

DUGOUT CHATTER

ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF THE GOLDEN SENIORS SOFTBALL CLUB OF SACRAMENTO (WWW.GSSCS.ORG) -- SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2013

LEAGUE CHAMPS ARE CROWNED

Congratulations to the club's six league championship teams for 2013: Nielsen Real Estate, Sports Leisure Vacations, Klumpp Funeral Home, Bertolucci's Auto Body and Fender, Espanol Italian Restaurant and Sam's Hof Brau. Details:

League 1. With a five-run first inning, Nielsen Real Estate went on to defeat Arnold Properties, 11-4. Sponsor and pitcher Bob Nielsen began the game with five shut-out innings. Dave Tanner's bases-loaded triple in the top of the seventh put the game out of reach. Tom Arnold's team, managed by Ernie Shaffer, had scored four times in the bottom of the sixth to make it a 7-4 game. The Nielsen team, managed by Norm Blackwell Sr., collected 18 hits and turned three double plays, which proved to be an awesome blend of pitching, defense and offense. "Four championships in five years," said Blackwell, adding that he and Nielsen go back to fast-pitch softball and Bob may have the longest tenure as a team sponsor.

League 2. Sports Leisure Vacations, managed by John Colletto, defeated the Tom Sansone-led Avalon Hearing Centers 19-13 for the L-2 championship, played at Howe Park on Sept. 7. Big hitters for Sports Leisure were Rich Edwards and Howard Toder, both 4-for-4 and 4 RBI. Ken Taylor drove in three runs with three hits for the winners. Top hitters for Avalon: Glen Cole and Greg Leurgans, both 4-for-4. Gus Niklas and Merv Mill each contributed three hits.

League 3. George L. Klumpp Funeral Home, managed by Sharyn Ruff, captured the L-3 Tuesday night crown on Sept. 3 with a 12-6 verdict over Larry Shelton's Silver Cats. Klumpp opened with a five-run first inning. The Cats countered with three in their half of the first but could add only three more the rest of the way. Key hits included doubles by Klumpp's Caroline Saenz and the Cats' Paul Ayes and Jim Taff.

League 4. Bertolucci's Auto Body and Fender, managed by Dick Reisinger, defeated Executive Limousine, 19-7, for the Wednesday night L-4 championship on Sept. 4. Marcus Kirkland drove in four runs for the winners. Allan Riker had four hits for Manager Larry Lagomarsino's Limos. (See Page 2)

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING:
JAN. 13, 2014
7:30 p.m. at VFW
HALL, 2784
STOCKTON
BLVD.**

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LEAGUE CHAMPS ARE CROWNED (FROM PAGE 1)

League 5. On Sept. 5, Espanol Italian Restaurant rallied for three runs in the bottom of the seventh inning for a 17-16 victory over Reinwald Health and Dental Insurance. Bob Reinwald's team led all the way until the fateful seventh. The winners, managed by Larry Lagomarsino, compiled 27 hits, including two Jarvis Quenga doubles. Reinwald had 21 hits, one of them an over-the-fence homer by Ettore Minor, who also hit a double.

League 6. Sam's Hof Brau edged Capital Barricade, 9-7, in a nail-biter for the Tuesday L-6 title, played Sept. 7 at Howe Park. Howard Toder, manager of Sam's, drove in three runs with two hits; Bill Greene and Ron Roach each had 3-for-3 games. J.C. Terry's Capital Barricade got three hits and as many RBI from Jim Mays and three hits from Carl Maryland.

Congratulations to Frank Bettencourt, Mark Holgerson and Howard Toder, who were on L2 and L6 champion teams. Steve Smith played for the L4 and L5 champions. Are there other multi-league champion players?

(Information from Scorekeepers Sandy Begg and Colette Barnes.)

MIZERAK AND WILKERSON RECEIVE MERIT AWARD

Applauded by those attending the Sept. 7 picnic, John Mizerak and Arnold Wilkerson were announced as this year's recipients of the Golden Seniors Softball Club's Award of Merit.

The award, formerly known as the Man of the Year, was bestowed by a committee of award recipients, chaired by Dante Ciardella. A member is considered for the award based on service, often behind the scenes, that enhances the club for all members.

Mizerak, 71, who joined the GSSCS in 1996 and plays in L1, was honored for his service to the club that includes leading the committee that nominates members for election to the board of directors each year. This can be a "thankless and frustrating job," said Dave Vargo, Mizerak's presenter who was pinch-hitting for the injured Bob Havrilla. (Mizerak says he regrets he could not attend but he was committed to serve as a youth soccer referee.)

Life Member Wilkerson, presented by Bennie Benson, has been a willing volunteer for a number of club jobs over the years. Now 78, Arnold joined the club in 1989. His son, Rodney, joined the Golden Seniors in 2012.

