

DUGOUT CHATTER

ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF THE GOLDEN SENIORS SOFTBALL CLUB OF SACRAMENTO (WWW.GSSCS.ORG) -- MAY 2011

NEW GSSCS BOARD MAJORITY COULD BE ELECTED FOR 2012

Four of the seven members of the Golden Seniors board of directors -- President Bill Hill, Treasurer Glen Cole, Secretary George Lamb and Player Agent Linda McCollum-Greene -- have decided not to run for re-election later this year.

Declaring their candidacies for re-election at the club general meeting on May 16 were Dick Latimer, club first vice president (sponsors), Pete Ward, club second vice president (uniforms and equipment), and Bruce Gilmore, club commissioner (responsible for enforcing playing rules and appointing league commissioners).

John Mizerak, nominations chairman, and Dave Vargo are working as the club committee to develop a slate of candidates for board officers that will be nominated at the club's July 11 general meeting. The election is scheduled for the Aug, 15 general meeting. The new board will be sworn in at the club's Sept. 24 meeting, which is held in conjunction with the annual Picnic & Playoffs Saturday. The GSSCS operates with a fiscal year running from October through September.

Those interested in running for any of the seven board offices should contact Mizerak at 322-5511; Vargo at 689-7061 or dvargo@frontiernet.net. Nominations also can be made from the floor at the July meeting.

At the May 16 meeting, the club's base-running rules were rehashed with emphasis on safety while exercising common sense. Club umpires were given a vote of confidence from the board and others in attendance to use their judgment in calling runners out for interference. Managers and players must respect umpires' judgment calls. President Hill said managers, league commissioners and the club commissioners need to confer before a ruling that involves serious consequences.

Bill Greene, L-4 commissioner, said the club seems to have gone too far in the regulation of base-running, confusing players about how to run bases. He questioned whether there has been an abnormal number of injuries to warrant such emphasis. The club's board also has received an official protest of calls where two of four players who had clean hits but runners were ruled out for what some called questionable or minor running infractions, virtually killing a potential game-winning rally. (See P. 2)

**NEXT
GENERAL
MEETING:
MONDAY, 7:30
P.M., JULY 11 AT
THE VFW HALL
ON STOCKTON
BOULEVARD**

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**2011 GENERAL
MEETINGS (7:30 P.M.
AT THE VFW POST 67
HALL, 2784
STOCKTON BLVD.)
JULY 11 ... AUGUST
15 ... SEPTEMBER 24
(IN CONJUNCTION
WITH ANNUAL
PICNIC/PLAYOFFS)**

MAY 16 GENERAL MEETING -- From P. 1)

First VP Latimer noted that the club's code of conduct already makes a player subject to sanctions for causing harm to another player.

Meanwhile, Club Commissioner Gilmore issued a memo to league commissioners asking them to communicate the importance of running wide of bases to avoid collisions. "As a result of a couple of incidents during night league play, I am sending a reminder about running through the bases," he wrote.

"When there is a play at second or third base, the runners **MUST** run wide. That does not mean 6 inches or 9 inches. It means get the heck out of the way of those infielders, especially when you are OUT. This is to avoid collisions and injuries. When running to second base, and the throw is coming from right field, the runner should go to the infield side (that's the left side) of the bag. When going to third, and the throw is coming from the left to left center fields, the runner probably should be going to the infield side of the bag, also.

"Another note, I especially expect the infielders (second basemen, shortstops and third basemen) to have better memories and to **RUN WIDE**. They, above all others, should know better.

In his memo to league commissioners, Gilmore asked them to "please inform your respective managers, and remind them to tell **ALL** their players. Remember, collisions are grounds for suspending a player. Collisions **ARE** avoidable."

Other meeting news:

May 31 L-2 and L-6 Games. Because so many players will be participating in the Reno tournament that day, Tuesday day leagues' teams will play practice games that day. Gilmore said that Planning Committee Chair Vargo said it would be better to have practice games that morning than to cancel play as the club might still be liable for game fees to the Complex and, for a majority of players, it would be fun to practice, particularly since so many games have been rained out.

Waiting Lists. Player Agent McCollum-Greene said there were 10 players on waiting lists for the five leagues other than Monday's L-1. L-5 (Thursday night) had no player waiting to play, and L-4 (Wednesday night) had only one. "We need more players!" she said, calling on everyone to let her know if they know anyone who wants to play softball.

