

# DUGOUT CHATTER

ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF THE GOLDEN SENIORS SOFTBALL CLUB OF SACRAMENTO ([WWW.GSSCS.ORG](http://WWW.GSSCS.ORG)) -- JULY 2012

## CLUB OFFICER ELECTIONS SET FOR AUG. 13 GENERAL MEETING

Nominations for the seven club officer positions were made at the July 9 general meeting with one contested race -- for club player agent. The election is scheduled for the Aug. 13 general meeting and the new board will take over in time for the October beginning of the new fiscal year.

Myron Dahl and Larry Shelton are the nominees for player agent, a position held the past two years by Linda McCollum Greene, who did not seek re-election. Dahl joined the club in December 2007 and currently plays in three leagues -- 2, 3 and 6. He is the commissioner of L-6. Shelton, who joined the club in March 2007, sponsors the Silver Cats in L-3, and also manages the team.

Dave Tanner, a sponsor-manager of a L-3 team, Tanner & Associates, is the lone nominee for club secretary. The seat is open as Matt Tedrow decided not to seek a second term.

Five other board officers are seeking re-election without opposition: President Tom Sansone, 1st Vice President Dick Latimer, 2nd VP Pete Ward, Treasurer Don Wall and Club Commissioner Curtis Holcumb.

The seven officers form the club's Board of Directors to govern the organization.

The nominating committee is led by John Mizerak, who thanks all those who have volunteered to serve the club, especially for making their plans early so that he and Dave Vargo, who assisted in recruiting candidates, had an unusually easy time getting this job done. The current board and members at the meeting applauded Mizerak for his work. #

## SUNSHINE & HEALTH

### *Club Loses Three Long-time Members*

Rest in peace: **Jim McNamara, Dinny Watson and Teddy Holm**. These three long-time Golden Seniors passed away between mid-June and early July.

Life Member **McNamara**, 83, passed away on June 13. A standout baseball player in his youth and as a young man, including All-City honors at Christian Brothers High School, the shortstop signed with the New York Giants and played several seasons in the minor leagues. He then had a 34-year career in various administrative positions in the court system, retiring in 1987. (See Page 2)

## **NEXT GENERAL MEETING:**

**7:30 p.m.,  
Monday,  
Aug. 13**

**VFW Hall, 2784  
Stockton Blvd.**

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## Sunshine & Health: From Page 1

Jim played 25 years in senior softball, winning three rings for national championship travel teams. He joined the Golden Seniors in 1984 and received the club's Award of Merit in 2010 in recognition of many years of service, including five years as commissioner of the Monday morning league. This year his niece is sponsoring a team (Story Hats) in his honor, with Jim's brother, Frank, as assistant manager. His survivors also include brother John, who was a major league manager. Between 20 and 30 current or former Golden Seniors members stood when requested to do so at Jim's June 19 funeral mass at St. Anthony Church.

The club's oldest playing member, **Watson** passed away on June 30. Dinny was 92. The life member joined the Golden Seniors in 1988 and began the 2012 season playing with Joe Sugimoto's L-1 team (Jerry Jodice). He had to stop playing a few weeks into the season due to a health problem. He was a good outfielder, playing left field in 2011. Dinny is remembered by fellow members as a man who was small physically but blessed with a big heart. He had requested that there be no memorial services.

Life Member **Holm**, who joined the Golden Seniors in 1988, passed away July 3 at the age of 90. The Sacramento Bee obituary described Teddy as a self-described "sports-aholic," a revered first-base coach for Al Cross's "I Forgot" team in L-1. Ted, who worked 36 years at The Bee as a linotype operator, was a friend to all. A celebration of his life was scheduled Aug. 3 at the Masonic lodge in Elk Grove.

With Dinny Watson's passing, the club's oldest playing member becomes 90-year-old Bill Riehl, a life member playing this year with the American Medequip team in L-1. The oldest non-playing member is Russ Menke, 95, also a life member, according to Henry Low, the keeper of the club's data base.

