

DUGOUT CHATTER

On the Internet: www.gsscs.org ... GSSC Hotline for Field Conditions: 491-1721

MENDONSA ELECTED GSSC PRESIDENT

Ray Mendonsa was elected Golden Seniors' president for the 2008-09 fiscal year at the Aug. 4 general meeting. He will lead the new Board of Directors who will be sworn in at the club's annual Playoffs & Picnic Day, Saturday, Sept. 20, at the Softball Complex.

Mendonsa defeated Frank Bettencourt, a former player agent, to succeed two-term President Dan Norton, who did not seek a third term.

Also elected at the lightly attended meeting, and voted upon as a bloc as they were unopposed, were Dave Vargo, club commissioner; Fred Fischer, first vice president (in charge of sponsors); Pete Ward, second vice president (in charge of uniforms); Glen Cole, treasurer; Mickey Schleicher, secretary, and Tom Sansone, player agent. Fischer is new to the board and Vargo moves from first vice president to club commissioner, where he has served in the past. Others will be serving second terms in the same posts. Freddie Miller did not seek re-election as club commissioner.

Mendonsa, 58, said he wants to see greater participation by younger club members, both at meetings and activities. He said he had no changes in club operations in mind. He said if younger members "want change, they have to come and voice their concerns and vote. We have a democracy here."

A former Little League president, Mendonsa said after the vote that "members of the league will dictate what changes come around, if any."

He has umpired in the Golden Seniors for five years on Thursday nights and has played Wednesday nights for two years. Last year, his Wednesday night team came from fourth place in the regular season to win the championship. This year, his squad (Bertolucci's Body & Fender Shop) has already been mathematically eliminated from the playoffs in League 4. But he said he's still having fun. "I had just as much fun on the winning team as the losing team," he said.



Incoming, Outgoing. GSSC President Daniel Norton (right) congratulates his successor, Ray Mendonsa, at the Aug. 4 general meeting. (Lou Coppola Photo.)

He has played catcher, third base, outfield -- "whatever they want me to do," he added.

Meanwhile, Norton said his two years in office have been fun. "I have enjoyed the position and I think I have done well." But he said there were also a "lot of struggles and trials and tribulations and some frustrations, but I have learned a lot and hopefully the club has learned from my leadership."

He said that when he became president (essentially drafted for the post soon after the elected president stepped aside in September 2007) he found club bylaws were "very restrictive, almost to the

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point of making it very tough to do business." But changes, including a redefined quorum requirement for membership meetings, have made things "a whole lot easier," he added.

Other actions or issues from the Aug. 4 meeting:

BUDGET. Norton gave the treasurer's report in the absence of Treasurer Cole. The club is "right on target with the budget we have set up this year," he said.

UNIFORMS. Ward and Norton said the club is trying to replace a few teams' uniforms each year to avoid having to spend a lot of money at one time Ward urged managers to take steps to get players to turn in their shirts at the end of the season. "If we get most of them back, we'll be in good shape next year," he said. "Two-thirds of the managers are doing a good job."

WAITING LISTS. Norton and Vargo reminded members to urge their friends to get on league waiting lists. There's a shortage of available replacements in just about all leagues.

PICNIC. Chicken lovers, rejoice! There will be chicken in addition to burgers and hotdogs at this year's picnic on Sept. 20. There also will be a table set up for people who want to add their own culinary creations to the menu. But Dante Ciardella said he needs more volunteers to help set up for the picnic and clean up afterward. "I only have eight guys (so far). I can't run it with eight guys. I can't expect guys to work three hours." Willing participants

should call Ciardella at 453-1921 or Benny Benson at 383-0179.

DINNER DANCE.

Entertainment Chair Lou Coppola said he can arrange for a club dinner and dance in February if there's interest, but the club needs to decide in the next few months if it wants to have one. "I don't want to wait until November or December" to book a location, he said. A refundable \$250 deposit would hold a location. "If we decide not to have it, in October or November, we can get our money back," he said.

CONTRACT

NEGOTIATIONS. Norton said he had been contacted by Softball Complex Director Don Barney about starting contract talks for next season. He said he expects those talks to start in August and result in no more than a small increase in the club's fees. "The city seems to be really favorable right now," he said "I guess it will be very minute if there's any increase at all."

QUESTIONNAIRES.

Vargo reported on preliminary results from the player questionnaire. On the question of moving to a different facility to save money, Vargo said 33 players indicated they'd play at Mather, 32 at Roseville, 24 at McClellan and 19 at Elk Grove. "Not a huge number, but it does indicate some interest," he said.

He said 34 players said they would not go to Elk Grove to play and 21 said they wouldn't play at Roseville.

On the question of allowing younger women into the leagues, 40 voted "yes" and 20 "no." Vargo said the league won't take the step

of admitting younger women until it gets advice that it wouldn't violate equal protection requirements.

On the question of using hotter bats and balls, players by a 43-20 margin prefer sticking with the tougher requirements of the ASA. Vargo said survey forms are available on the club Web site. "We want to hear from you, and we want to do what the members want us to do to the extent possible," he said. #

(Aug. 4 meeting coverage by Steve Lawrence)

CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYOFFS SCHEDULE IS POSTED

Here is the schedule for times and fields for the Sept. 20 championship playoff games:

- 9 a.m. Field #1 League 5
 - 9 a.m. Field #3 League 2
 - 10:15 a.m. Field #1 League 4
 - 10:15 a.m. Field #3 League 1
 - 11:30 a.m. Field #1 League 3
 - 11:30 a.m. Field #3 League 6
- #

TRIPLE PLAY! On Aug. 5 in L6, Henry Low caught a fly ball in right field, doubled a runner off second and the relay to first took care of the GSSA runner who failed to get back to first base. American River Apparel prevailed, 14-9. #

READ THE DUGOUT CHATTER ONLINE
(www.gsscs.org)

League Standings Update

League One (3rd Round thru Aug. 4)

1. I Forgot 3-0
2. Wion's Body Shop 2-1
3. Merrill Bookkeeping & Tax Service 2-1
4. Teichert Construction 2-1
5. Daugherty Chevrolet 1-2
6. Mimi's Cafe 1-2
7. Dumont Pest Control 1-2
8. L&S Surveys 0-3 (Note: Standings are based on tie-breakers, such as head-to-head play (Wion's beat Merrill) or runs scored and allowed.)