Picnic. Latimer said he has been getting unofficial quotes from various caterers on quality meals for the Sept. 24 picnic. The picnic and league championship games will be held at the Howe Avenue park this year, allowing the date to be moved from Sept. 17 at the Complex to avoid conflicts with tournaments, extend the season a week and save food costs. Latimer said he already has heard prices of \$9 and \$11 per meal. #

SUNSHINE & HEALTH REPORT

BOB HONDA, who has been associated with the Golden Seniors for more than two decades, is in assisted living in Elk Grove as a result of strokes he has suffered. He told a recent visitor: "Say 'hi' to my softball buddies."

Honda, who joined the GSSCS in 1989, wore his Sacramento Islanders jersey when joined for lunch. He played and managed the tournament team for many years and still gets out to see them play.

In the GSSCS, Honda was a playing member of L-1 in 2010, 21 years after first joining the club in his 50th year. He turned 71 last October.

An outstanding pitcher and outfielder, Bob pitched at least two championship game victories on Tuesday night teams managed by Dick Horkey and Ron Roach/Bill McMahon, the latter in 2004 after recovering from his initial stroke.

Honda can be reached at (916) 798-8742, where friends can leave a message and he or a son (Wes or Daryl) will get back to you. He is at the Regency Place assisted living center (647-5194).

JOHN HAINS reports that he had surgery scheduled for May 16 for "two new knees" and, after rehab, he "should be able to finally hit the ball out of the infield."

CLIFF TOYAMA says he expects to learn soon whether he will have surgery to remove polyps from his colon. The polyps were discovered last fall when his eye doctor suggested tests to help determine what was affecting his vision. He is seeing well enough to play ball and is thankful of the early discovery of his colon problem.

BILL RIEHL recently had a new pacemaker put in, reports L-1 Commissioner George Hodsdon, and has had to stop playing this year.

CLINT ARMSTRONG, also a L-1 player, is sidelined by Parkinson's disease.

BILLY BECK has taken a leave of absence from softball to care for his wife, Shirley, who has been hospitalized several times. **COTTON BLAYLOCK** missed several games due to the hospitalization of his wife, Diane.

Sympathies to **JACK TIBBETS** on the passing of his wife of more than 50 years, Vada.
#

SAFETY REPORT: TRAINING SIGNUPS NEEDED

From Club Safety Coordinator Curtis Holcomb

I would like to schedule a Safety Class in July for any new "Red Hats" and also those renewing their CPR/AED certification. I need a head count by the middle of June to reserve an instructor. (Note: The club picks up the costs of this training.)

Also, thanks to everyone for making sure our "Crash Cart" is in place before every game and the battery OK is readable. A reminder that the AED (defibrillator) must be recharged after it is used.

Contact me at 600-6065 to reserve a spot for the July training session or you need more information. #

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(* = New Sponsor)

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AVALON HEARING

BERTOLUCCI'S BODY AND

FENDER SHOP

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DUMONT PEST CONTROL

EAST LAWN, INC.

ESPANOL ITALIAN RESTAURANT

*EXECUTIVE LIMOUSINE

GEREMIA POOLS

GREATER SACRAMENTO SOFTBALL

ASSOCIATION (GSSA)

*FUDDRUCKERS

HARPER PROPERTIES

*JERRY JODICE

JOLLY ROGERS

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*REINWALD'S HEALTH & DENTAL

INSURANCE

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*SHOW BIZ PRODUCTIONS

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SPORTS LEISURE VACATIONS

VFW POST 67

RICHARD WILL ATTORNEY

WION'S BODY SHOP

*9TH & X SELF STORAGE

#

DUMONT PEST CONTROL IS PERFECT FOR ROUND ONE

From George Hodsdon

Round One has been completed after being rained out the first three weeks. George Langan's Dumont Pest Control was undefeated with a 5-0 record. Three teams had two losses so Dumont was the outright winner. (On May 16, L-1 games to open Round Two were canceled due to wet fields.)

On May 9, Bob Benham's Merrill Bookkeeping was ahead 20-16 in the 7th inning. Benny Benson's L&S Survey came back and tied it at 20-20. In the overtime, Merrill scored 11 runs, with final score of 31-20. Most of the other games were very close.

This was also the first game back for Ray Merrill, our 2010 Sponsor of the Year.

Ray had not played an inning since early last year. He is now back playing on Monday and Tuesday mornings.

Joe Sugimoto recovered from his operation and is now co-managing with Bob Havrilla and playing for the Jerry Jodice team. Their new jersey's honoring Jerry look great.

Joe Kline's Showbiz Productions have new purple jerseys that also look really snazzy.

Playoffs Routine: Monday playoff's are the same as the past several years. The winner of Round One, winner of Round Two and winner of Round Three, plus the team with the most wins during the year (without winning a round) qualify for playoffs to determine which two teams meet in the Picnic Day championship game.

