

# DUGOUT CHATTER

ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF THE GOLDEN SENIORS SOFTBALL CLUB OF SACRAMENTO ([WWW.GSSCS.ORG](http://WWW.GSSCS.ORG)) -- JUNE 2012

## **NOMINATIONS FOR CLUB OFFICER AUGUST ELECTIONS ARE DUE AT JULY MEETING; BOARD VOTES TO SET PLAYOFF SCHEDULE AND SCALE BACK CLUB PICNIC**

Nominations for club officers will be made at the July 9 general meeting. The nominating committee reports that five of the seven officers are seeking re-election while two -- Player Agent Linda McCollum-Greene and Secretary Matt Tedrow -- are not running for re-election.

The nominating committee reports that there is at least one candidate on the slate for all offices, and nominations from the floor will be accepted at the July meeting. The election is scheduled for the August general meeting and the new board of directors will take office at the September general meeting.

The five incumbents who want to continue serving on the board are President Tom Sansone, First Vice President Dick Latimer, Second VP Pete Ward, Treasurer Don Wall and Club Commissioner Curtis Holcomb.

Direct questions about the election process to Nominations Chair John Mizerak at 322-5511 or [engrjimizl@cs.com](mailto:engrjimizl@cs.com) or Dave Vargo at 689-7061 or [dvargo@frontiernet.net](mailto:dvargo@frontiernet.net).

**New Playoffs Schedule.** The club's Board of Directors, meeting June 11, set playoffs for leagues 2 through 6 to begin the week of Aug. 21, so the final regular season games will be the week of Aug. 14. This will enable the leagues to conduct playoffs through the week of Sept. 18, with league championship games conducted on the days or nights of regular season play instead of at the Saturday, Sept. 29 club picnic. The week of Sept. 10 is a bye week. (Note: Stay tuned for a fine tuning of the leagues' playoffs schedules that may be announced in the next Dugout Chatter or by your team managers, or both.)

League 1 on Mondays will continue to operate on its own playoff schedule, beginning Wednesday, Sept. 26, with the final championship game on Saturday, Sept. 29 in conjunction with a picnic at Howe Avenue Park. While all club members are welcome to attend the picnic, the only championship league playoff that day will be for the 70-and-over Monday league. (SEE PAGE 2)

## **NEXT GENERAL MEETINGS:**

**7:30 p.m.,**

**Mondays,**

**July 9 &**

**Aug. 13**

**VFW Hall, 2784  
Stockton Blvd.**

## **IN THIS ISSUE ...**

**Board Decides to  
Scale Back Picnic**

**Monday Morning  
News: L-1 Report**

**League Standings**

**Sunshine & Health  
Report: Rest in Peace  
Bob Jackson, John  
Latino**

**List of Sponsors  
Paid Up for 2012**

**Club Contacts: How  
to Reach the Board  
of Directors and  
Other Important  
Contacts**

## CLUB NEWS (From Page 1)

**Picnic Plans.** Declining interest in the picnic, particularly among night league players, has resulted in significant budget overruns. Thus the board decided that the picnic menu will be scaled back to hot dogs and hamburgers, plus beverages. The club in recent years has spent about \$6,000 of member dues on the annual picnics, much of it for guaranteed turnouts required by caterers. Many of the lunches, paid for by the club, were not consumed as so many members decided not to attend after advising their managers that they would, or left the picnic early, after their league championship games concluded.

The board decided that such an expenditure, with well under half the membership attending, was to blame, at least in part, for the increase in player dues above the \$100 mark. A dues reduction of at least \$15 would be expected for 2013 under the change in picnic plans. The board, meanwhile, is looking into ways to celebrate the end of the playoffs for teams in leagues 2 through 6 during the week at the Complex. Championship games will be played on normal playing days or nights, such as Wednesday night for League 4 or Tuesday morning for League 2. The board also noted that having all the leagues' championship games at the Howe Avenue Park, with shorter fences, would not work well with hotter bats that are allowed this year at the Complex. There also would be less conflict with weekend tournaments for many Golden Seniors who also play on traveling tournament teams.

**Data Base Manager.** After more than a decade of keeping the club's computerized data base up to date, Henry Low has decided it is time to step away from the job. The board is looking for a successor to manage the club's membership records. Anyone with computer experience who is interested in being the club's data guru is advised to contact President Sansone at 686-1654. You also can contact Low at 391-3938 for details on what the job entails. The club provides necessary software.

