

DUGOUT CHATTER

ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION OF THE GOLDEN SENIORS SOFTBALL CLUB OF SACRAMENTO (WWW.GSSCS.ORG) CLUB HOTLINE: 491-1721

NOMINATIONS FOR CLUB OFFICES SET STAGE FOR AUGUST ELECTION

Candidates to serve on the club board of directors were announced at the July 14 general meeting, with six of the seven current board members standing for election at the Aug. 11 general meeting. One office, club commissioner, drew more than one candidate.

The board urged John Mizerak, the nominations chairman, to find as many candidates as he could for the seven board offices. However, despite making calls and urging team managers to help come up with interested members, he found only one new candidate, Jon Ellison, who agreed to run for 1st vice president.

Club Commissioner Curtis Holcomb, who said he agreed to run one last time after already serving three years, finds himself in a three-way contest with nominations from the floor of J.C. Terry and Jerry Nevis.

One board member, Myron Dahl, decided not to seek re-election to a third term as player agent, so club secretary Dave Tanner decided to run for player agent. First VP Dave Vargo decided to run for secretary leaving a vacant position that Ellison agreed to fill. President Tom Sansone, Treasurer Don Wall and 2nd VP Chuck Knutson all seek re-election.

Ellison has been a member of the club since 2012. He currently plays on Tuesdays and is a well-known tournament player in the area. (SEE PAGE 2)

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

7:30 P.M. MONDAY, AUG. 11 FOR ELECTION OF CLUB OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR. HOT DOGS, SODAS AND PERHAPS EVEN CAKE. DON'T MISS IT. BE A PART OF YOUR CLUB!!! SITE: VFW HALL ON STOCKTON BOULEVARD

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Hot dogs on the agenda for those attending the Aug. 11 general meeting.

Picnic or Banquet: Members to be surveyed.

Sunshine and Health Report: Rest in Peace Arnold, Bracamonte, McElroy.

Award of Merit News

Monday Morning News: Arnold Properties Clinch a Playoff Berth.

League Standings and Highlights: 73 Runs in One Game!!!

List of Sponsors.

NEWS FROM JULY 14 GENERAL MEETING (FROM PAGE 1)

Sansone and Wall are going for their fourth terms. Knutson is going for his first full term as 2nd VP. He and Vargo were appointed last fall to fill vacancies that occurred after last August's election.

The club commissioner is responsible for recruiting league commissioners and overseeing their choices of team managers, as well as enforcing club rules and settling rules disputes that rise above league commissioners.

Holcomb, a member of the club since 2007 has served as club safety coordinator and as a league commissioner.

Terry, who has managed teams in multiple leagues and serves as the club's safety coordinator, has been a member of the club since 2005. He also umpires.

Life Member Jerry Nevis, who served as club commissioner circa 2002, ran for club commissioner last year. He joined the club in 1994 and in recent years has led the club's Rules Committee. He managed and sponsored teams for a number of years.

Meanwhile, there was considerable discussion about the lack of attendance at club meetings, with longtime member Steve Pegos questioning whether the board could do more to encourage greater participation. He recalled when there were well-attended meetings, fun raffles and good food in contrast with the apathy evident at the July 14 meeting attended by just 15 members and three of the seven board members. It is believed that summer vacations are a factor that impacts attendance, Sansone said.

Pegos urged the board to devise a way to get members to attend meetings. Sansone replied that he hopes the board election in August will draw better attendance, as it has in the past.

In an effort to boost attendance at the Aug. 11 general meeting, the club will provide hot dogs and soft drinks, perhaps a cake as well.

Picnic and/or Dinner-Dance? The club will have its annual picnic, led by Bill Hill, on Saturday, Sept. 27 at Howe Park, with a budget of \$4,500 expected to feed about 350 members and guests. Last year, there were 300 persons fed at the picnic. But what about 2015 and beyond? President Sansone said he will conduct a survey, via email that reaches more than 400 members, on whether they prefer a picnic or a banquet featuring dinner, awards, music and dancing. Pegos came to the meeting with his 1992 club dinner-dance organization file, which he said was a very successful plan followed by a 20-member committee. He turned over the document to Hill who agreed to make a copy for possible use should the club decide to go the banquet-dance-awards route in the future.