Practices: L-1 practices are still Tuesday and Friday at 12:30 at Howe Avenue (Field #3) but will go to 10 AM starting MAY 31, still at Howe Avenue.
#

SHORT HOPS

WANTED: Seasoned 60-year-old player for City and Valley traveling league. Morning games on Thursdays, doubleheaders. Details: Call Dante Ciardella (916) 453-1921.

ANDERSON FEATURED IN THE BEE. "NO STOPPING THIS GUY" read the May 5 headline in the Sacramento Bee, noting that "Since 1970, Coach Anderson has been the fiery heart of Cordova baseball." Joe Davidson's article describes Anderson, 79 years young, as a high school baseball coach and leader in the mold of Billy Martin. He comprehends one speed -- full throttle. Yet the Hall of Fame coach is not consumed by baseball as he once was. He has found balance by playing shortstop in up to four senior softball games a week. He legged out a play in a recent Monday game, leaving him with a strained muscle. "I have to ice more than ever, but I just love life," he said. The article noted that Anderson has coached Cordova High since 1970 and has more victories than any active coach in California (863), which is fourth highest nationally. Guy joined the GSSCS in June 2003. #

HIGHLIGHTS FROM RECENT GAMES

Following details from various leagues are provided by scorekeepers Colette Barnes and Sandy Begg. (At this issue's deadline, information had not been received for some leagues as well as May 10-12 play.)

L-3 -- Winning five of six games, ReMax claimed first place in L-3 Tuesday night standings through games of May 3, when second-place Old Hornets (4-2) dropped a 12-11 thriller to the Silver Cats (3-3). ReMax was a 14-3 winner over Geremia Pools (2-4), while the 3-3 Fuddruckers edged 1-5 Livingston Concrete 9-6.

Steve Schuler led the Silver Cats with an over-the-fence homer*. ReMax's Emilio Lobato had a double, triple and home run and hit safely every time up. Other players with perfect games at the plate: Frank Newcross of the Fuddruckers, Tom Mosher of the Old Hornets, Jim Powell and Jim Moore of the Silver Cats, and John Fields, Bill McMahon and Celeste Bradford of ReMax. In games of April 26, Rich DelChiaro of Geremia and Pat Morrison of Livingston had hits every time up, and home runs were hit by Lobato, Morrison, Rich Walker of Livingston and Al Raydon of the Old Hornets.

*-- unless cited as over-the-fence, HRs are inside-the-park jobs.

L-5 -- NorCal Jackets were 6-0 through May 5 (Thursday night) games after a 19-6 win over 3-3 Reinwald's Health and Dental Insurance. Shawn Rogers homered for Reinwald's and Lyman Rose did likewise for 4-2 Cal Energy, a 19-16 winner over Overhead Door, 0-6. Espanol Italian Restaurant and Miller's Munchies played an 18-18 tie, and each had 13 players, something of an oddity. Espanol had a record of 3-2-1 at the six-game mark, while the Munchies were 1-4-1. Posting hits every time up were Mark Cordell and John Shintaku of NorCal, Mel Tennyson of Overhead, Art Agurre and Lobato of Cal Energy, De Davis of Miller's and Rogers of Espanol.

L-6 -- Through May 3, GSSA and Better Softball Equipment were tied for first place with 5-1 records, but GSSA had a far easier time by outscoring opposition 106-35. Better Softball had an edge of 89-48 in its six games. Mark White DDS was 4-2, Denny's Grand Slams 3-3, Arnold Properties 1-5, and Auburn Oaks Senior Living 0-6.

Team batting averages ranged from .669 and .659 for the top two teams to .496 for Arnold Properties. Led by Arnold Bray's .882, six players were hitting .800 or above. The others: Dave Bristol, Bill McMahon, Michael Jordan, Carl Maryland and George Garcia. Home run leaders with two each: Joe Cors and Arthur Knutson Jr. Co-players of the week for May 3: Jesse Vasquez of Denny's Grand Slams drove in six runs with four hits; Don Steiner of GSSA plated five teammates with a 5 for 5 game, and Chuck Knutson of Better Softball had five RBI with his four hits that included a home run.

#

Membership Report: From Henry Low's computerized data bank, the club's roster as of May 15 listed 464 members, 52 of whom were added since September. On March 17, 57 members from 2010 were deleted as they had not responded to renewal applications that were sent to them. Also removed were two players who had signed up for L-7, which is not operating in 2011.

The club has 103 members who are playing in more than one league, filling 233 slots on teams -- including seven members who are on waiting list/injured reserve status.

