

DUGOUT CHATTER

ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF THE GOLDEN SENIORS SOFTBALL CLUB OF SACRAMENTO (WWW.GSSCS.ORG) -- AUGUST 2012

CLUB OFFICERS FOR 2013 SEASON ARE ELECTED UNANIMOUSLY

Elected at the Aug. 13 general meeting to lead the Golden Seniors Softball Club of Sacramento for the 2013 season were President Tom Sansone, 1st Vice President Dick Latimer, 2nd VP Pete Ward, Treasurer Don Wall, Secretary Dave Tanner, Club Commissioner Curtis Holcomb and Player Agent Myron Dahl.

As presented by Nominations Chairman John Mizerak, the membership unanimously elected the unopposed slate of incumbents plus first-time board members Tanner and Dahl. Two members of the current board, two-term Player Agent Linda McCollum-Greene and one-term Secretary Matt Tedrow, did not seek reelection.

Tanner, who joined the club in 2000, participates as a sponsor (Tanner & Associates in L-3), manager and player. Dahl joined the club in 2007 and is playing in three leagues this season. He is the L-6 commissioner and an assistant manager of a L-6 team, Arnold Properties. Dahl ran unopposed for player agent after Larry Shelton withdrew.

The new board will be installed at the next general meeting, which is scheduled Sept. 29 in conjunction with the club's annual picnic at Howe Park.

PICNIC & PLAYOFFS. The Board announced that the annual picnic will be similar to those in the past and will be at Howe Park on Saturday, Sept. 29. Pete Ward and Bill Hill have been working on the picnic and are already looking ahead to 2013 to make sure it is not scheduled on the same Saturday as major tournaments.

Because of the national championship tournament in Las Vegas, L-5 on Thursday night will hold its league championship game on Thursday, Sept. 20 at 7 p.m. Other night leagues will hold their title games at the Complex on Tuesday, Sept. 25, for L-3 and Wednesday, Sept. 26, for L-4.

The three day leagues will have their title games on the morning of the picnic Sept. 29 at Howe Park.

(See playoff schedules elsewhere in this newsletter.)

Night league players and members are encouraged to attend the picnic, which is free for members, spouses and children under 12 (\$5 for guests). Sponsors are fee. They should RSVP to 1st VP Latimer. (See Page 2)

**NEXT
GENERAL
MEETING:
SATURDAY,
SEPT. 29 AT THE
CLUB PICNIC,
HOWE PARK**

**IN THIS ISSUE ...
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General Meeting on
Picnic Plans,
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2013 CLUB OFFICERS ARE ELECTION AND OTHER NEWS (From P. 1)

Details of the picnic, such as menu, will be forthcoming. The club expects to budget for 250 attendees. Last year, more than 400 were expected, fewer than 200 attended, and the guarantee for catered lunches proved very expensive.

The board also has approved about \$8 per player in the night league championship game for chits that can be exchanged for a hot dog, soda or beer at the Complex. Sansone noted that in the past, the night leagues began play so early on Picnic Saturday that most players didn't stay for lunch. Thus they got nothing. This way they will at least get something besides a championship shirt, he said. These celebrations are expected to cost the club about \$750.

BOARD ELIMINATES PRIORITY SIGNUP RULE. The board agreed to eliminate Standing Rule 13 that governs priority for returning members signing up for the next season. Besides ruling that there would be no late fees, the board decided that members who submit their player applications and payment for 2013 have until Dec. 1 to protect their seniority rights to play in as many leagues as they desire. After Dec. 1, they could be bumped by a new member.

2013 BUDGET. Sansone said the new board will be meeting to consider the 2013 budget for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1. He said he recently met with the Complex officials and does not anticipate a need to raise dues or member fees based on expected Complex field pricing for 2013. The current board has expressed desire to rein in picnic costs as part of a strategy to hold the line on player dues/fees. Membership applications, renewals and new members, should be available at the Picnic and online at the club web site, www.gsscs.org.

TEAM PHOTOS. For two decades, Life Member Lou Coppola has been giving of his time, not to mention countless gallons of gasoline, to take photos of every GSSCS team. These photos currently are available to members for \$3. He also arranges to have photos mounted on plaques for sponsors. Lou said his body is wearing out and this is the last year he can take pictures. The club is looking for a volunteer to take team photos in 2013. Lou, a member since 1992, turns 85 this year. He also serves as the club's entertainment chairman. It would take many lines of type to list all of the volunteer positions held over the years by this 1998 GSSCS Man of the Year. Lou: Thank You!!!

