

*SUN LAKES SPLASH*  
2009 ARTICLES

January 2009  
SENIOR SOFTBALL NEWS  
By Larry Wolfe

As you are cheering on your favorite football teams in the bowl games and NFL playoffs, the “Boys of Winter” will be limbering up to get ready for the Winter League season. The games begin Tuesday, January 6 and continue through March. If you’re interested in playing, contact Association President, Denny Davidson, at 883-9716.

The Fall League season concluded on December 18. As of press time, the Brenden Financial Services team, managed by Duane Kramer, was in first place with a glowing record of 12 wins against only four losses. Top hitters for each team were: Larry Kaufman, A-1 Golf Carts, with a league-leading batting average of .729; Floyd Mullen, Brenden Financial, .574; Dave Graham-Armstrong, Grande Valley Golf, .700; Jerry Galvagno, State Farm Insurance, .588; Chuck Myrick, Sun Lakes Realty, .676; and, Rich Nadler, Wells Fargo Bank, .724. The final standings and league leaders will be published in the next issue of the *Splash*.

The 65’s Travel Team, sponsored by Robson Ranch, recently competed in the Winter World Championship Tournament in Las Vegas. They finished in second place, losing out in the finals to the High Desert Roadrunners from New Mexico. Three players were selected to the All-Tournament Team: Al Grefsheim, who had an on-base percentage (OBP) of .871; Tom Lorgan (.867); and Ron Pennington (.731).

The 70’s Travel Team also participated in the Vegas tourney and finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place. Top hitters for the 70’s were Jesse Washington, Hal Kime, Jack Hofeditz and Larry Delaney. The 70’s will be hosting a tournament at the Field of Dreams on January 10-11. Come on out to see top notch competition and support our team. Admission is free.

Thanks to Sidelines Grille on the northwest corner of Queen Creek and Alma School for renewing their sponsorship of a billboard at the Field of Dreams. In addition, Sidelines is offering a 20% meal discount to anyone who mentions seeing the sign. Fred Fischer’s Investment Planning Company also recently renewed their sponsorship. If your business is interested in advertising at the Field of Dreams, please call Larry Wolfe at 802-2748 or submit an email request for additional information ([larryewolfe@msn.com](mailto:larryewolfe@msn.com)).

**February 2009**  
**SENIOR SOFTBALL NEWS**  
**By Larry Wolfe**

The Senior Softball Fall Season ended in December with the Brenden Financial Services team, managed by Duane Kramer, winning the pennant with a record of 15 wins and 9 losses. It was a very competitive season with only five games separating the first place team from the last place team in the six-team league. The league's top hitter was Dave Graham-Armstrong of the Grande Valley Golf Carts team who hit a robust .789. The remaining top ten hitters, based upon a minimum of 70 at bats, were: Larry Kaufman (.739); Rich Nadler (.733); Jack Strauss (.714); Ed Kraemer (.713); Billy Kee (.699); Dennis Bernaiche (.624); Harry Roehl (.617); Tim Stock (.606); and, Tom Lorgan (.600).

The Winter Season began in early January and will continue through March. Teams and managers are: A-1 Golf Carts, managed by Ron Brown; Brenden Financial Services, managed by Floyd Mullen; Grande Valley Golf Carts, managed by Dennis LePore; Ralph Vasquez' State Farm Insurance Agency, managed by Bob Hutchins; Sun Lakes Realty (Vera Metcalf, Realtor), managed by Reg Reese; and, Wells Fargo Bank, managed by Tom Vitolo. Games are played every Tuesday and Thursday morning beginning at 9 a.m. Come on out to the Field of Dreams to cheer on your favorite team and players. In addition to league play, the field is open on Monday mornings for batting practice and informal play. Call Red Waterfield at 895-6100 for additional information.

The Sun Lakes 70's team hosted a round robin tournament on January 10 and 11 at the Field of Dreams. Five teams from the surrounding area participated. Our team had eight players bat over .600. They were Butch Paoella, Eddie Hursyz, Larry Delaney, Rich Hicks, Billy Kreisman, Bob Hutchins, Jesse Washington and Joe Siegele. Check the chalk board down at the field for the dates of future tournaments.

