



## August 2021 Newsletter

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### WEBSITE MANAGEMENT

John Parisi

Barry Jark designed and developed the website for Colorado Senior Softball. His purpose was to provide a common place of contact for seniors interested in playing softball with other seniors, whether locally or on a traveling team. Barry's vision has been successfully realized. We continue to grow and expand in leagues and Scrap Iron tournament teams, thanks to Barry's forethought. Thank you Barry for all your time, effort, and skill used to create the [ColoradoSeniorSoftball.com](http://ColoradoSeniorSoftball.com) website.

Barry is no longer involved with the website. Mark Gembarowski has been supporting the website and working with Barry since the combination of the Scrap Iron and CSSA website. He has volunteered to keep posting updated and new information on the CSSA pages and assist in managing the Scrap Iron pages. Thanks Mark for taking on this important role. Please contact Mark with your questions going forward at [markgemb@gmail.com](mailto:markgemb@gmail.com). John Parisi will be the primary contact and editor for the Scrap Iron pages. His contact address is [john.si@comcast.net](mailto:john.si@comcast.net)

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### From our Treasure, Jim Casswell

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 72) faced with a 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.

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## Thank you

I wish to thank all the members of the Scrap Iron Softball Club for the prayers, thoughts, cards and phone calls supporting Farideh and me after my surgery. It means so much to us. I am doing pretty good no pain just slow healing. The good thing, my bat still fits my hands.

Dennis and Farideh Lutz

( I play on Dennis's Monday team, it was good when he started to come to the games and coach, now a few weeks later it's great to see him back on the field. In fact just last week Dennis was back to his old self and bounced one off the right field fence. Glad your back, Art)

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## Team News



### Scrap Iron Tenacity 50's

A very successful three days for the Scrap Iron Tenacity ball club in Reno. We started pool play versus Cali Gold out of CA. We didn't play well, we didn't hit well, and gave up too many easy base runners. We only hit .600 as a team, and we lost 14-19. Second pool game was

a hard fought victory 27-26 vs. KM Sportz from CA. We hit a little better the second game at .727. This put us 1-1 in pool play, and the #12 Seed out of 16 Teams. First bracket game was vs. Elevated out of UT. They beat us by 1 run in extra innings the last two times we played them in St. George and Las Vegas. This time we came out on top 21-18. We hit .732 as a Team. Second bracket game was against Team ASB from CA. Another close one, we came out on top 29-27. We hit .808 as a Team in this game. Third bracket game was against BR & Co. from CA. Another tough match that we won 22-21. Team hit .729 in this game. That put us in the semi-finals on Sunday vs. G.O. Junkies from CA. We played hard, hit well at .787, and came out on top 27-19. Championship game was vs. G.O. Junkies once again. Another battle in the early innings, we took a lead in the middle innings, and then they came back. We went up by 6 in the 6th inning, and they scored 4 in their open inning, and we held on to win 25-23. We hit .786 in the Championship Game. What a great three days we had. We are definitely gelling as a Team, and playing for one another offensively and defensively. We were short two key players for this tournament, and we had a few guys playing in different positions, but we played well enough to bring home the Cup! We hit .744 as a Team for the tournament, and we averaged 24 runs a game. Winning first place allowed us to select 5 All-Tournament Players. The five players selected were: Lou Scirrotto, Fred Widman, Bill Lomelino, Mark Gallegos, and Alan Hom.

We also attended the Western Nationals in Sacramento, It was definitely a hot one on our first day! Friday's temperature was 106 degrees. We played two games, but it felt like three games. We lost the first game in extra innings 30-31 to Bad Attitude from CA. The second game also went to extra innings, we lost that game 35-36 SA/Dudley from CA. We ended up as the last seed, since our run differential was so large. Thank God that was our last game on Friday. Saturday morning, we drew the 4 seed, which once again was Bad Attitude from CA. This time our defense showed up big, and we beat them in our first bracket game 20-16. We then played KM Sportz from CA. We beat them in Reno by one run, but they got us this time 17-20. Our bats were not hot at all, as we faced a pretty tough pitcher that pitched every pitch from 60 feet. We dropped to loser's bracket and received a bye from Team ASB from CA that forfeited because they had 7 injured players. We then played Scrap Iron Elite and beat them 17-10. This allowed us to get to Sunday. We played BR Company from CA in our first game on Sunday and beat them 16-15 on a Walk-off single in the bottom of the 7th by Bill Lomelino. Our next game was against KM Sportz (CA) once again. This time our bats went frigid cold, and they remained hot. We lost that game 26-11. It was a weird three days. We felt out of sync for most of the tournament. Most of hitters that hit consistently for high averages struggled at the plate. It seems these high average guys were hitting directly at people all weekend. Standouts for the tournament offensively were Mike Monetti , Steve Wilkins, and Fred Widman. Defensive standout was Ron Angstead at 2B.

