

DUGOUT CHATTER

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

NOMINATIONS FOR GSSCS OFFICERS SET FOR JULY 11

Nominations for the club's officers -- the seven-member Board of Directors -- are scheduled for the July 11 general meeting. A nominating committee will present a slate of officers for the coming year and nominations also can come from the floor at the meeting, which begins at 7:30 p.m. at the VFW Hall, 2784 Stockton Blvd.

Four of the seven office-holders have decided not to seek re-election: President Bill Hill, Treasurer Glen Cole, Secretary George Lamb and Player Agent Linda McCollum-Greene. At the May 16 general meeting, three incumbents said they will stand for re-election: Richard Latimer, first vice president; Pete Ward, second vice president, and Bruce Gilmore, club commissioner.

Hill said he wanted members to "know how important it is to run for office. I would have run again for president but I have to spend more time on my business because of the economy. We need new energy and ideas for the club and I feel we can achieve this by having members serve on the board who have not previously had the opportunity to do so."

Those interesting in running for any of the club offices are encouraged to contact the nominating committee, led by John Mizerak (332-5511) and Dave Vargo (689-7061) or dvargo@frontiernet.net.

Nominations will be closed at the July 11 meeting. Members will elect the new board on Aug. 15, and the board will be installed at the Sept. 24 general meeting, which is held in conjunction with the annual picnic and league championship games. This year's Playoffs & Picnic will be at the Howe Avenue park.

#

SUNSHINE & HEALTH: BOB SCHWAN, DICK GUSTIN, BILLY & SHIRLEY BECK, SCOTTY BEHAN AND CALLIE GRANDERSON -- REST IN PEACE

BOB SCHWAN, recently selected for the Hall of Fame in the Northern California Senior Softball Association, passed away on June 13 after a very long bout with cancer. He was 76.

Schwan helped form the NCSSA as well as the Tournament Players Association, which he led for 17 years as its president. His induction into the NCSSA Hall of Fame is scheduled for Aug. 18 and his family plans to attend, said Dick Seward, TPA tournament director and longtime friend and teammate.

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

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Cancels June 14 Games**

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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)**

Schwan, a pillar of the senior softball movement in this area, was a Golden Senior for 28 years, all but one as a manager of teams on Mondays or Tuesdays. He was described as "Mr. Baseball" by Jim Lortz when inducted as a life member of the GSSCS in 2009.

"Bob knew and lived baseball," said George Hodsdon, L-1 commissioner. Schwan also is a recipient of the GSSCS "Man of the Year" award.

Seward said Schwan "was always involved in baseball and softball." He said Schwan had been a bullpen catcher for the New York Giants back in the day.

Schwan managed GSSCS teams on Mondays or Tuesdays for 27 of his 28 years with the club. Bob was a playing manager in L-1 until the last two years, when his health forced him to manage only. He joined the GSSCS in 1983. Before retiring from the City of Sacramento Park and Recreation Department, he was in charge of the city athletic fields. A celebration of Bob's life is scheduled at 4 p.m. on June 25 at the Carmichael Park Club House. Services are noon that day at St. Mary's Cemetery Cathedral, followed by graveside service.

DICK GUSTIN, life member, passed away on June 10. He was 76 and suffered from cancer, which forced him to stop playing softball on Tuesday mornings about a year and a half ago. Gustin, who joined the GSSCS in 1988, was a tournament player with Dick Seward's Mavericks team and also played for teams managed by Al Morales and Bob Schwan.

BILLY AND SHIRLEY BECK. Life Member Billy Beck, 83, passed away from an aneurysm on May 25. Shirley, his wife of more than 60 years, passed away on May 13. Billy joined the Golden Seniors in May 1995 and played an excellent third base. When he was stationed at McClellan AFB, his team played against Eddie Feigner and his four-man team (The King & His Court) and beat them for one of the very few times that they had ever lost. He was very proud of that. Billy did not sign up to play this year, staying home to care for his wife. But he went out and bought a pair of shoes to be ready to come back. Billy: You were the best. You will be missed -- George Hodsdon.