There are 78 non-playing members, including 60 life members. L-1's 128 members include five non-playing managers or coaches and four players who expect to be ready to play later in the season. L-2 has 85 members; L-3 has 77; L-4 has 76; L-5 has 76, and L-6 has 74.

Forty-seven members have opted to access the Dugout Chatter online instead of receiving it via regular mail, which saves the club about \$200 in postage for a 10-issue year. #



Don Shank of Arnold Properties goes for a high one; GSSA's Bruce Gilmore hits to the back side, and two Fuddrucker's standouts: Cyndi Murphy (left) and Nancy Diehl. (Lou Coppola photos)



2011 Teams and Managers

L-1 MONDAYS AT HOWE AVENUE PARK

Commissioner George Hodsdon 481-9304

Asst. Commissioner George Langan 483-6874

Monday Rules Chairman Henry Low 391-3938

Team 1 Nielsen Real Estate -- Norm Blackwell Sr. 452-1539

Team 2 L&S Survey -- Benny Benson 383-0179

Team 3 Avalon Hearing -- John Chatfield 965-1932

Team 4 Dumont Pest Control -- George Langan 483-6874

Team 5 Merrill Bookkeeping and Tax -- Bob Benham 961-7131

Team 6 American Medical Equipment -- Bob Schwan 971-1199

Team 7 Show Biz Productions -- Joe Kline 331-7042

Team 8 Jerry Jodice -- Bob Havrilla 285-5413 and Joe Sugimoto 359-4111

Team 9 Wion's Body Shop -- Ray Ward 421-8875

#

LEAGUE 3 TEAMS & MANAGERS

Tuesday Night

Commissioner Jerry Toenyas 354-4126

1. Silver Cats -- Larry Shelton 955-9955

2. Old Hornets -- Bill Knoblauch
408-5501

3. ReMax Central -- Dave Tanner
216-1941

4. Geremia Pools -- Rich Del Chiaro
484-0854

5. Livingston Concrete -- Trudy Smartt
973-8269

6. Fuddruckers -- Bob Jones 965-4516

LEAGUE 5 TEAMS & MANAGERS

Thursday Nights

Commissioner Allen Riker 485-9567

1. NorCal Jackets -- Mark Cordell
718-4058; Ed Frantz 607-3750

2. Reinwald's Health & Dental Ins. --
Robert Reinwald -- 481-6323; Matt
Tedrow 515-0451

3. Overhead Door -- Greg Leurgans
332-7953

4. Cal Energy Services -- Michael
Lofton 216-2427; Darryl Watson
897-9330

5. Monte's Munchies -- George Lamb
681-8070; Bob Paese 797-1084

6. Espanol Italian Restaurant -- Larry
Lagomarsino 441-3047; Allen Riker
485-9567

LEAGUE 4 TEAMS & MANAGERS

Wednesday Night

Commissioner Bill Greene 391-5559

1. Executive Limousine -- Jim Stokes
422-5683

2. 9th & X Self Storage -- Bud
DeSouza 424-6115; Bill Hill
804-2243

3. East Lawn Inc. -- Russ Barnes
332-2832; Harold Johnson
771-0179

4. Cottonwood Estates-- Tom
Osborne 709-8464

5. Bertolucci's Body and Fender
Shop -- Winston McDowell
972-9483; Bob Smartt 973-8269

6. C&C Plumbing -- Jack Kocunik
485-5031; Mark Noel 536-9225

LEAGUE 6 TEAMS & MANAGERS

Tuesdays 10:30 a.m.

Commissioner Rich Edwards
483-1293

1. Mark White DDS -- Greg Leurgans
332-7953

2. Denny's -- Rich Edwards
483-1293; Al Tirapelli 419-3102

3. Arnold Properties -- Russ Barnes
332-2832; Vic Torres 784-7910

4. Greater Sacramento Softball
Association (GSSA) -- Dave Bristol
381-1037; Bruce Gilmore
424-0920

5. Auburn Oaks Senior Living --
Everett Richardson 455-2839;
Dave Vargo 689-7061

6. Better Sports Equipment -- Bill
Greene 391-5559; Howard Toder
927-3593

LEAGUE 2 TEAMS & MANAGERS

Tuesdays 9 a.m.