Twenty-six other recipients since 1991:

2012: Trudy Smartt, Ron Roach

2011: Henry Low, Tom Sansone

2010: Bob Havrilla

2009: Dave Vargo

2008: Dick Seward

2007: James Powell Sr., Susan Tucker

2006: Henry Fontes

2005: Ed Campini, Doug McCreary

2004: Foster Maxwell

2003: Jim Lortz

2002: Ken Wollenberg

2000: Ernie Kidwell

1998: Lou Coppola, George Hodsdon

1997: Benny Benson

1995: Dante Ciardella, Bill Sullivan

1994: Ralph Congdon, Daryl Cook

1993: Ken Dumont, Jack Pressley

1991: Bill Turner

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LEAGUE 3 ALL-STAR GAME: PLAYING FOR FUN

From Scorekeeper Sandy Begg

The All-Star Game. That was a real case of confusion reigns (especially for the scorekeeper). After three and one-half innings, the final score was Gizmos 23, Ewoks 21. But that really doesn't tell the tale. Team Gizmos was managed by Larry Shelton and included players from Silver Cats, Geremia Pools, and Tanner & Associates. Team Ewoks was managed by Sharyn Ruff and included members from George L. Klumpp, Livingston Concrete and Rapid Solutions.

(Note: When the concept of an All-Star Game for the picnic was proposed to the three night league commissioners, L-3 of Tuesday night accepted the opportunity to have players perform at the Saturday, Sept. 7 picnic, where the three day leagues were playing their league championship games. It was also seen as a way to boost attendance from the entire club at the picnic.)

Players were selected by managers with the goal of providing an even distribution of players from all six teams.

Each team batted their entire roster each inning. An example of how that looks on the scoresheet is the first inning for the Ewoks: 1 run and 11 outs. In the Gizmos half of the first inning, seven runs were scored after the third out. Another "off the wall" rule: You start with one strike. And when you get another, of any kind, you are out. Must admit, that one threw me for awhile. We had a good mix of male and female players and there were very few errors in the field. Everyone seemed to have a good time and wore the nifty new caps provided by a generous sponsor.

I think it would be fun for the other leagues to do this at the end of next season. Something to think about. #



*AWARD OF MERIT
recipient Arnold
Wilkerson and his
sponsor, Benny
Benson, at the 2013
Golden Seniors picnic
at Howe Park.*

2013 GSSCS CHAMPIONSHIP JACKETS CAN BE ORDERED

Members of league championship teams can order jackets by contacting their managers or calling George Hodsdon (481-9304). Jackets range in price from an unlined \$33 windbreaker to a \$50 satin-lined baseball jacket. Call Hodsdon for an order form. Any member can purchase a jacket with the club logo but without the championship logo. Prices are the same. Deadline for ordering is Sept. 27. #

SUNSHINE AND HEALTH

L1 Manager and Life Member John Chatfield was hospitalized in September and was reported in serious condition.

L1 Manager and Life Member Bob Havrilla missed the picnic while recovering from bruises sustained in a fall while running to first base. He was reported to be doing better.

Life Member Wayne Vickery said at the picnic that he is recovering from heart surgery that sidelined him this summer.

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SHORT HOPS AND LONG BOUNCES

SOFTBALL PRACTICES HELP SENIORS STAY IN SHAPE IN “OFF-SEASON”

The 2013 GSSCS season is over but don't mothball your bats. There is opportunity to keep those bat-swinging, ball-throwing muscles in shape over the fall and winter months. Here's some news:

L1 Commissioner Henry Low reports a change in the times for Tuesday and Friday batting practices at Howe Park coming up soon. Beginning Tuesday, Nov. 5, and Friday, Nov. 8, batting practices will be scheduled for 12:30 p.m. on Field #3 at Howe Park. Field #3 is the diamond adjacent to the parking area at the rear of the park off of Bell Avenue. Meanwhile, batting practices are still starting at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Carmichael Park practices are planned throughout the fall-winter “off-season.” Greg Leurgans reports that he has checked with Ernie Kidwell and Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m. practices had the green light to begin Sept. 17. Contact: gleurgan@yahoo.com.

PICNIC KUDOS: GREAT SOUNDS AND ALL-STARS, AND GOOD FOOD, TOO!

While Howlin' Alan Aufill and his talented band provided great sounds at the picnic, while some of the top fence-busting and fancy-fielding players from the Tuesday night league wore out the base paths in an exhibition of senior softball coed talent. Larry Shelton provided nice-looking caps for the game in which teams hit all players each inning, with batters limited to one pitch. Thus they got in about four innings before lining up for a delicious lunch featuring tri-tip and chicken. Picnic Chairman Bill Hill hit a home run with the food, beverages and entertainment. Nice cake, too.

THE GLOVEMAN GIVES OLD, WORN FIELDING GLOVES NEW LIFE

Howard Shaw is the “Glovesman” for new lacing, reconditioning, cleaning and service at reasonable pricing. Howard can also help break in a new glove. Give him a call at 421-6643. His cell is 996-9490.