SCOTTY BEHAN, life member, passed away on May 6. He was 88 and joined the Golden Seniors in 1989. Scotty played until 2005 when he had to resign due to a shoulder injury.

CALLIE L. GRANDERSON, wife of Murvin Granderson, passed away on June 11.

FREDDY OLIVAS, pitcher on George Langan's Dumont Pest Control, had a minor stroke and will miss a few games.

DON MACIEL, pitcher on Ray Ward's Wion's Body Shop, tried to bare-hand a line drive and ended up with two broken fingers.

PAUL THOMPSON had double knee replacement surgery last fall and tried to come back too soon. With complications, he is now out for the season. #

SAFETY REPORT: JULY 30 CPR/AED TRAINING SIGNUPS NEEDED

From Curtis Holcomb, safety coordinator

Interested GSSCS members need to sign up with me to attend a safety course on Saturday, July 30, at the Howe Avenue Park Recreation Center. The life-saving training is free for GSSCS members and runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be a break and the afternoon session begins at 12:30.

For those taking the course for the first time, plan to attend from 9 to 3. Those needing to refresh their life-saving skills or renew their Red Cross certificates can do so by attending the 12:30-3 p.m. part of the class.

Training covers CPR and use of the club's AED (defibrillator).

Members who gain certification qualify for GSSCS red hats.

Call me at 600-6065 to register for the course and/or learn more details.

Meantime, as some members have had multi-week breaks in their playing schedules due to weather and bye weeks, make sure you arrive for games early enough to stretch those muscles. And stay hydrated and use sunscreen. #

LEAGUE PLAY HIGHLIGHTS: AVERY'S POWER SURGE; BATTING LEADERS; STANDINGS

Dave Avery of Jolly Rogers hammered two over-the-fence home runs in the 60-and-over L-2 day league, one on May 3, the other on May 10. The latter cleared the left-centerfield fence by some 20 feet on Field #4.

So how does a man who turns 66 this year develop the powerful swing needed to produce prodigious big flies?

"It has been a progression over the past four years," he said, during which time he enlisted the help of Freddy Miller as a batting coach. "We changed everything -- the way I hold the bat, my stance. It has been a slow progression, and I still practice with him once every two weeks." The progression was slowed by a rash of injuries, including both Achille's tendons that required surgery last winter. He also strained, then pulled a hamstring muscle this spring playing tournament ball for the Sacramento Blues 65s.

Avery said he also took to heart Miller's admonition that to be a better hitter, one must be a dedicated student and willing to do the work. (Editor's Note: Avery's improvement as a power hitter reminds one of Monte Miller's remarkable growth to become an .800-caliber hitter with fence-clearing power. Monte, no relation to Freddy, once credited batting tips from Tommy French, a softball-slugging legend from Woodland ... plenty of hitting off a tee for technique and batting practice off live pitching for timing.)

Avery, who through May 10 was batting .737 with half his hits going for extra bases, is believed to be the first player in the 60s leagues on Tuesday mornings to clear the fences at the Complex since Doug Peterson (L-6 in 2010).

L-2 standings, through June 7:

Richard H. Will, Attorney 5-3

Jolly Rogers 4-3-1

Rabbit 4-3-1

Harper Properties 4-4

Sports Leisure Vacations 3-5

VFW Post 67 3-5

Top three L-2 batters: Glen Cole .833; Joe DiSessa and Don Bess, .828. Home Runs: Joe Cors 4, Don Bess 3, Howard Toder 2 and Avery 2.

L-6 through June 7:

Greater Sacramento Softball Association 6-2

Better Softball Equipment 5-3

Mark E. White DDS 5-3

Denny's Grand Slams 3-5

Arnold Properties 3-5

Auburn Oaks Senior Living 2-6

Top batters: Bill McMahon .875, Bill Soper .788, Howard Toder .774. HRs: Bill Greene 3, Chuck Knutson and Joe Cors, 2.

