



A sincere thanks

As you know, the first Sunday in November kicked off the first annual national NALC bowlathon for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. I am pleased to announce that more than 150 branches participated and we raised more than \$300,000 for this worthy charity.

I am again reminded of the incredible generosity of our members and the dedication of all the branch officers and MDA coordinators who made this event a success. We should be proud of this accomplishment and I am grateful for what you all did with relatively short notice.

I set a goal when I agreed to be the national coordinator for MDA. We had only around 280 branches participating at the beginning of 2007. I am proud to say we have met the goal of 500 branches actively raising money for MDA. Many of you stepped up to the plate for this national effort and, because of you, we reached the goal. Now we need to continue to press to add branches. Start small and build from there. One of the best parts of this national bowlathon is that many events were small but they added up to a great result. That is, after all, what a union is all about. In numbers there is strength.

I know that some did not get their totals in to be considered for the prizes we offered, but our thanks are no less.

Begin planning now for the second annual national bowlathon to be held on November 7, 2010. Remember that this national effort should be in addition to any other events your branch may hold. We want to increase our overall contribution for "Jerry's kids."

As promised, the branches below are the category winners and will be awarded a laptop computer containing NALC programs to help in the work of the union. Individual winners for high actual and handicapped scores will be sent a \$150 check for the purchase of a new bowling ball and shoes.

Again, many thanks for making this bowlathon a success. We are planning other possible national events, so if you have ideas, send them to me at NALC Headquarters. Let's keep on making sure we do all we can to end neuromuscular diseases. Every dollar makes a difference.

A listing of all branches from which we received information by December 1, the closing date for the reporting of the bowlathon results, are listed on page 17, along with photos from the events. Remember to report your totals to your local MDA representative so that your branch will have an accurate total for 2009. Please get the information to them as soon as possible. ✉

CATEGORY I 2,000+ Members		
Branch 24	Los Angeles, California	\$7,815
CATEGORY II 1,500 to 1,999 Members		
Branch 2502	Las Vegas, Nevada	\$5,013
CATEGORY III 1,000 to 1,499 Members		
Branch 27	Memphis, Tennessee	\$5,647
CATEGORY IV 700 to 999 Members		
Branch 358	Northeastern New York	\$6,581
CATEGORY V 500 to 699 Members		
Branch 2008	Clearwater, Florida	\$4,514

CATEGORY VI 350 to 499 Members		
Branch 197	Shreveport, Louisiana	\$6,147
CATEGORY VII 200 to 349 Members		
Branch 434	Ann Arbor, Michigan	\$4,000
CATEGORY VIII 100 to 199 Members		
Branch 443	Hagerstown, Maryland	\$3,650
CATEGORY IX 50 to 99 Members		
Branch 2572	Morrisville, Pennsylvania	\$3,285
CATEGORY X 10 to 49 Members		
Branch 3706	Benton, Arkansas	\$3,928