

BREAKING NEWS !

The executive board is proud to announce the new venue for the Scrap Iron Banquet to be held on January 26, 2019 at the spectacular Denver Aquarium. Unlike past banquets being held at night we are going to do a luncheon buffet, 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM. We have heard from several that the distance and the night time drive was tough on some, hopefully this new location and the daytime drive will be more desirable. The Banquet hall at the aquarium is larger and will easily handle the attendance of our club plus making this an opportunity to bring family members. Along with our Banquet the aquarium is offering discount tickets to the aquarium, if you choose to hang around after the Banquet and visit the aquarium. Our first choice was to hold our banquet at Coors Field, however it will be receiving some renovations over the winter and wasn't available... maybe 2020?



Rocky Mountain Championship

Senior Softball USA held The Rocky Mountain Championships in Aurora this past August, this tournament drew 58 teams, down 2 from last year. The weather was awesome again and the Aurora Sports Complex did not disappoint. I heard many comments on how great the facility was. We are lucky to have such a quality complex in our back yard. It would be nice if we could draw a major tournament here, some of the so called major tournaments we attend should be embarrassed by their field conditions. We are blessed! See below under **team news** for individual team results. Next up for all our Scrap Iron teams will be the LVSSA/SSUSA World Masters tournament in Las Vegas, Nevada. Last year this tournament drew over 600 teams, winning this is very special, a dream come true.

Support Scrap Iron with your purchase of a Scrappy Logo sweatshirt. The sweatshirts are a 50-50 polyester-cotton fabric blend in 3 styles; crew neck, pullover hoodie and a zipper hoodie. Grey color only with the Scrappy logo and Colorado located on the upper left side of the sweatshirt. Price is \$26.00 (crew neck), \$30.00 (pullover hoodie) and \$32.00 (zipper hoodie). Text or call Kathy [Huls](mailto:Kathy@ScrapIron.com) at 720-541-3851. A large crew neck, a large pullover hoodie and an XL zipper hoodie are available for trying on. Medium and larger sizes are available. See picture below.



These sweat shirts have been very popular, especially for the women in our lives, my wife was really surprised when I gave one to her. Kathy has been doing a fabulous job taking orders and delivering them. Thank you Kathy!



Last month our newsletter was dedicated to our travel Buddies, if you didn't get a chance to write something about your travel Buddy or Buddies, it's never too late, there's always room for you to brag, reflect, or just stroll down memory lane, please share your stories.

Here's one that came in just a little late for the September edition.
By Terry Goodrich

About 10 years ago I was coaching a Wednesday team and looking for a few new players. A team mate suggested someone from his church league team. With some skepticism I agreed to meet him having a nagging feeling that I knew this guy. That guy was Gary Jones, whom I had played against for several years in the Saturday Travel League. Later that fall Gary's travel team, SI 55s, needed another outfielder for the Worlds in Phoenix. I agreed to help, drank the Kool-Aide and have played for Scrap Iron ever since. Gary has been my team mate, great friend, and travel buddy ever since.

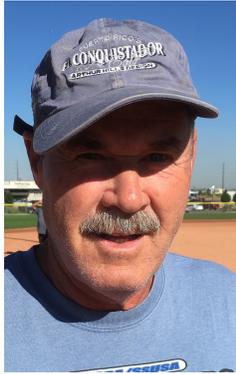
Both Gary and I travelled a lot during our careers. That experience has enabled us to work the system many times. But, Gary's "credentials" make mine pale in comparison with his million miles and hotel status. Therefore, we use miles for many free flights and stay at the nicer hotels. Most flights start two hours early in the Red Carpet Club with me as Gary's guest. Nice perk and free breakfast. Gary has a process at the hotels and I just stand back and watch it all happen. The room must be on the top floor and not close to the elevator or ice machine. This may take several tries. Once the acceptable room is found it is thoroughly sanitized by Gary. I must say, I usually get a good night's sleep and have never gotten sick on a trip with Gary.

You might ask what I contribute to this odd couple relationship. Well, we've never been late to the airport or a game. I've been known to get a rental car airborne so as to not miss the hotel happy hour. And, I've exposed Gary to some gut busting gastronomical delights he will never forget.

In closing, I've had the pleasure of rooming with several team mates and have enjoyed each and every one of them. Getting to know guys is just one of the extra benefits of playing senior softball. But Gary is "special". Thanks for the memories, buddy.