**March 2009**  
**SENIOR SOFTBALL NEWS**  
**By Larry Wolfe**

Our Sun Lakes 60's team, sponsored by Robson Ranch and managed by Bill Corso, recently held a five-team round-robin tournament at the Field of Dreams. The two-

day event featured some great games and a party-like atmosphere with lots of great food and camaraderie. The host squad came in second with a 3-1 record, losing the championship game to the Rockies of Metro Phoenix. A great time was had by all. Kudos to all of the volunteers who helped make the tournament a success, including members of our ladies' team.

At press time, the Tuesday-Thursday League season was nearing the halfway point with the Sun Lakes Realty team, managed by Reg Reese, leading the league with a record of 12-2. Top hitters, based upon a minimum of 100 at bats, were: Dave Graham-Armstrong (.748); Larry Kaufmann (.732); Chuck Myrick (.708); Billy Kee (.667); Rich Nadler (.643); Jack Strauss (.641); Rich Kush (.628); and Gene Ekholm (.619). The season winds up on Thursday, March 26 with a six-team tournament and a cook-out. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Thanks to the following local businesses that have recently renewed their sponsorships of billboards at the Field of Dreams: A-1 Golf Carts, Aluma-Line, The Charles Company & Associates and Sun Lakes Homeowners Realty. If you have a local business, you can advertise it 365 days a year for less than 50 cents a day. To find out more, contact Larry Wolfe (480 802-2748 or larryewolfe@msn.com).

**April 2009**  
**SENIOR SOFTBALL NEWS BITS**  
**By Larry Wolfe**

In last month's *Splash* I profiled Lois Koenig, the last remaining member of the first Sun Lakes Ladies' Team still playing. At that time, she mentioned hitting a homerun against Monte Vista as her biggest softball thrill. Well, you can add another one! Last month Lois knocked in the winning run in the bottom of the seventh to beat the first place Desert Dogs of Apache Junction in a thrilling 11-10 victory for our local ladies. Way to go, Lois!

Our 70's Travel Team, managed by Larry Delaney, has been on a hot streak. They won three consecutive tournaments including the Golden Glove Tournament in Phoenix, the Sun City Sidewinders Tournament in Peoria and the Southwest Tournament at Prospector Park in Mesa. Teams from all over Arizona, California, New Mexico and Washington State participated in that tourney. Congratulations, guys. Speaking of hot streaks, our 65+ Travel Team, managed by Denny Davidson, recently put together a ten-game winning streak, enabling the team to sweep to two tournament championships: The Florence, AZ Seniors Tournament and the Golden Glove Qualifier, held at Papago Park in Phoenix. Well done, gentlemen!

A new Saturday League began play in late February. Four area teams are currently playing every Saturday morning at the Field of Dreams. Call League Coordinator, Ken Brenden, at 480 802-7433 for additional information.

At press time, the race for the championship in the Tuesday-Thursday League was heating up. Only two games separated the top four teams. The Brenden Financial Services team, managed by Floyd Mullen, led the way with a record of 15-7; however, close behind were Vera Metcalf's Sun Lakes Realty (13-9); A-1 Golf Carts (13-9) and Grande Valley Golf Carts (14-10). The top three hitters on each team, based upon a minimum of 120 at bats were: A-1 Golf Carts' Dave Graham-Armstrong (.705), Jack Strauss (.676) and Jerry Galvagno (.583); Brenden Financial Services' Larry Kaufman (.730), Billy Kee (.677) and Al Grefsheim (.638); Grande Valley Golf Carts' Tom Halloran (.679), Ed Kraemer (.642) and Larry Delaney (.556); State Farm Insurance's Bill Gateley (.617); Tom Lorgan (.601) and Larry Wolfe (.555); Sun Lake Realty's Chuck Myrick (.715), Rich Kush (.622), and Jim Dunn (.543); and Wells Fargo's Rich Nadler (.673), Hal Kime (.599) and Ted Miles (.590). Regular league play ends on March 26 and is then followed by a tournament on March 31.

Thanks to the following local businesses that have recently renewed their sponsorships of billboards at the Field of Dreams: The local Walgreen's, near the corner of Riggs and Alma School, The Stone Center at Chandler Rock, Drs. Saba & Romanin (Sun Lakes Dental Partnership) and Chandler Regional Medical Center. If you have a local business, you can advertise it 365 days a year for less than 50 cents a day. To find out more, contact Larry Wolfe (480 802-2748 or [larryewolfe@msn.com](mailto:larryewolfe@msn.com)).