It was noted at the July 9 general meeting that this has been an extremely sad spring-summer, with the passings in June of Bob Jackson, a senior softball pioneer, and, in May, Life Member John Latino, another member of the club's "Class of 1988." (See June Dugout Chatter.) #

## ***MONDAY MORNING NEWS: HIGHLIGHTS OF L-1 GAMES***

### ***Update from Commissioner Henry Low***

League One is at the midpoint of the season with some surprises in the second round of play. After our games on July 9, Storyhat, winner of only one game in the first round, is in first place and the only undefeated team in the second round with a 5-0 record.

L&S Surveys is in second place with a 4-1 record, and three teams -- Nielsen, Billy Beck and Show Biz -- are tied for third place at 3-1. The Billy Beck team, winner of the first round, got no respect in their first game of the second round. They were soundly beaten by the Show Biz team, 12-4. It looks as though the second round is going to be real competitive.

Unlike the teams playing at the Complex, L-1 plays five Monday games in July because we don't schedule games to avoid non-club tournament conflicts. L-1 plays on Mondays except for holidays (Memorial Day, Fourth of July if on a (See Page 3)

## MONDAY MORNING NEWS FROM PAGE 2

Monday, and Labor Day). Last year, when July 4 fell on a Monday, we had to schedule around three Monday holidays.

Because we drafted all the players available (14 per team) in L-1, illnesses and injuries are beginning to take a toll on several of our teams. We have no players in Wait List status as replacements, so teams often have to rely on substitutes to field a team. If there are any players 70 or older out there who would like to play in L-1, we can probably find a spot for you.

Round 2 Standings thru July 9

Storyhat 5-0

L&S Surveys 4-1

Nielsen Real Estate 3-1

Billy Beck 3-1

ShowBiz Productions 3-1

American MedEquip 2-3

Wion's Body Shop 0-4

Merrill Bookkeeping 0-4

Jerry Jodice 0-5 #

## AWARD OF MERIT NOMINATIONS FOR 2012 ARE REQUESTED

Any member can nominate another member for the Golden Seniors' annual Award of Merit. The program intends to "recognize those individuals who, through their actions for the benefit of the Golden Seniors Softball Club of Sacramento, have given over and beyond the requirement of simple membership to bring recognition to the club and its members."

If you have a person in mind, please phone George Hodsdon, 481-9304, and he will provide a form. The deadline for submittal is Wednesday, Aug. 1. #

## CLUB BOARD RE-VISITS PICNIC PLAN DISCUSSIONS

The club's board of directors on July 9 agreed to reopen discussion of 2012 picnic plans to include members of the committee that has organized and run these events for the past 15 years.

As reported in the June Dugout Chatter, the club directors, citing picnic budget overruns in recent years, decided to scale back the 2012 picnic and have it in conjunction with L-1 championship playoffs at Howe Park.

The annual season-ending club picnic last September was moved from the Complex to Howe Park, along with playoff games for all leagues, and it was considered a success except for the \$6,000 cost, which was some \$2,000 over budget. Too much food was prepared and paid for, as attendance was well below what was expected based on surveys of players earlier in the year. The board also decreed that the menu would be reduced this year to feature hot dogs and hamburgers, instead of chicken and beef.

President Tom Sansone acknowledged that he and the board had "put the cart before the horse" in taking action in June and that he regretted not having included Dante Ciardella and other picnic committee members in discussions. Sansone said that while the board did take action, he had intended that much of the discussion at the June board meeting would be preliminary.

Ciardella announced at the July 9 meeting that he and his committee co-chairs, Henry Fontes and Arnold Wilkerson, were insulted and were resigning immediately. Dante told the club that the committee realizes that these are hard times and the (*See Page 4*)

club needs to save money, but “we feel the board had no reason to plan to coming picnic without asking the picnic committee to attend.”

Ciardella said the committee never said it would not go back to hot dogs and hamburgers. He also said the board’s plan to have five of the club’s six leagues hold their championship games at the Complex on their normal days of play, such as Wednesday night for L-4, would surely doom the Saturday picnic to poor attendance.

Sansone and the board also was dealing with scheduling playoff games that would avoid conflict with out-of-town tournaments, such as Medford. Also, the use of better bats that Leagues 2 through 6 are using this year at the Complex, would be too much power for the smaller Howe Park field dimensions.