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NEW LEAGUE 7 UPDATE

From L1 Commissioner Henry Low

As mentioned in the August Dugout Chatter, a new Monday League Seven (L7) for players age 70+ will be added for our 2014 season. This “transitional” league will target the more skilled players in the 70+ age group and will be limited (by draft) to four or five teams, so as to minimize any impact on our current League One (L1). For players age 70+ currently playing in leagues 2 through 6 signing up for L7, the major transition items will be **65-foot base paths, 11 players on defense and no “hot bats.”** There may be some other different rules, but those will be determined by the L7 commissioner and managers. Both L1 and L7 will play on Monday mornings and thus each league will be a source of substitute players for the other league as currently is the case for L2 and L6, which play on Tuesday mornings. This new L7 will be on the applications for 2014, which will be mailed to all current club members in late September or early October.

Based on the surveys of players in all of our leagues, who will be age 70+ next year, there is a lot of interest in this new league for players in the 70+ age group. However, until players have made their choices and signed up for L1, L7 or both leagues we can't determine how many teams there may be in each league. Also, the number of teams may determine whether these teams can continue playing at Howe Park or may have to move to the Sacramento Softball Complex. Current thinking is that L1 would play the early games and L7 would play the second games at which ever park we decide to play. This is consistent with our thinking that it would be great to have all 70+ players playing at the same park on the same day; because logically the L7 players would eventually migrate to L1, if they are not already playing in both leagues.

Back in August I requested that if anyone had a question or a reason that the new L7 should not be added, that they submit it to me so it could be considered and answered/responded to. However, to this date I have received no response to this request. This invitation is still open and my email address is: hllow@sbcglobal.net. My home address is: 6880 Steamboat Way, Sacramento, CA 95831. #



SPORTS LEISURE, MANAGED BY JOHN COLLETTA, WON THE L2 TUESDAY CHAMPIONSHIP FOR 2013.



SAM'S HOF BRAU, MANAGED BY HOWARD TODER, CAPTURED THE 2013 L6 TUESDAY CHAMPIONSHIP.

Editor's Note: Other championship team photos will be published in the November-December edition of the Dugout Chatter. See the club website for other news and photos.

GOLDEN SENIORS SPONSORS FOR 2013

First VP Dick Latimer lists these club sponsors for 2013 and urges club members to reward their support by giving them their business (* = new sponsor for 2013):

AMERICAN MEDEQUIP
ARNOLD PROPERTIES
AVALON HEARING AID CENTERS (TEAM 1)
AVALON HEARING AID CENTERS (TEAM 2)
BECKS, IN MEMORY OF
BERTOLUCCI BODY & FENDER SHOP, INC.
***JOHN BRENDLE CONSULTING**
C&C PLUMBING AND ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES
***CAPITOL BARRICADE**
COTTONWOOD ESTATES
OVERHEAD DOOR COMPANY OF SACRAMENTO, INC.
***EG THREADS**
ESPANOL ITALIAN RESTAURANT (TEAM 1)
ESPANOL ITALIAN RESTAURANT (TEAM 2)
EXECUTIVE LIMOUSINE
GEREMIA POOLS
GREATER SACRAMENTO SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION
HARPER PROPERTIES
***BILL HILL ROOFING & VINYL SIDING**
***BILL HILL WINDOWS, HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING**
JERRY JODICE, MEMORY OF
JOLLY ROGERS
***KLUMPP'S FUNERAL HOME**
LIVINGSTON'S CONCRETE SERVICE
L&S SURVEYS
MARK E. WHITE, DDS
MERRILL'S BOOKKEEPING AND TAX (Ray Merrill)
R.H. NIELSEN REAL ESTATE
OVERHEAD DOOR COMPANY OF SACRAMENTO, INC.
***RAPID SOLUTIONS PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS**
RAMBIT, INC. (Ray Merrill)
REINWALD'S HEALTH AND DENTAL INSURANCE PLANS BROKERAGE
***SAM'S HOF BRAU**
SHOW BIZ PRODUCTIONS
SILVER CATS
SPORTS LEISURE VACATIONS
TANNER AND ASSOCIATES
***TRI-C MACHINE CO. OF AUBURN, INC.**
VFW POST 67
***RYAN R. WILGUS, DDS**
WION'S BODY SHOP

LEAGUE COMMISSIONERS FOR 2013

L-1 Henry Low 391-3938; Asst. George Hodsdon 481-9304

L-2 Dave Vargo 689-7061

L-3 Mel Tennyson 838-6811

L-4 Bud DeSouza 424-6115

L-5 Allen Riker 873-3779

L-6 Bill Greene 391-5559

BOARD OF DIRECTORS -- 2013-14

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

1st Vice President **Dick Latimer**
363-9555 (Responsible for team
sponsorships.)

2nd Vice President **Jim Wait** 455-4440
(Responsible for team uniforms and
equipment.)

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

Secretary **Dave Tanner** ... 216-1941

Player Agent **Myron Dahl** ... 451-2450
(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:

Asst. Secretary Henry Low
391-3938

Player Applications: Myron
Dahl 451-2450

Sunshine & Health: Trudy
Smartt 973-8269

GSSC #3912 Blood Bank:
456-1500

Safety Coordinator: J.C. Terry
457-3393 Cell: 505-2570

Entertainment: Lou Coppola
444-6138

Dugout Chatter: Ron Roach,
editor 422-2500

(coachrwr@comcast.net)