

Sauer brothers active in sports, music events despite sight disability

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BY GERRY THOMAS
Of This Week

In the world of Moose Jaw sports, two brothers have "tried it all" just to get out of the house.

Allan and Don Sauer are athletes. For close to 20 years they have shown up like clockwork at their weekly bowling session.

The brothers may not be the best bowlers in Moose Jaw, but they aren't the ones to give up.

"Sports and music keep us active," said Allan Sauer.

"It gets us out of the house," brother Don said. "We'll try just about anything."

Although it may not be a major accomplishment to some to try out and be active in sports, it is when you consider both brothers are visually impaired.

The brothers bowl Monday evenings at 7 p.m. at the Downtown Bowling Centre with other members of the White Cane Club and Lions Clubs. Each pays \$12 monthly in bowling fees.

"That isn't bad when you think of it as bowling fees, suppers and rides," Don said.

The brothers are also members of the Moose Jaw Rhythm Band.

"I'm not scared on stage," said Allan who sings in the band. "What is tough is that a lot of people back out," he said.

"Being on stage didn't bother me at all. It kind of makes me feel good," Don said.

Don got his first guitar out of the Eaton's catalogue and it lasted 15 years until it had to be replaced.

The brothers have not only been working on their musical abilities. Over the years they have skied, participated in the Special Olympics, played shuffleboard, shot pool, bowled, swam and curled in addition to other activities. The brothers started bowling through Easter Seals.

They have a simple philosophy on sports.

"Whether we win or lose, we've met a lot of friends and it's allowed us to get out of the house," Allan said.

The two brothers bowl because "it's fun."

Allan said he has problems bowling on occasion. "Sometimes I get a little bit frustrated when I am bowling, but it's just a game," he said.

Don has also travelled to Vancouver to participate in a blind bowlers' tournament.



ALLAN AND DONALD SAUER
...ready for another round of bowling