

GOLDEN GIRLS NEWS

January/February 2012

The Golden Girls are very proud to announce that Beth Hersey will be inducted into the Washington Metro Slow Pitch Hall of Fame on February 25th. This is well deserved honor for a lady who has given so much to the Golden Girls organization. Be there for this very special occasion.

Saturday, February 25, 2012

Place:

Edward Douglas White Hall - 703-536-9656
5115 Little Falls Road, Arlington, VA 22207

Time:

4PM - 5PM - Cash bar, Social Hour
5PM Dinner Followed by Awards

Tickets:

\$40.00 Per Person, RSVP by 2/11/2012

Check Payable and Mailed to: WMSPS HALL OF FAME

c/o Bob Kuykendall, 123 Janet Trail Fairfield, PA 17320-8174

Contact Number: 240-676-2420

Menu:

Sit Down Dinner Entrée

Salad, Vegetables, Rolls & Dessert

8 seated to a table (Put note you want to sit at a Golden Girls table)

DOOR PRIZES and 50/50 Raffle

2011 INDUCTEES

PLAYERS:

Mike Dustin
Larry Ruppel
Sheri Nidiffer
Cathy Graves

UMPIRE:

Steve Ramey
Kerry Joseph

MASTER PLAYER:

Tyce Pearson
Bill Grewe
Paul Math
Baer Chandler

ADMINISTRATOR:

Jack Hanson

MANAGER:

John Pisano
BETH HERSEY

PROMOTOR:

N. VA Sr. Softball (NVSS)

TEAM:

N. VA Force 2008-2011

***PLEASE NOTE: BUSINESS/COCKTAIL ATTIRE RECOMMENDED**

Please note that in a cost cutting move, the organizers are reusing some of last year's tickets with the wrong date.

The holidays are over so now it's time to be thinking of getting in condition after those holiday pounds somehow appeared in all the wrong places. The winter workout program is a great way to get ready for the spring season which is only a couple of months away. Come join the crowd on Mondays at the Dulles Sportsplex in Sterling at 21610 Atlantic Boulevard. You will be rewarded with 45 minutes of ~~torture~~ exercises followed by skill drills for throwing and batting. By noon, you will be tired, sweaty, and feeling great! Many thanks go to George Hersey and his helpers Vernon Duce, Chris Holmes, Charlie Green, and Dave Mallery for all their time and efforts to whip us into shape.



So after you are trimmed down from the holidays, the annual Golden Girls "Breakfast of Champions" might cause a slight setback thanks to Midge Holmes, our Social Chairperson, who always has tricks and jokes up her sleeves in addition to a plentiful buffet breakfast.

Breakfast of Champions. The annual Golden Girls breakfast at the Battlefield Best Western (located 10820 Balls Ford Road in Manassas – at intersection of I-66 and Rt. 234) will be held on **Saturday, March 31 starting at 9 AM.** This will be our ninth year there. You can pay the subsidized cost of the breakfast when you fill your Golden Girls registration form, if you have not already done so. It will cost you more if you pay at the door of the day of the breakfast. Spouses and friends welcome!

It's been a tough Winter so far for some of the Golden Girls – please remember them in your thoughts....

Vernon Duce had his knee replaced and it was so much fun that Betsey decided to get her knee replaced also. Both are doing quite well and now have stair climbing races.

Betty de la Cruz is doing well after her double knee replacement and has played pickleball and a little bit of tennis. She will be playing with the Golden Girls League this spring and hopes to see everyone at the Breakfast.

Bunny Soares is still taking physical therapy on her shoulder and hopes to be back playing.

June Sonosky had a terrible spill at the tennis court and fractured her humerus bone in her left arm and has a plate in her shoulder with 9 screws plus her right hand is in a semi-cast. Her husband and daughter have been taking good care of her and she is keeping a good attitude.

Anne Whatley had shoulder surgery on December 22 to take care of a torn rotator cuff, bone spurs, and misaligned tendons.

God bless all of these Golden Girls and anyone else who is not up to par and get them all back to good health.

