

DUGOUT CHATTER

BIG JULY 9 GENERAL MEETING IS ON TAP

Don't miss the next GSSCS general meeting, July 9, when nominations are due for service on the club's Board of Directors. Year in and year out, this is the most important meeting, setting the stage for the August board election.

Interested in running for President, 1st Vice President, 2nd VP, Club Commissioner, Treasurer, Player Agent or Secretary? Contact a member of the current board, ask about the job's responsibilities, and go for it. Contact information for the board members is elsewhere in this newsletter.

President Bill Hill said all members of the current board are willing to advise and help a smooth transition should new members be elected.

At this writing, one officer, 1st VP Rocky Wilkerson, has said he is not running for another term. This position is responsible for maintaining and recruiting team sponsors. Second VP Bob Smartt has committed to running for another term to handle club equipment issues, including team jerseys and balls. At this writing, none of the other officers had made intentions known.

Hill said last summer that he intended 2018 to be his final year as president. He has served three years in this, his second stint as club president. However, he added that he would not leave the club in a leadership lurch. There also has been concern that so many board members have served multiple terms that the club would lack experienced leadership if they all were to decide it was time to step down.

CLUB PICNIC. Deanna Sesso, club secretary and picnic chairperson, said volunteers are needed for the club picnic Sept. 15. The annual season-ending picnic has been well-attended in recent years since it was moved back to the Sacramento Softball Complex. The picnic caps a morning of championship playoff games for night and day leagues. Specifically, Sesso said help is needed for the Player Check-in Table, the setting up of tables and chairs and taking them down at the end of the picnic. Contact her at 916 955-8195 if you can help.

IN THIS ISSUE: REST IN PEACE NORM CADY, CLUB'S OLDEST MEMBER, ED CAMPINI AND MARLENE WALL. MID-SEASON LEAGUE LEADERS. SUPPORT YOUR SPONSORS. REMEMBER WHEN? JUNE 2008 CLUB NEWS.

Besides the announcement of July 9 general meeting nominations for board positions, Sesso said it was decided at the May (SEE PAGE 2)

**NEXT
GENERAL
MEETING:
MONDAY, JULY
9, 2018, 7 P.M.
AT VFW HALL
ON STOCKTON
BLVD.**

BIG GENERAL MEETING AHEAD, FROM PAGE 1

meeting that a club email will be set up for the 2019 season. It is to be managed by one or two members who will direct queries to appropriate board members for responses. This is intended to cut down the numerous calls to one individual, specifically the club president.

PayPal is under consideration to allow members to pay fees online. An account will be set up and tested to ensure there are not additional fees imposed on the club or its members. Having PayPal will also increase the work of the player agent and treasurer. Hill said the board wants to avoid major additional expenses as it strives to hold the line on dues and league fees.

The club also needs a volunteer to create a new website for the club. The current site is outdated and not easily managed to keep information current. #

SUNSHINE & HEALTH

Rest in Peace: NORM CADY, ED CAMPINI, MARLENE WALL

Norm Cady passed away in April as the oldest living member of the Golden Seniors Softball Club. He turned 99 on March 30, and passed away on April 11. Norm, also an outstanding tournament player, was among the club's pioneer members, joining in 1981.

"His body just gave out," according to his son, Rick, a standout slow-pitch player who recalled he was in the first or second grade, growing up in Merced, when he'd wait for his dad to get off work so they could play catch and hit Wiffle balls.

He said his dad gave him his senior softball world championship ring, which he won in 1994, and "I wear it today." His earliest memories of his dad as a player included watching him play third base on a fast-pitch team.

Norm's survivors include his wife of more than 75 years, Barbara. The family moved to Carmichael in 1960, and Norm was 65 when he retired as a PacBell manager and began playing senior softball.

Rick, who turns 66 in July, keeps busy teaching his grand-daughter, Addie, 5, how to hit in T-ball. Grandson Jack is 2 1/2 and waiting in the wings.



Norm Cady with great-granddaughter Addie

Rick plays Wednesday nights in the Golden Seniors, where he is hitting .840 and pitches, Tuesday nights and Thursday nights in the South Placer league, and on two major-plus tournament teams. He also holds the highest GSSCS L4 batting average — .891 in 2015.

"I don't pay much attention to batting stats," he said. "I just play to win and to have fun." That, he said, is how his father wanted him to play ball. (See Page 3)

SUNSHINE AND HEALTH REPORT, FROM P. 2

In 1985, Norm was chairman of the club's Dinner-Dance Committee. In 1983, he received a Home Run Award from the city Recreation Department in at the nw Nicholas Park dedication game. #

Edgar "Ed" Campini, a recipient of the club's Award of Merit, also served on the board as second vice president and as club treasurer for three years in the 1990s. He passed away on April 8 at the age of 89.