The picnic has been considered a club tradition but it is costing each member \$15 or so from dues, and many members do not attend. However, Player Agent LiLnda McCollum-Greene said perhaps the membership doesn’t want to sacrifice the picnic, even if it eats up \$15 of a member’s annual dues. Sansone also has said the board was motivated by the perceived need to keep dues from exceeding \$100.

Sansone said, “The bottom line is we are certainly willing to rethink and bring in the picnic committee. It hurt me to know that I hurt him (Dante).”

Would Dante and the committee reconsider and not resign? “Well, maybe,” said Dante, as he prepared to leave the VFW hall. He has worked on the club picnic for 15 years; Fontes for 15 years, and Wilkerson for 10. Ciardella said he also was resigning from the committee, comprised of former Man of the Year or Award of Merit winners, that determines the annual award recipient.

One suggestion at the July 9 meeting, seemingly drawing some interest, was made by former Club President Bill Hill. While L-1 could still have a picnic with its championship game, the club could also plan an awards dinner, perhaps a spaghetti feed, that would be a big stage for the membership to recognize 2012 championship players from all leagues. It also would replace the picnic, at much lower cost, as the venue for swearing in the new board of directors and revealing the 2012 Award of Merit recipient or recipients.

Other club news:

**Volunteers for Safety Coordinator, Data Manager.** The club is still searching for a safety coordinator who can work with the Red Cross to schedule safety training classes, free to GSSCS members, so they can qualify to wear red hats. The club also needs a new data manager to keep track of membership. After eight years, Henry Low wants to hand off this job to someone else. The club provides the software.

**Playoff Schedule.** The Tuesday morning leagues were still considering a single-elimination playoff process while double-elimination for the night leagues was considered doable. Stay tuned for details.

**Need More Players.** L-5 (Thursday nights) has full 12-player rosters on six teams, with 10 players picked up since the last meeting in June. Not one game has been forfeited for lack of players. Sansone declared the board would not need to consider reducing L-5 to five teams in 2013. (*See Page 5*)

McCollum-Greene said that “all of our leagues are full but there are no replacements when we lose people. If anyone knows of anyone wanting to sign up, let me know.”

**Sponsors.** Dick Latimer, the first vice president in charge of sponsorships, said he is already working on next year’s sponsorships with a goal of lining up 50. He also said that his knee operation and two strokes have now prevented him from playing for three years, “but I’ll get out there some day.” He was thanked and applauded for his dedication to the club.

**Balls.** Ward, who is responsible for uniforms and equipment, said that it was wise that the club bought extra balls -- four dozen -- this year because, with use of hotter bats, nine or 10 balls a week are hit over the fences and lost from 15 games at the Complex. While golfers have thrown some back, the majority are picked up by early morning hikers.

**Adding More Games.** Sansone said the board wants to schedule as many games as possible but adding more games at this time is difficult because of the Complex schedule, conflicts with other tournaments, the availability of umpires who often work these tournaments, and conflicts with players who planned family vacations for times when there were no scheduled games.

The board may consider surveying the membership on the question of whether the club should simply schedule its games without consideration of big tournaments in Reno, Las Vegas or Medford. It would be helpful to know how many club members are involved in these tournaments.

**Membership.** Assistant Secretary Henry Low said the club ended June with a roster of 460 members, 51 of them new this year. Last year, the season ended with 476 members. The club usually attracts new members throughout the summer.

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## SHORT HOPS & LONG BOUNCES

**RIVER CATS TICKETS FOR 2012.** Entertainment Chairman Lou Coppola reports that, as a season ticket holder, he has access to RiverCats tickets (saving \$4 to \$5 per ticket) during the course of the season. He said the tickets are very flexible and exchangeable other dates in the same Section 109, Rows 15-30. Call Lou (444-6138) for details. #

**CLUB PICTURES.** Lou Coppola has been busy photographing teams. Members may purchase a team photo for \$3. Check with your managers.

