

# GOLDEN GIRLS NEWS

## NOVEMBER 2012

2012 has been a very busy year for the Golden Girls. Not that this is anything unusual...

- The Winter Program got underway in January attempting to whip our bodies into shape for the 2012 outdoor season.
- February was highlighted by Beth Hersey's induction ceremony into the Washington Metropolitan Area Slow Pitch Hall of Fame.
- The hugely successful Yard Sale in March was a massive effort but went off flawlessly thanks to many hands.
- The annual GG breakfast got us all energized and ready to play ball.
- The Spring/Summer league got underway and continued until the end of July. Fortunately not too many rainouts.
- The Golden Girl "Virginia is for Softball Lovers" tournament was held in May. Although the number of teams attending was disappointing, the quality of play was exceptional.
- August was time off to rest our weary bodies and get geared up for All Star Game at the end of the month.
- The Fall season was played during September and October again with not too many rainouts.
- The early November membership meeting presented the opportunity to recognize players whom the managers felt gave a special pizzazz to their teams.
- The Holiday party in December will be our "last hoorah" for 2012 and sure to bring laughs and sparkle to the holiday season.
- Throughout the entire year, our tournament teams travelled all over the US bringing back numerous awards.

None of this would have been possible without countless hours of dedication from so many volunteers in the organization. This is what makes Golden Girls the unique organization that it is.

### MEMBERSHIP MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Team managers selected the following players they felt gave that "extra something" to the team throughout the year:

#### Azalea Mania

Denise Brown "The Traveler"

Eve Edwards "Ever Ready for Mania"

#### Red Devilettes

Rose Dummer "Dirt Devil"

Midge Holmes "High Priestess Devilette"

#### Purple Passion

Rita Ritter "Above and Beyond"

Sherry Doud "MVP"

#### Limelights

Teresa Scott "Slugger"

Rosemary Wykoff "Best Catch of the Season"

The awards were ceramic cups custom made by our own June Sonosky in the team color and bearing the Golden Girls logo, "2012" and the awardee's name and award title.

**What Golden Girl event would not be complete without door prizes? The lucky winners were:**

Carmen Campbell won the \$50 gas card

Kathy Collett and Fern Knauf each won a \$25 gas card

Pat Blackmon won the crazy electrical batting guy that Katy Page donated. Everyone wanted to win that special novelty.

**Other highlights:**

Kate Reilly was presented an oversized towel with her name and the GG logo – another custom made June Sonosky special because she is "throwing in the towel" after serving for 6 years as GG's equipment manager.

And, oh yeah, we elected the 2013 officers:

President : Barbara Jacobik
Vice President : Terry Roman
Recording Secretary : Diane Howard
Corresponding Secretary : Carol Babineau
Treasurer : Carmen Campbell
Financial Secretary : Beth Hersey
Members-at-Large : Katy Page, Mary Almond, Annie Sneedan

## **GGALENDER**

**December 9 @ 1:00 p.m. Holiday Party Extravaganza @ Lynn Smith's house 3519 Woodburn Rd; Annandale, VA**

**Golden Girls organization will supply:** Ham, rolls, condiments, table ware, coffee, tea, filtered water, and soda.

**What you can bring:** Your favorite hors d'oeuvre and finger foods (chips and dip, veggies, fruit, cheese and crackers, wings, shrimp, deviled eggs, small sandwiches, nuts, compact salads, etc.) **OR** a dessert able to feed 8-10 people (we only need 6 or 7 people to bring dessert.) **OR** your favorite beverage to share.

An evite will be coming out soon and you can indicate in the comments section what you are bringing if you know. Your hostess does not need to know, but it might help others decide what to bring.

**Parking:** If you have a need to be close to the house, perhaps surgery recovery or difficulty walking let Lynn know and she'll save a spot in the driveway. Otherwise, in good weather, her neighbor will let us park on his lawn (as he did last year) or there is lots of curb parking in front of the house and into the neighborhood along Guinevere Street and others.

**Christmas Tree Ornament exchange:** If you want to participate, bring an ornament and time will be set aside to exchange.

**Football:** Game starts at 1pm and the Redskins are at home playing the Ravens.

**December 12 @ 7:00 p.m.** - GG Board Meeting Wesley United Methodist Church 711 Spring St. Vienna. All the 2012 and 2013 officers are asked to be present.

**January 7 Mondays @9:30** Start of Winter Conditioning program at Michael & Son (formerly DULLES) Sportsplex 21610 Atlantic Blvd in Sterling, VA. Space is limited! Contact Beth Hersey for details. Cost is \$70 for 10 weeks – a real bargain!

**April 6 @ 9 a.m.** – Breakfast of Champions! The annual Golden Girls Breakfast will be held at the Battlefield Best Western in Manassas (our usual place). The theme for the 2013 Breakfast is "Animal Crackers." Members are encouraged to look for costumes, hats, ears, noses, or masks with animal themes, domestic, or wild, to wear to the breakfast. If members hear something funny in the dugouts this fall, write it down and email these jokes to Midge Holmes. More details later but definitely keep this Saturday open for fun!