ANOTHER SOFTBALL OPPORTUNITY

Can't get enough softball? NVSS (Northern Virginia Senior Softball) is looking for players for a league that plays Tuesday and Thursday mornings at various fields in Fairfax County. All women over 40 and men over 50 are invited to participate. This is a large league with 3 different levels of play. Several Golden Girls play in this league and can attest that is lots of fun and great exercise. For more information, visit www.nvss.org.

G-BAY

FOR SALE 2002 Dodge Ram Diesel, 2500 Quad Cab SLT, 5.9L Cummins 24V, Turbo Intercooled Diesel, 4 speed Auto Trans/47RE, 4WD Heavy Duty Truck w/bed liner. Boss Snow Plow hooked up and ready to plow. Extra set of 4 wheels. \$14,000 or best offer. Bettie Pell 703-201-4247.

Performance Xport Bicycle Trunk Rack - New, never opened. \$25.00, Bettie Pell 703-201-4247

GOLDEN GIRLS YARD SALE

Save all your unwanted treasures for the Golden Girls Yard Sale on March 17. All profits will be used to offset costs of the Golden Girls tournament in May. Donate only items in good condition that will sell –we don't want any leftovers!

Lynn Smith is in charge of this big event so contact her to volunteer your time with sorting, pricing, and selling.

703-333-5374 elynnsmith@juno.com

TOURNAMENT UPDATE - MAY 3-6

The Golden Girls tournament "Virginia is for Softball Lovers" is just waiting for teams to sign up. Our website www.goldengirls.org has all the information available and publicity has been distributed to several women's softball websites and managers. Our sponsorship efforts have been paying off – we currently have about \$1800 in pledges but of course, could use more to help offset the costs. Thanks to all who have volunteered their services. One area where we really need help is for scorekeepers on Thursday, May 3. A group of great guys from NVSS have volunteered to keep score the rest of the days but since this is an NVSS league day, they can't help then. You just have to keep track of runs and outs for both teams – none of the other "advanced" stuff. Another area that needs a volunteer is a registrar who will check in the teams before play begins on Thursday and Friday mornings; perhaps this could be combined with the job of posting the results on the master schedule board. If you can possibly help out in either of these capacities, please let Marilyn Mallery (571-261-9163 mamallery@comcast.net) know ASAP. A special treat is an exhibition game that will be held on Sunday afternoon between a combined Golden Girls (60, 65, 70) team and the "Golden Boys" (the volunteer scorekeepers). This matchup has been going on for a couple of years and is always a lot of fun.



DONNA'S MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We have 56 members and 13 affiliates signed up for 2012 thus far. That's not bad, but not great, either, given that we ended 2011 with a total of 199. Remember, ladies, you must be a 2012 member to participate in any **tournament on any Golden Girls tournament team**. The **league draft** will occur the first week of March. Any **ads** for the directory must be in by March 9 (the last time you will have a choice of shirt size). If you still want to receive **newsletters and be part of "ggsoftball" e-mails**, you must be a member by March 15. So fill 'em out and send 'em in!

I know you get tired of writing out the same old information over and over, but you'd be surprised at how many email addresses, telephone numbers, and contact details change from year to year, so I record only what I see on the application. Use an address label if you like for the residence items, but please be thorough on the rest. And remember, just because you do not subtract the \$5 discount for email newsletters does not mean that you will automatically get them hardcopy. Unless you check the "hardcopy" box, the default is .pdf email via "ggsoftball" (editor's preference).

[Newsletter editor note: if at all possible, please opt to receive your newsletter by e-mail and print your own copy if you want hardcopy. The cost of stamps and supplies exceeds the \$5 amount and printing and addressing the newsletter is time consuming. If you do not have a computer, it's the only choice 😊

TOURNAMENT TEAM NEWS

60s Win 5th Winter National Tournament in 6 Years

By Peg Moyer

In November, the 60s ventured to sunny Florida to play in the Winter Nationals and came home victorious. We have now won our division in this tournament for 5 out of the last 6 years (2006, 2008-2011). Would you believe – there were three 60s teams at this tournament and we never played either of the other two teams in our age group, Village Diamonds and Grey Power. Here's how that happened. There were two 55s, three 60s, and two 65s who were all grouped together for pool play. The 55s played each of the 60s, the 60s played both 55 teams and a 65 team, and the 65 teams played each other and two of the 60s. (Actually, to accomplish this Grey power played a fourth game against the other 65 team).

