



MAY 2008

DUGOUT CHATTER

On the Internet: www.GSSCS.org ... GSSC Answering Machine: 491-1721

PERFECTOS AT THE PLATE; LEAGUE ONE SHOWDOWN

Golf Tourney: Winner for Players and Club

A field of 80 Golden Seniors Softball Club members and guests enjoyed perfect weather, a great venue at Lincoln Hills and camaraderie at the GSSC golf tournament on May 2. Based on reaction from those participating, there was high interest in making this an annual event, both as a fundraiser to help relieve pressures to increase GSSC membership fees and as a social outing with spouses and guests.

Bill Hooper, Roger Siler, Don Sager and Donn Pintar comprised the winning foursome at 13-under-par 59. They were three strokes better than Bernie Church, Larry Baur, Bob Tafolya and Rod Hollander. Finishing at 63 were Floyd Ransom, Jimmy Oliver, Nate Gauff and Michael Glazier. The fourth-place group at 64: Bill Knoblauch, Al Raydon, Lynda Toenyas and Jerry Toenyas. The foursome of Ralph Burgess, Wayne Emery, Ron Eastwood and Duane Stewart was fifth, also with a 64, but one-shot higher on the back nine.

Lynda Toenyas won the long drive contest for women. George Hodsdon was the winner of the (See Page 3)

GENERAL MEETING:

7:30 P.M. MONDAY,
JULY 7 — VFW HALL,
2764 STOCKTON BLVD.

(No June Meeting)

Injuries and Illnesses Open Roster Spots; Urgent Need to Recruit New Players

May 5 General Meeting Notes...

More Players Needed. Player Agent Tom Sansone urged members to continue recruiting ballplayers for the 2008 season as waiting lists have been or are going to be exhausted as injuries and illnesses take their toll. At this time, only League 5 had a waiting list of players, he said.

"Guys have been dropping like flies," Sansone said, adding that they have been "overextending themselves and getting hurt." Waiting list sign-ups can be "playing practically right away," he added.

George Hodsdon, L1 assistant commissioner, said there have been discussions of methods to deal with a player shortage as teams lose players, including the use of 11 players on the field.

Sansone also reported that of 88 multi-league players, eight still owed dues for participating in their second or third leagues. The total of outstanding dues: \$650. The board of directors authorized Sansone to notify those owing dues that they must pay by June 1 or be subject to suspensions.

Club Picnic. Fried chicken will be included at the 2008 GSSC picnic on Sept. 20 at the Complex, announced Dante Ciardella, co-chair of the annual event with Benny Benson. Dante said he is recruiting volunteers to work the picnic. Want to help? Call Dante at 453-1921.

(See Page 2)

Highlights from recent play: **Perfect at the Plate.** In **League 3** (Tuesday night), perfect 4-for-4 games at bat were turned in by Bob Riola, Dan Severson and Hap Duffney of Jolly Rogers, 19-10 winner over Remax on April 29. Tom Sansone was perfect in four at-bats for Remax. Steve Schuler of the Old Hornets went 4x4 in a 14-9 victory over Sammy's, including a triple and an inside-the-park homer. Citrus Heights' Rich Walker and Dave Vargo were 4x4 in a 19-17 loss to Maita Chevrolet, paced by two Bruce Gilmore triples.

On May 1 (**League 5**), Allen Riker was 4x4 for California Energy Services, 12-10 winner over the Norcal Jackets. Russ Carlson was a perfect 3x3 for Senior Magazine, 10-9 winner over Avalon Hearing Center, despite a triple and homer by Monte Miller.

In **League 6** on Tuesday, April 29, Henry Low's triple paced American River Apparel to a 13-12 win over GSSA.

I Forgot and L&S Survey in Early Showdown. The seventh and final week of League 1's first segment features a showdown between 6-0 I Forgot and 5-1 L&S Survey. They square off on May 12. The match also pits I Forgot, by far the league's highest scoring team at nearly 19 runs a game, versus the team with arguably the best pitching and glove work. L&S Survey is allowing about 7.7 runs per game.

(See Page 2)

Highlights: Hot Bats and Early L1 Showdown (Cont'd from Page 1)

League 1 standings through May 5:

1. I Forgot 6-0 – 113 runs for; 54 runs against.
2. L&S Survey 5-1 – 55-46.
3. Mimi's Café 4-2 – 64-48.
4. Merrill Bookkeeping & Tax Service 3-3 – 56-49.
5. Dumont Pest Control 2-4 – 43-66.
6. Daugherty Chevrolet 2-4 – 45-67.
7. Wions Body Shop 1-5 – 60-81.
8. Teichert Construction 1-5 – 37-62.

(Note: Dumont is listed in fifth place based on head-to-head play against Daugherty.)

League 2 standings through May 6:

1. Zorrace Inc. 5-1 -- 76-53.
2. Sports Leisure Vacation 4-2 – 70-73.
3. Harper Properties 3-3 – 74-81.
3. ASAP Signing Services 3-3 – 60-60.
5. Rich Will, Attorney 3-3 – 64-61.
6. VFW Post 67 2-4 – 48-57.
6. Rambit Inc. 2-4 – 80-76.
6. Livingston's Concrete 2-4 – 55-69.

