

GOLDEN GIRLS NEWS

OCTOBER 2013

The Fall season ended last Saturday so another Golden Girl games year is over. Take a few minutes to look back at all the fun you had... remember that great play you made during a game? How about that hit that awed your teammates? Or maybe it was some spectacular play or hit by a teammate? And the funny jokes and kidding around shared with your teammates? Doesn't it feel good to be a Golden Girl?

Now that we've rehashed the past, let's talk about the present. This is the time of year that we elect officers for the coming year and recognize fellow teammates at our annual membership meeting. This year it will be held **on November 13 at 7:30 at the Louise Archer Elementary school** located at 324 Nutley St SW in Vienna...just up the road from Meadow Lane and Southside. Janet Weeks has worked hard to get a slate of nominees for the vacant positions; an absentee ballot with instructions is attached to this newsletter. If you cannot attend the meeting, you can mail the ballot to Janet or you can e-mail her your vote. The important thing is to VOTE! We must have a quorum of votes to make the election official. The governing Board and their hard work make Golden Girls possible so give them your support by voting. Just to entice you to attend the meeting, 4 gas cards will be given away as door prizes. Bettie's infamous Lost & Found box will also be there hoping to find homes for its contents. Other enticements are a book exchange and team dinners prior to meeting. What a night!

So what about the future? The Holiday party at Lynn Smith's home 3519 Woodburn Rd, Annandale is the perfect way to officially end 2013 Golden Girl style. This gala event will be held **Sunday, December 8 from 1-4 p.m.** Lynn will send out a bulletin as the event gets closer as to what is provided and what is needed. It's a known fact that Golden Girls are great cooks in addition to being great softball players. Looking even further ahead, we plan to hold the Winter Workout program on Mondays; more details to follow.

2014 will be our 25th anniversary and the Board wants to make it a very special year. Ideas are being tossed around on what we can do to really make it stand out. If you have any suggestions, Barbara Jacobik would love to hear from you.

Membership Report

The Golden Girls organization had a banner year in 2013. This is how the membership looks for 2013:

Affiliates: 28
Players who play league and tournament teams: 49
League only players: 57
Tournament only players: 53
Members who do not play league or tournament: 6
Grand total of 193 members

Keep in your prayers

Benny Mathers (Gloria's husband) is recovering from the first of two cancer surgeries- first on his lung. When he gets his strength back, he'll have the second surgery on his mouth. In the meantime, Gloria is trying to fatten him up and get his body fluids balanced. Please keep both of them in your thoughts as they work through these difficult times.

Gina Byron will be having eye surgery on 31 October (all Treats, no Tricks) and foot surgery on 5 November... not a very pleasant couple of weeks ahead for her.

Jane Roger's son, David, suffered a massive heart attack in late September. Both could use your thoughts and prayers.

Ida Wright lost her brother last month after a short battle with cancer. Our deepest sympathy goes to Ida and her family.

For you tournament players... Layla Brant, one of the SPA Women's Softball Directors, passed away due to complications after heart surgery. Remembrances should be made to the American Diabetes Association.

Barbara Hyde of the Maryland Roadrunners and long-time friend of many Golden Girls passed away a couple of weeks ago.

Calendar

Wednesday, November 13 @7:30 p.m - Annual Meeting at Louise Archer Elementary. This is a very important meeting for all members. There will be election of officers plus team awards and of course, a barrel of fun.

Sunday, December 8 1-5 p.m. - Holiday party at Lynn Smith's home in Annandale.

Wednesday, December 11 @ 7 p.m. - GG Board Meeting. Wesley United Methodist Church 711 Spring St. Vienna. All members are invited.

Save Those Bottle Caps!

The collection of plastic and/or metal lids and caps from bottles, jars, cartons, etc. continues through March 2014. All colors and all sizes up to 3 inches in diameter. They are needed for a 'green' art project that my sister is doing with her art students next year. You can bring what you have to the annual meeting and start a new collection. Thanks! Sue Duttine

Recording Secretary and Social Chair Needed!