Team Pictures. Vargo reported that 37 of the 42 teams have had team pictures taken. "But five teams declined to be photographed," which he said he had not heard of happening in his 14 years in the club.

Team pictures are mounted on plaques for team sponsors who want them. In the past, members could purchase a picture for about \$3. Many members chose not to buy photos. For awhile they were provided free as part of membership dues.

Team managers didn't like the chore of collecting money from players for pictures. Sansone said digital photos will be emailed to managers who then can make copies for their players. Managers also could simply forward the team picture to their players who could have their own prints made. #

SUNSHINE & HEALTH REPORT**REST IN PEACE: LIFE MEMBERS ARNOLD, BRACAMONTE, MCELROY**

Life Member **Tom Arnold**, a Golden Senior for more than 30 years, passed away on May 23. He was 82. His Arnold Properties team has been a mainstay of the club for many years. He joined the Golden Seniors in 1983 and has played on night and day league teams. Tom was found near his car in a parking lot while en route to the annual Sacramento Jazz Festival, where he was to meet up with friends after attending a grand-daughter's graduation party. He was a jazz festival patron for more than 30 years. In an email to family and friends, daughters Jennifer, Heather, Theresa, Malia and Amy said their father had said "many times that he wanted to go quickly, preferably on the dance floor or nearby. It would seem he got his wish and lived his life to the very, very end."

Life Member **Martin Bracamonte**, 92, died May 29 at his home. A member of the Mexican-American Hall of Fame, Martin joined the Golden Seniors in 1986 and played until 2001.

Life Member **Ed McElroy**, passed away April 22 at the age of 87. He joined the club in 1995 and played on Mondays. About six years ago, he decided to serve as a coach since his playing skills had diminished. He wanted to stay involved and used his walker to get to the team bench. As a non-playing life member, he no longer had to pay club dues, but did so anyway to help support the club. #

AWARD OF MERIT NOMINATIONS FOR 2014 ARE DUE BY AUG. 1

George Hodsdon announced at the July 14 meeting that he and Dave Vargo are collecting nominations for the 2014 Award of Merit. Formerly called Man of the Year, it became the Award of Merit after Susan Tucker, ex-Dugout Chatter editor, was selected for the award in 2007.

Nominations, kept confidential, may be made by any member until Aug. 1, submitted to Hodsdon (4523 Ulysses Drive, Sacramento, CA 95864, or email to georgenrory@aol.com) or to Dave Vargo (9749 Everbloom Way, Sacramento, CA 95829). Hodsdon said five nominations were received at the meeting.

Past recipients of the award gather Aug. 8 to decide the 2014 recipient or recipients, which is not disclosed until the Sept. 27 club picnic.

The purpose of the award is to recognize those individuals who, through their actions for the benefit of the club, have given over and beyond the requirements of simple membership to bring recognition to the club and its members.

Of 51 members who have received the award, 22 are deceased and the status of three is unknown, according to Hodsdon. #

MONDAY MORNING REPORT

From Commissioner Henry Low

The seven-team L1 for 70 and over players on Monday mornings completed the second round of head-to-head play on July 14 with Arnold Properties pulling away in the late innings to clinch a spot in the playoffs, beating the second-place Merrill Bookkeeping, 15-6. Arnold Properties, managed by Ernie Shaffer and Doug Hatley, went 5-0 in the second round. Merrill, managed by Ron Thomas, went 4-1. Nielsen Real Estate, managed by Norm Blackwell Sr. and Bob Nielsen, previously secured a spot in the playoffs by winning the first round with a 5-1 record.

The more competitive four-team 70-plus L7 completed the 14th week of play on July 14, with the Jolly Rogers team, sponsored by Bob Rogers and managed by Tom Watwood and Freddie Miller, have a commanding 13-1 record. Their only loss was at the hands of the second-place 8-6 Nielsen team managed by Blackwell and Nielsen. Avalon Hearing was close behind in third place with a 7-7 mark.