### **Scrap Iron Alliance 55's**

The Alliance/Scrap Iron 55 team is starting to gel at the right time. They won the senior tune-up event in Colorado Springs prior to their trip to Hemet, California. The momentum kept rolling on the west coast. After splitting the two pool games, winning 15-14 over Weekend Warriors and losing 19-16 to Top Gun Growlers. The team earned the #7 seed in

the 11 team field. The bracket play started with a convincing 20-13 win. Next up was the #2 seeded Enforcers which Alliance handled by a score of 21-15. The next game was to get to the winner's bracket final was the best performance of the weekend defeating Weekend Warriors by a score of 18-0. That set the stage for a rematch versus Top Gun Growlers and a chance to avenge our loss in the pool. Alliance prevailed by a score of 23-18 to move into the Championship game. The team was playing well on both sides of the ball. "After seeing the best teams in the tourney I figured we'd see Enforcers in the finals" said Coach John Karagiannes. Alliance, as the visiting team jumped out to an early 12-5 lead going to the bottom of the 3rd inning. Enforcers fought back to tie the game at 15 going to the open inning. Alliance was able to plate 7 runs after two were down in the top of the inning. Enforcers battled back with a couple of runs when Right Centerfielder Joe Ribeiro made a great diving catch in centerfield. "That pretty much won the title for us" Karagiannes said. The final score ended with Alliance claiming the title 22-18. This was a total team effort and all 14 players hit over .500 for the weekend. As a team we hit .681 and averaged 19.3 runs a game. Selecting the five All Tournament players was no easy task. After a team vote the five players selected were John Karagiannes .857, Rudy Preciado .786 plus he pitched all seven games, Doug Wesselink .774, Sammy Cofield .731, also played a solid 2B, and Joe Ribeiro .667. Next up for the team is the Rocky Mountain Championships in Aurora where the team will try to claim their 3rd Regional title.

### **Scrap Iron Rocky Mountain Thunder 60's**

We won the 2021 Rock N Reno Challenge Cup 60 Major division. The team's hitting performance did not live up to past standards, but the pitching and defense made up the difference. Outstanding plays by our infield and outfield and the pitching, behind Barry Morten and Bruce Lostroh, consistently held the other teams down. Brad Edginton lead the team in hitting with a .947 OBP and also added 3 homeruns. Kim "Ollie" Oliverson also hit 3 homeruns over the weekend. Only one other player, Thomas Edwards, had an OBP over .700. The All-Tournament Team selections, as voted by their teammates, are Brad Edginton, Tommie Edwards, Michael Mouton, Dave Dix and Steve Antonczyk.

The Scrap Iron Rocky Mountain Thunder 60s headed to Nashville, TN to play in the SSUSA Southern Championships in early July. The team split two games in pool play on Friday and split two games in bracket play on Saturday. Sunday was rained out, so the team finished 2nd out of the 5 teams in the bracket. These were low scoring games by most of the teams, perhaps due to the balls that were used. The team was able to select 4 All-Tournament Team players and they were Dave Dix, Mark Haupt, Randy Kunkel and Randy Strandberg. Randy Strandberg led the team in OBP with a .818 average. No home runs were hit by the team, which is a bit unusual. The next tournament for the team will be the 2021 Rocky Mountain Championships in Aurora, CO. The team did enjoy their first team dinner in downtown Nashville since the pandemic began. What a great city!

### **Scrap Iron MI Sports 65's**

MI Sports 65 AAA chose to go to the ACC in Raleigh NC instead of Reno. It was a bit of a disappointment with only three 65 AAA teams, so we also played two 70 major teams. Talaga Const. from Connecticut won it. They beat us three times. We gave them a good

game in the championship game. We had the tying run at second in the bottom of 7th with one out and couldn't get it done. Talking with some of their players after, they were 16-0 for the season with three 1st and we're still in AAA? Raleigh had some of the best fields I've played on. I was pleased overall going 4 and 4. Tony McAvoy, Jim Lonewolf Portz, Steve Crowbar Krowczyk and Tim Kirby were our All-tourneys. East coast teams aren't as serious as us in the West. Forty six teams total. I mean come on a qualifying championship tournament? Good experience but will go to Reno next year, God willing!