L-4 through June 8:

9th & X Self Storage 6-3

Executive Limo 5-4

East Lawn Inc. 5-4

Cottonwood Estates 4-5

Bertolucci's Body and Fender 4-5

C&C Plumbing 3-6

Top L-4 batters: Emilio Lobato .838, Bruce Gilmore .794, Dennis Garrett .765. HR: Monta Little and Walt Strickland each with one over the fence. Park HRs: David Raydon 5, Doug Gedestad 4, Lobato, Stephen Smith and Dan Gunsalus 3 each.

L-3 through June 7:

ReMax 7-1

Old Hornets 5-3

Silver Cats 4-4

Geremia Pools 4-4

Fuddruckers 3-5

Livingston Concrete 1-7

M.R. Evans homered for the Silver Cats in a 16-6 loss to first-place ReMax. Pitcher Bob Smartt, filling in for wife Trudy Smartt (sidelined by a sore back), paced Livingston Concrete with a fielding gem. He snared a hard comebacker, tagged the runner between first and second, and flipped to first for a double play.

L-5 through June 9

NorCal Jackets 8-1

Cal Energy 7-2

Reinwald's Health & Dental Insurance 5-4

Espanol Italian Restaurant 4.5-4.5

Miller's Munchies 2.5-6.5

Overhead Door 0-9

Ed Frantz and Jeff Massengale homered for NorCal in a 14-11 win against Overhead Door.

League 2-6 Results from scorekeepers Sandy Begg and Colette Barnes. Best wishes to Sandy who recently became ill with the shingles. #

MONDAY MORNING RAINOUT BLUES

L-1 through June 6: L-1 Commissioner George Hodsdon reported that his league was unable to play on June 6 due to wet fields. The rainout is the fifth in the first 12 weeks of the Monday (70+) season. Hodsdon: "A rainout is a lost game. Monday (L-1) has no provisions for makeup games. In squeezing three rounds of play before the club season-ending picnic in September, the nine-team league is scheduled to play every Monday. Nothing else to report unless you have a few unused umbrellas."

With the passing of Bob Schwan on June 13, Hodsdon said Dick Reisinger was officially the manager of L-1's American Medequip (team 6), and John Ross will be assistant manager. #

THIEVES RAID COPPER WIRING AT SOFTBALL COMPLEX; GSSCS DAY AND NIGHT GAMES FOR JUNE 14 ARE CANCELED

Golden Seniors softball games for two morning leagues and one night league were canceled on Tuesday, June 14 because thousands of dollars worth of copper wiring was stolen from the Sacramento Softball Complex. The thefts, which occurred the prior Friday night or Saturday morning, left the complex without electricity for lights, scoreboards, telephones, even pumps for the water well, so toilets could not be flushed. It was at least the second time in recent years that thieves have stolen copper wiring and disrupted softball schedules.

At this writing it was not known whether the L-4 games on June 15 could be played as scheduled, although city officials hoped to have the damage repaired on that date.

The complex had to call off 32 adult softball games on June 13-14. Portable toilets and bottled water were brought in for day games over the weekend. #

Golden Seniors 2011 Sponsors

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(* = New Sponsor)

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AVALON HEARING

BERTOLUCCI'S BODY AND

FENDER SHOP

C&C PLUMBING

CALIFORNIA ENERGY SERVICES

COTTONWOOD ESTATES

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

*LASEREYES.COM

L&S SURVEYS

LIVINGSTON CONCRETE

MARK WHITE DDS

MERRILL'S BOOKKEEPING & TAX

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NIELSEN REAL ESTATE

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NORCAL JACKETS

OLD HORNETS

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SACRAMENTO

RAMBIT

*REINWALD'S HEALTH & DENTAL

INSURANCE

RE/MAX CENTRAL

*SHOW BIZ PRODUCTIONS

SILVER CATS

SPORTS LEISURE VACATIONS

VFW POST 67

RICHARD WILL ATTORNEY

WION'S BODY SHOP

*9TH & X SELF STORAGE

#

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 -- Dick Reisinger 427-6982

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.

#

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 Toenyes -- 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: July 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