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NEXT GENERAL MEETING: MONDAY, AUG. 11 AT THE VFW POST 67 HALL ON STOCKTON BOULEVARD. ELECTION OF CLUB OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR.

IS IT RAINING? IS IT EXTREMELY WINDY? IF YOU ARE WONDERING WHETHER YOUR GAME HAS BEEN CANCELED, CALL THE CLUB HOTLINE, OPERATED BY DON SHANK, AT 491-1721

SHORT HOPS AND LONG BOUNCES

Mary's Photos. Mary Gray (Jim Wait's sister-in-law) came out earlier this season and took photos and has posted them on her web page. Take a look at marygrayphotography.com and click on Out at the Ballpark.

More on Photos. Anyone interested in having a personal photo album taken of him or her playing ball, contact Steve Martarano at 832-5538 for details and cost. For a sample of his work, pictures taken at the CanSir tournament earlier this year in Elk Grove, his Flickr account is <https://flic.kr/s/aHsjZ4C2ri>

Norman in the News. In the Summer 2014 issue of the Co-Op Reporter, newsletter of the Food Co-Op, a feature on the River City Food Bank Growing Circle includes a photo of Golden Senior member Norman Blackwell Sr. distributing bread, which he does twice a week in front of his Oak Park home. #

LEAGUE STANDINGS AND GAME HIGHLIGHTS

Sam's Hof Brau and Sports Leisure Vacations were running neck and neck for the lead of L2 on Tuesday mornings through games of July 8, and both teams were part of marathon slugfests.

On June 10, in a game that took one hour and 54 minutes, Sam's beat Capital Barricade 31-23. It featured a grand slam over-the-fence home run by Mick Tursky in the second inning. Tursky added three other hits and drove in five. Two teammates, Terry Hennessy and Cliff Ray had four-hit games. Capital Barricade's Joe Cors and Don Quinn each went 5 for 5 with six RBI.

But that game produced only 54 total runs. On July 1, what some believe to be the highest total of runs -- 73 -- in a day league GSSCS game, at least in recent memory, were tallied in the one-hour, 50-minute L2 contest won by C&C Plumbing, 39-34 over Sports Leisure. Jack Kocunik was the winning pitcher with manager Cloicec Wade mopping up for the "save." Bret Wangan pitched for Sports Leisure, which trailed by only three runs going into the seventh, 27-24. C&C rallied for a dozen open-inning runs, winning the final frame 12-10.

Big C&C hitters: Hal Johnson went five for five with a walk, driving in six. He hit two out of the park, one of them counting as a homer, and added an inside-the-park round-tripper. Jerry Horton enjoyed what might be the biggest offensive display of the season. He drove in nine runs with six hits, hitting for the cycle with two doubles to spare in his 6x6 game. Teammate Dave Alois went 6x6 and Mark Noel was 5x6, and together they drove in 11 runs with 10 singles and one double.

Joining Horton hitting for the cycle were two Sports Leisure players, Bob Smartt and Mark Holgerson. Larry Lagomarsino went 6x6 and Joe Seiz was 5x6.

Due to rainouts yet to be made up, teams have played unequal numbers of games.

Standings after games of July 8:

8-3 Sam's Hof Brau

8-4 Sports Leisure and VFW Post 67

7-5 Capital Barricade

6-7 C&C Plumbing

3-9 Yancey Company

2-10 Avalon Hearing Centers

In L6 play on July 1, Tursky drove in seven with two inside-the-park homers, a triple and a single to lead E&G Threads over GSSA 16-15. Dennis Kelly drove in Terry Drennon with the winning run with two ours in the seventh. Quinn and Wangan went 4x4 for GSSA. Yet another July 1 nail-bitter was Livingston Concrete's 18-17 comeback win over Mark E. White, with Horton's long ball in the gap plating Don Bess for the win.

According to stats kept by Colette Barnes, Tursky through games of July 8 led both Tuesday day leagues with sizzling batting averages (.837 in L2 and .891 in L6). Hal Johnson's .865 trailed Tursky in L6.