LATIMER APPLAUDED. Attendees at the Aug. 13 meeting responded with applause when 1st VP Latimer said he was feeling better in his recovery from strokes. He has continued his tireless quest for additional team sponsors and says his goal is to get 40 for next season.

SURVEY SAYS. Of 319 forms returned, President Sansone's quick survey in July found that 210 want to stick to the traditional Saturday picnic. Ninety-seven were in favor of "trying something different."

Seventy-four members said they would support a shorter season to reduce dues and fees, but 236 said they want to play the existing 22-game schedules.

On the question of use of "hot bats," 187 want them to continue in use, 47 oppose them and 72 don't care. L-1, which did not use hot bats this year based on a vote of managers, had 20 players in favor of hot bats, 23 against and 21 saying they don't care. Significant majorities support the hot bats in the other five leagues.

#

SUNSHINE & HEALTH

Rest in Peace: Hi Witt, Monty Morse, Pat Brewer

Life Member **Hiram “Hi” Witt** passed away July 10 at the age of 87. Hi joined the Golden Seniors in 1983 and played until 2008, then coached for the last several years. He was awarded the club’s Man of the Year honor in 1987 as a distinct asset to the Golden Seniors. He also is remembered for driving his Model T pickup with big signs on both sides for the team he was playing on.

Monty Morse, team photographer and early editor of the Dugout Chatter, passed away July 28. He was 76. Monty joined the Golden Seniors in 1992. He interrupted his softball play in 2001 when, as a former police officer, he volunteered to go to Bosnia to help reestablish the local police force. He trained recruits and monitored checkpoints for reports of brutality and corruption. During his seven months in Bosnia, he was active in the area’s Police Athletic League, and he asked the Golden Seniors to send a collection of athletic equipment so he could start programs for youth as they had so little after the war. The Golden Seniors delivered and Morse reported on the program’s success. He then played one more year with the Golden Seniors. Lou Coppola, who succeeded Morse as editor of the Dugout Chatter, contributed to this report.

Pat Brewer, wife of non-playing member Doug Brewer, passed away July 11 at her home. She was 71.

Joe DiSessa, L-2 and L-6 player, will miss the rest of the season. Surgery was required to remove a cyst on his vertabrae. #

SAFETY REPORT: TERRY IS NEW COORDINATOR

The club’s new safety coordinator is **J.C. Terry**, whose appointment was made this month by President Tom Sansone. This important position has been filled by Curtis Holcomb since the passing of Jerry Jodice, who pioneered the club’s safety program that has been credited with helping to save more than one life of a Golden Seniors player over the years.

Holcomb was elected club commissioner for 2012 -- and again for 2013 -- leaving the safety coordinator post without a full-time steward for much of this year.

Terry, who turns 62 this year, joined the GSSCS in December 2005 and currently plays in Leagues 3 and 6 on Tuesday morning and Tuesday night. He is a L-3 manager.

Terry also is among those qualified to wear a red GSSCS hat. The club’s “Red Hat” signifies that the wearer has been trained in CPR and use of the AED, or defibrillator, as certified by the Red Cross. This club-financed training is available to GSSCS members. The next training session, also for those who need to be recertified, is expected to be scheduled early in 2013. Stay tuned for sign-up details from Terry, who can be reached at 457-3393. Anyone interested in signing up for training should contact Terry.

The club’s group of players and/or umpires who completed CPR-AED training earlier this year: **Tom Bussey, John Hains, Dick Latimer, Greg Leurgans, Paul Rogers, Dave Tanner** and **Cloicec Wade**.

