

PAGE DEW'S END OF TERM REPORT-----JULY 9, 2017

For my entire term as a Director of the PPUSBC, I have been the Chair of the Historical Committee and I believe we have made a positive difference in bringing about an understanding of the accomplishments of those who have participated in our sport in Colorado Springs since 1873. Without the guidance and historical information provided by Committee member Robert Knight, very little of this could have happened.

At the outset, our Historical Committee set forth a philosophy designed to not only educate others about our sport's past, but also to create an intrinsic value to the collected information and images.

Initially, we began with an exhaustive internet search of past bowling news in our community. This produced an exciting and informative series of newspaper articles which we hard-copied and saved in a binder that has been and can be displayed at future association functions. These stories were also digitally saved onto a thumb drive for easy access and posting on our website and Facebook page. A digital copy was also given to the Pioneer Museum.

Our second task was to put together a chronology allowing others to understand the growth of our sport over the last 144 years. This was done and a report was delivered at the 2014 Hall of Fame and Induction Ceremony and Dinner at the Antlers Hotel. It was well-received and because of that positive feedback, we were encouraged to delve deeper into our bowling past.

Our third effort was to secure a number of Masters Tournament photos, which we did, only to discover they had physically become damaged due to improper storage protocol. We digitally copied them on the thumb drive and worked as hard as possible to restore them to a viewable state. Robert and Sandy Knight did a tremendous job (At their own expense) of putting the hard copies of the Masters photos in binders; we owe both of them a big round of applause.

A fourth initiative was started as a because of the our reception at our Hall of Fame event, that is to make sure our association had a complete collection of bowling yearbooks, this resulted in a conversation with the late Hall of Fame member, Clarence “Bud” Stearns who donated his entire yearbook collection to me.

Our next approach (5th) was to digitally save as many yearbook photos, documents and privately collected images as possible. Although the committee was “personally technically challenged” to complete this part of our mission, we did manage to photograph, save, name, crop and enhance 99% of the yearbook photos and selected tournament results. Robert Knight also retrieved a privately produced, rare yearbook documenting the 1963-1964 season which he generously allowed us to copy. It is included in our digital data base.

More work should be done to increase our digital data base. Most of the printed information, i.e. individual averages in the yearbooks, was not copied, and probably should be saved for future use. If we digitally save this information then copies can be made easily and distributed to multiple individuals, thereby, insuring it will never be lost to fire, flood, neglect, etc.

The intrinsic value mentioned earlier can be a real asset; when we post a vintage photo on our Facebook page or website we build traffic to those media. Increasing “hits” in turn allows us to approach a potential advertiser with real numbers to strengthen our case for them to spend money with us.

Verbally, I have stated my intention to remain a dues-paying member of this association, even though I will be living back in Louisiana soon. I also plan on working, as long as I am physically/mentally able, to edit our Facebook and to be a historical resource.

It has been a joy to have served all of you—thanks