The life member (26 years) played well into his 80s on Mondays and later at Carmichael Park on Thursdays, and is remembered by George Hodsdon as a "hard-hitting outfielder."

Ed was a native of Sacramento whose grandparents homesteaded in El Dorado County. After service in the Korean War, he was a member of the first graduating class of the School of Engineering at Sacramento State. He had a 40-year civil engineering career with A. Teacher & Son, Inc.

Marlene Wall, wife of club Treasurer Don Wall, passed away on May 2, with family by her side. She and Don were married 59 years. Marlene was 76. A celebration of her life was planned for Aug. 4, according to the May 13 obituary in the Sacramento Bee. #

MID-YEAR LEAGUE LEADERS: QUENGA SETS TRIPLE CROWN PACE IN L4; TIGHT TUESDAY MORNING RACES

Hotter than the summertime Sacramento weather, Jarvis Quenga posted a sizzling .900 batting average through June 13 play — 12 games — in Wednesday night's L4. He had 36 hits, 27 RBI, 5 homers (4 over the fence) in those games en route to a potential Triple Crown season.

According to scorekeepers, other leading batters in the night leagues: L5 Jeff Braskamp .860, just .003 ahead of Quenga. Seven players were hitting .800 or more in the Thursday night league in which Bill Hill's team was 11-1 with a .702 team batting average, outscoring opponents 212-127. L5 players had amassed 26 over-the-fence home runs.

L4 had just three players hitting over .800 and eight fence-clearing clouts. RDR Financial Services was in first place with a 9-2-1 mark. This league had eight homers over the fence.

Tuesday morning L2 and L6 featured close first-place battles. Sports Leisure and Photo Finish (aptly named?) were tied with 9-2 marks in L2, which was led by Ray Lucas (.813), the only player above .800. L6 was paced by Jerry Jodice, 8-3, one game better than EG Threads. Three batters, led by Joe Cors (.852) were above .800.

The latest L3 (Tuesday night) stats were for only eight games through May 21. Tri-C Machine was undefeated and Curtis Williams led batters (.848).

Monday morning (L7) stats were for only nine games with Jerry Horton batting .875 and Jolly Rogers, featuring three Nevis brothers — Bob, Jerry and Bill — leading the league at 7-2. Bill Nevis had three homers, one over the fence.

Monday morning (L1): Tanner & Associates and Nielsen Real Estate Appraisal were knotted at 5-2-1, with Jerry Horton's .857 atop the 70-and-over league. L1 stats supplied to the Dugout Chatter were through May 21.

No statistics are compiled for L8 and L9 on Tuesday mornings for players 75+ and 80+ respectively. *Information from Scorekeepers Colette Barnes, Dawn and Venus Gerlach.* #

SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS!!!

GOLDEN SENIORS SOFTBALL CLUB 2018 TEAM SPONSORS

L1 — ESPANOL ITALIAN FAMILY RESTAURANT, NIELSEN REAL ESTATE, TANNER & ASSOCIATES, WENELLI PIZZA.

L 2 — SPORTS LEISURE VACATIONS, PHOTO FINISH, YANCY CONSTRUCTION, VFW POST 67, AVALON HEARING, SAM'S HOF BRAU.

L3 — TRI C MACHINE, LA ROSA'S SPORTS CAFE, BILL HILL, GEREMIA POOLS, WURM & FRYE.

L4 — REINWALD'S HEALTH AND DENTAL INSURANCE, ELK GROVE LOCK & SAFE, RDR FINANCIAL SERVICES, TRI C MACHINE.

L5 — BILL HILL, RAMBIT (RAY MERRILL), JOHN BRENDLE CONSULTING, TRI C MACHINE, LARRY'S HANDY PLUMBING SERVICE, AUTOMATED ELECTRIC.

L6 — LIVINGSTON CONCRETE, JERRY JODICE, MARK WHITE DDS, EG THREADS, ESPANOL ITALIAN FAMILY RESTAURANT, GREATER SACRAMENTO SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION (GSSA).

L7 — HARPER PROPERTIES, JOLLY ROGERS, OVERHEAD DOOR CO. OF SACRAMENTO, BERTOLUCCI'S BODY AND FENDER SHOP.

L8 — L&S SURVEYS, R.H. NIELSEN REAL ESTATE/APPRaisal, BILLY BECK, MERRILL BOOKKEEPING.

L9 — AMERICAN MEDIQUIP, SHOWBIZ PRODUCTIONS, DIBO (TONY DIBERNARDO), GEORGE GROSS.

SHORT HOPS AND LONG BOUNCES

CODE OF ETHICS: Each member on player applications must sign a Code of Ethics in order to be accepted into the club. To wit:

As a member of the Golden Seniors Softball Club, I agree that I will conduct myself as a gentleman/lady at all times and that when participating in Club activities, I will:

1. Abide by the Rules and By-Laws of the Club as well as the decisions of Club Officials.
2. Accept the decisions of the umpires and my team manager.
3. Avoid bodily contact that may cause injury to myself or others.
4. Refrain from publicly degrading fellow Club members and umpires.
5. Never direct abusive or profane language at an official or fellow Club members.
6. Control the use of alcoholic beverages so as not to offend anyone or to cause adverse criticism of the Club.

