

Hall of Famer Betty Allen was instrumental figure in area women's and youth bowling

NCAUSBCA Hall of Famer Betty Allen, who died January 29 in Florida, was first elected to the board of the Washington, D.C. Area Women's Bowling Association (WDCAWBA) in 1965. She

served as a director, vice president, assistant to the secretary, and president—an office from which she resigned after being unanimously elected to a three-year term to become secretary, believing she could better serve the membership and provide needed continuity to the association following the death of longtime secretary Dee Carl. (Allen was president and acting secretary during Carl's serious illness.)

In addition, she also was responsible for the installation and operation of the Women's International Bowling Congress (WIBC) computer programs when adopted by WDCAWBA in 1980.

Nationally, she participated in WIBC Leader Training Seminars and State Leaders Workshops. She developed good rapport with the WIBC officers and was recognized by them as a diligent and dedicated officer.

She participated in more than 20 WIBC and Virginia State

conventions, workshops, and tournaments in addition to an untold number of local seminars and workshops.

Active in all local affairs, she also helped organize the Virginia Bowling Queens and served as its president for seven years.

Allen was elected to the Virginia State Women's Bowling Association (VSWBA) board in 1972, where she has served as a director and as sergeant-at-arms. She chaired numerous VSWBA committees, including American Junior Bowling Congress (AJBC), Workshops, and Newsletter, and was the official photographer for many years.

When AJBC asked that a junior association be formed in this area, Allen and her husband, Eddie, were instrumental in forming the Vir-Mar District Junior Bowling Association. During her seven-year regime as president of the organization, many junior programs were initiated, including the 600 Club, awards, travel leagues, in-house workshops for coaches, and high school tournaments. She was among the area's first certified junior bowling coaches, served on the Virginia JBA board for 10 years, and even did narration for two locally televised bowling programs.

Allen began her involvement in league bowling in 1960, and she served many terms as a league president, secretary, and treasurer, and she worked on all league committees.

On the lanes, she had a high average of 182, a 712 series, and a 265 single. She was a member of the State and National 600 Clubs and a member of the National 700 Club.

Betty Allen was elected to the NCAUSBCA Hall of Fame in 1986 and the Virginia State USBC Hall of Fame two years later.

