

# DUGOUT CHATTER

## ELECTRONIC EDITION

On the Internet: [www.gsscs.org](http://www.gsscs.org) GSSC Hotline for Field Conditions: 491-1721

### ***RAINS PLAGUE OPENING MONTH OF 2010 SEASON***

Frustrating senior softballers, April showers played havoc with the early season schedule for the Golden Seniors Softball Club of Sacramento. For Tuesday leagues, particularly, rain or wet grounds canceled three consecutive weeks of play for the first time in memory of some old-timers. The Monday league also was unable to play some games, but had a number of games in the books due to beginning regular season play in March in lieu of practice games. Wednesday and Thursday night leagues had better weather. (See P. 4)

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### ***NOMINATIONS FOR CLUB OFFICERS DUE IN JULY***

Want to serve on the club's Board of Directors? Club President Ray Mendonsa, who is in his second and, he says, final term in the office, is calling on members interested in service to the club to contact him at (916) 686-3894. Nominations are made at the club's July meeting. The election is at the August meeting, and the new board will be sworn in at the September meeting. The club operates on a fiscal year beginning Oct. 1.

The six other club board offices:

**Club First Vice President.** This officer is responsible for recruiting and maintaining team sponsors. (Incumbent Fred Fischer has said he is not seeking re-election.)

**Club Second Vice President.** This officer is in charge of team uniform shirts and hats.

**Club Commissioner.** This officer is responsible for enforcement of league rules, dealing with issues that rise above enforcement by individual league commissioners.

**Club Player Agent.** This officer is responsible for production and circulation of player applications, waiting lists and collection of member dues.

**Club Treasurer.** This officer maintains the club's budget and makes sure the bills are paid.

**Club Secretary.** This officer maintains the minutes of club meetings.

The president, with board approval, creates committees to deal with various issues. For example, club rule changes are considered by a committee with broad representation from leagues. There also is a committee responsible for club planning, which considers proposals to add leagues, change venues, etc., while fielding members' suggestions and making recommendations to the Board of Directors. #



LEAGUE 3 (TUESDAY NIGHT)  
GAME ACTION: Lyn Brown loads up for a big swing as her Geremia Pools teammates watch. Maita's Ralph Catlin really stays down on the ball and makes an acrobatic on-his-back throw to shortstop Eugene Lipscomb. PHOTOS BY JOHN THOMAS. (Note: Sheldon Morgan is the unidentified player in the April Dugout Chatter photo.)



**2010 LEAGUE COMMISSIONERS.** L1 -- Jim McNamara 424-1402; L2 -- Curtis Holcomb 600-6065; L3 -- Jerry Toenyas 354-4126; L4 -- Bill Greene 391-5559; L5 -- Monta Litle 606-4776; L6 -- Rich Edwards 483-12903; L7 -- Larry Campbell 485-4843. Assistant Commissioners: L1 -- George Hodsdon 481-9304; L2 -- Jim Wait 455-4440; L3 -- Brent Korff 359-6872. #

**GO GREEN! READ THE CHATTER ONLINE!  
IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY TAKEN YOUR NAME OFF THE MAILING LIST, DO SO NOW TO SAVE PAPER AND POSTAGE. CONTACT RON ROACH AT 422-2500. Read the Chatter on line ([www.gsscs.org](http://www.gsscs.org)) for expanded coverage with photos.**

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## MONDAY MORNING NEWS

*From George Hodsdon:*

Monday League 1 plays three rounds, with the winner of each round plus the team with the most wins without winning a round getting into the playoffs.

With two games to go in Round One, four teams had only one loss going into the May 3 games. Team 2, Jerry Jodice's American Medequip, lost, leaving a three-way tie for first among Team 9, George Langan's Nielsen Real Estate, Team 5, George Hodsdon's Merrill Bookkeeping, and Team 8, Dick Horkey's Dumont Pest Congrol. HOWEVER, Dumont had beaten both Merrill and Nielsen in head-to-head competition, so they won the first round.

Henry Low, pitching in a May 3 game, allowed two runs. However, he hit two home runs during the game. He figures he broke even.