We took 2nd in the WSL which was all ages of just Scrap Iron teams that Charlie Graham put together. We played very well. We got 5 runs when we played 60s and 65 major teams. We won all 4 of those games and lost to a 55 team and the only other 65 AAA team Peak. They have our number, we have lost 3 times to them this year. We're waiting for worlds to knock them out. Ha Ha. Our leading hitters were Gary Nation, Curt Dickey and Tony McAvoy. Charlie worked hard putting this together and with more help from WSL this could be a good tournament in the future.

That was June then we went to Salem in July. There were only 4 teams and we were 3 and 3. We took 3rd beating the 2nd place team twice, and played the winner Last Call tough. We also lost to a AA team. In my opinion we have improved 5 straight tournaments, and mainly we get along great. Been a good year! Our leading hitters were Dave Maestas, Andy Shapiro and Tony McAvoy.

Next up RMC Glad we got our money in early sounds like. Thanks to the board and all who are trying to get the Westerns here. Sounds like a no brainer to me. With out you guys there wouldn't be 20 teams from Colorado playing senior ball. Looking forward to seeing some of my old buddies in Aurora. I mean senior buddies.

### **Scrap Iron 5280 70's**

Some of this may seem like old news but in looking back it's been since the fall of 2020 since 5280' reported on what we've been doing. So here is our 2021 season in review. We started well by winning the Winter Worlds in Phoenix We went 7-1 and won new jerseys from Elite. We turned 14 double plays. Our All Tournament Players were Jerry Bost, Jim Casswell, Ed Clark, Randy Huls and Ken Hiatt In January we went to the TOC in Florida because we won 2 tournaments in 2020. We finished third. Our All Tournament Players were Pat McGuigan, Hal Meyer and Alan Wiechmann. Next up was the Spring Worlds in St George. We were the number 1 seed and took second place with a 6-2 record. Our All Tournament Players were Mike Boulier, Jim Casswell, Tony McIlroy and Mark Soloway. Jim hit 7 inside the park home runs! At the Southwest Championships our average 3-3 record was actually pretty good as we took sixth out of 16 teams. Our trip to the Texas Championship in April was cut short due to tornadoes in the area but we were respectable with a 3-2 record and third place. Of note was the Oak Grove Softball complex in Grapevine. It was a great venue and we highly recommend it. The BBQ was pretty good, also! In Reno we found our nemesis team that we just couldn't beat. They gave us our only two loses in eight games and we finished in 4th place. In July we played in the Scrap Iron Wood Bat Tournament. We were surprised there were only four teams and we might have been the only complete SI team playing. We didn't do so well against the "kids" but we looked sharp in our black jerseys that we won in Phoenix. Finally, we just got back from

Sacramento and the Western Nationals. Between the heat, wild fire smoke and some lack luster play we finished with a 3-3 record and fifth place. Not our best showing.

For the rest of the 2021 season we plan to play in the Rocky Mountain Championship and Worlds. That will be the last tournament for the original 5280' 70s team. Half of us will be aging up and a fresh new crop of 70 year olds will be moving in. As coach I want to say this has been perhaps the best group of gentlemen I have ever played with. They have been great on and off the field. That brotherhood and character has had a lot to do with our considerable success. They truly embody the Scrap Iron spirit. Speaking of great teams, watch out for the 2022 5280' team. We will be essentially the original 65 5280' team with lots of fire power, speed and character! We're getting the old band back together and looking forward to a great season! Terry Goodrich.

### **Scrap Iron Legends 75's**

We just finished the Western Regional tournament in Sacramento. The Friday before we almost had to pull out of it. We had 4 starters that could not make it due to various reasons. JC Moore and Ron Howard from the Grey Berets 80 team helped us out or we could not have played. Jim Casswell also helped us the last 2 games.

Playing in over 100 degree heat the last day we just did not have enough in the tank to beat the other team. We beat them the first of the 2 out of 3 but lost the last 2. The last game we lost by 2 runs.

All Tourney players were Ron Hefner, Sam Cianfarano, Ken Armbruster, and JC Moore.

Looking forward to the Rocky Mtn Nationals.