## “HOTLINE” SOURCE FOR NEWS, INFORMATION

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 STANDINGS AND HIGHLIGHTS

In League 2 (Tuesdays at 9 a.m.), Jolly Rogers was in first place with a record of 7-3 with one tie, followed by the 6-3-2 team sponsored by Attorney Richard H. Will. Harper Properties was third at 5-5-1, just ahead of the 5-6 VFW Post 67. Rambit Inc and Sports Leisure Vacations tied for fifth place at 4-7. Joe Cors of Jolly Rogers was player of the week June 26, giving him two such honors this season for L-2. Joe leads the league in homers with six and RBI with 41. His dozen doubles were five more than any other L-2 hitter. Through eleven games, the leading batsman was Dave Bristol at .848.

League 3 (Tuesday nights) was led by Geremia Pools (8-3) through games of June 26, with 6-5 records posted by Espanol Restaurant, Silver Cats and Livingston Concrete. Tanner & Associates followed with a 5-6 mark, and the Fuddruckers team was 2-9. Steve Casarez homered for Espanol on June 26, as did Jim Moore for the Silver Cats, who had a pair of triples by Jim McMahon in a 17-16 thriller over Fuddruckers, led by Anita Kemp's triple. Mel Tennyson homered over the fence for Livingston, a 13-6 winner over the front-running pool builders.

In League 6 (Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.), GSSA and Better Softball Equipment were atop the standings at 8-3 through June 26. Avalon Hearing was 6-5, followed by Mark White DDS 4-6-1, Arnold Properties 3-7-1 and Lasereyes.com 3-8. The league's leading hitter, at .900, was Avalon's Rich Edwards. Jon Ellison of GSSA has four over-the-fence clouts. Mark White's Joe Cors leads the league in inside-the-park homers (5) and triples (6). Cors is a two-time player of the week in L-6, duplicating his achievements in L-2.

In League 4 (Wednesday nights), Executive Limousine and Denny's were tied for the top spot at 7-3 in games through June 27, and Terry Urban of Bertolucci's Body and Fender was the player of the week. He also was POW June 13. Monte Miller paces L-4 in hitting at a blistering .905 pace. Geoff Miller was hitting .893. Urban led the league in fence-clearing homers with five, two more than Geoff Miller and Walt Strickland. Jarvis Quenga had 41 RBI. Bertolucci's was in third place at 5-2-2, followed by Cottonwood Estates 4-5, East Lawn 2-6-1, and C&C Plumbing 1-7-1.

Thursday nights' L-5 is paced by Miller's Munchies at 6-3, followed by Overhead Door 5-3-1, Espanol Restaurant 4-3-2, 9th & X Street Storage 4-4-1, Reinwald's Health and Dental 3-5-1 and NorCal Jackets 2-6-1. Highlights included over-the-fence homers from Bill Conwell, Terry Urban and Rich Ganas.

(Information provided by scorekeepers Sandy Begg (Leagues 3 and 5) and Colette Barnes (Leagues 2, 4 and 6). #

## MORE JUNE HIGHLIGHTS FROM LEAGUES 3 AND 5

**League 3:** June 5 -- Mark Noel and Emilio Lobato homered for Tanner & Associates, 16-8 winner over Livingston Concrete, while Jerry Toenyes, Steve Casarez and Greg Diehl had perfect games at the plate for Espanol Restaurant, 16-11 winner over Fuddruckers. Geremia Pools upped its record to 7-1 with a 9-2 win over Silver Cats, helped by Keith Arnold's perfect batting game. Jack Wabinga had a fence-clearing HR for the Fuddruckers. June 12 -- Five runs were the total difference in the three games. Casarez homered over the fence in Espanol's 8-6 win over Geremia, while Gene Lipscomb hit for the cycle in Livingston Concrete's 16-14 win over Silver Cats. Lobato homered for Tanner, 13-12 winner over Fuddruckers. (*See Page 7*)

(From Page 6)