George Langan had a six-way bypass, went home and then back to the hospital with a blood clot ... and then back home again. He is doing very well and was out to the field on May 3. He plans to resume managing in two weeks. Great recovery, George, and welcome back.

During the draft, we had four players recuperating from surgeries. Bob Havrilla returned on May 3 and pitched. Bob Silvis is a full-time coach with Merrill. He, Frank "Mugs" McNamara and Ray "Razor" Gallagher hope to be back in another six weeks.

Since the season started, we have several new players: Vick Vickland, 77, took Bobby Dippel's place on Ray Ward's Wions Body Shop; Charles Burns, 73, took Lee Elam's place on Bob Schwan's Avalon Hearing; Robert McBee, 71, is still waiting assignment pending recovery from health

problems, and Ray "Pappy" Aldana is temporarily replacing Ted Hansen on Nielsen Real Estate. #

## SUNSHINE & HEALTH

Life Member **Jack Gruber**, 82, passed away due to an aneurysm on April 14. Jack joined the Golden Seniors 27 years ago, in 1983. He was retired from the City of Sacramento, where he worked for the maintenance department. Jack pitched for Dick Horkey's Dumont Pest Control in L1, which was 3-0 before two rainouts. He was an outstanding pitcher and teammate. #

**GSSCS SAFETY PROCLAMATION:  
ALL UMPIRES AND MANAGERS  
MUST ENFORCE THE GSSCS  
SAFETY RULE THAT NO GAME MAY  
START WITHOUT THE SAFETY CART  
IN PLACE BY THE FIELD BEFORE  
EACH SOFTBALL GAME IS PLAYED!  
NOTE: THE CLUB MAY BE LIABLE IF  
THIS SAFETY RULE IS NOT  
IMPLEMENTED. -- JERRY JODICE,  
SAFETY CHAIRMAN. #**

## **GSSC GENERAL MEETINGS SCHEDULE**

**JULY 12 -- 7:30 P.M. VFW HALL,  
2784 STOCKTON BLVD.**

**OTHER GENERAL MEETINGS ARE  
AUG. 9 AND IN SEPTEMBER. THE  
SEPTEMBER MEETING IS HELD IN  
CONJUNCTION WITH THE  
ANNUAL PICNIC & PLAYOFFS  
SATURDAY.**

## **RAIN PLAGUES APRIL SCHEDULE (From Page 1)**

Also impacting scheduling are high school games at the Complex during the week of May 25, cutting out an opportunity for make-up games. The club planned to schedule games during the first week of June when some teams will be missing key players due to the annual Reno tournament.

Meeting May 3, the club's board decided it would not be feasible to play makeup games away from the Complex because the club's insurance is specific to regularly scheduled sites. Obtaining "event" insurance would be expensive and difficult to manage, the board determined. Several thousand dollars in field fees will revert to the club's treasury and, for now, beef up a razor-thin surplus fund, the board said. Cost savings will be applied to the club general fund to cover any unexpected expenses or be carried over to the 2011 season.

**Memorial Donation.** George H Wehmeyer has donated \$150 to the club in honor of late members Jack Gruber, Rick Mower and Joe Mucciaccio.

**Scorekeeper Kudos.** Scorekeeper Sandy Begg was appreciative of work by Linda McCollum who stepped up to cover games during Sandy's recent illness. Ms. Begg was back at the scorer's table for games of May 4.

**Waiting List.** Player Agent Tom Sansone reported that there were two or three players on the L3 waiting list, but waiting lists for other leagues have been exhausted. #

## **2010 GSSCS SAFETY COORDINATORS**

*From Jerry Jodice, safety chairman*

Billy Beck, Glen Cummings, George Hodsdon, Curtis Holcomb, Trudy Smartt, and Joe Sugimoto have contributed magnanimously to the enhancement of replenishing, organizing, and discarding old first aid supplies in our Day and Night League Safety Carts. As a result of their good work and the efforts of others, the following appointments were made:

- League 1 COORDINATOR: Joe Sugimoto 359-4111
- League 2 COORDINATOR: Curtis Holcomb 600-6065
- League 3 COORDINATOR: Trudy Smartt 973-8259
- League 4 COORDINATOR: Bob Smartt 973-8259
- League 5 COORDINATOR: Glen Cummings (W) 791-9299, (Cell) 276-9538

NOTE: I have requested additional advocates to serve as Assistant Coordinators for their respective leagues: L-1: Billy Beck, Casper Greif, George Hodsdon, and Jerry Moody. L-3: Ron Roach.