Through April 29, League 2's in-the-park HR leader, with 2, was Bob Flink of ASAP Signing Services. He also had 11 runs batted in.

League 3 standings (through May 6):

1. Old Hornets 5-1
2. Maita Chevrolet 4-2
2. Jolly Rogers 4-2
4. Citrus Heights 3-3

5. Sammy's Family Restaurant 2-4
6. Remax 0-6

League 4 standings (through May 7):

1. Lehr Auto Electric 4-0-2
2. CA Energy Services #1 4-2
3. Bradshaw Ranch 3-1-2
4. C&C Plumbing Inc. 3-2-1
5. East Lawn 1-4-1
6. Bertolucci's Auto Body 0-6

On April 30, Ed Frantz of C&C Plumbing hit a grand-slam inside-the-park homer, his second HR of the season. He had 20 RBI through five games. Monte Miller of CA Energy Services had three homers to lead the league, two of them over the fence. He had 20 RBI. Four others with two inside-the-park homers in League 4: Emilio Lobato, Fred Mathis, Demontro Davis and Hal Johnson.

Glovework: League 6 Left-centerfielder Don Nicholas of American River Apparel made two spectacular diving catches against Mark White DDS on April 15. #

REMINDER: ONLY MANAGERS ARE ALLOWED TO TALK TO UMPIRES ABOUT THEIR CALLS

Club Commissioner Freddie Miller has reminded managers to explain to players that questions of umpires must be communicated through managers. That is a reason managers are given white hats.

The Board of Directors on May 5 confirmed the one-game suspension of a player that is an automatic consequence under league bylaws for engaging in actions that result in an ejection from a game. #

May 5 Meeting News & Notes (Cont'd from Page 1)

Club Officer Elections. John Mizerak was reappointed by President Norton to chair the nominating committee for club officers for the 2008-09 year. Norton said each league should be represented on the committee to nominate officers at the July general meeting. The election of officers will be held at the August general meeting. The new Board of Directors will be sworn in at the club's September 20 meeting held in conjunction with the annual picnic. Mizerak can be reached at 332-5511.

"Person" of the Year. Dante Ciardella said Bill Turner has "stepped down" as chairman of the committee that selects the club's "Persons of the Year." It used to be "Man of the Year," but now is a unisex honor with last year's selection of Susan Tucker as the first woman recipient of the award. Ciardella said that somehow he raised his hand and was selected to succeed Turner as committee chair.

Entertainment Book. Entertainment Chair Lou Coppola said he can sell 2008 Entertainment Books (good through October 31) for \$15, with the club getting \$5 from each book. They sold for \$40 last fall. Want a book? Call Lou: 444-6138.

Dugout Chatter. Editor Ron Roach said the distribution strategy for the Dugout Chatter, to save on postage and also get news to members more efficiently via the club Internet site (www.gsscs.org), seems to be working. Members who lack computer access have been encouraged to pick up a hard copy of the DC at their games.

Lou Coppola distributes the DC at League 1 games; scorekeepers should have copies available at other league games. All non-playing life members should automatically be receiving the DC by mail, unless they request otherwise. Sponsors and the auxiliary mailing list, including widows of GSSC players, are also receiving the DC by mail unless they request to be notified when a new issue is available online. #

Golf Tourney is Successful

(From Page 1) most accurate drive contest, with his ball coming to rest touching the line down the middle of a fairway. Mrs. Toenyes (clearly a ringer) also was closest to the pin (three feet) on the seventh green. Keith Felte (8 feet, 9 inches) was closest on No. 5; Larry Baur (11 feet) won the contest on No. 16, and Mike Jordan (9 feet, 11 inches) triumphed on No. 12.

For some of the guests, the tournament represented an introduction to the GSSC and could result in additional softball signups in the future. The scramble format tournament on the Lincoln Hills Golf Course (Hills Course) was chaired by Bill "Knobby" Knoblauch. He was assisted by Dan Norton, Ron Roach and Jerry Toenyes. Sandy Begg staffed the registration table and took photos.

The GSSC wishes to thank donors of raffle prizes, including El Macero Country Club, which donated golf for four, won by Bill Hooper as the raffle's grand prize. (Thanks to Mike Jordan for arranging this prize.) Lincoln Hills donated four rounds of golf (thanks to Bill Knoblauch for arranging). Donations also featured bottles of wine and complimentary tastings (arranged by A.J. Petruzzi) from Vino Con Brio; a one-hour massage from Body Spirit Therapy (arranged by Sherrill Morton); a Nike putter (Dan Norton), and golf balls (Henry Low).

Besides Hooper, raffle winners were Bob Reinwald, Roger Siler, Bernie Church, Ron Eastwood, Steve Casarez, Larry Baur, Alex Ybarra, John Burns, LeAnn Lobaugh, Chester Cleveland and Brian Lear.

