

GOLDEN GIRLS NEWS

APRIL 2012

The 2012 season is underway after a wonderfully hilarious breakfast sendoff. If you missed the breakfast, you missed something special; be sure to plan on coming to next year's! The 60s, 65s, and 70s tournament teams knocked it out of the park with their shenanigans and Courtney's tribute to Title IX for women's sport was a home run. The breakfast buffet was delicious as usual – what a morning we had!

Midge Holmes (our inimitable social chairlady) sends a huge thank you to those of you who participated in this year's Breakfast entertainment. She learned from Bettie that the Best Western wait staffers compete to work at our breakfast because they always have such a fun time. Now what better endorsement can we get!

This past week your GG Board approved the date of Saturday 25 August for our League All Star Game. We will play one game at 10 AM at Southside. Players will be voted in by the members on each of the 4 league teams. To qualify a player must have played one third of all league games. Family and friends are welcome to attend. The GG Fun Band will likely play. Free hot dogs with all the "fixins" will be served up to all spectators and players. Let's hope that this year we will not be canceled due to the dire predictions of a hurricane as we were last year with fickle "Irene."

TOURNAMENT UPDATE - MAY 3-6

Beth and Marilyn are very frustrated and extremely disappointed at the team registration for the upcoming tournament. It's a real mystery why more teams aren't coming, especially after the very effusive response after our last tournament. Tournament players handed out flyers to other teams at all the Fall tournaments which were met with "Sign us up" and "We'll be there" from a host of teams but when the rubber hit the road, only a few teams sent in the forms and fees. To make the situation worse, four teams who had assured us they were coming pulled out at the last minute. It is especially disappointing after all the hard work that was done raising funds to defray costs to give nice cash awards to the participating teams. Whew! I feel better getting that off my chest!

The tournament will go on despite these obstacles. Since the brackets for the 65s and 70s collapsed with the last minute pull outs, we will use an "exhibition" format – just show off how senior women can play softball and have a good time doing it! On Thursday, May 3 and May 4 we will divide up into teams of whoever shows up at the fields and play a few games just for the fun of it. **Everyone please come on out to Valley View Park at 11930 Valley View Drive in Nokesville (near Manassas), bring your ball equipment, and join in the fun.** These are beautiful fields with electronic scoreboards, a fully stocked snack bar, and nice bathrooms.

Starting on Friday, May 4 the three 60s team will start their tournament. The three teams are: California Spirit, Smoky Mountain Stars (Tennessee), and our own Golden Girls. Let's all root for all these ladies from far and near who will compete in a lively event.

There are four 50s teams and 2 55s teams who will compete on Saturday, May 5 and Sunday, May 6. Saturday there will be a three game bracket format combining the age groups and then on Sunday the 55s will play the best two out of three and the 50s will play a true double elimination contest. The 50s teams are: Golden Girls, Phenomenal Ladies (Woodbridge, VA), Dream Girlz (Norfolk, VA), and Connecticut Senior Moments 50. The 55s teams are: Maryland Roadrunners and Connecticut Senior Moments 55.

A schedule for all events will be posted on www.goldengirls.org in the next few days. A note will go out soon to all the volunteers detailing dates and times when their help will be greatly appreciated.

We owe a huge round of applause and thanks to our very generous sponsors. If you are in need of the commercial services represented, please give our sponsors priority.

Golden Girls Organization \$800 + over \$1820 proceeds from Yard Sale

Comfort Inn (host hotel) \$150

Fairfield Inn (host hotel) \$150

Dave Trosko, Financial Advisor, Morgan Stanley Smith Barney \$200

Lana Ford in memory of Bob \$150

Kittelberger and Sons Plumbing \$500

Stephen Dulaney, State Farm Insurance \$100

G-BAY

Anyone need to pick up some furniture and household items?

For Sale: two nice big armoires, rolltop desk, recliner, easy chair, elliptical, end table, two mink blankets, rocking chair, standing lamp, two table lamps, grandmother clock, art (one is a G. Harvey for those western art lovers).

Contact me for pictures and prices. nancydavenport1@cox.net
571-641-9057 Heath

For Sale

Reduce your cooling bills and prevent sun damage with breezy Coolaroo, outdoor shade sails. I have two 16.5 triangle shade sails, green and sand, brand new still in the box. Asking \$100/each. Contact Patty Jackson actionjackson87@verizon.net

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.

NEEDING HUGS

Sue Duttine's husband Steve has been released from the hospital but is still facing health issues. Please keep both in your thoughts and prayers.

Connie Jamison's husband "Pooch" passed away on April 17 after a long struggle with Alzheimers. Connie asks that remembrances be made to Animal Care and Assistance Fund PVSEC 807 Camp Home Road Pittsburgh, PA 15237. Condolences can be sent to Connie at 1722 McElhinny Ave Pittsburgh PA 15207.

Midge Holmes's husband Chris is recovering from major shoulder surgery. We all wish him a speedy recovery!

Fran Green is slated for knee surgery on May 10. Get well soon but take your time to fully recover so we can have you back on the field at full speed.

Duska Adams needs a double hug on the recent loss of her aunt and her cousin.

Pam Osier is recovering from a pulled muscle she got at the first tournament team practice.

Anne Whatley is recovering nicely from her shoulder surgery in late December.

It was so good to see June Sonosky at the breakfast after her major shoulder reconstruction. She is recovering but it will be still quite awhile before she can return to play.