Safety COORDINATORS may enlist any Golden Senior in their league as an Assistant Coordinator to help them during the softball season! Players may report to any Safety Coordinators and Assistant Coordinators regarding Safety concerns and improvements needed. George Hodsdon saw the need for instant cold packs this year, so he bought and donated 16 packs to the club.

The Safety Chairman and Coordinators will meet during the first two weeks in September on a date acceptable to all to discuss improvements necessary for our 2011 Safety Program. #

## LEAGUES 3-5-6 HIGHLIGHTS

*From Sandy Begg, scorekeeper:*

**Doubles Galore:** Emilio Lobato hammered five doubles during the first two weeks of League 5 (Thursday night) action for NorCal Jackets, including three two-baggers in Week 2.

Noel Maldonado homered and tripled in the season-opening 13-12 victory for California Energy Services #2 over Espanol Restaurant. Other L5 homers in the first two weeks of the season were off the bats of Bill McMahon, Gary Holmes, John Fields and Dane Burrell.

In Tuesday League 6, Dave Bristol of Compass Strategies had a triple, as did Howard Toder and Jesse Vasquez, both of Uptown Care, in their opening game. L6 didn't play again until the first week of May. L3 (Tuesday night) also had only one night inn April without rain or wet grounds, and triple hitters were Rich Walker of Maita, Dan McGrath of the Old Hornets and Al Raydon of ReMax. #

### **Dugout Chatter -- Electronic Edition.**

So far, more than 30 members have asked to be taken off the mailing list for the printed Dugout Chatter, preferring to read it online and save the club the expense of mailing the newsletter. Postage totals \$4.40 a year per member when all 10 issues are delivered by the post office. To take your name off the mailing list, contact Dugout Chatter editor Ron Roach at 422-2500. #

### **Congrats to Cordia and John Wade:**

The April issue of Inside Arden has a nice picture of Cordia and John Wade with the following caption: Cordia and John Wade celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary and her birthday on an Alaska cruise. John is a life GSSC member who plays on Tuesdays.

## LEAGUES 2-4-7 HIGHLIGHTS

*From Russ Barnes, pinch-hitting for Mrs. Barnes (Get well, Colette)*

**L-2 Tuesday Day thru May 4:** Jolly Rogers (3-0) leads the league with Harper Properties second at 2-1. Sports Leisure Vacations, VFW Post 67 and Richard C. Will, Attorney, are all 1-2. May 4 results: Harper beat VFW, 8-3; Richard C. Will beat Sports Leisure 12-6, and Jolly Rogers beat Rambit Inc. 14-10.

**Player of the Week May 4:** Dave Bristol of Jolly Rogers was 5 for 5, 5 RBI, including a grand slam home run in the third inning of eight-inning win over Rambit.

**L-7 Select 70 Tuesday Morning thru May 4:** Auburn Oaks Senior Living (3-0), followed by Better Softball Bats & Equipment (2-1). Denny's Grand Slams were 1-2 and Arnold Properties, 0-3. May 4 games: Denny's beat Arnold 14-5, Auburn Oaks edged Better Softball 9-8.

**Player of the Week May 4:** Tony DiBernardo of Better Bats and Equip was 4 for 4 with 2 RBI and 2 runs scored.

**L-4 Wednesday Night thru May 5:** CA Energy Service #1 (3-1-1) was in first place, just ahead of 3-2 East Lawn Inc. and Bertolucci's Auto Body & Fender. Teichert Construction was 2-2-1, followed by Cottonwood Estates (2-3) and C & C Plumbing Bldg Supply (1-4). May 5 results: East Lawn 8, Teichert 7; C&C 19, CA Energy 8; Bertolucci's 24, Cottonwood 17.