I got your Back, Buddy! (Terry & Gary)



When I was in my mid forties, I was playing basketball with a bunch of men in Lakewood and Denver. That kept me active and in shape and satisfied my competitive spirit. When I was approaching 50, Bill Little, who is now deceased, and a great guy, asked me to play with his Wednesday softball team in Lakewood. The team was much older than I and it was a good start for me to develop my softball skills, since I have not played since I was playing baseball in high school. They had me playing left field and ran my butt off in the field and also as a pinch runner. After I played a year with this group I decided to play with a more competitive softball team.

In the meantime, I was still playing basketball when I heard Ernie, who I haven't seen for quite awhile, talk about playing traveling softball. I listened to his comments and finally said, "so you travel to different cities playing softball against other men the same age, staying together with the team eating and drinking?"

That sounded like me so I started the search trying to find a traveling softball team to play with. I came across Richie McDowell who invited me to play with his Saturday team playing a triple header. This developed into being invited to play with his traveling team.

That was 15 years ago and I have played with a few Scrap Iron teams, enjoying every year. I want to thank all the players I played with and all the Scrap Iron teams I played with. I also want to thank my wife Yvonne for watching me play for all those years. I know the other wives were glad to hear her declare that it was "Jack O'Clock"!

I had my hip replaced about six years ago and thought my softball days might be over with, however the great surgical technology has allowed me to keep playing softball.

My hope is that my health will allow me to keep playing, where my skills will not deteriorate, so I can play the game I love. It will be a sad day when I have to hang up my cleats but I do realize it will someday end. For now I will try to enjoy every minute playing with my teammates and the fine Scrap Iron organizations. Thanks to all who participated in making my softball experience enjoyable.

Terry Liverant



Ask Billy the Bat Boy

Dear Billy,

The 2018 softball season is quickly coming to an end, I'm not a snowbird and stuck in Colorado all winter, what is the best way to handle softball withdrawals and not drive my wife crazy?

Signed, I can't wait till next spring

Dear Can't Wait,

First... what's wrong with you? Don't you know by now "that's our job...to drive our wife crazy!" Second I would say there's football, however that's only a few hours a week. The best advice I can give you is take your lovely wife somewhere where there is palm trees, sand, and drinks with little umbrellas!

Billy

Scrap Iron Memories 2013 Scrap Iron Diamonds 60's

Ever have one of those magical seasons that you know you will never repeat but enjoyed oh so much? We did in 2013. It was one of the best memories of our senior softball careers. What better place for the magic to begin than on the Big Island of Hawaii spending a January week in paradise... with softball. Half of the Diamonds went and combined with a local team, Kona Gold. We didn't win but made some great friends and got a good taste of local life in the islands. We looked pretty good at the SI Banquet that year, also, with sun tans and wearing Hawaiian shirts.

Our first tourney was the Spring Worlds in Mesquite. We were undefeated through the first two days. The team stayed together in condos and celebrated, very hard, a birthday Saturday night. Great fun and team building but we were two and done Sunday. Lesson learned?

Next up was the Southwest Championship in Vegas. We were beginning to think we had a pretty good team. We added a sight unseen short stop and it was the missing piece that made us a very good team. We won the Southwest with an IF game victory. Feeling pretty good but not used to winning, we went to the Texas Championship in Houston. Battling 114 degree temps we came out of the loser bracket and won. Now full of confidence, which is a great feeling, we made short work of the Midwest as number one seed and staying in the winner's bracket. When we went to the Rocky Mountain Championship we expected to win, and did. With four championships in a row we were flying high and having too much fun.

We were brought back down to earth at the World Masters. With 22 teams we could only manage a respectable 9th. But, we weren't daunted. We went to the Winter Worlds in Phoenix. After a poor start, we came back through the losers bracket on Sunday and took it to the IF game before finishing 2nd. Our magical season ended at the TOC in Florida where we took 3rd. The next year we were moved up and championships were harder to come by. But, the 2013 Diamonds will always have that dream season to remember. That's what keeps us coming back.