# CHO NEWS

Bettie Pell reminds that we will be collecting cash or gift card donations for teenagers for the Christmas Season at the Annual Holiday Party on December 9th. Suggestions for gift cards are Walmart, Target, movie theaters, clothing stores, fast food restaurants, etc. Please indicate the amount on gift cards if not stated. Teenage gifts are also accepted (hats, gloves, makeup, costume jewelry, soccer or basket balls). Checks should be made out to CHO. Thank you for caring.

*Donna Packard received the following note from CHO:*

Hi Donna and all my friends at the Golden Girls,

I've had a relationship with your organization for so many years, except for actually playing ball, I feel like one of you! Thanks so much for continuing to support those in need in the Vienna/Oakton area. I know many of you live elsewhere which makes your support even more impressive.

We appreciate the donation of food, cash and gift cards. For the holidays, I sent letters to 235 clients/families to see if they need help. The responses have been pouring in. I haven't received the calls for help from the schools yet---that should come this week. I can tell you that I'm afraid to tally the number of families. Each year I hope we will have enough in donations for provides gifts for the younger kids, gift cards for the teens and food cards for the parents. Each year we seem to be able to take care of those coming to us because our surrounding community is so supportive. Thanks for your part in helping to make the holidays a little brighter for these families.

I look forward to continuing our relationship (off the field!!).

Carolyn Mysel (CHO Food & Holiday Chair)

## KEEP IN YOUR THOUGHTS

Laura Carver and Stacy Colby both recovering from knee surgeries.

## THANK YOU....

I'd like to include a heartfelt "Thanks" to all who sent me the wonderful get well card and gift. I keep the card on my desk and think of all of you every time I sit down to use my computer. Wishing everyone a wonderful Holiday, and hope to see you all at the Christmas Party.

Thanks, Diane Howard

## DONNA'S MEMBERSHIP NEWS

It's Time to Hang it Up!

Hazel Parker was membership chairman for nearly ten years - until 1999. I've been at it ever since - 12+ years, and frankly, I'm burned out. It's time to hand it over to someone younger and more involved than I. So, no later than the breakfast, I will give the PO box key and the files to the president or, hopefully, the new volunteer. If desired, I am willing to do the early 2013 membership work up to that point and put out the directory. That would give the new person several months in which to gear up her own computer files and develop the formats she wants to use. But if the new person wants to take over some or all of it immediately, hooray to that.

Perhaps I shouldn't do this, but in all fairness I think I must list some of the membership tasks that have evolved over the years:

- Format, print and send out applications at the beginning of the year. (It's my opinion that we are more likely to get returns if they are printed rather than having each person print out her own, but that will be up to the board to decide.)
- Maintain computer files. I've developed four 1) The current membership file, with names, addresses, birthday, league info, etc. 2) The history file, with names, date joined, and years of membership for all 800+ women who have been Golden Girls, and 3) a file in the format used for the directory, with personal info, including emergency contact, and 4) a mailing label file. (If you're more agile with data files than I, you may be able to combine some of these and extract the data in the format needed.)
- Produce the directories, label them, and sort by team for the breakfast. Mail out those for out of town or non-playing members or affiliates. (You may be able to work a deal with someone who will do the directory if you provide the membership info.)

- Prepare the information used for the draft. Post-draft, give equipment manager the counts of shirt sizes by color and make a list for the managers about who gets what shirt size.
- Add/delete/update entries in the ggsoftball email list. (Could be delegated out.)
- Add/delete/update entries in the GGSHARE membership list. (I'm not convinced this site should be continued since we have the new and improved web site and very few members access this site.)
- Regularly check the P.O. Box for applications, bills, etc. Deposit checks and report them to the treasurer. If the chairman does not live near the P.O., or does not come that way on 123, probably someone else can swing by periodically. Or possibly a new box could be rented. Or applications could be directed to the new chairman's home.
- For those who join after the draft/breakfast, assign them to a team, notify them and the manager, and provide them with a hat and directory.
- Provide a list of breakfast attendees to the greeting-label makers and a count to the social chair.
- Make up various other lists as requested, such as tournament players, monthly birthday celebrants' dates, names and addresses, etc.
- Attend monthly meetings.

Piece of cake. I'm sure someone will grab the chance and do a bang-up job. I'll give her all the transition help I can. Let me (oldeepee@gmail.com) or the president (jacobik@gmail.com) know asap so that we can get the show on the road.

## **EVER PLAYED A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT?**

The Golden Girls band is looking for new members. Everyone is welcome, so dust off your high school band instrument and join us. If you want to practice the music contact me, Linda Steele, and I can get you the music. We will be playing for the Golden Girls breakfast in the Spring. [Linda.K.Steele1@nga.mil](mailto:Linda.K.Steele1@nga.mil)

## **TOURNAMENT TEAMS NEWS**

It was suggested by the GG Board that we needed a Tournament Team Coordinator for the organization. This person would be the central point of contact for all the tournament teams both inside and outside the organization. Other duties would be to alert tournament team managers of upcoming events, good deals on hotels, and any other information to help the teams run smoothly. Many times ladies who are wondering about tournament play have questions about just what tournament play is all about but don't know who to ask – this person would be their contact. Marilyn Mallery (moi!) has stepped up to the plate to take this on.