RESPECT YOUR TEAMMATES' PROPERTY: It was brought to the attention of the Dugout Chatter that bats and other equipment should be handled with care. Bats, especially, are expensive and could be damaged if tossed or thrown carelessly, not to mention possibly giving someone a "shinburger."

WARM UP AND STRETCH. Try to arrive early enough to warm up. Not just tossing a ball, but by stretching those leg muscles. Google stretching exercises for softball players and see what's out there.

ALSO KEEP HYDRATED. Drink plenty of water.

REMEMBER WHEN? TEN YEARS AGO, FROM THE DUGOUT CHATTER ARCHIVES, JUNE AND JULY 2008

TOP HITTERS THROUGH GAMES OF MID-MAY, 2008: BILL CHRISTIAN (.852), FOLLOWED BY MONTA LITLE, JACK KOCUNIK, MONTE MILLER, BOB FLINK, BOB DEL CHIARO, DAVE VARGO AND RICH EDWARDS.

THE THEN-OLDEST MEMBER OF THE CLUB, "UNCLE" VITO VIRGA, PASSED AWAY AT THE AGE OF 105. HE PLAYED UNTIL HE WAS 92 AND, IN 2006, A WELL-WORN FIELDERS' GLOVE WAS KEPT IN THE TRUNK OF HIS CAR. "JUST IN CASE," HE SAID. HE ALSO WAS THE OLDEST LICENSED DRIVER IN THE STATE WHEN HIS LICENSE EXPIRED ON HIS APRIL BIRTHDAY, ABOUT A MONTH BEFORE HIS DEATH.

JOE KLINE, MANAGER OF THE TEAM CALLED "I FORGOT" IN LEAGUE ONE, SAID "JACKRABBIT" JOE SUGIMOTO WAS HIS FASTEST PLAYER AND, ALONG WITH "BIG STICKS" JOE SMITH, DON WINTER AND ALAN AUWAE, LED THE TEAM TO ITS 18-11 VICTORY OVER L&S SURVEY FOR THE FIRST-THIRD LEAGUE TITLE ON MAY 12. AT THAT TIME, I FORGOT WAS THE ONLY TEAM IN THE CLUB'S NIGHT OR DAY LEAGUES WITHOUT A LOSS OR TIE, THROUGH SEVEN GAMES. BUT, ON JUNE 2, A BANNED BATS CONTROVERSY RESULTED IN FORGOT'S FIRST LOSS, A FORFEIT. ON JUNE 9, THE CLUB BOARD VOTED 3-2 TO UPHOLD THE FORFEIT RULING BY CLUB COMMISSIONER FREDDIE MILLER. TWO PLAYERS WERE SUSPENDED ONE GAME FOR USING THE MIKEN FREAK BAT. #

2018 LEAGUE COMMISSIONERS

Appointed by Club Commissioner Bob Ellison, the following league commissioners have been approved for 2018: L1 — Guy Anderson 916-858-1646; L2 — Bob Smartt 916-973-8269; L3 — Deanna Sesso 916-955-8195; L4 — Dick Reisinger; L5 — Bob Ellison 916-212-7498; L6 — Ken Taylor 916-217-3654; L7 — Dave Vargo 916-205-1982 ; L8 Cloicec Wade 916-393-5809; L9 — Jerry Nevis 916- 201-2939.

CLUB CONTACTS: BOARD OF DIRECTORS -- 2018 -- President: Bill Hill ... 916-804-2243. First Vice President: Rocky Wilkerson .. 916-595-2941 (Responsible for team sponsorships.) Second Vice President: Bob Smartt ... 916-973-8269 (Responsible for team uniforms, balls.) Treasurer: Don Wall ... 916-434-8308 Secretary: Deanna Sesso ... 916-955-8195 Player Agent: Dave Tanner ... 916-216-1941 (Responsible for player applications, player substitutes, waiting lists.) Club Commissioner: Bob Ellison ... 916-212-7498 (Responsible for enforcement of league rules, appoints and oversees league commissioners.)

TELEPHONE HOTLINE Club Answering Machine (managed by Deanna Sesso): 916-491-1721 for meeting news and field conditions. For phone or address changes, and renewal applications, contact Player Agent Dave Tanner at 916-216-1941. Applications are online at WWW.GSSCS.ORG. Sunshine & Health: Trudy Smartt 916-973-8269; Rules: Bob Ellison 916-212-7498; GSSC #3912 Blood Bank: 456-1500; Safety: Glenn Cummings 916-276-9530; Dugout Chatter: Ron Roach, editor 916-422-2500. #