Juneau Lions Club

Records of the Gold Medal Basketball Tournament, 1947-[ongoing]

MS 7

3 boxes

Processed by: Jacki Swearingen, May 2013
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PROCESSING: This collection has been described at the item level. Items have been placed in acid free folders and then placed in archival boxes.
HISTORICAL NOTE

The annual Gold Medal Basketball Tournament, named after the Gold Medal Trophy Company, began in 1947. The inaugural event had one bracket with 14 teams competing at the Fifth Street gymnasium. The Wasvick and Torwick Veterans of Petersburg were the champions that year.

The founder of the tournament was Del Hanks, a Boy Scout executive for Southeast Alaska from Juneau. Mr. Hanks was also the Juneau Lions Club president and enlisted the Lions Club members to promote and operate the annual, March event.

Teams from Pt. Barrow to Seattle have participated over the years. However, the tournament has mainly featured teams from communities in Southeast Alaska.

The tournament’s emphasis is fun, friendly competition, and good sportsmanship. Also important are the funds raised which are contributed to college scholarships, training beyond high school, and worthy projects in Southeast communities.

The Gold Medal Basketball Tournament, Alaska’s longest running competitive sports event, has evolved in many ways over the years. In 2016, the tournament’s 70th anniversary, there were 22 teams in four brackets. One of the brackets was a women’s bracket. The games were played in the Juneau-Douglas High School gymnasium from March 20th through March 26th. The champions were teams from Kake, Angoon, Klukwan, and Haines. Another change was the origination, in 1961, of the Gold Medal Basketball Tournament Hall of Fame. Herb Didrickson was the first inductee. As of 2015 there were 115 members. MVP and Sportsmanship awards were also added over the years.

The Gold Medal has become a part of the cycle of the seasons in Southeast Alaska. As one participant put it “Gold Medal has become part of our culture.”

SCOPE AND CONTENTS NOTE

This collection includes miscellaneous Gold Medal material and various notes from Lloyd H. “Kinky” Bayers. Gold Medal basketball tournament official souvenir programs are also included in this collection.

SUBJECTS

Gold Medal Basketball Tournament - Juneau
Basketball – Tournaments - Alaska - Juneau
Juneau Lions Club – Alaska

http://www.library.alaska.gov/hist/hist_docs/finding_aids/MS007.pdf
INVENTORY

Box 1
Folder A
Gold Medal Tournament newspaper clipping copies 1947. The first year of the Central States Gold Medal Tournament.

Folder B

Folder C
Bayers, L.H. - Basketball notes, Gold Medal Memorabilia

Folder D
Official Scoremaster Score Book – Bill Ray’s team, 1963-1964

Folder 1
Gold Medal Programs:
1947 – No Program in collection
1948
1949
1950 – Fourth Annual
1951 – No Program in collection
1952 – 6th Annual; newspaper clippings and additional information
1953 – Seventh Annual
1954 – Eighth Annual; newspaper clippings and additional information

Folder 2
Gold Medal Programs:
1955 – Ninth Annual
1956 – Tenth Annual
1957 – Publication: This Month In Juneau, Alaska’s Capital; February 1957; Vol. II, No. 3; [Brochure, not official program]
1958 – Twelfth Annual (2 copies); newspaper clippings
1959 – Thirteenth Annual
1960 – Fourteenth Annual

Folder 3
Gold Medal Programs:
1961 – Fifteenth Annual
1962 – Sixteenth Annual
1963 – Seventeenth Annual (2 copies)
1964 – Eighteenth Annual

Folder 4
Gold Medal Programs:
1965 – Nineteenth Annual
1966 – Twentieth Annual
1967 – Twenty-First Annual (2 copies)
1968 – Twenty-Second Annual (2 copies)

Folder 5
Gold Medal Programs:
1969 – Twenty-Third Annual (2 copies)
1970 – Twenty-Fourth Annual – Dedicated to the members of the Gold Medal Hall of Fame: Gil Booth (Metlakatla), Jeff David (Haines, Metlakatla), Herb Didrickson (Sitka ANB), Richard Hansen (Petersburg, Juneau Imps), Moses Johnson (Sitka ANB), Roger Lang (Sitka ANB), Herman Ludwigson (Ketchikan Rockets), John Mills (Ketchikan Athletic Club), Duane Vincent (Ketchikan Rockets)
1971 – Twenty-Fifth Annual - Silver Anniversary (Photocopy only)
1972 – 26th Annual (2 copies, 1 is a photocopy) – Dedicated to the members of the Gold Medal Hall of Fame: Gil Booth (Metlakatla), Jeff David (Haines, Metlakatla), Herb Didrickson (Sitka ANB), Richard Hansen (Petersburg, Juneau Imps), Moses Johnson (Sitka ANB), Roger Lang (Sitka ANB), Herman Ludwigson (Ketchikan Rockets), John Mills (Ketchikan Athletic Club), Duane Vincent (Ketchikan Rockets), Louis Bonnett (Juneau, Mikes)
1973 – 27th Annual (Photocopy only) – Dedicated to the Juneau-Douglas Crimson Bears and Coach Jim Hamey