The club’s safety program includes so-called “crash carts” at Howe Park and the Complex. There is a club-owned AED in each cart. (See Page 4)

SAFETY REPORT (CONTINUED)

Club policy is that no game can begin unless the crash cart is rolled out to the fields and is checked to make sure the AED battery is charged. It is the responsibility of the home team manager for the first game of the day or evening to see that the cart is in place; it is the responsibility of the home team manager of the final game of the day or night to make sure the cart is returned to its storage site. Use of the AED must be reported as soon as possible to the safety coordinator or a member of the Board of Directors to assure that the battery is still charged. #

MONDAY MORNING NEWS: HIGHLIGHTS OF L-1 GAMES

From Commissioner Henry Low

League One finished the second round of play on Aug. 6 with two teams -- L&S Surveys and Nielsen Real Estate -- tied for first place at 7-1. L&S was declared the winner of the round by virtue of their head-to-head win over Nielsen. L&S actually clinched the second round the previous week, because they had a bye week on Aug. 6. Three teams -- Show Biz, Storyhat and Billy Beck -- ended up tied for third place with 5-3 records.

The third round began on Aug. 13 with the four top teams playing each other, L&S vs. Nielsen and Show Biz vs. Billy Beck. The L&S-Nielsen game was very close, tied at 8-8 in the bottom of the seventh inning, Nielsen scored the winning run with two outs, winning 9-8. In the other game, Billy Beck led 15-14 before scoring nine times in the top of the seventh, then shut out Nielsen in the bottom of the inning to win 24-14. Bill Beck's Al Valentine had quite a day at bat. In the 9:30 game, as a substitute, he went 4 for 4. Then he was 4x4 for his team, Billy Beck, in the 10:45 game.

L-1 has a four-team playoff format that includes the winners of the three rounds of play and the next team that has the best record without winning a round. If one team wins two rounds, that team will get a bye into the league championship game. The team winning the other round will play the team with the next best record in the playoff game. L-1 playoff games will be on Sept. 26 -- a Wednesday -- and the championship game will be at the club picnic on Saturday, Sept. 29. #

DON SHANK RETURNS TO MANAGE "HOTLINE"

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

L-3 Standings (Thru Aug. 7):

Geremia Pools 12-3
Espanol Restaurant 8-7
Livingston Concrete 8-7
Tanner & Associates 7-8
Silver Cats 7-8
Fuddruckers 3-12

Geremia Pools, winners of 12 of their first 15 games, enjoyed a four-game lead over Espanol Restaurant and Livingston Concrete, both 8-7, in Tuesday night L-3 play through Aug. 7. Karl Bik, Tom Jones, Keith Arnold and Rob Geremia were perfect at the plate for Geremia in a 21-18 victory over Espanol. Fuddruckers scored their third win of the season, 20-11 over Tanner, 7-8, as A.J. Petruzzi, Joe McQuaid, Lyman Rose and Steve Lawrence were perfect at the plate, with Rose's HR clearing the fence. Geremia also had a July 31 nail-biter, 11-10, over the last-place Fuddruckers.

M.R. Evans was perfect with a double, triple and home run in Espanol's Aug. 7 loss to Geremia. On July 31, Evans was perfect at the plate as a sub for Geremia and for his own team, Espanol. Howlin' Alan Aupil and Bret Wangan batted 1.000 for the Silver Cats, as did Bob Jones for Tanner and A.J. Petruzzi for the Fuddruckers.

L-5 Standings (thru Aug. 9):

Miller's Munchies 8-5
9th&X Street Storage 7-5-1
Espanol Restaurant 7-4-2
Overhead Door 6-6-1
Reinwald's Health & Dental 6-6-1
NorCal Jackets 2-10-1

On Aug. 9, Bob Ellison was perfect at the plate for Overhead Door, a feat matched by John Brendle, Dennis Kelly and Dino Clark for 9th&X Storage. Mike Immoos was perfect for Espanol, and Lyman Rose (Espanol), Jarvis Quenga (Reinwald) homered over the fence. On Aug. 2, Miller's Munchies was nearly upended by the last-place NorCal Jackets in a 19-18 thriller. Monte Miller homered over the fence for the winners. DeMontro Davis did likewise for the NorCal Jackets. Terry Urban was perfect at the plate for Reinwald's, including a homer, but the team fell 26-16 to Espanol, which had three doubles from Larry Dickenson and a perfect game at the plate from sub De Davis. Sub Jim Liston didn't make an out for Reinwald's, and ditto for Tom Nevarez of NorCal Jackets. 9th&X was awarded a 7-0 forfeit from Overhead Door. In July 19 games, over-the-fence homers were hammered by Ettore Minor, Rose and Quenga. Rose's second over-the-fence clout was a single. As of July 27, Minor was the leading batter in L-5 with a .862 average. The heavy-hitting league had nine players at .800 or higher who had played in at least six games.