One of the first topics of general interest is how many tournament teams can Golden Girls field in 2013. In a perfect world, we would like to have a 40/45+, 50+, 55+, 60+, 65+, 70+, and 75+. However, in the real world, we just don't have enough players to do this. We are rapidly approaching (and may have already reached) the possibility of having a 75+ team for 2013 – wouldn't that be awesome! Since players "age up" each year, all the teams need to re-assess rosters annually to be sure they can field a competitive team. To do this, the managers need to know who might be interested in playing tournament ball so your help is needed. At the November meeting, a list was circulated asking those who are interested in playing tournament ball to sign up. So for those of you who were not at the meeting and might be considering playing, please contact me [mamallery@comcast.net](mailto:mamallery@comcast.net) or 571-261-9163 with any questions you may have about what's involved or just to pass your name along to the appropriate manager. Speaking of which, the tournament teams generally have organizational meetings in January to plan schedules and set up logistical matters; at which time, I will get a single point of contact for each team for any information that needs sharing. All of this applies to "full time" and "tournament only" players.

### **The GG 70s YEAR IN A GLANCE**

**by Beth Hersey**

Our 2012 season kicked off in sunny Pensacola, Florida. We must have been tired after the long trip because we did not fare well with our competition. We returned home and hit the practice field.

We were unable to field a 70s division for our Golden Girl Tournament in Virginia but our team stepped up to the plate to assist the organization in putting this tournament together which was a success.

Our next challenge was in Ohio where we stubbed our toe and came home with one win. Now, it's back to the practice field again.

On to Penn Hills to participate in the Annual Kay Raye tournament with only 11 players and a lot of heart, we came home with smiles and a championship under our belt. Practice does help!

Our final two tournaments were the SPA tournaments held in Dalton, GA and Jacksonville, FL. I must say that these two tournaments were the best ever. The fields, the officiating, the tournament directors, the local towns folks could not have been better and both tournaments featured outstanding opening ceremonies highlighting our military.

Both Dalton, GA and Jacksonville had 7 teams in our division, where we played 500 ball in both tourneys. It was exciting to visit different cities for a change.

We would like to thank our anonymous donor, the GG organization and all others for their kind monetary support, it is truly appreciated. We also would like to thank our sister team (the 65s) for loaning players when we were short players.

And as always, WIN OR LOSE, we always have a good time.

### 60s Report – Jacksonville

by Peg Moyer

For our last tournament of the year we travelled to Jacksonville, Florida to participate in the First Inaugural SPA Women's World Series. There were 4 other teams in our division: Ohio Cardinals, Jolico, Fun Bunch, and Smokey Mountain Stars. We did not start out well – we lost all three of our pool play games: Cardinals beat us 10-5, Smokey Mtn. Stars won 12-8, and the Fun Bunch really took us to task 14-0.

We were seeded 5th and played our first bracket game against the Stars who were the fourth seed. We came from behind (down one run) in the bottom of the seventh on a home run by Stevie. Katy was on third so we won 10-9. Next we faced the number one seed – Ohio Cardinals and they sent us to the loser's bracket 16-8. Jolico lost, to the Fun Bunch, so they were our next opponent. We finally found our bats and came out swinging to come out on top 26-16. This assured we would finish no worse than third.

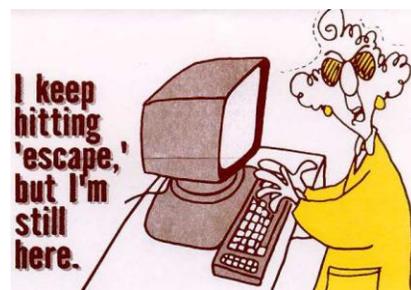
The Fun Bunch became the only undefeated team sending the Cardinals down to be our next opponent. The third time was a charm as we fought our way into the Championship Game with a narrow 8-7 victory. Revenge was sweet! We made a much better showing this time against the Fun Bunch but we fell short of forcing the IF game by four runs losing 18-14.

Our All World Team representatives were: Batch, Fay, Marcia, Stevie and Diane Gardner who was also earned the Best Defensive Player Award. We will now take a few months off to recuperate and regroup before we start the 2013 season. Thanks for all the support from the many Golden Girls who always cheer us on and congratulations to the 70s on their Silver and the 65s on their Gold Medal finish! Golden Girls Rock!

## WORDS OF WISDOM



I would put my cell phone in my bra but I can't hear it ring from that far away.



**NOTE: THERE WILL NOT A DECEMBER NEWSLETTER... NEXT ONE IN JANUARY**