Folder 6
Gold Medal Programs:
1975 – 29th Annual (Photocopy only)
1976 – 30th Annual
1977 – 31st Annual
1978 – 32nd Annual
1979 – 33rd Annual

Folder 7
Gold Medal Programs:
1980 – 34th Annual
1981 – 35th Annual – Dedicated to the Memory of Dick Hotch
1982 – 36th Annual
1984 – 38th Annual
Folder 8
Gold Medal Programs:
1985 – 39th Annual
1986 – 40th Annual – Dedicated to the Memory of Lion Lew Love
1987 – 41st Annual – Dedicated to the Memory of Jeff David
1988 – 42nd Annual – Dedicated to the Memory of Ivan Gamble, Richard Kito, Roger Lang
1989 – 43rd Annual – Dedicated to the Memory of Vern Metcalfe

Folder 9
Gold Medal Programs:
1990 – 44th Annual – A Salute to Dr. Joseph O. Rude
1991 – 45th Annual – Dedicated to the Gold Medal Communities of Southeast Alaska and Canada
1992 – 46th Annual – Dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of Basketball and Sportsmanship

Folder 10
Gold Medal Programs: 1993-1995
1993 – 47th Annual – Dedicated to all of our Fans, Advertiser, Players/Wives, Coaches/Managers, Team Sponsors, Score Keepers, Spotters, Announcers
1994 – 48th Annual – Dedicated to Juneau—The Capital City
1995 – 49th Annual – Dedicated to Alaska - The 49th State

Box 2
Folder 11
Gold Medal Programs: 1996-1997
1996 – 50th Annual – Dedicated to Lion Walter Soboleff - The Grand Lion of the Gold Medal Tournament & to the Memory of Lion Chauncey Jacobs
1996 Gold Medal Calendar – 50th Anniversary – Juneau Lions Club
1997 – 51st Annual – Dedicated to the 50th Gold Medal Tourney

Folder 12
Gold Medal Programs: 1998-1999
1998 – 52nd Annual – Dedicated to the 17th District US Coast Guard
1999 – 53rd Annual – Dedicated to the Premiere Season of Women’s Gold Medal Basketball

Folder 13
Gold Medal Programs: 2000-2001
2000 – 54th Annual – Dedicated to all team coaches and managers, past and present. Four former coaches and one former manager are featured. Bill Walton, Sitka ANB; Charles Buchert, Sr.,
Metlakatla VFW; Bill Doucette, Ketchikan Rockets; Arnold “Swede” Wasvick, Petersburg Wasvick & Torwick; and sometimes coach but most renowned as a manager, Ralph Peters (and wife Eileen) of the Ketchikan Rockets.

“Gold Medal 2000” – A publication of the Juneau Empire celebrating the 54th Gold Medal Basketball Tournament

2001 – 55th Annual – Dedicated To the Life and Times of Juneau Lions First Gold Medal Hall of Famer Herb Didrickson (2 copies)

“Gold Medal Hoop Shots” – 2001 – Featuring the 55th Annual Lion’s Club Gold Medal Basketball Tournament. 2nd Annual Juneau Empire.

**Folder 14**

Gold Medal Programs: 2002-2005

2002 – 56th Annual – Dedicated to the memory of Bill Tompkins and Terry Pegues


2004 – 58th Annual – Dedicated to the Communities of Southeast Alaska Who Support the Gold Medal Tournament

2005 – 59th Annual

**Folder 15**

Gold Medal Programs: 2006 – 2009

2006 – 60th Annual – Dedicated to the Unsung Heroes of the Gold Medal Tournament

“Gold Medal: Celebrating 60 years of tradition and competition”, Juneau Empire, Sunday, March 26, 2006

2007 – 61st Annual

2008 – 62nd Annual

2009 – 63rd Annual – Lion Monarch Dr. Walter A. Soboleff

**Folder 16**

Gold Medal Programs: 2010-2013 (2010 not acquired)

2010 – 64th Annual – **No Program in collection**

2011 – 65th Annual

2012 – 66th Annual – Dedicated to the Memory of Lion Monarch Dr. Walter Soboleff

2013 – 67th Annual

**Folder 17**

Gold Medal Programs:

2014 - 68th Annual

2015 - 69th Annual

2016 – 70th Annual – “Remembering our Past” (2 copies)
Folder 18
Gold Medal Programs:
   2017 – 71st Annual – “One Hundred Years of Lions”
   2018 – 72nd Annual – The Lions say, “Gunalchéesh, Háw’aa, Nt’oyaxsn, Thank you, Southeast.”

Box 3
Newspapers
   1. (Gold Medal Edition) “28th Annual Gold Medal Tournament”
      Southeast Alaska Empire; Thursday, March 7, 1974;
      (p. 1-20)
      Juneau Empire, Capital City Weekly

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