**May 2009**  
**SENIOR SOFTBALL NEWS BITS**  
**By Larry Wolfe**

The Winter League regular season ended on March 26 with the Brenden Financial Services team, managed by Floyd Mullen, winning the league title with a record of 19-10. Thanks to our other five sponsors and managers for a very successful season: A-1 Golf Carts (Ron Brown, manager); Grande Valley Golf Carts (Dennis LePore); Vera Metcalf of Sun Lakes Realty (Reg Reese); Ralph Vasquez' State Farm Insurance Agency (Bob Hutchins); and Wells Fargo Bank (Tom Vitolo).

The post-season tournament was held on March 31 with Brenden Financial Services defeating A-1 Golf Carts in an exciting finale by the score of 17-15. The tournament featured several exciting and well-played games, including two extra inning contests. Tournament day also featured a cook-out with hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken grilled to perfection by chefs de cuisine, Bobby Thompson and Bobby Cantor, and served by members of our ladies' team. A good time was had by all.

Prior to the championship game, the 2008-2009 award winners were announced. This year's award winners are: Larry Kaufmann, Most Valuable Player; Billy Kee, Rookie-of-the-Year; David Boone, Most Improved Player; and, Owen Bae,

**Sportsmanship Award. Special awards (if you consider a dirty battered softball an award) were presented to Evan Hanson, Roger Spark and Larry Wolfe for hitting their first (and only) “out of the park” homeruns this year. (Ted Miles would have received this same award, but he messed up by hitting another half dozen or so after the first one! Billy Kreisman also hit one out earlier in the year, but everyone forgot about it until he complained about not getting an award.) Certificates were also presented to members of the 600 Club (batting average of .600 or higher with over 100 at bats). Those top hitters were: League leader Larry Kaufmann (.734); Dave Graham-Armstrong (.721); Chuck Myrick (.693); Frank Tanner (.681); Tom Halloran (.676); Jack Strauss (.674); Billy Kee (.665); Rich Nadler (.659); Harry Roehl (.654); Tim Loeffler (.653); Bill Gateley (.635); Dave Boone (.634); Al Grefsheim (.632); Howie Dielman (.618); Gene Ekholm (.615); Ed Kraemer (.614); and, Hal Kime (.610). In addition, an award was presented to Nettie Dingler, this year’s only ladies team slugger to hit over .600.**

**The 65+ Travel Team recently swept six straight games to win the Casa Grande Shootout Tournament. Our guys outscored the opposition by a 151-84 margin, winning by an average of over 11 runs per game. Top hitters for the hometown crew were Bill Corso, Billy Kee, Howie Dielman, Al Grefsheim and Jim Dunn.**

**Thanks to Jeff Christ’s Outdoor Creations for renewing its sponsorship of a billboard at the Field of Dreams. If you have a local business, you can advertise it 365 days a year for less than 50 cents a day. To find out more, contact Larry Wolfe (480 802-2748 or [larryewolfe@msn.com](mailto:larryewolfe@msn.com).)**

**The informal summer league is now underway. Come out to the field on Tuesday and Thursday mornings to join in the fun. Call Denny Davidson for additional info (883-9716).**

**June 2009**  
**SENIOR SOFTBALL NEWS BITS**  
**By Larry Wolfe**

**The Sun Lakes Fire Department and the Sun Lake Senior All-Stars played a doubleheader before a large crowd at the Field of Dreams on April 14 with the Senior All-Stars winning the opener 16-6 and then hanging on for a 15-12 win in the nightcap. The games were followed by a social get-together for the players and fans. A great time was had by all.**

**Ooops! In last month’s *Splash*, members of the 600 Club were listed. Rich Nadler, who hit .659, seventh in the league, was inadvertently left off the list.**

**Both the 60+ and 65+ Travel Teams recently won their age brackets in the Las Vegas Spring Classic. The 65’s went 5-1 overall and bested the California**

Connection 22-10 in the championship game. The top hitters (with their on-base percentages in parentheses) were: Howie Dielman (.840); Jim Dunn (.778); Ron Pennington (.762); and, Harry Roehl (.750). The 60's won the Gold Division of the tourney with a 4-1 record, including wins against GSF and D& K, two of the top teams from California. Outfielder Dave MacCormac sprained an ankle during the tournament but then hit three consecutive HR's as a DH in the finale. Way to go, guys!

