

Welcome to Indiana State USBC

Newly Elected President—William (Bill) A. Kendall, Sr.



William (Bill) A. Kendall, Sr., was born on December 17, 1956, in Rushville, Indiana. His family moved to a small town in (Moss) north central Tennessee near Dale Hollow Lake. Bill has one sister that lives in Anderson, and a stepsister who lives in South Carolina.

Bill returned to Anderson where he attended Southside Middle School, attended Madison Heights High School, and took classes at Ball State University in Criminal Justice.

Bowling was the love of Bill's life; he started working as soon as he got a car to help pay for his bowling. He feels he received some great coaching—Mary Ellison and Mary Ellen Stoley.

At a bowling party at the end of the youth season in 1973, Bill met Sherry, his wife since May 26, 1976. Bill and Sherry have two sons and four adopted children (one now deceased).

Bill began working at age 16, and entered the United State Marine Corp. Upon his return home, he became a Reserve Police Officer for 20 years. Bill worked for the police department in addition to some security work. He also worked for Brockway Glass in Lapel, Indiana, for 20 years.

In 1997, Bill began working for the Indiana Department of Correction in Pendleton,

Indiana. Over his 25-year career with the Department, Bill worked to become a Unit Sergeant, Yard Sergeant, and then Control Sergeant. In two years, he was promoted to Lieutenant. As a lieutenant, he had overseen housing units and all other areas of the corrections facility. Later, Bill was promoted to the rank of Shift Captain, where he supervised the shifts at the facility.

Bill retired in August 2022 from the Indiana Department of Corrections after 25 years.

Bill's bowling started when he was 10 years old and bowled in youth leagues until he was 18 and joined "ABC." Bowling in adult leagues, he had no idea that there was an Anderson Bowling Association until one day at the center he saw five bowlers who were out to break the world record for bowling the longest number of hours. This event was held at Cooper's Sport Bowl in Anderson. After asking some questions, a gentleman by the name of Mike Kirkpatrick spoke to him about what the board was about and asked if he might be interested. The next month was Anderson's Annual Meeting, and Bill was elected as a two-year Director in 1986.

The following year, Anderson hosted the Indiana State BA Tournament. Helping with the tournament and meeting some good bowlers from all over the state, Bill found himself hooked. He then attended his first 5th District Meeting was welcomed

with open arms from the District. Bill inquired about getting more involved and before he knew it, he was Vice President of his local board. Bill became 1st Vice President in 1999, was asked to fill in for the president and go to the National Convention in Syracuse, New York.

Bill became local president in 2000 and was able to go to the Convention the next year. Bill has only missed one year of attending the National Convention—the COVID year.

In 2007, Mr. Kirkpatrick, the Association Manager in Anderson, was holding interviews, his job as being Indiana State President. Bill applied for the position, and he was given the duties. Mike trained him on keeping the Association successful.

When Mike Kirkpatrick moved from the 5th District Director to State Vice President, he got to know the new 5th District Director Paul Sutton. A short time of going to District Meetings with Paul, Bill set goals to be the next 5th District Director of the Indiana State Bowling Association. In 2008, he asked District Director Paul Sutton about being the Vice Director to the 5th District. There was no such position, but Paul began showing Bill the things needed to do as the District Director. In 2010, Paul Sutton became the 3rd Vice President of the Indiana State Bowling Association.

The President of the Indiana State Bowling Association went to Muncie and helped Bill do the 5th District meeting that was already scheduled before Paul Sutton assumed the 3rd Vice President position. The next Meeting of the Indiana State Bowling Association, President Tony Peterson appointed him to the position of 5th District

Director with the approval of the Indiana State Board.

In 2015, Bill was elected as 3rd Vice President of the IBA. When he became the 1st Vice President, USBC mandated all state and local associations become merged. In 2017, the Indiana State BA and WBA met to get all state associations merged (merger team BA Mary Utley, Dan Cappa and Bill Kendall and WBA Judy Smith, Gerri Smolen and Scott Devers). The merged organization meeting was held in 2018, and Mr. Kendall was elected 2nd Vice President. With COVID, the State Board positions remained the same for that year; in 2022, Bill was elected president.

At the state and local association levels, Bill served on all the committees.

Bill has several team league championships, local tournament championships in team, doubles and singles. He held high average for four years in two Anderson Leagues, but Bill's greatest thrill was winning the 2004 Indiana State Double Handicap Championship in Richmond at Richmond Forty Bowl.

Bill's greatest thrill was having his two sons getting old enough to bowl in adult leagues with him. Then the greatest thrill for him that topped his sons bowling with him was when his granddaughter asked if she could bowl with Bill in doubles at the National USBC Open and they won 17th place together. Bill has just completed his 22-year bowling in the National USBC.

Bill looks forward to his travels as president and meeting the bowlers in the State of Indiana. He has loved the sport for the last 55 years, and Bill continues to have a great passion for the sport.