By Terry Goodrich



2013 Scrap Iron Diamonds, managed by Terry Goodrich

Team News

The Scrap Iron Mile High team started the Rocky Mtn. Championships fast and furious with 2 wins to start Friday. Somehow our bats mysteriously disappeared over night Saturday and Sunday, and we dropped the next 3 games. We flashed some quality leather throughout the tournament, highlighted by turning 5 double plays against a Utah team in our last game. All-tournament team were Jeff Wood, Doug Klimas and Dennis Ballesteros. A special shout out to Doug Klimas who won the Precision Hitting in the Skills Competition.

Scrap Iron Elite 50s went 6-0 in the Rocky Mountain Championships this past weekend. This was by far our best offensive production this year, having 5 guys with an OBA above .800, and the team hitting .723 for the weekend. The final was an all Colorado event, as we beat Scrap Iron Alliance 30-19.

All-tournament selections were as follows:

Hank Twilt
Scott Cameron
Mike Donohoue
Tim Healy
Randy Strandberg

Scrap Iron 5280' also had our best offensive production of the year with 5 guys hitting 800+, a team BA of 731, and 2 guys with an OBP of over 900. However, we had one bad pitch (a walk off home run against the eventual winner from Texas) and one bad game against our Scrap Iron brothers Still Kickin'. A 5-2 record got us 4th place out of

ten teams. Our next tournaments are the SPA Worlds in Dalton, GA and the World Masters in Vegas, both in September. This will be a busy month for a bunch of "old" guys!

Scrap Iron Diamonds 65AAA, had a great time in Las Vegas, we played some very tough teams, beating a team that has dropped down from majors 31-26 was the highlight of our tournament for us. Right down to our last game Wednesday morning we continued to battle only to loose 26-23. We were blessed to have Jesus Bencomo back, he had been recovering from a illness since last February, his strong efforts to come back earned him the MVP metal for our team. Thank you to all my players for a fun season, now we plan for next year starting in November in Phoenix.

The Scrap Iron Rocky Mountain Thunder 55s came out a little flat, but still defended their Rocky Mountain Championship title from last year, going 5-2 to win the 55 Major division championship in August. The team beat a pesky team from Utah, Never Say Never, in the "If" game, 27-15. This is the team's third tournament championship this year to go along with two second place finishes in major tournaments. All Tournament Team players, as selected by their teammates, include Steve Antonczyk, Tommie Edwards, Chris McTigue, Mark Haupt and Dave Fortier. The team will carry a 33-6 record going into the SSUSA World tournament in Las Vegas in September, their final tournament of the year.



Scrap Iron Rocky Mountain Thunder. August 2018

Scrap Iron Xplosion ended up finishing 5th out of 43 teams in the Las Vegas Worlds. We were hoping to be top three, if not champions, but still a very good showing for our Xplosion team.

We ended up going 6 and 2. We had a very good year finishing 5th at Mesquite, 2nd at the Las Vegas Spring Championship, 1st at the Northern California Championship, 4th at the ISA Worlds, 1st at the Rocky Mountains Championship and 5th at the Las Vegas Worlds. Xplosion made it to Sunday in every tournament that we played in.

Team members where as follows: Dan Silvey (Master), Michael Richardson (Moo), Barry Jark (Waffle House), Gary Petersen (Scoop), John Bellatti (Sloop John B), Kevin Flynn (Commandant), Gregg Pearson (Gregger), Ed Dilley (Dilly Dilly), Andy Shapiro (Prez), Dale Daugherty (Show me), Arlis Bader (Hydrate), John Giesler (Utah John), Don DiFiore (Big Don D), Carl Markey (C-Bass), Blair Gifford (Professor)



Scrap Iron Mile High, Las Vegas, 2018

The Scrap Iron Mile High team hit the fields in Vegas for the World tournament hotter than a crooked Blackjack Dealer. With the help of turning 15 double plays in our first 4 games, we rode undefeated into the winner's bracket finals. Unfortunately a key injury to our starting pitcher Floyd, cold bats and big open inning by the NM Boomers team, pushed our heroes into the loser bracket. Mile High responded in its next game with a big win over Spin Tees WA., forcing a rematch with the New Mexico team in the finals. The Vegas sun was hot, and our bats were not, and we fell 2 runs short, losing 16-14. Mile High finished 2nd place in our first World Tournament. Well Done! Mark Pritchett was team MVP, Jeff Wood, Doug Klimas, and Andy Gonzales rounded out our All-Tournament selections. We're looking forward to the 2019 season with lofty expectations.