

## FRANKLIN “PONCHO” ATKERSON

### Men’s Veteran Skill – 2005



Poncho is being inducted into the Veteran Skill Division which means he’s been a good bowler for a long time, in fact, a very good bowler. While bowling in several different centers, Poncho has held a 200+ average for the last 20 years. In 1997-98 he bowled in 10 leagues and since 1990 he has bowled in 50 leagues! His High League Average is 229 and Series is 821. He has had Five 300 Games, Three 299 Games, Four 298 Games and Five 290 Games. He was a charter member of the Tuesday Night Mixers at 66 Bowl and has bowled in that league for over 30 years. In 1962, he qualified in a PBA qualifier, having to strike in the 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and out in the 10<sup>th</sup> in all 20 games (10 at Windsor and 10 at Hilander) to qualify for the PBA event. He credits Hall of Famer Del Brown for teaching him to spare. Jackie Hurst nicknamed him the “Terror of Hilander” because nobody can beat him there. He bowled of a top notch Meridian Lanes team with old times Merle Benson and HA Frunk, back when bowling centers had their top bowlers bowl on teams to represent their centers against other centers. Two years ago, Poncho finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in Doubles in the Oklahoma City Tournament at Penn 44. He also won the 1999 Men’s Daytime Doubles league. He was a member of a 5 man team at Mustang that rolled a 3675 series – that’s an average of 715 per man. He has worked as a mechanic for Penn 44 the past 10 years after a 30 year stint with Consolidated Wholes Food Service Co. Tom Miskovsky described Poncho as a hard worker and very easy to work with. It is with great pleasure that the OKC Bowling Council inducts Poncho Atkerson into the Bowling Hall of Fame.