(L-3 and L-5 report from scorekeeper Sandy Begg.)

L-6 Highlights

Standings thru Aug. 7:

Better Softball Equipment 11-4
GSSA 10-5
Avalon Hearing Centers 9-6
Arnold Properties 5-9-1
Lasereyes.com 5-10
Mark White DDS 4-10-1

League 6 leaders: Rich Edwards .895; Jon Ellison 51 RBI; Joe Cors 7 inside-park HR; Jon Ellison 4 HR over fence; Bill Greene 51 Hits.

On Aug. 7, GSSA 13, Better Softball 7. Greater Sacramento Softball Association moved within a game of Better Softball, holding the first-place team scoreless for three innings to go up 13-6 going into the seventh and giving up only one run in the final frame. Jon Ellison led GSSA with seven RBI on a single, double and triple in four trips to the plate.

On July 31, Arnold Properties edged Mark E. White 12-11. Joe Cors had three hits, including a home run, and Don Wall and Ron Roach had three hits each for Mark White. Arnold's top hitters were Myron Dahl, Mike Jordan and Don Shank.

July 17: Better Softball 18, Mark E. White 17. White led 16-8 after six innings but was outscored 10-1 in the open inning. Bill Greene led the winners with two homers among his four hits, driving in six. Carl Maryland had five hits. Joe Cors had a homer, double and single, and Ron Roach had a homer for the losers.

July 24: Lasereyes.com 14, GSSA 12. Dave Vargo had a homer among his three hits and Bud DeSouza drove in four runs on three hits for Lasereyes; Wil Nishina had four hits for GSSA.

L-2 Highlights

Standings thru Aug. 7:
Jolly Rogers 9-4-2
Richard H. Will 7-4-4
Harper Properties 7-6-2
Sports Leisure 7-8
VFW Post 67 6-9
Rabbit Inc. 5-10

League 2 Leaders: Dave Bristol .886 batting average; Joe Cors 51 RBI; Joe Cors 7 HR; Dave Avery 3 over-fence HR; Merv Mill 47 hits.

On July 17, Sports Leisure 20, Rabbit 14, as Dave Avery homered over the fence for Sports Leisure. Bill McMahon had a homer among his three hits for Rabbit, which also had a homer from Wally Dorie. Avery also had two doubles and drove home five runs. Sports Leisure's Ron Roach had two singles and two doubles, while Bud DeSouza had two doubles and a triple.

On July 31, Rabbit edged Jolly Rogers 16-15. Gus Niklas of Rabbit had a grand slam in the second inning, putting his team up 9-3. Joining Niklas as Rabbit top batsmen was Tom Todd, two singles and a trip. John Mizerak had three hits while Bill Enos and Pete Ruiz pounded out four hits each for the Jolly Rogers.

On July 24, Jolly Rogers and Richard H. Will played to a 19-19 tie as top hitters included Greg Leurgans (five hits), Dave Bristol, Lynn Baker and Glen Cole (four hits).

On Aug. 7, Sports Leisure edged VFW Post 67 12-11 as Rich Edwards had four hits. Bud DeSouza drove in the winning run in the seventh inning as the winners rallied with four runs. Jim Stokes and Jim Wait had three hits each. VFW was led by Ray Mendonsa and Joe Shea with three hits each.

L-4 Standings thru Aug. 8

Executive Limousine 10-3
Denny's 9-3-1
Bertolucci's Body & Fender Auto Shop 7-2-3
Cottonwood Estates 4-8
East Lawn 3-8-1
C&C Plumbing 1-10-1

League 4 Leaders: Geoff Miller .897; Jarvis Quenga 53 RBI; Dick Reisinger 5 inside-park HR; Terry Urban 5 over-fence HR; Gary Brown 43 hits.

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(Leagues 2, 6 and 4 report from Scorekeeper Colette Barnes)

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NEXT DUGOUT CHATTER: SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER

There are only two more issues of the Dugout Chatter during 2012 as the September and October months are combined into one issue, as are the November and December months. Meantime, check the club website for news updates and photos. (www.gsscs.org) Unless you have opted not to receive the print edition via snail mail, you should be getting it in your mailbox during the months when the Golden Seniors does not have games. If you want to save the club postage and printing expense, call Henry Low at 391-3938.