You may have noticed that there is a blank next to Recording Secretary on the ballot. That's because no one realizes what a prestigious job this is! Seriously, being the Recording Secretary is a critical function that allows the Golden Girls to run smoothly. Maintaining accurate records enables us to avoid re-inventing the wheel or relying on people's memories (now where did I put my keys???) . As Recording Secretary you

- Attend monthly Board meetings (you get July off)
- Take the minutes and record them in a Word document
- Circulate the minutes to Board members and make corrections

- File hard copy of Board-approved minutes in a binder
- Occasionally research an issue in the minutes

It does not take more than 3-4 hours a month and you can expect some laughs along the way. If you think that this sounds like something you can do, please e-mail Janet Weeks at janetweeks@verizon.net.

Did you always want a career as a party planner but had to give it up to make big bucks as a softball player??? Now you can have both (party planner and softball player careers, not the big bucks)! After 9 years as Social Chair, Midge Holmes is stepping down.

As Social Chair, you are a voting member of the Board of Directors. We usually meet the third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. or after the games during the season. There are just a couple of social events during the year: the breakfast in the spring and a late summer/early fall event. We also have the holiday party which Lynn Smith has graciously hosted for the last few years. While Midge has helped Lynn with the party, it has not taken much of Midge's time.

The biggest social event on the calendar is the Breakfast. Bettie Pell has already reserved the room for April 5. Usually, Laura and Baz help with registration. Then there's the band, led by Linda Steele (and always in search of new members). We have been debating on the Board how we want to celebrate our 25th year in 2014 and welcome your fresh ideas.

Fun Day was just the latest of our in-season events. During recent years, we have featured All-Star games. In the more distant past, we had a tournament for all league teams. The event probably isn't as important (open to ideas, in other words) as the opportunity to socialize and eat some really good food. Softball isn't Golden Girls' only talent!!

If interested in the Social Chair, please contact Barbara Jacobik at 703-378-2390 or Jacobik@juno.com.

Winter Getaway 2105

By Marilyn Mallery

The Golden Girls and Friends Winter Getaway for **2015** will be a spectacular trip to the Galapagos Islands! I know, I know... 2015??? It is very difficult to get lodging on the Galapagos Islands and it must be booked 15-18 months in advance so that is why we are talking about the trip now. The dates of the trip are Feb 2-7 2015 and we will visit the 3 major islands of the Galapagos... this is NOT a boat trip but a land trip. We have a limited number of rooms on hold that are being reserved first come, first served basis so if you want to take part in this fabulous experience you need to get your deposit in quickly. Contact me for more information and booking details.

For those of you unfamiliar with the Winter Getaway, the Galapagos Islands will be the 15th in the series. It all started in 2001 when a group of the Golden Girls were going to a Florida tournament in February and we all thought "while we're here, let's extend to someplace warm" and we went on a cruise to Mexico and Grand Cayman... had a wonderful time!!! Next year we decided we had to repeat the experience so we went on another cruise in the Caribbean. It's been a tradition ever since to travel with your Golden Girls friends and get away from the glum winter weather. We have done several Caribbean cruises, 2 all-inclusive resorts in the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Peruvian jungle and Peruvian Andes, South Africa, cruise around the tip of South America, and the upcoming trip to Australia and New Zealand in 2014. The nucleus of the group are members of Golden Girls and includes their spouses, friends, neighbors, and relatives. We ALWAYS have a blast exploring various parts of the world and the 2015 trip will be no exception.

Don't delay on this one... 6 of the rooms are already taken and some other deposits are expected very soon.

Bettie's CHO News

WOW, it's that time again.! The holiday season! Once again we will be collecting checks, cash, gift cards from Target, Wal-Mart, Giant Grocery, movie theaters, McDonalds, Wendy's, canned food and hygiene products for both men and women and baby items. They especially like that we do the hygiene products, as most groups don't think about that. However, remember this is also the Xmas Season and they need gifts for kids as well as teenagers. They also mentioned coats for 0-12 yr. olds.

The donations will be collected at the Annual Meeting and our annual Christmas Party at Lynn Smith's house.