**Safety Coordinator Wanted.** With Curtis Holcomb's election to club commissioner, the club has been without a permanent safety coordinator in 2012. Anyone interested in serving the club in this important position should contact President Sansone. #

## LEAGUE STANDINGS AND HIGHLIGHTS

Standings and highlights of GSSCS play, as reported by scorekeepers Sandy Begg (Leagues 3 and 5) and Colette Barnes (Leagues 2, 4 and 6):

L-2 -- Richard H. Will 5-1-2; Harper Properties and Jolly Rogers 4-3-1; Rambit Inc., Sports Leisure and VFW Post 67, 3-5.

L-3 -- Geremia Pools 6-1; Silver Cats 5-2; Old Hornets and Livingston Concrete 3-4; Fuddruckers and Tanner & Associates 2-5.

Highlights of May 15 games: Hap Dufney of Geremia homered and tripled while teammates Keith Arnold, Don Nakao and Bob Rossi enjoyed perfect games at the plate. Bob Jones circled the bases twice on hits for Tanner, as teammates Bruce Gilmore and Mark Noel had hits every time up. For the Old Hornets, M.R. Evans and Chet Bowling didn't make an out, and Evans homered in a 17-16 loss to Tanner. Silver Cats, led by Norm Blackwell, Bill McMahan, Bob Riola and Bret Wangan (all perfect at the plate) and Jim Moore's homer, edged Fuddruckers 18-17. Bill Greene, Dave Vargo and Curtis Williams (over the fence) homered for the Fuddruckers, who had perfect games at the plate from Joe McQuaid and Steve Lawrence. Although in a losing cause (23-13 to Geremia), Steve Schuler and Mike Viduya were perfect at the plate, with Schuler's hits including a homer. There were nine homers for the night in L-3. (SEE PAGE 3)

## LEAGUE STANDINGS (FROM PAGE 2)

L-4 -- Dennys 6-1; Bertolucci's 4-1-1; Executive Limo 4-3; Cottonwood Estates 2-4; C&C Plumbing 1-4-1; East Lawn Inc. 1-5. Mel Tennyson of Bertolucci's hit for the cycle on May 16 and Bob Solomon of Dennys hit a grand slam on June 6. Note that on Wednesday night two teams played seven games and four teams played six games as two games were rained out on a "wild, cold and crazy night."

L-5 -- Miller's Munchies 4-1; 9th & X Street Storage 3-2; Reinwald's Health and Dental 2-2-1; Overhead Door 2-1-2; Espanol Restaurant 2-3; NorCal Jackets 1-4. Rich Ganas hit for the cycle, including an over-the-fence homer, to lead Miller's Munchies to an 18-12 victory over NorCal Jackets. Monte Miller also cleared the fence. Ed Frantz homered for NorCal, which got an over-the-fence homer from substitute Lyman Rose. George Lamb was perfect at the plate and Ettore Minor and Rod Rogers homered to lead 9th & X Storage over Overhead Door, 19-16. Bill Conwell homered for Overhead. Reinwald's beat Espanol 20-17, thanks to out-of-the-park homers from Jarvis Quenga and Emilio Lobato. Russ Carlson of Espanol hammered two hits over the fence, with the second one counting as a single.

L-6 -- Better Softball Equipment 7-1; GSSA 6-2; Avalon Hearing Center 5-3; Mark E. White DDS 3-4-1; Arnold Properties 1-6-1; Lasereyes.com 1-7. Joe Cors of Mark E. White hit for the cycle on May 1 and J.C. Terry had a grand slam on May 8.

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### **MONDAY MORNING NEWS: HIGHLIGHTS OF L-1 GAMES**

#### **Billy Beck Wins Round One**

*From Henry Low*

The first round of play in League one (70+ at Howe Avenue Park) concluded with the games on June 4. The Billy Beck team, managed by John Chatfield, captured the Round One title with a decisive come from behind win over Storyhat on that date. Both Billy Beck and L&S Surveys finished the round with 6-1 records, but Billy Beck was the round winner by virtue of their eighth inning 11-10 win over L&S Surveys on May 14. Nielsen Real Estate and Show Biz Productions tied for third place in the round with 5-2 records.

Round One Final Standings (June 4):

Billy Beck 6-1; L&S Surveys 6-1; Nielsen Real Estate 5-2; Show Biz Productions 5-2; American Medequip 3-4; Merrill Bookkeeping 2-5; Jerry Jodice 2-5; Wions Body Shop 2-6; Storyhat 1-6.

Benny Benson's L&S Surveys team outscored their opposition 82-36 in seven games. Billy Beck and Norm Blackwell's Nielsen Real Estate each scored 79 runs as the next-highest scoring offensive teams.