Norton reported at the May 5 General Meeting that, subject to final approval by the next Board of Directors, the club will explore reserving a Lincoln Hills course date for another tournament next spring. Without hole sponsorships, which will be pursued for the next tournament, this year's tournament netted \$500-\$600 for the club treasury. The \$75 entry fees were considered both affordable and enticing for such a

I-5 Freeway Work Begins Late in May

GSSC members are reminded that closures of northbound I-5 will require those traveling from the south area of the city to consider extra travel time to the complex or alternate routes. Early night league and Monday-Tuesday day games may be most impacted. Some have asked whether starting times can be moved back. Stay tuned. #

Norm Blackwell Sr. is Honored

Congratulations to GSSC Life Member Norman Blackwell Sr., recognized by the Observer newspaper as a Medallion of Honor Recipient. In the publication's recent 45th anniversary edition, 50 leaders in the Black Community were honored. The "dedicated Little League coach and manager" was included in the sports section along with Dusty Baker and Ruthie Bolton.

Blackwell, who turned down a contract offer to play in the St. Louis Cardinals organization, took a civilian position at McClellan Air Force Base. He began coaching Little League in Oak Park in 1968 and remains an active member of the league's board.

Norman explained to the Observer that he chose to pursue sports and teach baseball because he grew up playing sports and taught them to his children. "I decided to help the youth in the Oak Park community because in my younger days I was from a low-income single family. We had very little money. In the 1940s playing sports didn't cost anything and sports kept me from getting into trouble." On passing his love of baseball to youth in the community: "Since I had four boys that were interested in sports, I said to myself, 'I better get involved.' I was involved in managing and coaching Little League Baseball for 20 years. We have had at least seven to 10 players go on to professional baseball that were in our Little League at one time. I also played high school and college baseball, including semi-pro baseball. I am 74 years old and still playing and managing senior softball." One of Norm's sons, Norman Jr., is a standout shortstop in League 3. Norm Sr. plays in League 1. #

HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAYS: Celebrating May birthdays are these Golden Seniors: Andy Nisbet (5/1); Ron Roach, Harold Seifer (2); Mark Noel (3); Dan McGrath (4); Ernie Spencer, Hiram Witt (5); Joseph J. Mucciaccio (6); Donald Toyama (7); John Mohamed, Wil Nishina (8); Leon Williams (10); Kenneth Styc (13); Jerry Horton (14); Jim Stokes (15); Bryant Dessem, Donald Mockler (17); Bud DeSouza (18); John Ross (20); Norman Blackwell Jr. (21); Douglas B.C. Lopez, Joe Moreno (22); LeRoy Gallardo, Bill Gentry, Gerald Hall, Darrel McRorie, Richard Walker, Curtis Williams (23); Allan Van Horn (24); Jerry Foos, Eugene Malone, Manny Panarra (25); Larry Campbell (28); Thomas Coe, Paul Lucky (29); Bob Jones, Fernando Navarro, Wayne Vickery (30). #

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Golden Seniors Softball Club
Daniel Norton, President
1111 Cottonridge Circle
Sacramento, CA 95828

BOARD OF DIRECTORS — 2007-08

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| President | Daniel Norton | 689-4505 |
| 1st Vice President | Dave Vargo | 689-7061 |
| 2nd Vice President | Pete Ward | 989-4722 |
| Treasurer | Glen Cole | 966-4561 |
| Secretary | Mickey Schleicher | 239-9230 |
| Player Agent | Tom Sansone | 686-1654 |
| Commissioner | Freddie Miller | 372-6864 |

SUNSHINE & HEALTH REPORT

An irregular heartbeat sidelined **Jim Wait**, L2 and L6 shortstop who is continuing to manage a L2 team while undergoing treatment. **Dave Avery**, L4-5 player, has been diagnosed with multiple rotator cuff tears and may be out for the season. L1 has endured numerous active roster changes through April, some of which have been reported in this space. They include **Ernie Wise** (heart and other problems), **Clyde Whitaker** (bad back), **Bill Riehl** (broken wrist), **Daryl Cook**, **Marino Del Chiaro** (bad back), **Jerry Moody** (bad back), **Jim McNamara**, (broken collar bone), **Jack Slaven** (shoulder), **Librado Martinez** (foot problems) **Jim Jackson** (needs surgery), **Bob Pugmire** (deceased), **Jerry Jodice** (surgery), **Art Granum**, coach for Mimi's Café, moved to assisted living, **Harold Seufert**, moved into assisted living. L3-4-6 player **Frank Newcross** returned home May 3 from 12 days in the hospital for surgery to remove the head of his pancreas, which contained a tumor that was a threat to become cancerous. He said he hopes to learn in July whether he can resume playing this season. #

TELEPHONE "HOTLINES"

Sunshine & Health
973-8269

Phone/Address Changes
391-3938

New Player Applications
686-1654

GSSC #3912
Blood Bank
456-1500

Dugout Chatter
Ron Roach, editor
422-2500

Club Answering Machine, managed by Don Shank, for Field Conditions and Meeting News:
491-1721

READ THE
DUGOUT CHATTER
ONLINE AT
WWW.GSSCS.ORG