Thanks to the Chandler Regional Medical Center for recently renewing their sponsorship of a billboard at the Field of Dreams. Also, thanks to new sponsor Desert Cove Nursing & Rehab Center of Chandler. Welcome to the team, Desert Cove! If you have a local business, you can advertise it 365 days a year for less than 50 cents a day. To find out more, contact Larry Wolfe (480 802-2748 or [larryewolfe@msn.com](mailto:larryewolfe@msn.com).)

The informal summer league is now underway. Batting practice is followed by a pick-up game. Come out to the field on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday mornings to join in the fun. Call Denny Davidson for additional info (883-9716).

**July 2009**  
**SENIOR SOFTBALL NEWS BITS**  
**By Larry Wolfe**

Last year, I profiled softball player Dr. Hal Kime and described his humanitarian projects with the Nazarene Health Ministries and how, even in retirement, he continued to make a difference in people's lives, especially the less fortunate. Well, Hal recently returned from Ecuador, where he provided medical services to the underprivileged in some remote villages. While there he met a lady in her thirties who asked if he was the same Dr. Kime that was in Ecuador some thirty years earlier. He acknowledged he was and she told him that he had delivered her via an emergency C-section those many years ago and that without him, she wouldn't be here. Talk about making a difference! Hal said that it is experiences like this that reinforces his desire to continue volunteering for these ministries. Keep up the good work, Dr. Hal!

Our 60+ Travel Team, sponsored by Robson Ranch and managed by Bill Corso, recently won the Reno, Nevada Tournament with a perfect record of 6-0. Mark Alop went a perfect 19 for 19 to lead all hitters. Winning this tournament qualifies our guys for the Tournament of Champions, which will be held in Florida next February.

Thanks to the following businesses for renewing their sponsorship of advertising banners at the Field of Dreams: The Carpet Broker at 610 N. Alma School Road, Sun Devil Auto Parts on Riggs Road, Northern Trust on Alma School Road, the Flooring Gallery on Riggs Road and El Lobo & Associates, LLC, accounting and

tax services. Also, thanks to members of Risen Savior Lutheran Church and School for their banner supporting their church. If you have a local business or want to promote a charitable or civic organization, you can advertise it 365 days a year for less than 50 cents a day. To find out more, contact Larry Wolfe (480 802-2748 or [larryewolfe@msn.com](mailto:larryewolfe@msn.com)).

The informal summer league is still underway. Batting practice is followed by a pick-up game. Come out to the field on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday mornings to join in the fun. Call Denny Davidson for additional info (883-9716).

**August 2009**  
**SENIOR SOFTBALL NEWS BITS**  
**By Larry Wolfe**

The summer league continues through October with batting practice and pick-up games played every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings. There are usually 30+ players braving the summer heat to play the grand old game. If you're a resident of Sun Lakes or Sunbird, come on out to the Field of Dreams near the corner of Riggs and Price Roads and join in the fun. Call League President Denny Davidson at 480-883-9716 for start times and additional information.

The Age Group Travel Teams played in some tournaments in July. Check out next month's *Splash* to see how they fared.

The Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association now has its own website. The site includes a bulletin board for members, general information regarding the leagues and the Association, schedules, statistics and league standings, press clippings (including all previous articles and player profiles that were published in the *Sun Lakes Splash*), a sponsors' page and a special page for the ladies' team. Check it out at <http://sunlakessoftball.com>.



**Talk about SENIOR softball. These guys represent over 100 years in the Sun Lakes Softball League. Left to right: Bobby Thompson, Doc Metcalf, Red Waterfield, Joe Brodie and Bob Cantor.**

**SEPTEMBER 2009  
SENIOR SOFTBALL NEWS BITS  
By Larry Wolfe**

It won't be long till it's time for the regular fall season to begin. Check out our new website (<http://sunlakessoftball.com>) in late October for the schedule of games. Meanwhile, the summer league continues with batting practice and pick-up games played every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings. There are usually 30+ players braving the summer heat to play the grand old game. If you're a resident of Sun Lakes or Sunbird, come on out to the Field of Dreams near the corner of Riggs and Price Roads and join in the fun. Call League President Denny Davidson at 480-883-9716 for start times and additional information.

Speaking of the website, we've added a "What's New" section under the Announcements tab. The "What's New" section guides you to other sections of the site where new material has been added or changes have been made. We've also changed our links to the Adobe PDF format to allow easier access. If you don't have an Adobe PDF reader, just go to their website ([www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)) to download a free copy of the software. Check out our new website regularly. It's updated every couple weeks.