The batting practices on Tuesdays and Fridays have begun starting earlier (at 9:30 AM) at Howe Avenue Park Field #3. The trial using the > at second base to help avoid collisions will continue for the remainder of the season in League One. #

# SUNSHINE AND HEALTH REPORT

Former Golden Senior **Robert H. "Bob" Jackson**, an outstanding outfielder on very successful tournament teams, passed away on May 19. He was 79. Survivors include his wife of 56 years, Erma. Norm Blackwell Sr. described his fellow travel team player as the "best right fielder in the business." He joined the GSSCS in 1984 and played until 1998. Jackson helped found and lead the California Gold Rush to local and national victories for 18 years, starting with the 1992 World Series through the 2010 World Series, according to the NorCal Senior Softball Association web site. He also won state and national championships with the NorCal Angels and the San Francisco Seals. "Softball was his passion which he missed so dearly during his battle with cancer," read his obituary in the June 10 Sacramento Bee. A public memorial was scheduled June 22 at St. Anthony's Catholic Church on Florin Road. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Kaiser South Sacramento Hospice or the American Cancer Society.

Life Member **John Latino**, 84, passed away on May 5. He joined the club in 1988 and played until 2006, when a stroke caused him to retire. Considered one of the best hitters in the league, John also was MVP of a senior World Series. He owned his own drapery business and loved to travel. When he and his wife would check into a hotel and the drapes weren't hung correctly, he would fix them. John traveled with Bob Mitchell's Senior Softball USA team to Italy, where he also saw many of his relatives.

**Elbert "Vic" Vickland** suffered a heart attack and had surgery. The L-1 player will be out for the season, according to Henry Low, league commissioner.

**Jack Kocunik** says he will be sidelined until the "stretch run" in August-September as the broken foot bone, suffered when he said he somehow decided to slide into a base in a tournament team game, required surgery. #

## SHORT HOPS & LONG BOUNCES

**RIVER CATS TICKETS FOR 2012.** Entertainment Chairman Lou Coppola reports that, as a season ticket holder, he has access to RiverCats tickets (saving \$4 to \$5 per ticket) during the course of the season. He said the tickets are very flexible and exchangeable other dates in the same Section 109, Rows 15-30. Call Lou (444-6138) for details. #

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

**CORRECTION:** It was reported in the May issue that Henry Low hit into two triple plays when in fact he participated in two, one in L-1 and the other in L-2, in a span of six days. He was playing second base when one of the triple plays occurred, thereby making it impossible for him to bat the ball on the play. Still, pretty rare, but not so rare as if he had been the batter for both. #

**NEXT DUGOUT CHATTER: JULY 2012.** READ THE DUGOUT CHATTER ONLINE AT [WWW.GSSCS.ORG](http://WWW.GSSCS.ORG) WHERE NEWS UPDATES AND PHOTOS ARE PUBLISHED AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. FOR THOSE WHO HAVEN'T ALREADY DONE SO, YOU CAN REMOVE YOUR NAME FROM THE DUGOUT CHATTER MAILING LIST AND READ THE NEWSLETTER ONLINE, SAVING THE CLUB POSTAGE, PAPER AND INK. TO GET OFF THE SNAIL-MAIL LIST, CALL HENRY LOW AT 391-3938. MARCH-THRU-AUGUST ISSUES OF THE NEWSLETTER ARE GENERALLY AVAILABLE ONLINE WITH SOME PRINTED COPIES AVAILABLE AT FIELDS (SEE SCOREKEEPERS). THE ONLINE EDITION IS USUALLY ACCESSIBLE DAYS BEFORE THE PRINTED EDITION ARRIVES VIA U.S. MAIL. THE ONLINE EDITION ALSO MAY CONTAIN MORE INFORMATION AND PHOTOS. 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. #

## **“HOTLINE” SOURCE FOR NEWS, INFORMATION**

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. #

## **DUGOUT CHATTER ONLINE AND AT FIELDS**

With the March issue, the Dugout Chatter is available for players to pick up at the fields where they play. Check the scorekeeper's desk for a copy. Better yet, read the Dugout Chatter online at [www.gsscs.org](http://www.gsscs.org) . From March through August, the Chatter is mailed to a restricted list of sponsors, non-playing life members, and players on injured reserve. To hold down our newsletter costs, particularly postage, the newsletter is mailed to the membership during the months when there are no games, which is normally October through February. Members may inform Assistant Secretary Henry Low (391-3938) to request that they be taken off the mailing list year-round, as nearly 50 members have done. #

# **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)**

**Arnold Properties**

**Avalon Hearing Aid Centers Inc.**

**In Memory of the Becks**

**Bertolucci's Body & Fender Shop**

**Better Softball Equipment**

**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. #

## **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 Trudy Smartt)  
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

appointment pending

### **Entertainment:** Lou Coppola

444-6138

### **Dugout Chatter:** Ron Roach,

editor 422-2500

([coachrwr@comcast.net](mailto:coachrwr@comcast.net))

### **Planning:** Merritt Davis,

393-7160