**League 5:** June 7 -- Close contests: NorCal Jackets and Espanol Restaurant (sponsor of two teams this year) played to a 9-9 tie, Miller's Munchies edged Overhead Door 24-23 and 9th&X Street Storage relatively coasted, 15-12, over Reinwald's Health and Dental. Hitting homers were Ettore Minor of 9th&X, Bill McMahon of Reinwald's and Greg Diehl of Miller's Munchies. On June 14, 111 runs were scored and 13 balls were clouted over the fence, some for ground rule singles (Jarvis Quenga twice, Dave Rhodes, Reggie Rogers, Lyman Rose). Homers over the fence: Jim Liston, Rich Ganas, Tim Kesner, Terry Urban, Rose. # (From Scorekeeper Sandy Begg)

**NEXT DUGOUT CHATTER: AUGUST 2012.** READ THE DUGOUT CHATTER ONLINE AT [WWW.GSSCS.ORG](http://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 BEFORE THE PRINTED EDITION ARRIVES VIA U.S. 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. #

## **DUGOUT CHATTER ONLINE AND AT FIELDS**

With the March issue, the Dugout Chatter is available for players to pick up at the fields where they play. Check the scorekeeper's desk for a copy. Better yet, read the Dugout Chatter online at [www.gsscs.org](http://www.gsscs.org). From March through August, the Chatter is mailed to a restricted list of sponsors, non-playing life members, and players on injured reserve. To hold down our newsletter costs, particularly postage, the newsletter is mailed to the membership during the months when there are no games, which is normally October through February. Members may inform Assistant Secretary Henry Low (391-3938) to request that they be taken off the mailing list year-round, as nearly 50 members have done. #

# **SPONSORS SIGNED UP AND PAID FOR 2012**

First VP Dick Latimer lists these club sponsors as paid up for 2012, and urges club members to reward their support by giving them business:

**American Medequip (Sponsoring 2 teams, the second in memory of Alicia's father-in-law, Billy Beck)**

**Arnold Properties**

**Avalon Hearing Aid Centers Inc.**

**In Memory of the Becks**

**Bertolucci's Body & Fender Shop**

**C&C Plumbing & Electrical**

**Cottonwood Estates**

**East Lawn**

**Espanol Italian Restaurant (Sponsoring 2 teams)**

**Executive Limousine**

**Geremia Pools**

**Greater Sacramento Softball Association (GSSA)**

**Harper Properties**

**In Memory of Jerry Jodice**

**Jolly Rogers**

**LASEREYES.COM**

**L & S Surveys**

**Livingston's Concrete Service**

**Merrill Bookkeeping Income Tax**

**Miller's Munchies**

**R.H. Nielsen Real Estate/Appraisal**

**NorCal Jackets**

**Overhead Door Company of Sacramento Inc.**

**Rabbit Inc.**

**Reinwald's Health & Dental Insurance Plans Brokerage**

**Show Biz Productions**

**Silver Cats**

**Sports Leisure Vacations**

**STORYHAT**

**Tanner and Associates**

**VFW Post 67**

**Mark E. White DDS**

**Wion's Body Shop**

**Richard H. Will, Attorney**

Anyone who knows of a potential sponsor can help recruitment. The fee is \$300 for the first year, when uniform jerseys are prepared, and \$250 per year thereafter. For more information, contact Dick Latimer at 363-9555. #

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS -- 2011-12**

President **Tom Sansone** ... 686-1654

First Vice President **Dick Latimer**

363-9555 (Responsible for team sponsorships.)

Second Vice President **Pete Ward** ...

989-4722 (Responsible for team uniforms.)

Treasurer **Don Wall** ... 434-8308

Secretary **Matt Tedrow** ... 515-0451

Player Agent **Linda McCollum-**

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

Club Commissioner **Curtis**

**Holcomb** ...600-6065 (Responsible for enforcement of playing rules, oversees league commissioners.)

## **TELEPHONE HOTLINE**

### **Club Answering Machine**

(managed by Trudy Smartt)  
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:** Coordinator

appointment pending

### **Entertainment:** Lou Coppola

444-6138

### **Dugout Chatter:** Ron Roach,

editor 422-2500

([coachrwr@comcast.net](mailto:coachrwr@comcast.net))

### **Planning:** Merritt Davis,

393-7160