

Orlando, Fla.—From Australia to Big Spring, Texas, John and Diana Dodd are bringing a wealth of bowling knowledge and experience to their customers.

They are attending their second International Bowl Expo here with the hopes of every proprietor in attendance, learning and improving their services to the bowlers. “We’re interested in seeing the new products so we have ideas to better our center,” John said.

They met as junior bowlers, then John went to the other side of the world to work in bowling centers in Australia. Somehow he wound up in that country’s military and stayed for 25 years, retiring as a major. He spent years working as a coach for the Australian Sports Institute before returning to the States to re-start a new life.

John and Diana are qualified instructors, helping their four children and five grandchildren who all bowl along with all the other young people who visit their center.

Operating 24-lane Big Screen Bowl-A-Bowl in Big Spring keeps them busy and anxious to learn more and provide the very best service to their customers.

“We purchased the center In December 2007, and two months later a refinery blew, which caused us to close the center for 80 days,” John said. “It blew out the entire scoring system, and renovation is still on-going. We are up and running now and things are good. League bowling is about 25% and open play 75% of our business, but we never stop working on organized leagues.”

Headquartered in Arlington, Texas, the 76 year old Bowling Proprietors Association of America represents the business interests of bowling centers worldwide.

By Steve James