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 or RON ROACH, 422-2500. #

SHORT HOPS & LONG BOUNCES

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

NO SMOKING AT COMPLEX. Player Agent Linda McCollum-Greene said the Complex has informed her that the no-smoking regulation will be enforced. Don Barney, who runs the Complex, said he will ask violators to leave.

COMPLEX PARKING LOT THEFT. Watch your vehicles! Bob Herrmann, a Thursday night player, wants to warn other night league participants that on July 26 he had a 7:30 game and left shortly after it was over. "During the game someone removed the catalytic converter from my vehicle." #

LEAGUE PLAYOFF SCHEDULES

The day leagues will play their league championship games at Howe Avenue Park on Saturday, Sept. 29, followed by the club's annual picnic and general meeting, where the newly elected Board of Directors will be sworn in to take over for the new fiscal year starting Oct. 1.

Night leagues will have their championship games at the Complex on the nights they regularly play: L-3 (Tuesday night) on Sept. 25; L-4 (Wednesday night) on Sept. 26; and L-5 (Thursday night) 7 p.m. on Sept. 20. Note: L-5 elected to end their season a week earlier so many of its players on traveling tournament teams could make the Medford tournament, and finish the GSSCS season before the national tourney in Las Vegas.

Playoff Schedules:

Day Leagues

L-1: Sept. 26 at Howe Park; 10:30 a.m. Sept. 29 at Howe Park.

L-2: On Sept. 18, at the Complex, L-2 playoffs begin with two games, third place vs. sixth place; fourth place vs. fifth. On Sept. 25, two games with the first seed playing the lowest remaining seed and the second seed playing the highest remaining seed. The winners play 9 a.m. Sept. 29 at Howe Avenue Park.

L-6: Playoffs begin Sept. 18, continue on Sept. 25, at the Complex and conclude at 10:30 Sept. 29 at Howe Avenue Park.

Night Leagues

L-3: Double elimination at the Complex -- Sept. 4, Sept. 11, Sept. 18 and Sept. 25.

L-4: Double elimination at the Complex -- Sept. 5, Sept. 12, Sept. 19 and Sept. 26.

L-5: Double elimination at the Complex -- Aug. 23, Aug. 30, Sept. 6 and Sept. 20.

--- PLAYERS: THE ABOVE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE. ALWAYS CONFIRM
PLAYOFF GAME TIMES AND DATES WITH YOUR MANAGER!!!

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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. #

CURRENT LIVING RECIPIENTS OF THE CLUB'S MAN OF YEAR OR AWARD OF MERIT

WINNER OR WINNERS OF THE 2012
AWARD WILL BE DISCLOSED AT THE SEPT.
29 CLUB PICNIC/GENERAL MEETING AT
HOWE PARK. PAST RECIPIENTS OF THE
HONOR FORM THE COMMITTEE TO
DETERMINE FUTURE AWARD HONOREES.
ABOUT HALF OF THEM VOTED ON THIS
YEAR'S NOMINATIONS.

1991 BILL TURNER
1993 KEN DUMONT
1993 JACK PRESSLEY
1994 RALPH CONGDON
1994 DARYL COOK
1995 DANTE CIARDELLA
1995 BILL SULLIVAN
1997 BENNY BENSON
1998 GEORGE HODSDON
1998 LOU COPPOLA
2000 ERNIE KIDWELL
2002 KEN WOLLENBERG
2003 JIM LORTZ
2004 FOSTER MAXWELL
2005 ED CAMPINI
2005 DOUG MCCREARY
2006 HENRY FONTES
2007 JAMES POWELL SR.
2007 SUSAN TUCKER
2008 DICK SEWARD
2009 DAVE VARGO
2010 BOB HAVRILLA
2011 HENRY LOW
2011 TOM SANSONE

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 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: Coordinator J.C. Terry
457-3393

Entertainment: Lou Coppola
444-6138

Dugout Chatter: Ron Roach,
editor 422-2500

(coachrwr@comcast.net)

Planning: Merritt Davis,
393-7160