Our first game was against our own 55 team and it was really quite a battle with the lead changing hands several times. They prevailed 18-15 on the strength of nine runs in the open inning when we failed to pull back in front in the bottom of the inning.

Next we faced another 55 team, this one from the Villages in Florida, the younger Vixens team. We won that game 11-4. Our final pool play game was against the Golden Gals 65 team. Marcia had a home run and we turned two double plays. Final score was 18-13 us.

For double elimination, they combined the 60s and 65s. We were the number one seed. The other two 60s teams each lost to a 65 team thus falling into the loser's bracket where they played each other. Grey Power sent the Village Diamonds home in a thrilling one run game that went at least two International tiebreaker innings. We played the Vixens 65 team (Darlene's team) and when the dust cleared we had scored 24 runs to their 8 (3 + 5 differential runs). Our defense was spectacular. We got the first nine batters out and turned two double plays. It was the fifth inning before they got a runner as far as second and managed to score their 3 runs.

On the last morning we played the other undefeated team, Golden Gals 65s who had sent Grey Power to the loser's bracket. We won the game 19 to 8. In addition to our hitting we had stellar defense. We turned four double plays, including two that were made with a runner on third. Ground ball to Peg at shortstop, checked the runner, and threw to Trip at first who then rifled it home to AD. Picture perfect! We then waited to see which 65 team would come back up out of the loser's bracket to play the championship game. Darlene's team sent Grey Power home and then lost to the Golden Gals, 7-5.

Since we were already the champions for the 60s and they were the champions for the 65s, the Golden Gals elected not to play us in the overall championship game. So that's the story of how we never played a team in our own age division. This was definitely an interesting scenario.

The 65s Are Getting Organized

By Marilyn Mallery

Anyone interested in playing tournament competitive ball and will be at least 65 years old by 31 December 2012 is invited to our team meeting on Sunday, January 29 - rescheduled thanks to Mother Nature's tantrum on the 21st. Contact me for details if I don't already have you on my list.

HOW THE GOLDEN GIRLS COMMUNICATE

The Golden Girls depend heavily on the Internet to communicate with each other. If you do not use a computer, be sure to let your team manager know so she can call you when there are game cancellations; otherwise it is up to you to check your e-mail before heading out to a game when the weather is questionable. I thought it would be handy to refresh everyone on all the means available to communicate with each other.

- Every member will receive a directory with contact information for everyone who is a member by March 15. We periodically put out updates/changes to the directory in the newsletter for those joining after that date.
- To facilitate electronic communications among the members, we have a group e-mail address that Donna Packard maintains. If your e-mail changes, it is up to you to let Donna know so she can change it in the group e-mail. To send a message to ALL the Golden Girls, type "ggsoftball@yahoogroups.com" in the "To:" field of your e-mail. Please remember that this means of communication is for general Golden Girls news and announcements. Do not use it to promote any businesses, forward jokes, virus warnings, etc.
- The mostly monthly newsletter is a means to share non-urgent news to all members. It is sent to all members with an e-mail address via the group e-mail described above. I make hardcopies for those who opt for that method on their registration, but I want to keep this method to a minimum. All newsletters since last October are archived on the website.
- Our official web-site that is open to anyone with internet access is www.goldengirls.org. This is the information we present to the world to let them know about the Golden Girls. Several new members have found us through the website; it is also easy to refer anyone who wants information about the organization to a single spot where most questions can be answered.
- There is also a members-only website where members can post stuff that only members would care about. To access this website, go to www.myfamily.com. To proceed any further, you must obtain a username and changeable password from Donna Packard; once you have this, go to the upper right corner where it says "Already have an account?" and click "sign in" with your username and password. Our webpage is called "GGShare" and contains all kinds of fun stuff about the members. Anyone can add anything to this website, and it will be seen only by Golden Girls.

WE'RE NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN

Cats have 32 muscles in each ear.....Snails can sleep for three years.

A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.

February 1865 is the only month in recorded history not to have a full moon.

All the ants in Africa weigh more than ALL the elephants..... Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite

There are more chickens than people in the world Almonds are members of the peach family.

Leonardo Da Vinci invented the scissors.....Winston Churchill was born in a ladies' room during a dance.