



Golden Girls News

February 2017

It's been awhile since the last newsletter so we need to re-connect on a couple of months. Let's start with the Annual Meeting on November 16. The following officers were elected to these positions:

President	Marie Snyder
Vice President	Peg Moyer
Recording Secretary	Patti Ireland
Corresponding Secretary	Beth Hersey
Treasurer	Barbara Jacobik
Financial Secretary	Nancy Williams
Members-at-Large:	Margaret Keys, Carmen Campbell, Bev Vaughn



From left to right: Marie, Peg, Patti, Barbara, Nancy, Margaret, Carmen, Bev

The team awards were presented to the following players:

Hot Pink: Louise Boone and Mary Mullaney

Lime: Janet Mittel and Diane Smith

Navy Blue: Leigh Ann Adair and Linda Sue "Legs" Pessagno

Daisy: Kathy Smyrk and Martha Gaston

Next event was the Holiday Party at Lynn Smith's home December 11. As always, a gracious hostess. She even had us scurrying around her house to find items on a list for a scavenger hunt (checked them off the list – honor system) – some were very tricky. And of course, the food was luscious and plentiful. A great way to finish out 2016.

That brings us to the new year.

- The Golden Girls & Friends Travel Group went on an adventure to Viet Nam and Cambodia. More details later in the newsletter.
- The Winter Indoor Program is going on every Monday at the Michael & Sons Sportsplex in Sterling. If you want more details, contact Beth Hersey herseygal@cox.net 703-759-2251
- The membership renewal forms have been mailed out. Please fill out and mail back ASAP – deadline is March 1! If you did not receive one, please contact me - mamallery@comcast.net 571-261-9163

Hall of Fame

Each year the Washington Metropolitan Area Slow Pitch Softball (WMSPS) Hall of Fame honors people in the DC metro area who have excelled as players, managers, umpires, sponsors, supporters, and administrators in all aspects of slow pitch softball. Several Golden Girls have been honored in the past and the inductees for the class of 2016 include our very own Katy Page and Patti Martin. Everyone is encouraged to attend their induction banquet on March 18. To buy tickets for the banquet, go to www.wmhalloffame.com for details; purchase tickets on the website by clicking the "Cashier" button. Come join your fellow Golden Girls to honor two outstanding and deserving players plus have good time in the process.

GGalendar

Wednesday, February 15 at 7:00: GG Board Meeting. Louise Archer school.

Wednesday, March 8: Team formation by GG Board and team managers.

Saturday, April 1: Annual kickoff Breakfast

Thanks!

Some of you may have known that my mom was a dialysis patient whose health had started to decline in the last year. She passed away on October 16 after suffering a massive stroke on October 11. I want to thank all my Golden Girls family for the phone calls, email messages, cards, prayers, and thoughts. You have always been there to help me through the good and bad times. Legs (Linda Sue Pessagno)

Needing a Hug

Ida Wright's sister passed away on December 13. Our deepest delayed sympathies.

Bettie Pell's mother passed away on November 8. Our deepest delayed sympathies

Betsey Duce is recovering nicely from shoulder surgery.

Bunny Soares is recovering from a heart attack she suffered at a tournament in Florida. She is still in Florida but should be returning home in a week or so.

Need More Softball?

Northern Virginia Senior Softball (NVSS) is looking for players --- women 40+ & men 50+. Play double headers on Tuesday and Thursday mornings on fields in Fairfax County. Several Golden Girls play in this league and would like more company! Go to www.nvss.org for more details.



Michaela - Front Row Left
Louise - Back Row Right

Tournament News

Aloha! That's what four Golden Girls were saying a lot a couple of weeks ago. They were playing in SSUSA The Mayors Cup, a mixed age tournament on the Big Island of Hawaii. Charly Neill-Roe and Jacqui Viers played on one team and Louise Boone and Michaela Smith played on a different team. From all reports all four had a fabulous time and thoroughly enjoyed seeing the sights. In addition, the team that Louise and Michaela was on, the Pink Panthers, won!!!

January 27-28 found the Golden Girls 75s team in Plant City, Florida in an ISSA tournament. There were 4 teams -1 70s and 3 75s. Considering the other 2 75s teams were from Florida and had been practicing all Fall and Winter and our team hadn't done anything since Myrtle Beach in October, the Golden Girls made a pretty good showing. With the exception of one game, all the final scores were very close. Bunny Soares suffered a heart attack while there and was rushed to the hospital where she received a stint for her 100% clogged artery; this certainly weighed heavily on all the team's minds. It was also rather cold for Florida - highs in low 50s and a lively breeze on Friday to add to the misery. Rain was predicted for Sunday, the scheduled last day, but the teams asked the tournament director to let us finish on Saturday which was quickly and efficiently done. The 75s travel next to Valdosta, Georgia the first weekend in April for their next tournament.

Golden Girls & Friends Latest Adventure

At the very end of December, 6 Golden Girls and 8 of their friends headed off on an amazing 3 week trip to Viet Nam and Cambodia. Yes, it was a long plane ride but very much worth it. We saw so much and learned so much about that part of the world. Starting in Hanoi, we went to Ha Long Bay - a World Heritage Site - incredible scenery and serenity while staying on a small ship. After returning to Hanoi and seeing the sights there, we flew to Siem Reap, Cambodia which is the closest town to the famous Angkor temples built in the 12th century and rediscovered in the 1960s. Restoration was interrupted by Pol Pot and the fanatical Khymer Rouge rebels but continued after he was overthrown. Next we boarded a luxurious small ship for a remarkable sail down the Mekong River stopping in many towns until we reached the capitol city Phenom Penh, Cambodia. After crossing back into Viet Nam, we cruised the waterways of the

Mekong Delta - an incredibly fertile region home to over 1 million citizens. Our final stop was in Ho Chi Minh City - formerly Saigon (and still informally called that) which is huge bustling city of over 8 million people and the financial and business center of Viet Nam. After exploring the city, 10 of the group headed home but 4 more continued on for an optional tour of Thailand and Laos. The accommodations were all 5 star and service on the Mekong boat was impeccable. We all fell in love with our guide, Han, who was a font of knowledge with a great sense of humor. Wow, wow, wow! Since a picture is worth a thousand words, here are some highlights along the way.



Buddhist Temple in Hanoi



Bicycles used for everything



The beautiful Ha Long Bay



Angkor Wat



Linda Sholl, Peg Moyer, Marilyn Mallery, Teresa Hone, Betsey Duce, Lynn Smith



Cambodian Dancers



One of many monasteries visited



Part of Presidential Palace in Phnom Penh



Huge market in Mekong Delta



Saigon Skyline



Visit to Cu Chi Tunnels from Viet Nam/American war



Getting Saigon ready for Lunar New Year. Street lights....

Golden Girls and Friends is an informal travel group within GGs. All are invited to join in on any of our trips which are announced in the newsletter. This past trip was our 18th! Coming up is a Steamboat Trip on the Snake and Columbia Rivers this August (still a very limited number of cabins left) and next "March-ish" a trip to Spain, Portugal, and Morocco followed by a trip to Iceland and Ireland or Denmark (too early to announce). I hope you can join us on one or more of our adventures - we always have a great time and have been to some really interesting places since our first trip in 2001. Contact me for more info on any of the trips..... Marilyn mamallery@comcast.net 571-261-9163