers, and served his country bravely.

When the war ended my dad married his sweetheart, Catherine Williams, and they moved back to NH to start their life together with virtually nothing except each other. There they raised 4 children until moving to California ~20 yrs later.

Our family has been blessed by my father's faithful stewardship and I'd like to share three particular lessons that he taught me.

### **LESSON #1: The value of hard work, doing your best and striving to continue learning**

Throughout my childhood, my dad was the hardest working man I knew. How he juggled unending overtime at work, built and cared for our home, raised and cared for his family, maintained his strong Catholic faith AND went to night school for endless years, I still do not understand.

My dad also taught us the importance of taking pride in our work, whatever it was, and doing it RIGHT the first time. Complete, perfect and not half-hearted.

Lastly, despite not going to high school, my dad vigorously pursued bettering himself through education by earning his associates degree, then a bachelors degree and ultimately a Master's degree – all while working full time and supporting a large family. He was the first person to earn a college degree in our family. He was intellectually and spiritually inquisitive his entire life and passed this down to his family.

### **LESSON #2: Lead by example**

My dad was a "doer" not a "talker" when it came to teaching life's lessons. In other words he chose to "lead by example."

- He was not boisterous – he was humble
- He set high standards in the way he lived
- He modeled those attributes discussed earlier: hard work, doing your best and striving to constantly improve oneself
- Words like: Reliable, consistent, independent are stamped on his character

My dad did not talk about the life one should live – he modeled it.

### **LESSON #3; My dad faithfully pursued GOD, and our family was blessed because of that**

My dad faithfully treasured and guarded his daily prayer time. At what seemed like 5AM every day, he read scripture and prayed. To my knowledge he did this for over 50 years.

When we were planning this Mass, we had to select the readings. There was one verse in particular that we wanted to find that was particularly apropos. I believe that the greatest lesson my dad modeled was his faithfulness to prayer time with God and as such I'd like to end by reading Paul's Reward for faithfulness, which I believe Paul and my dad have now claimed at the end of their lives:

### **Again 2<sup>nd</sup> Timothy Chapter 4 verses 6-8:**

"For I am already being poured out like a libation, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have competed well: I have finished the race: I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me, which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me, but to all who have longed for his appearance."  
God Bless you Dad.

by Steven Bilodeau, son, Edited

## **Ralph and Marie Ecton Memorial Triples**

August 10, 2014

The Ralph and Marie Ecton Memorial Triples is open to both men and women. Skips set up their teams any way they want. The entry fee is \$75.00 per team. Lunch is brown bag. Morning snacks and salads and desserts will be provided at lunch time. Format is three 12-end games. There will be six winning teams. Wins are determined on the basis of wins, losses & plus points, with a max of 10 points per game. When there is a point tie, total points will be used to break the tie. Prizes will be awarded for all six places.

1st: Marty Bierman, Cheryl Barkovich, Rick Gregory

2nd: Scott Roberts, Dee McSparran, Linda Roberts

3rd: Amador Martinez, Joe Brown, Gloria Brown

4th: Barry Pickup, Bud Viard, Norm Wiles

5th: Shan McMorris, Shuman Chan, Keno Shaw

6th: Mary Delisle, Sam Delisle, Dick Rivera



1st Place: Rick, Marty and Cheryl



3rd Place: Amador, Gloria and Joe

This was the only Oxnard team in the money.



## Other Events This Quarter

Aug 15, **In Club Men's Pairs**, 8 teams (16 members) participated in the tournament. All teams chosen by luck of the draw .

1st: Joe Brown and Mac McManus

2nd: Tory Smith and Bob Smith

3rd: Armand Escalante and Jim Matlock

Other teams in no particular order were: Jordan Austin and Demo Arevalo, Denny Ryan and Wuhwa Hsu, Rich Purcell and Dick Gibson, Ron Creager and Mike Basler, Mike Newton and Jerry heidebrecht.



1st Place: Joe Brown and Mac McManus

Sept 6, **Joslyn Mixed Triples at Holmby Park LBC**, Dick Gibson, Demo Arevalo and Priscilla Zarate did well in taking a fifth place in the tournament. Format was 4 ten end games.



Dick Gibson, Priscilla Zarate and Demo Arevalo

Oct 6, **Semi Annual Club Clean Up Day**, We had ten members that stayed over after bowling for cleanup day! Some new faces also. Gloria and Joe Brown, Pat Harter, Armand Escalante, Amador Martinez, Mac McManus, Ron Creager, Jordan Austin, Davey Jones and Tom Hodgins all helped out. Gloria made ham and lima beans, corn bread and pecan bars for lunch. They all did the work pronto, and enjoyed the lunch. This is always a rewarding opportunity for you to help out your club. If you haven't done so before, you should try it.



