

15th National Veterans Golden Age Games

Daily Champion



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Together Again!



BubbaDillos members Perry Wharton and Robert Roundtree have been practicing hard for the Nine ball competition.

**By Jenny Tankersley
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“Howdy,” “Hey y’all,” and “It’s great to see you again” are phrases that were heard hundreds of times yesterday during registration at the 15th National Veterans Golden Age Games.

In addition to being a competitive event, the Golden Age Games provide a backdrop for a unique reunion. The BubbaDillos, the team from the host VA North Texas Health Care System, feel particularly proud to set the stage for this week’s events in Texas.

Just ask one of the coaches and the coach/nurse of the BubbaDillos how they feel about hosting the event and they’ll quickly tell you how committed

they are to making sure *everyone* has a great time! The planning and coordination were done with two goals in mind--safety and good fun, according to Debbie Clarke, coach/nurse with the BubbaDillos.

“The entire Dallas staff have put their heart into it,” said team member Bernard “Bud” Kenan. “The coaches, the staff, and Mr. Harper [the director] have been very supportive, and I always try to thank the volunteers, too, because they are so wonderful.” He added that one of his most memorable experiences at the Games was several years when “a gentleman who had no legs competed in the swimming event and got about ten feet from the end and gave out. Almost everyone at the competition gathered around the gentleman and cheered him on and that gave him enough will, courage, or whatever to finish.”

That, Kenan said, is the essence of the Games. “It is not about what I do but what *we* do,” he said. “You know, I come to these events to inspire others, but it is me who gets inspired. It just kinda works out that way.”

Kenan is one of the 42 members of this year’s team who range in age from 55 to 79 and whose experiences range from first-timers to the more seasoned. Coach Sandra Wollerton of the BubbaDillos states that her team has more first-timers than in recent years. She said this poses no problem, however, because they team the novices with the more experienced athletes. For example, Bill Story, who uses an electric wheelchair, is paired with a newly blinded and first-time participant, Bill Dixon.

Wollerton and Clarke, who have been involved in the Games for 13 and seven years respectively, emphatically said that making sure their team is

Medical Team Expands Coverage

For the first time in the history of the National Veterans Golden Age Games, doctors will be available on-site to help participants 24 hours a day, every day of the event.

The physician team, led by Alan Schonfeld, M.D., and Mark Nelson, M.D., of the VA North Texas Health Care System (VANTHCS), is based in a medical suite set up in the Duncanville High School east cafeteria (Building 10) from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. For overnight medical needs, a medical suite at the Ramada Inn in Duncanville is staffed from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Motel 6 in Duncanville and Quality Inn & Suites in Grand Prairie, where Games participants are staying, have at least one nurse on-site overnight to help veterans with health problems. A shuttle will run between the hotels between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00

a.m. each day to transport participants who need medical assistance to the appropriate location. Veterans with serious health problems will be transported to the Dallas VA Medical Center, which is less than 20 minutes from Duncanville.



The physicians' expertise ranges from internal medicine, cardiology, orthopedics and emergency medicine, to physical medicine and rehabilitation. And, in another first for the Golden Age Games, this

year's team will have the use of special Palm Pilots during the week to help them get quick access to medical information.

Last year's medical team in Topeka broadened its coverage, but the VANTHCS has taken it a step further by offering full-time physician coverage for participants. "I didn't want our veterans to have to call 911 and go to a strange place for health care emergencies," Dr. Schonfeld explained.

Bubbadillos (cont.)

competitive and having a great time is their first priority. As they made their way through the registration area, it was clear that many other veterans had benefited from their commitment.

As evidence of this

commitment, Wollerton gave up her wedding anniversary vacation this week so she could be here. "Whatever efforts you put out are minimal in comparison to the hugs, smiles, and words from these former defenders of freedom," she said.

Learn to Speak 'Texas'

Yawl - the pronoun of the second person (singular or plural)

"Good to see yawl."

Ah - the first person singular pronoun

"Ah am glad to meet yawl!"

Be **kwat** - free from noise or disturbance; used interchangeably with "hush"

"Be kwat. Yawl are makin' too much noise!"

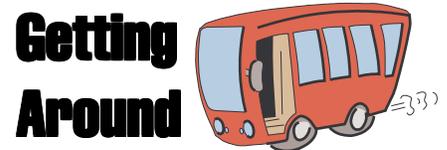
Warsh - to cleanse by rubbing or scrubbing in water

"Pardon me, ah'm gonna warsh my hands."

Thank - to have a judgment or opinion of, give consideration to

"Jes thank of what yew must sound lack to a Texan!"

- from *The Illustrated Texas Dictionary of the English Language*, by Jim Everhart



Buses will run every 15 minutes from the hotels to Duncanville High School each day between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and at least 7:00 p.m.