Triple Play: On June 17, reported Scorekeeper Barnes, Yancey Company's Don Long hit back to C&C pitcher Jack Kocunik, who deflected the ball to shortstop Hal Johnson. Hal tagged the runner going from second to third, then ran to second for a forceout of the runner from first. His throw to first-baseman Darrel McRorie was in time to get Long. C&C triumphed 17-6. (See Page 6)

LEAGUE STANDINGS AND HIGHLIGHTS (FROM PAGE 5)

L6 Standings through July 8:

E&G Threads 10-4

Mark E. White DDS 9-5

Jerry Jodice 8-6

GSSA and Livingston Concrete 6-8

Espanol Italian Restaurant 3-11

L4 Standings through July 9:

Bertolucci's Body & Fender 10-3

Ryan Wilgus DDS 8-5

Overhead Door 7-5-1

Reinwald Health & Dental 6-7

Executive Limousine 4-9

Elk Grove Lock & Safe 3-9-1

L-3 Standings through July 8:

Bill Hill #1 15-0

Silver Cats 10-5

Rapid Solutions 6-8-1

George Klumpp 6-9

Tanner & Associates 5-10

Geremia Pools 2-12-1

Perfect nights at the plate on July 8 were achieved by Augie Johnson, Norm Blackwell Jr., Larry Elsberry, John Jensen, Mark Noel, Bill Hill, Frank Lamar, Bobby Ruff, Sharyn Ruff, Steve Casarez, Nancy Diehl, Portia Slaton, Dan Strait, J.C. Terry, Celeste Bradford, Rob Geremia, A.J. Petruzzi and Bret Rossi, reported Scorekeeper Sandy Begg.

L-5 Standings through July 10

Reinwald Health & Dental 10-4-2

Tri-C Machine Co. 10-5-1

Bill Hill Roofing & Siding 7-7-2

Espanol Italian Restaurant #2 6-8-2

RAMBIT 6-9-1

John Brendle Consulting 5-11

On July 10, Brendle's Ettore Minor hit three homers, one over the fence, and collected eight RBI in a 24-12 victory over RAMBIT. Espanol's Kevin Brewer and Bryan Patrick cleared the fence in a 12-12 tie with Bill Hill. Lyman Rose homered over the fence to help Reinwald beat Tri-C 18-14.

As a result of the the nearly two-hour games mentioned above, the board discussed at its board meeting July 14 whether to consider a rule that would cover the shortening of games in hot weather. It was decided that the situation is covered by Senior Softball USA, putting the decision in the hands of umpires, and SSUSA rules govern the club when not addressed by GSSCS rules. The decision would be made by the umpire after conferring with managers of the teams involved. Sansone said the instances that prompted the discussion are fairly rare. #

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AVALON HEARING AID CENTER, INC. (TEAM 2)	OVERHEAD DOOR COMPANY OF SACRAMENTO, INC.
BECKS, IN MEMORY OF BILL AND SHIRLEY BECK	RAMBIT, INC. (Ray Merrill)
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MARK E. WHITE, DDS	
MERRILL BOOKKEEPING	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS -- 2014

President **Tom Sansone** ... 686-1654
 1st Vice President **Dave Vargo** ...
 689-7061 (Responsible for team
 sponsorships.)
 2nd Vice President **Chuck Knutson** ...
 441-4144 (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:
 Dave Tanner 216-1941
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

2014 LEAGUE COMMISSIONERS

Club Commissioner Curtis Holcomb
 has appointed the following league
 commissioners:

L-1 Henry Low 391-3938; Asst.
 Dick Reisinger Sr.

L-2 Dave Vargo 689-7061

L-3 Mel Tennyson 838-6811

L-4 Russ Barnes 332-2832

L-5 Allen Riker 873-3779

L-6 Dave Vargo 689-7061

L-7 Henry Low 391-3938; Asst.

Bob Annecone

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**THE NEXT DUGOUT CHATTER
 WILL BE PUBLISHED AFTER THE
 AUGUST 11 GENERAL MEETING.
 WATCH FOR CLUB PRESIDENT
 TOM SANSONE'S EMAIL
 "BLASTS" FOR IMPORTANT
 INFORMATION AND ALERTS.**