GGSoftball Update

Last newsletter I mentioned that Yahoo!, the service provider for our GGSoftball group e-mail address had really messed things up and we would have to find another. Yahoo! finally got their act together and fixed the major problems that were preventing me from being able to add new members. So we are back in full operation and do not have to secure another group e-mail address. Whew!

Passing It Along

By Marilyn Mallery

I recently was in need of a new softball bag and found a great place that specializes in all kinds of softball equipment... gloves, bats, bags, shoes, everything. It's called "Diamonds and Ice" and is located at 6444 Trading Square in Haymarket (near the Wal-Mart and Kohls) right off I-66 at Exit 40. The guys in the store are softball players and were very helpful and offered a 20% discount on anything in the store to any Golden Girl. If you are looking for something in the softball line, go check them out.

Tournament Teams News

The Softball Players Association presented Beth and George Hersey with a very special award at the Dalton tournament. They could not be there as Beth is still recovering from her health issues so the 70s team accepted the award in their stead. The prestigious "Senior Spirit Award of Merit" is not given out lightly or frequently and is given to recognize those senior softball players and coaches who go above and beyond to promote senior women's' softball. We could not agree more that Beth and George richly deserve this recognition.

While we're talking of recognitions, the following players were recognized at the National Senior Games (Senior Olympics) in July for their playing performances at the event:

First Team

65+ Roc Johnson

70+ Midge Holmes

Second Team

50+ Brenda Farris

60+ Katy Page & Dory Wagner

70+ Betsy Duce, June Sonosky, and Fran Green

Third Team

50+ Mary Miller

60+ Peg Moyer & Diane Gardner

FAIRFAX COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL

The Fairfax County Senior Citizens Council consists of representatives appointed or elected by each of the senior organizations in Fairfax County that wishes to participate. These 60 to 80 organizations are as varied as the county senior centers; AARP and NARFE chapters; social clubs; faith-, community- or sports-based clubs and support organizations. The Council's primary purpose is to facilitate exchange of information between the County government or agencies and the county's senior population. The Council sponsors three popular events for seniors each year: The kickoff breakfast in September, the holiday party in December and the senior recognition luncheon in May. Golden Girls has traditionally chosen members to be honored at that luncheon.

The Council is currently organized by region, corresponding to the County's Neighborhood and Community Services regions. The representatives to the Council meet regionally about four or five times per year. The executive board consisting of delegates from the regions meets about three times each year to plan events and discuss Council business. Joyce Pfeffer and Toni Letaw are Golden Girls' representatives, presently assigned to combined region 3/4 meeting at the Little River Glen Senior Center.

The topics discussed at the regional meetings are quite varied. Some of the presentations may be of interest to Golden Girls members, their families, friends or acquaintances or other organizations to which members belong. Among the speakers have been: a public health nurse discussing aches and pains, a lawyer on elder law issues emphasizing quality of life, Torrey Piper on prescription drug discount cards, Ken Plummer on Fairfax County Public Library access services, a woman from the health department on colds and flu, a Fairfax County social work supervisor, a woman from the Area Agency on Aging discussing the Fairfax 50+ plan, someone from Reston Interfaith, a woman providing senior care services, two wives whose husbands have Alzheimer's and who started Memory Cafes, a woman from the state AARP Community Outreach talking about their home fit guide and other services for seniors and lastly John Orr from the Fairfax County Health Department discussing ticks and mosquitos and insect borne diseases. The regional meetings are open to interested parties, but the topics are rarely known in advance and subject to last minute changes.



GOLDEN GIRLS ABSENTEE BALLOT

If you are a league player and/or a tournament player or a non-playing member who paid \$40 dues, you are a voting member. EVERYONE'S VOTE IS NEEDED.

Ballots must be returned to Janet Weeks no later than 9 November 2014 by mail or e-mail.

6225 N. 12th St. Arlington, VA 22205

janetweeks@verizon.net

Slate of Officers for 2014

President: Barbara Jacobik

Vice President: Terri Roman

Treasurer: Ann Weinheimer

Financial Secretary: Bettie Pell

Corresponding Secretary: Carol Babineau

Recording Secretary:

Members at Large (3):

Mary Allmond

Annie Sneden

Nancy Williams

Your signature: _____