**Player of the Week May 5:** Don Jackson of Bertolucci's was 5 for 5, including a double and park home run. He drove in six runs and scored two. #

**WANTED: MEMBER OR MEMBERS SKILLED IN WEB SITE MANAGEMENT AND DESIGN TO ASSIST WITH THE CLUB'S WEB SITE. CONTACT RON ROACH, 422-2500 OR [COACHRWR@COMCAST.NET](mailto:COACHRWR@COMCAST.NET)**

**GO ONLINE TO SEE MORE NEWS AND PHOTOS; CURRENT AND PAST DUGOUT CHATTERS:**

**[WWW.GSSCS.ORG](http://WWW.GSSCS.ORG)**

**WET OR RAINY? CHECK THE CLUB'S HOTLINE TO CONFIRM THAT FIELD CONDITIONS WILL ALLOW PLAY. THE NUMBER IS 491-1721**

**PAID SPONSORS FOR 2010**

AMERICAN MEDEQUIP  
ARNOLD PROPERTIES  
AUBURN OAKS SENIOR LIVING  
AVALON HEARING AID CENTERS  
BERTOLUCCI'S BODY & FENDER  
C&C PLUMBING  
CALIFORNIA ENERGY SERVICES #1  
CALIFORNIA ENERGY SERVICES #2  
COMPASS STRATEGIES  
COTTONWOOD ESTATES  
DENNY'S GRAND SLAM  
DUMONT PEST CONTROL  
EAST LAWN INC.  
ESPANOL RESTAURANT  
GEREMIA POOLS  
GREATER SACRAMENTO  
SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION  
HARPER PROPERTIES  
I FORGOT  
JOLLY ROGERS

L&S SURVEYS  
MERRILL BOOKKEEPING & TAX SERVICE  
MILLER'S MUNCHIES  
NIELSEN'S REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL  
NOR-CAL JACKETS  
OLD HORNETS  
OVERHEAD DOOR COMPANY OF SACRAMENTO  
RAMBIT (RAY MERRILL)  
REMAX  
SILVER CATS  
BOB & TRUDY SMARTT (MAITA)  
SPORTS LEISURE VACATIONS  
TEICHERT CONSTRUCTION  
UPTOWN CAFE  
RICHARD WILL, ATTORNEY  
VFW POST 67  
MARK WHITE, DDS  
WION'S BODY SHOP

## LETTER TO EDITOR

### Use Established Procedures to Effect Rule Changes

Dear Editor,

In my capacity as Wednesday Night League 4 manager, I protested the opening game on March 31 because the umpire informed me that his announcement of a rule change prohibiting tagging advancing runners had NOT been approved by the club rules committee and the board, and NO required written notice was made to the League Commissioner or managers, yet it was being implemented anyway.

The April Dugout Chatter article indicated the board made an "about face," which implies that the board had at some point approved the rule change. I have learned that the board NEVER approved the change.

I urge all members to stand up and protest improper playing rule changes. I urge all club officials to research By-Laws, standing and playing rules BEFORE implementing changes.

-- *Dave Vargo, Planning Committee Member and L4 Manager.*

## WOOD BAT LEAGUE

**Interested in a Monday night league using only wood bats at the Sacto Softball Complex? Contact Ray Mendonsa at 686-3894 for details. #**

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS -- 2009-2010

President **Ray Mendonsa** ... 686-3894

First Vice President **Fred Fischer** ... 685-5044  
(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 **Tom Sansone** ... 686-1654  
(Responsible for player applications, player substitutes, waiting lists.)

Club Commissioner **Bob Smartt** ... 973-8269  
(Responsible for league rules, oversees all league commissioners.)

**NEXT GSSC GENERAL MEETING: 7:30 P.M.  
JULY 12 AT VFW HALL ON STOCKTON BLVD.**

### 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:** Tom  
Sansone 686-1654

**Sunshine & Health:** Trudy  
Smartt 973-8269

**GSSC #3912 Blood Bank:**  
456-1500

**Safety:** Jerry Jodice  
349-8949

**Entertainment:** Lou Coppola  
444-6138

**Dugout Chatter:** Ron  
Roach, editor 422-2500  
([coachrwr@comcast.net](mailto:coachrwr@comcast.net))

**Planning:** Dave Vargo, contact,  
[dvargo@frontiernet.net](mailto:dvargo@frontiernet.net) 689-7061