



Special December newsletter 2019

This is a special December newsletter with lots of information for you to digest

### **Friendly Reminder**

In January we will be putting out our special Hall of Fame newsletter, if you are in the the Scrap Iron Hall of Fame we would like some encouraging words from you, along with a picture and the year you were inducted. Last year's special Hall of Fame edition was awesome let's make this years even better. Thank you to the many who have already replied. Please email to [firstbase17@me.com](mailto:firstbase17@me.com)  
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### **Scrap Iron Annual Banquet**

Our annual awards Banquet will be held on January 25, 2020, from 11:00am to 3:00pm. Again at the beautiful Downtown Denver Aquarium (same venue as last year). See your team manager or you can contact me (Art) for tickets. Cost this year has increased a little since we have up graded the menu. Ticket price is \$40.00 each and must be purchased prior to January 15. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year, please come to support your club and the many receiving awards.

Last Saturday the Scrap Iron board met for its annual fall meeting, below are some of the issues discussed

Deadline for nominations to the Hall of Fame and founders Award, and team MVP awards is December 18. See you team manager for information on how to nominate someone.

Our skills competition during the Aurora tournament will include base running next year. So lace up those cleats and work on improving your speed!

Fundraising coming up, John Karagiannes, again will be organizing a Super Bowl pool, last year this was a big success, squares are going fast, you can purchase squares at the Banquet or better yet reserve them now by contacting John at [jpkdog8@yahoo.com](mailto:jpkdog8@yahoo.com)

Again we will have a 50/50 raffle during the banquet. If you can't make the banquet and would like to invest in this, contact your team manager or simple reply back to me and I'll get you in.

Congratulations to John Parisi, he was nominated our new president. It was a close election (guaranteed there was no meddling from Russia or Ukraine)

between him and Bruce Brothis. John narrowly beat Bruce out (mostly due to Bruce doing a great job as Chairman of the fundraising committee). Thank you to Andy Shapiro for doing a great job as our president for the past 5 years.

Next Scrap Iron board meeting will be February 15, 2020 9:00 am.

### Message from our treasurer, Jim Casswell

The new tax law will substantially increase the standard deduction and many of our members will not be itemizing deductions on their tax returns this year. Consequently, your charitable donations may not have as great a tax benefit. For those members in their 70's (including inherited IRA's even if the recipient is under 70 ½) faced with required minimum distribution (RMD) from retirement accounts, one way to lessen the tax impact is to make RMD payments payable directly to a charitable organization. Scrap Iron Softball Club is an eligible charitable organization.

The check can be for the full amount or any portion of the RMD, but must be made payable to the non-profit (as designated by IRS) directly. It can be mailed or forwarded to the following:

Scrap Iron Softball Club

Attn: Jim Casswell

PO Box 260699

Lakewood, CO 80226

A confirmation of the donation will be sent for all contributions greater than \$250.00 for your tax records.

Of course, everyone should consult their tax and/or financial advisor to see if this is something that works for them.

## Team news

**Scrap Iron High Octane** went to Phoenix to play in the "Winter Worlds" which is the first Tournament of 2020. We added one new player and kept the rest of our roster pretty much the same. We played in the 65 Major division which included 2 65 Major Plus teams and Oman from the 70 Major Plus group. 12 teams in all.

We won both games in pool play including beating Timberworks for the second time this year and earning the #1 seed. We went on to win our first 2 bracket games and went into Thursday as one of the two undefeated teams. We ran into a very good Arizona Scorpions team and lost to get knocked down to the losers side where we had to beat

Oman to get to the Championship game. We beat Oman in the bottom of the 7th to earn another shot at the Scorpions, but fell short once again by one run in the bottom of the 7th. We earned 2nd place in a very competitive bracket and came away feeling like we can compete with anyone in the 65 Major Division.

Our All Tourney selections were, Terry Roberts, Jamie Gowdy, Larry Voorhees and Nick Longo. We are excited about our team for 2020 and look forward to playing the very best teams in the Country and representing Scrap Iron in a positive way.

By Dave Adams.

## **The Boys of 5280' 70AAA**

**By Hal Meyer**

Do you **know** your teammates or do you just show up to play tournaments? This year on 5280', we had each player answer a series of questions that formed the basis of a 1-2 page biography on each person. Copies of each biography were provided to each teammate at the Phoenix tournament. The intent was to help new team members feel welcome and to help the team jell more quickly—I'm playing for my teammates whom I know something about and whom I appreciate!

This a snapshot of the Boys of 5280'. We hail from 10 states—Iowa-3, California, New Jersey, Maryland, Illinois, Colorado, Maine, Minnesota-2, Virginia, New York, and Michigan. Four members grew up on farms. Most have played baseball or softball starting in our grade school years; many have played both fast and slow pitch softball. One person played professional fast pitch softball.