• Today's Schedule •

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Golf (all divisions)

Pentathlon (all divisions)

Softball Hit

Basketball Free Throw

Air Guns

Shotput, Discus

Swimming (all divisions)

Casino Night

Twin Wells Golf Course, Irving

DHS Soccer Field #14*

South of Stadium #15

South of Stadium #15

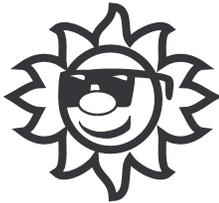
Pace School Field #16

DHS Natatorium #12

*Duncanville Community
Center*

**Duncanville High School*

Beat the Texas Heat



It's hot out there, so it's important to take precautions to protect yourself from the effects of that strong Texas sun when you're participating in outdoor events. Here are some tips to keep in mind:

- Drink plenty of water both before and during your event.
- Wear sunscreen and a hat whenever possible.
- Stay in the shade as much as possible before your event.
- Bring a towel to dry off and a clean shirt to change into so that you can stay dry.
- Wear loose, light-colored clothing, preferably cotton.

If you feel any signs of heat-related illnesses, such as dry mouth, weakness, nausea, clammy skin or confusion, make sure that you drink water, get out of the sun and get medical help immediately:

Dallas Area Has No Shortage of Ghost Stories

You might think the Dallas area isn't old enough to have many ghost stories, but there have been sightings of apparitions in many areas of town.

At the Majestic Theater in the Dallas Central Business District, phone lines are said to light up when no one is there, backdrops move on their own, and strange smells have been experienced with no explanation. These phenomena are said to be the hauntings of a benefactor named Karl Hoblitzelle.

At Old City Park on the edge of the Central Business District, there is an old house, built in the time and style of the old plantation houses, called Millermore. There have been numerous reports of a female presence felt on the second floor near the nursery. No explanation has been found for these experiences.

Doors slam, paintings fall off

walls, and voices and laughter echo through the halls at the Sons of Hermann Hall in Deep Ellum. Male and female apparitions have also been spotted in the building.

In the Oak Cliff section of Dallas, which is adjacent to Duncanville, a train hit a young girl while she was riding her bike on Combs Creek Street. Her spirit is sometimes seen on that street, still riding her bicycle.

Near White Rock Lake, where the Arboretum is located, there have been sightings of a vanishing hitchhiker. A soaking wet woman flags down cars and asks for help. She gets into the back seat of the car, but when the Good Samaritans arrive at the named address, she has disappeared. The DeGolyer House at the Arboretum is also said to be haunted.

Texas Tidbits



- ★ Pecan (pronounced puh-cahn, NOT pee-can) is the state tree.
- ★ Bluebonnet is the state flower of Texas. It blooms in March and April throughout much of the central part of the state and along most of the highways, thanks to Lady Bird Johnson. She encouraged all states, but Texas in particular, to seed the highways with native wildflowers.
- ★ The mockingbird is the state bird of Texas. It is also the state bird of Arkansas, Florida, Mississippi, and Tennessee but can be found throughout the United States. It is known for its many songs. Listen for it early in the morning.
- ★ The Texas state motto is "Friendship," based on the fact that the name Texas comes from a Caddo Indian word meaning "friends" or "allies."

- ★ Texas may be one of the few states that has a "State Dinosaur," the Brachiosaur Sauropod, Pleurocoelus. Dinosaur tracks can be found about an hour south of Duncanville in Glen Rose.
- ★ Rodeo is the official state sport.
- ★ The guitar is the official state musical instrument.
- ★ The state dish of Texas is chili, of course, and true chili does not have beans in it.
- ★ Texas is called the Lone Star State because of its state flag with a single star. This was the flag of the Republic of Texas. Texas is known for being the home of the Six Flags amusement park, which is named for the fact that Texas has had six different flags flown over it during eight changes of sovereignty. The six flags include: Spain, Mexico, France, Republic of Texas, United States, and the Confederate States.
- ★ The Texas flag's colors represent the same virtues as they do in our United States flag: red means bravery; white, purity; and blue, loyalty.

Golden Age Games on the Web

Do you have family and friends who couldn't make the trip to Texas with you? If they have Internet access, they can keep up with the week's activities by visiting the Golden Age Games Web site at www.va.gov/vetevent/gag/2001.

They'll find daily news about the Games, a Games schedule, event results, athlete profiles, a photo gallery, and more. Coverage is provided daily throughout the Games, so your family and friends can visit each day for something new.

On the Menu...



Breakfast (6:30-9:30 a.m.): Frittata, Breakfast Casseroles, Omelets; Cereal, Oatmeal; Pancakes, French Toast; Breakfast Breads; Assorted Fruits; Beverages

Lunch (11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.) & Dinner (4:00-6:30 p.m.): Assorted Salads; Cream of Tomato Soup; Deli Turkey Submarine, Patty Melt, Grilled Chicken Club Sandwich, Panther Burger; Mesquite Barbeque Beef Brisket, Cajun Chicken Jambalaya with Penne Pasta, Grilled Swordfish with Citrus and Tomato Salsa; Schetzwan Stir Fry Station; Italian Pasta Station; Assorted Vegetables; Breads and Rolls; Desserts; Beverages