The cleanup crew minus Gloria who is behind the camera. You might notice that there are seven present and past club presidents in this group. It takes help from everyone to keep the ball in the air.

Oct 11, **Vet-Novice Pairs Tournament at MacKenzie Park LBC**, This SWD tournament is played in three locations, MacKenzie Park, Laguna Beach and Sun city. You can sign up for the location that is most convenient for you. The format was 4 ten end games. Oxnard's team of Tory Smith and Demo Arevalo took a 2nd place. Coming in third was the team of Ron Creager and Priscilla Zarate.



A group picture of the 2nd and 3rd place teams.

L-R: Demo Arevalo, Priscilla Zarate, Ron Creager and Tory Smith.

Oct 12, **Beckley Quinnell Rinks Tournament at Santa Monica LBC**. Jack Beckley Quinnell Rinks

The dynamic team from Oxnard included, Amador Martinez, Armand Escalante, Gloria Brown, Raul Perez participated in the Jack Beckley quinnell rinks tournament October 12, 2014 hosted by the Santa Monica LBC. This tournament is in honor of Jack Beckley a well-known past and supporting member of the Santa Monica club. The tournament has been a yearly event for the past 12 years drawing top bowlers from throughout the South West Division.

The event consists of four ten end games where the only points that count are the number of ends won plus an additional three points for a game win for a max points of 13 per game. Maximum points which can be earned are 52, we earned 34 points to win our flight.

The highlight of the tournament for our scoring was the fourth game, last end, last bowl taking out the opponent's point bowl giving the dynamic team the win of the game and the win of the tournament.



Raul Perez, Armand Escalante, Amador Martinez and Gloria Brown

Oct 18, **Visitation, Oxnard at Friendly Valley LBC**, Our bunch of bowlers making our last visitation was small, only six bowlers. Two of our novice bowlers made the trip and enjoyed the change of greens. Our teams were:

1. Conrad Bilodeau, Demo Arevalo, Sal Mollo
2. Barb Parkhurst, Jerry Heidebrecht, Dick Gibson

We were greeted by a group of welcoming Friendly Valley bowlers who set up a generous serving of a variety of breakfast goodies. We were able to converse for a while before our teams got together to bowl.

We bowled our regular twelve end game; team 1 won their game but team 2 didn't. After the game, we were treated to a delicious lunch offering: spicy chicken wings, various fresh salads and several choices of cookies, brownies and pumpkin pie for desert. Very good!

Three of our group stayed for a mix-up game after lunch to end the visit.

Friendly Valley has always been a great visitation. The bowlers are always upbeat about the games and gracious winners (or losers) as the case may be. This was also our last visitation of the year. Hopefully we will meet again next year here at Oxnard and then away at Friendly Valley. Our bowlers always seem to enjoy the visitations; a chance to greet friends we have met through tournaments and other visitations.

by **Dick Gibson**

Oct 27, **Club Mixed Pairs Tournament** (cancelled). Nearly everyone made it to the club on time. However, one contestant was missing. It was reported that a stork was seen flying by with a small bundle so it was decided that all present would have a tournament cancellation party instead. It seems that Priscilla Zarate is expecting a new granddaughter and that trumps all.



L-R: Armand Escalante, Doris Sneddon, Mac McManus, Gloria Brown, Sandy Rankin, Henry Richter, Joe Brown and center our tournament chairman, Jordan Austin. You need to be very flexible to do his job and he is the original gumby.

The rescheduled date for the tournament is November 14, 2014 after the General Meeting.



## **From the Editor**

by **Bob Smith**

The newsletter will be published four times a year. I welcome articles and pictures from members. They can be sent to me at [Buenadia@roadrunner.com](mailto:Buenadia@roadrunner.com) or given to me at the club. The deadline to submit articles for winter is January 25, spring is April 23, summer is July 25 and fall is October 25. I welcome articles sooner if they are ready. If you have an article you would like to have published or a particular subject addressed just let me know. I am also interested in your input regarding items for the website. I can use any special pictures you have that you would like to see posted.

I would like to thank all those that contributed material for this newsletter. I can use all the help I can get.

**Oxnard-Joslyn Lawn Bowls Club**  
**350 North "C" Street**  
**Oxnard, California 93030**

**YOUR CLUB NEWSLETTER**

**Website: <http://oxnardlbc.com>**

