

New Hall of Famers elected

The only bowler to ever record two 300 games in The Times Pepsi Classic and the longtime local bowling association manager will be inducted into the Greater Calumet Area USBC Hall of Fame in December.

Dave Bohlin, of Dyer, and John Blasko, of Whiting, were elected Monday during the annual Council of Membership meeting of the GCABA. Also being inducted will be Jim Mutka on a recommendation of the Veterans Committee.

Bohlin's resume boasts 21 300 games, two 299 games; 10 11-in-a-row awards. He has not only thrown two perfect games in the Times Classic, but has also recorded 300 games in the GCABA Championship tournament, the Indiana State Championships and in the ABC Championships (1993 in Toledo). He has six 800-plus series including two 826s. He is the only man to be named GCABA Bowler of the Year three times and has won Association Championships titles twice in singles, three times in Doubles, once in all-events and six times in the Team event. Bohlin, 45, is also a longtime GCABA board member.

Blasko, who is retired from Inland Steel Co., has been the GCABA Association Manager for 11 years. Over the years, Blasko has processed thousands of sanctions, major and minor awards for the GCABA bowlers. He started bowling at 15 and set pins at the Whiting Community Center as a boy. Over the years he has captained many teams and at Plaza Lanes, the Community Center, Castaway's Bowl in Calumet City and at the old Sun Bowl in Hammond. He continues to bowl in three leagues each week. He was named GCABA Officer of the Year and Director of the Year twice and was recently elected to the Indiana Bowling Association Board of Directors. Blasko was also the state Knights of Columbus Athletic Chairman and twice brought the K of C state tournament to the Calumet Region.

Mutka, a longtime area bowler who was a dominant figure in leagues at LanOak Lanes in Lansing, Stardust I in Hammond and Plaza Lanes in Highland, recorded his first 300 in 1982 at Plaza Lanes. He has averaged as high as 229 and has multiple 300 games and 800 series. Formerly of Lakes of the Four Seasons, Mutka recently moved to Florida.

The 24th annual Hall of Fame and Awards Banquet is Sunday, Dec. 5, at

Dynasty Banquets, Hammond.

John Blasko (top) and Dave Bohlin (bottom)