Commissioner Curtis Holcomb
600-6065

1. Jolly Rogers -- Dave Vargo
689-7061
2. VFW Post 67 -- Cloicec Wade
393-5809; John Wade 421-2162
3. RAMBIT -- John Colletto
966-0771

4. Sports Leisure -- Bill Enos
487-7047; Curtis Holcomb
600-6065
5. Harper Properties -- Jim Wait
455-4440
6. Richard Will Attorney -- Glen Cole
966-4561; Tom Sansone 686-1654

CLUB "HOTLINE" SOURCE FOR NEWS, INFORMATION

Operated by Don Shank, the club's hotline provides recorded information for members, such as the general meeting schedule. It also is where players can call to make sure their games are going to be played as scheduled due to threatening weather or other events that make the fields unplayable, such as water main breaks or thefts of copper wire that prevents use of lights for night games. These things have happened, so even if the weather looks balmy, and you can't be reached by your manager, you might be advised to give the "hot line" a jingle at 491-1721.

#

CLUB RULES COMMITTEE FOR 2011

Club Commissioner Bruce Gilmore has named members of the Rules Committee to consider changes for 2011: Night Leagues -- Bill McMahon, Ed Frantz and Bill Greene. Day Leagues -- Rich Edwards, Bob Havrilla, Curtis Holcomb, Larry Campbell and McMahon. Chief Umpire Freddie Miller provides technical advice. #

LEAGUE COMMISSIONERS FOR 2011

Nominated by Club Commissioner Bruce Gilmore and approved by the Board of Directors, the club's League Commissioners for 2011:

League 1 Monday Day, 70 and older: George Hodsdon -- 481-9304 (George Langan, assistant)

L-2 Tuesday Day 9 a.m., 60 and older: Curtis Holcomb -- 600-6065 (Jim Wait, assistant)

L-3 Tuesday Night, 50 and older: Jerry Toenyas -- 354-4126 (Brent Korff, assistant)

L-4 Wednesday Night, 50 and older: Bill Greene -- 391-5559

L-5 Thursday Night, 50 and older: Allen Riker -- 485-9567

L-6 Tuesday Day 10:30 a.m. Select, 60 and older: Rich Edwards -- 483-1293

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NEXT DUGOUT CHATTER: JUNE 2011. READ THE DUGOUT CHATTER ONLINE AT WWW.GSSCS.ORG WHERE NEWS UPDATES AND PHOTOS ARE PUBLISHED AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. FOR THOSE WHO HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO, YOU CAN REMOVE YOUR NAME FROM THE DUGOUT CHATTER MAILING LIST AND READ THE NEWSLETTER ONLINE, SAVING THE CLUB POSTAGE, PAPER AND INK. TO GET OFF THE SNAIL-MAIL LIST, CALL HENRY LOW AT 391-3938.

MARCH-THRU-AUGUST ISSUES OF THE NEWSLETTER ARE GENERALLY AVAILABLE ONLINE WITH SOME PRINTED COPIES AVAILABLE AT FIELDS (SEE SCOREKEEPERS). THE ONLINE EDITION IS USUALLY ACCESSIBLE DAYS OR EVEN WEEKS BEFORE THE PRINTED EDITION ARRIVES VIA SNAIL MAIL. THE ONLINE EDITION ALSO MAY CONTAIN MORE INFORMATION AND PHOTOS. # ADVERTISING: CLUB SPONSORS MAY RUN ADS IN THE DUGOUT CHATTER (\$50 FOR QUARTER-PAGE OR LESS, \$75 FOR A HALF-PAGE. NON-SPONSOR RATES ARE HIGHER.) CONTACT LOU COPPOLA, 444-6138. #

BOARD OF DIRECTORS -- 2010-2011

President **Bill Hill** ... 804-2243

First Vice President ... **Dick Latimer**
363-9555 (Responsible for team sponsorships.)

Second Vice President **Pete Ward** ...
989-4722 (Responsible for team uniforms.)

Treasurer **Glen Cole** ... 966-4561

Secretary **George Lamb** ... (530)
681-8070

Player Agent **Linda McCollum-Greene** ... 391-5559 (Responsible for player applications, player substitutes, waiting lists.)

Club Commissioner **Bruce Gilmore** ...
424-0920 (Responsible for enforcement of playing rules, oversees league commissioners.)

TELEPHONE HOTLINE

Club Answering Machine

(managed by Don Shank):
491-1721 for meeting news and field conditions.

Phone or Address Changes:

Henry Low 391-3938

Player Applications: Linda McCollum-Greene 391-5559

Sunshine & Health: Trudy Smartt 973-8269

GSSC #3912 Blood Bank:
456-1500

Safety: Curtis Holcomb
600-6065

Entertainment: Lou Coppola
444-6138

Dugout Chatter: Ron Roach,
editor 422-2500

(coachrwr@comcast.net)

Planning: Dave Vargo, contact,
dvargo@frontiernet.net
689-7061