Gloria's husband, Benny, broke both the bones in his lower leg after falling off the tailgate of his truck. After a few days in the hospital, he is recovering at home. We all wish him a speedy recovery, especially Gloria.

Lani Etherton is limping around with a broken toe. We all know how painful that is!

DONNA'S MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We've added five new members and welcomed back several late returnees this month, so our current member total is 168. Our new members are **Robin Honabach** on the Red team; **Megan Rodham** and **Patricia Dunn** on the Azaleas; **Paula Kaufman** on the Purple, and **Louise Boone** and **Arlene Garner** on the Mint. Please make them feel welcome.

Several directory errors were pointed out to me: Diane SMITH, not Diane Howard is a Member at Large; Connie Jamison's email should read conniepooch@verizon.net; Rita Ritter is now using ritgogo@aol.com instead of cox.net; and Claudia Cason's new email address is cgcason@gmail.com. Please mark these in your directory. I will probably put out a supplement page next month that includes all the info on late-joining members.

WINTER PROGRAM



A picture is worth a thousand words!

TOURNAMENT TEAMS IN PENSACOLA APRIL 12-15

The 70s by Midge Holmes

Thanks to our manager, Beth Hersey and her inimitable husband, "Da Coach", George, our 70s team of 14 players had a great time in Pensacola in April 2012. Our age bracket enjoyed a tournament of five teams, including Golden Gals of Florida, a killer pounding machine; the Sportaculars from Canada, our longstanding nemesis; The Freedom Spirits of Florida, sporting a few new younger players; Tennessee with their regular long hitters and a fast runner named "Rabbit," and of course us. Pat Blackmon, cool as a cucumber, pitched all 6 games, striking out several opponents. Our one sweet triumph consisted of beating Canada the second time we played them. Nancy Williams and Margaret Keyes were selected for SPA World awards. Nancy was a hitting machine leadoff for most of the games, and as soon as she scored, was back in the game running for others. Nancy was also patient at the plate and walked successfully as leadoff more than once. Margaret had a super batting average, and one of her hits hit the fence in left field. Margaret hit a triple once, as did Bunny. Carmen walloped the ball, Lana hit well and made some amazing catches in left center. Betsy saw and caught many line drives at short field. Our team played good defense in both the infield and the outfield for the most part.

Jane got to first many times with her hits. And the rest of us had some fine moments as well. In one game, with much skill and pride, we successfully nailed (threw out) a runner at home with a super relay from left field, to shortstop, to pitcher, to catcher, thus thwarting a home run by one of our heavy hitting opponents. And although we lost all but one of our games, we had fun and scored fairly well against every opponent, demonstrating that our bats sometimes can be hot and threatening. It was especially rewarding to see our opponents in the outfield back up for our heavy hitters.

We finished the tournament without serious injury, despite the fact that Jane took one in the foot. She was soon OK to play after Nancy shared a home remedy potion that is available over the counter at CVS. Ask Nancy if you are curious. We were pleased to have Bunny back among us after having recovered totally from shoulder surgery from last September. Two of our regular players were unable to join us in Pensacola. We hope Lani recovers soon from her broken toe, and that June's tennis injuries are healed in time for our next tourney.

As always we appreciate Vern for his assistance. We also thank Batch for lending us her hot bat for one of our games.

We enjoyed watching our younger 65+ and 60+ teams play after we played our games. Congratulations to our 60+ team for winning their age bracket.

The 65s by Marilyn Mallery

When the 65s first planned on going to Pensacola, we were gloating over the fact that we had 16 players on the roster – such a great feeling after last year when we struggled to get 12 on our rosters. But we gloated too soon! As it turned out, we wound up with 11 players plus injured Baz to manage us and injured Anne to coach bases and sub run. None of the players could say they didn't get enough playing time. And to top it off, we went with just one practice session under our belts.

But everyone played with everything ounce they had within them (and then some) and we managed to wind up in fourth (out of six) place. Facing those tough Florida and Out West and "hand picked" teams is always challenging, but we put up a fight and gave them a scare. The weather was glorious, the fields were in great shape, we even had very good umpires, and surrounded by a host of great restaurants – what more could we have asked for? Several players spent Saturday soaking up some fun and sun at the magnificent snow white beaches before catching the Sunday flights home.

Our most deservedly MVPs were Ida "Speedy Gonzales" Wright and Jacqui "Strike'em Out" Viers. Thanks to all the ladies for hanging in there and making us proud to be Golden Girls.

**To write with a broken pencil is . . . pointless.
When fish are in schools they sometimes . . . take debate.
A thief who stole a calendar . . . got twelve months.
When the smog lifts in Los Angeles , . . . U.C.L.A.
The batteries were given out . . . free of charge.
A dentist and a manicurist married. . . . They fought tooth and nail.
A will is a . . . dead giveaway.
With her marriage, she got a new name . . . and a dress.
A boiled egg is . . . hard to beat.
When you've seen one shopping center . . . you've seen a mall.
Police were called to a day care where a three-year-old was . . . resisting a rest.
Did you hear about the fellow whose whole left side was cut off? . . . He's all right now.
A bicycle can't stand alone; . . . it is two tired.
When a clock is hungry . . . it goes back four seconds
The guy who fell onto an upholstery machine . . . was fully recovered.
He had a photographic memory . . . which was never developed.
Those who get too big for their britches will be . . . exposed in the end.
When she saw her first strands of gray hair, . . . she thought she'd dye.
Acupuncture: . . . a jab well done.**