I Forgot won the first round. Mimi's won the second round. Mimi's and Wion's were 6-1, and Mimi's beat Wion's 12-5 in the 13th week, Tom Coe reported. He said Ray Luna had an outstanding game, going 4x4 with three doubles and a triple.

League Two (thru July 29)

ASAP Signing Services 10-6
 Sports Leisure Vacation 9-7
 VFW Post 67 9-7
 Livingston's Concrete Services 8-8
 Rambit Inc. 7-9
 Zorrace Inc 7-9
 Harper Properties 7-9
 Richard H. Will, Attorney 7-9
 Leading Hitters: Larry Davis .796, Bill Enos .769, Al Fereria .744.

League Three (thru July 29)

Old Hornets 11-1-1
 Maita Chevrolet 7-6
 Arden Park Villa 6-6-1
 Jolly Rogers 6-7
 Sammy's Family Restaurant 5-8
 Remax 3-10
 Leading Hitters: Norm Blackwell Jr. .780, Hap Duffney .778, Jack Kocunik .778.

League Four (thru July 30)

CA Energy Services #1 10-4
 Lehr Auto Electric 9-3-2
 Bradshaw Ranch Golf 7-5-2
 C & C Plumbing 7-6-1
 East Lawn Inc. 4-9-1
 Bertolucci's Body & Fender Shop 2-12
 Leading hitters: Bill Christian .898, Monte Miller .808, Ed Frantz .796. (Christian continues to sport the highest GSSC batting average.)

League Five (thru July 31)

CA Energy Services 9-4
 Overhead Door Company of California Inc. 9-4
 Norcal Jackets 8-5
 Senior Magazine 6-7
 Espanol Restaurant 5-8
 Avalon Hearing Center 2-11
 Leading hitters: Et Minor .875, Monta Litle .806, Bill Conwell .806.

League Six (thru July 29)

Greater Sacramento Softball Association (GSSA) 10-4
 Mark E. White DDS 8-6
 River City Bank 7-7
 American River Apparel 3-11
 Leading hitters: Dave Vargo .731, Doug Peterson .720, Rich Edwards .704.

#

HOOTERS JERSEYS. Larry Campbell (485-4843), raising funds for this year's club expenses, is selling the popular Hooters team black and orange jerseys (2007 season sponsor) for \$15 each, or two for \$25. He said he already sold three without an announcement in the Dugout Chatter. #

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS: Another year in the books for Fred Lauszus, Mike Mulcahy, Ken Dumont, Charles Short, Ronney Smith, Frank Vogel, Bob Brainerd, Bill Riehl, Bill Harvey, Ronald McCormick, Harold Meyer, Don Nicholas, Parnell Walker, Don Wilson, Frank Bettencourt, David Gonzalez, Thomas Hay, Don Pooler, Gerald Gaylord, Steve Lawrence, Ken Lentz, Tom Watwood, Bill Conwell, Bill Hill, Notch Parino, Bob Rogers, Hap Duffney, Ric Maloney, Don Shank, Susan Tucker, George Lamb, Jim Lortz, Don Osborne, Glenn Cummings, Don Lawson, Clyde Whitaker, Del Leavitt, Art Aguirre, Tony DiBernardo, Librado Martinez, Oz Musso, Jim McNamara, Jules Morganstern, Bill Christian, Doug Peterson, Augie Sorgea, Ron Thomas, Ken Urton, Louis Cerutti, Doug Gedestad, John Habein, Vidal Franco, Ted Holm, Jerry Toenyas, Lewis Abrams, Ray Molina, Monta Litle, Arnold Disney, Jack Tibbets and Alan Piccardo. #

BOARD OF DIRECTORS -- 2007-08

President	Daniel Norton	689-4505	“TELEPHONE HOTLINES”
First Vice President	Dave Vargo	689-7061	
Second Vice President ..	Pete Ward	989-4722	Sunshine & Health: 973-8269
Treasurer	Glen Cole	966-4561	
Secretary	Mickey Schleicher	239-9230	Phone or Address Changes: 391-3938
Player Agent	Tom Sansone	686-1654	
Club Commissioner	Freddie Miller	372-6864	New Player Applications: 686-1654

SUNSHINE & HEALTH REPORT: Rich Walker

(L3) suffered a fractured nasal wing when a bad-hop grounder caught him in the face in a Thursday Sierra League game. Rich still sported the remnants of a shiner while hitting cleanup Aug. 5 for Arden Park Villa. **Albert Morales** (L2) has returned to the mound upon removal of the cast for a broken left wrist. **Joe Saiz** (L2) is gradually returning to action following surgery for a blood clot in his leg. **Jim Wait** (L2 and 6) plans surgery for his heart condition, ending his season. **Bill Soper** (L2 and 6) was awaiting test results to determine whether he will require heart surgery. #

GSSC #3912 Blood Bank: 456-1500

Dugout Chatter (Ron Roach, editor):
422-2500

Club Answering Machine (managed by
Don Shank) for Field Conditions and
Meeting News: 491-1721

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