



NEW EXECUTIVE: The new P.O.W.E.R. Board looks forward to an exciting year as they launch their Ecological Restoration Project, TREES 2000. Seated front from left to right: Dee Rockley, secretary, Barbara Halsall, president, David Noble, treasurer. Back row from left: Joan Cornfield, Heather Lovegrove, George Perdue, Leslie Adams and Bill Gassner. Missing from the picture: Bill Champ, Chris Bumley, Jean Hilborn and Doris Treleven. - Submitted photo

Literacy tutor shares

By **FRANCES NIBLOCK**
The New Tanner

A love of reading and time to offer led Susan Sark to an Acton woman with a strong desire to make a better life.

The woman, in her 30s with a Grade 9 education but Grade 5 skills, knew the key to a better job was to upgrade her basic skills and asked the North Halton Literacy Guild for help. She was matched with Sark, a tutor, who wanted to make a difference to the one-in-four adults who are illiterate.

"I know there are a lot of people here in Halton, that for whatever reason, need help with basic reading, writing and math," Sark said recently.

"Reading is a marvelous thing and I enjoy it so much I just got to thinking about how people don't have that luxury and I wanted to help them."

After providing Sark with nine-hours of training, the Guild matched her with the student and helped develop a study plan to work on reading, writing, math skills and computer skills to improve her

job prospects.

"It's really been quite nice," Sark said of their weekly one-on-one sessions at the Acton library.

"I think she enjoys it too, and there's a bond that develops between the two of you and it's so great to see her progress because she feels a sense of accomplishment and she feels more self-assured."

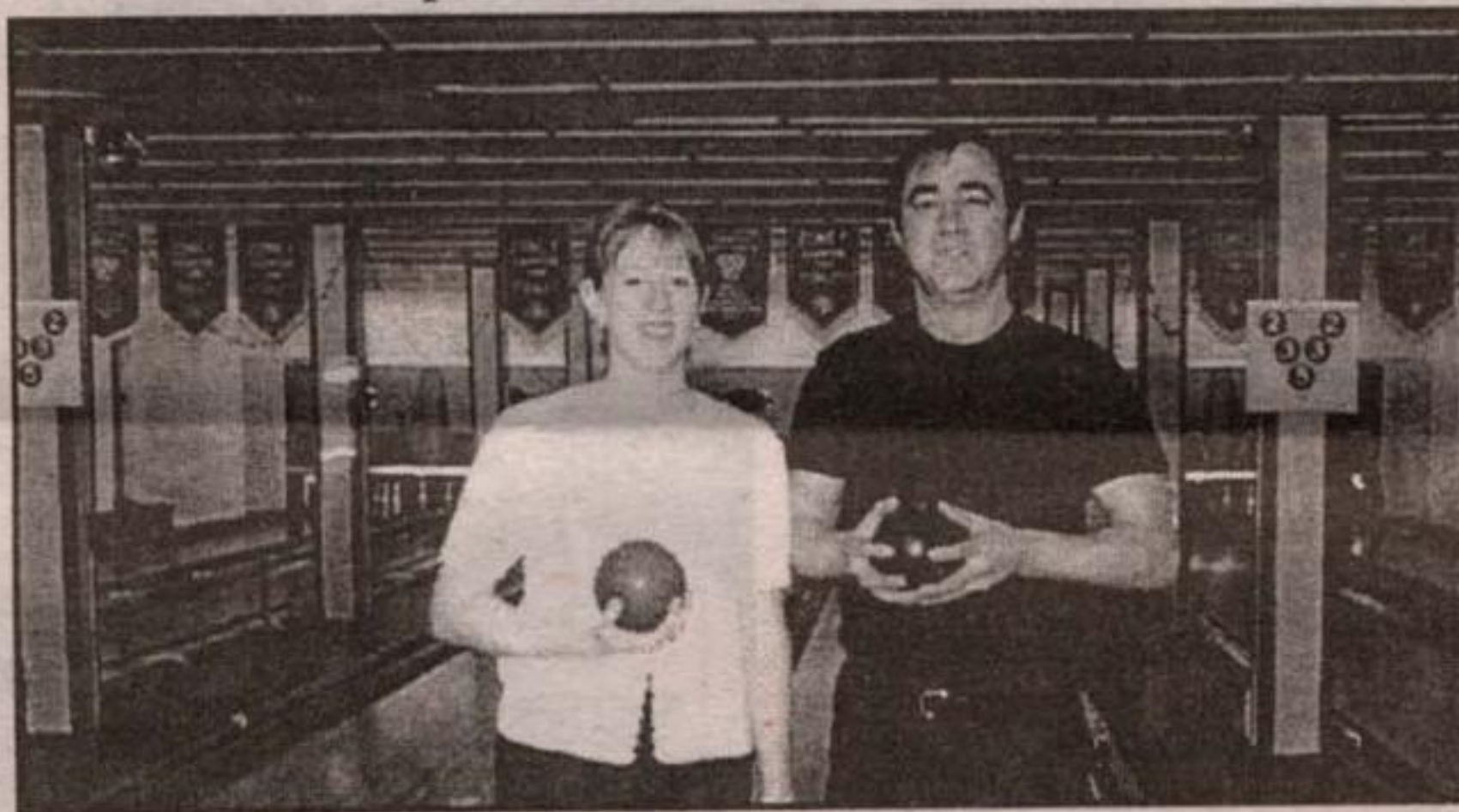
Sark said, adding she feels the same way.

Sark also helps teach a

class of developmentally handicapped adults at a weekly workshop in Acton, working on basic math and computer skills.

The Guild, which has approximately 10 tutor-student pairs at any one time, is currently looking for tutors who can make a minimum one-year commitment.

Along with the training, the Guild provides on-going support and a resource library. For details call 873-2200.



HIGH and LOW: Angie Ahearn, left, and partner Paul Kavanagh, won the house round in this year's Hi-Lo Doubles at the Acton Bowling Lanes on Jan. 16. They will bowl in Hamilton on Feb. 26. - Ellen Piehl photo

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