**The 60+ Travel Team, sponsored by Robson Ranch, won the recent Pine Top Tournament. They went 3-1 in the seeding round, then blew away the competition in**



the elimination rounds, averaging a phenomenal 36 runs per game with a .795 overall team batting average. Congrats to Manager Bill Corso and the team.



Ken Brenden fields a ground ball during a summer league pick-up game.  
(Photo courtesy of Core Photography)

**OCTOBER 2009**  
**SENIOR SOFTBALL NEWS BITS**  
By Larry Wolfe

Our 65+ and 70+ Travel Teams participated in a tournament hosted by Robson Ranch on September 26-27. Tournament results will be in next month's *Splash*. For more current information, you may access our website at <http://sunlakessoftball.com>. Go to the Home Page and check out the "What's New" section.

It won't be long now! The Sun Lakes Senior Softball Fall Season begins November 3 and runs through December 17. Games are played every Tuesday and Thursday beginning at 8 a.m. Registration for the upcoming season will begin in mid-October. Call League President Denny Davidson at 480 883-9716 or check our website for details and current updates.

Thanks to Kokopelli Winery & Bistro for renewing their sponsorship of a billboard at the Field of Dreams. To learn more about sponsoring a billboard and advertising

**your business or organization, call Larry Wolfe at 480 802-2748 or go to the Sponsors Page on the website.**

**NOVEMBER 2009  
SENIOR SOFTBALL NEWS BITS  
By Larry Wolfe**

**Our 65+ and 70+ Travel Teams participated in a tournament hosted by Robson Ranch on September 26-27. The 65's placed second in the tourney while the 70's came in fourth. Both teams, plus the 60+ squad, will participate in the Annual Fountain Hills Tournament in early November.**

**The regular fall season begins on November 3 and will run through December 17. Six teams will vie for the fall league championship, with each team playing a 24-game schedule. Our thanks to this year's team sponsors: A-1 Golf Carts, Brenden Financial Planning, Community Association Banc (a Mutual of Omaha company), Desert Cove Nursing & Rehab Center, Grande Valley Golf Carts and State Farm Insurance (Ralph Vasquez Agency). Come out to the Field of Dreams every Tuesday and Thursday this fall to watch the competitive fun. Doubleheader game times are at 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.**

**If you enjoy the game, but feel you're past your best playing days or have a gimpy leg or two, you can still be involved. We are always in need of scoreboard operators, scorekeepers and umpires. Call League President Denny Davidson at 480-883-9716 for more information.**

**For up-to-date information regarding the Sun Lakes Senior Softball Association, visit our website at <http://sunlakessoftball.com>.**

**DECEMBER 2009  
SENIOR SOFTBALL NEWS BITS  
By Larry Wolfe**

**Our Tournament Travel Teams, sponsored by Robson Ranch, participated in the Senior Softball-USA World Championship Tournament held in late October at seven complexes throughout the Phoenix area. Over 320 teams from all over the USA and Canada vied for the titles in various age group and skill-level brackets. Both the 60's and 65's earned championship rings while the 70's finished fourth in their bracket. The 60's team, managed by Bill Corso, won their third straight world title while this was world championship number one for the 65's, managed by Denny Davidson. The 60's blew away the field, going 7-0 and winning the championship game by the score of 23-4. Meanwhile, the 65's went 7-1 and won their title game 28-13. Leading hitters for the 60's were Butch Randolph, Chuck**

**Myrick, Jerry Hestler and Dave Graham-Armstrong while Ron Pennington, Dave Boone, Howie Dielmann and Harry Roehl led the way for the 65's. These titles qualify both teams for the 2010 Tournament of Champions which will be held in Polk County, Florida in February. Congratulations, guys, and thanks to Robson Ranch for their sponsorship.**

**The fall league season began November 3 and will continue through December 17. The winter league then begins in January after a holiday break. This year's team sponsors and managers are: A-1 Golf Carts (Manager Ed Kraemer); Brenden Financial Planning (Bill Beltz); Mutual of Omaha Bank (Rich Nadler); Desert Cove Nursing & Rehab Center (Bob Reeves); Grande Valley Golf Carts (Dennis Kennedy); and, Ralph Vasquez' State Farm Insurance Agency (Bob Yaryan). Check our website (<http://sunlakessoftball.com>) for up-to-date standings, player statistics and general news updates.**