Ten members are married, three have significant others, and one member is single—marriage gives him gas! We have 22 children, 39 grandchildren, and 4 great grandchildren. Our professions include: 4 of us were teachers/coaches, 2 were CPA's, 1 was a plant manager for Owen Corning, 1 a distribution manager for Eastman Kodak, 2 were engineers, 1 a National Parks planner, 1 owns a construction business, 1 worked in the petroleum industry, and 1 worked for the airlines.

Six members are military veterans, 3 Army and 3 Air Force. Three served in Viet Nam. Two were pilots; one was in Electronics (sounds secretive to me).

Members have also: climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro (19341'), won their college handball championship, "served" on a travelling tennis team, been a professional baseball player, been a professional golfer, and runners of over 10 marathons including the Boston and Pikes Peak Marathons.

Members have won the Huntsman Senior Games, SSUSA World Championships 12 times, and the SPA World Championships 3 times. One member is a SSUSA Triple Grand Slam winner. 4 members are Scrap Iron Hall of Famers, and one is a Scrap Iron Ken Green and SI Founders Award winner.

Who are this bionic men? The 5280' Teammates are: Terry Goodrich, aka Peter Pan, Alan Wiechmann, Pat McGuigan, Ed Clark, Tony McIlroy, Ken Hiatt, Jim Casswell, Mike Boulter, Art Knudson, Wayne Bradley, Randy Huls, Jerry Bost, Mark Soloway, and Hal Meyer.

## Scrap Iron Alliance

The 2019 season was a very successful year for Alliance/Scrap Iron. After just a few indoor batting sessions the team traveled to Bullhead City, Arizona in March. We finished in the middle of the pack with a 3-3 overall record. The elimination game was a heartbreaking 33-32 loss with a close play at home

plate being the deciding factor.

The team then traveled to Tulsa, Oklahoma in May and won the Oil City Classic. After going 2-0 in pool play and capturing the #1 seed we lost our second bracket game which was early Sunday morning. The team regrouped and won the next three games and finished with a record of 6-1 to claim the title.

Next was a trip to Shawnee, Kansas in July. The team went 1-1 in pool play with the loss being to a Major team. Alliance then rolled through the bracket with a 4-0 record to win the Wes Weddle Classic. The team was ready for the Rocky Mountain Championships which was just a month away. After winning the Regional title four years ago we watch our fellow Scrap Iron team, Elite, win the title back to back years. The goal this year was to keep it in state and recapture the title.

The team had an unbelievable weekend in Aurora with an on base percentage of .744 for the weekend. We won both our pool games and were the #2 overall seed. We then won all four bracket games to claim the Championship and keep it in Colorado for the fourth straight year. The All-Tournament selections for Regionals were Sean Moye, Tony Jones, Jeff Cox, Alan Hom, and Mike Wilmer.

The team had very high hopes for LVSSA/SSUSA World Championships in Las Vegas. We split our pool games with the loss coming in the bottom of the 9<sup>th</sup> inning. That left us with the 13<sup>th</sup> seed heading into bracket play. The short porches at Big Lead Dreams proved to be our nemesis. We hit 11 homeruns in our first bracket game and lost 22-13. We had a 13-12 lead heading into the 4<sup>th</sup> inning. The struggle to keep the ball in the yard was our downfall. We bounced back to win the next two games before being eliminated again scoring just 13 runs. It's very tough winning games if you don't put runs on the board. The team finished with a record of 3-3. Coach John Karagiannes selected Sammy Cofield as the Most Valuable player from the World Tournament in Las Vegas.

Overall the team was 23-8 in our SSUSA events. A very good season that fell short of the overall goal to be playing on Sunday in Las Vegas. The best thing about being a part of this team is the great camaraderie we have shown over the last four years. It's been a pleasure coaching this team and I'm excited for the future of this group of men. We are currently still voting on our season Most Valuable Player as well as our recipient of the second annual Sammy Award. These two players will be announced at the upcoming Scrap Iron banquet in January. I look forward to seeing everyone where. Written by Alliance coach John Karagiannes

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**Scrap Iron Diamonds 65's** choose to attend the winter worlds in beautiful Cape Coral Florida this fall instead of the usual Phoenix tournament. We, as a team wanted to see different teams plus bask in the Florida sun. Yes we saw different teams, however we played a team from Long Island New York 3 times, and the Florida sun we were all anxious for turned out to be 93 degrees and it wasn't the dry 93 that we get here. All in all it was a great trip and break from the normal, O' and what made the trip even more awesome was the fresh seafood! Best of all we ended our season playing with the best teammates anyone could ever ask for. We just might do this tournament again in a few years. We're all ready for 2020 and our game plan is to win some tournaments.

The three-team Men's 80 Major Division saw Scrap Iron Gray Berets (CO) go 3-0 in bracket play, including double-dipping Emerald (WA) by scores of 22-4 and 19-9, respectively.

### **Scrap Iron Gray Berets (CO) - Men's 80 Major Champions**

