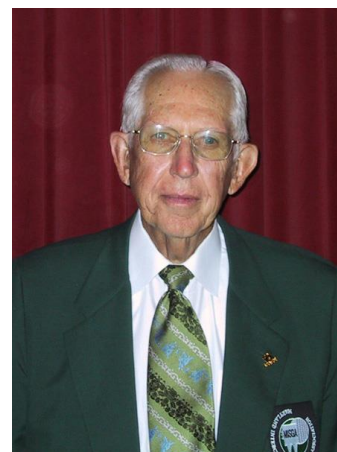


History of the MISGA Green Jacket Award

By C. J. Myers and Tom Tarpley

Introduction (C. J. Myers)

In December of 1999 I was asked by my good friend, Sam Hastings from Argyle C.C., what I thought of an idea he came up with to create an award to be given to a MISGA Associate who has served for many years in several positions of responsibility. He showed me a sheet of paper on which he listed the many jobs he held during his twenty-five plus years of service including MISGA President in 1985. On some of MISGA's golfing trips to Sea Trail, I assisted him with coordinating and scorekeeping. At a later Board Meeting, Sam presented his proposal.



A motion was made, and unanimous approval was given to reimburse Sam for the cost to purchase the Green Jacket. Within the next few weeks Sam and I visited several men's clothing stores, and finally found one large enough to fit him at Sym's Clothing Store in Rockville. After some minor alterations, this green jacket became the start of a very important tradition in MISGA. I brought the jacket to the Annual Club Reps meeting on April 10, 2000 for our President Earle "Duke" Rowdon to formally present to Sam.

Five years later, in 2005 when Paul Kaiser was seated as MISGA President, he requested and received approval from the Board to award the Green Jacket to both Charlie Fieldhouse and me. We were given the notice in plenty time for us to acquire identical jackets. At the annual Division IV Holiday Luncheon on December 7, 2005 at Manor C.C. we were presented the "*Sam Hastings Green Jacket Award*" for outstanding service to MISGA. Unfortunately, Sam's health at the time prevented him from attending the occasion to present these awards.

The MISGA career for Charlie Fieldhouse began as Club Rep at Hunt Valley 1994 – 1998. He joined Piney Branch C.C. in 1999 and served as Director of Division II from 1998 – 2001, including seated as President in 2001. From 2003 through 2006 he chaired the PP AD Hoc committee. From 2003 through 2008 he was Associates Chairman, and again from 2010 through 2013. During 2009 he served as Historian.



C. J. Myers responsibilities in MISGA began as Club Rep at Manor C.C. 1994 – 1996. He served as Director of Division IV from 1995 through 1999 including seated as President in 1997. From 2000 to 2002 he was Chairman of Policy and Planning. In 2003 he chaired the Rules and Handicap Committee. From 2004 through 2008 he was Tournaments Chairman. During 2016 – 2018 he served as Club Rep, and again served as Director in 2018.

In 2007 when Ralph Starkey was President of MISGA the Board approved the Green Jacket award to Tom Tarpley. This presentation was also given at the Division IV Holiday Luncheon at Manor on Dec. 11, 2007. Sam Hastings widow, Marion, did the honor of placing the jacket on Tom. Tom's career began as Club Rep at Eaglehead 1988 - 1989. When that club's name changed to West Winds he served as



Club Rep from 1991 through 1993, the year he moved to Holly Hills. He began his first term on the Board as Division II Director, 1997 – 2000. During his second Board term, 2004 – 2007, he was President in 2006. In 2007, he served one year as chairman of the PPAD HOC Committee. During 2009, Tom served as Tournament Chairman. He served his third Board term as Director from 2011 through 2013. He was Club Rep at Holly Hills, 2012 – 2013. From 2010 through 2018 he has served as PPAD HOC Chairman.



The following year in 2008 when Bob Turner was President, he announced the green jacket award to Pete Sorge in recognition of his several years of organizing and conducting the many Fall Frolic trips to South Carolina and Georgia and Florida. Pete succeeded Sam Hastings as Chairman of the MISGA Events Committee when Sam resigned. The award was made at the Manor Holiday Luncheon on December 19. Marion Hastings once more did the honor of putting the jacket on Pete, who was totally unaware that he was to receive this award as his wife, Susan, assisted us in the purchase of the proper size jacket and keeping the secret.

At the Manor Holiday Luncheon on December 15, 2009 President Byron Keadle announced the green jacket award to a very surprised Ken Wallgren from Hobbit's Glen. Thanks to his wife, Ruby, we were able to determine his size and acquire the jacket without his knowledge. In addition to serving on the Board for 4 years, including being seated as President in 2003, Ken has chaired several key committees. In 2001, at the request of President Fieldhouse, Ken and two others Board members turned Charlie's dream of a MISGA web site into reality. Later he created the MISGA Web Committee with responsibility to design, manage, and maintain the MISGA web site. For the third consecutive year, Marion Hastings did the honor of putting on his jacket.



On December 14, 2010 at the Manor Holiday Luncheon, President Howard Taylor announced the award to a very surprised Byron Keadle from Patuxent Greens. Thanks to his wife, Aretta, we were able to determine his size and acquire the jacket without his knowledge. During his 13 years in MISGA up to that year, Byron served as Club Rep 1998-2001, MISGA Webmaster 2005-2008, Division VI Director 2007 to 2010, and President in 2009. He next served as MISGAgram Editor for several years, then Historian, until he resigned from further responsibilities.

The date was September 12, 2012, the place was Carroll Valley Golf Resort, and the event was the MISGA Summer Frolic. Sometime after 2005 when he took over as Chairman of this activity, Tom Taylor gave it this title, which formerly was called the MISGA Board Bash. At the banquet on Tuesday evening, prior to announcing the male and female winners of golf play earlier, someone sitting at Tom Taylor's table, noticing that a few men were wearing a green jacket, he asked the question, "What's this all about?" Tom explained it is a special award to



an individual who has done outstanding service for MISGA for several years. Shortly after that, Tom Tarpley called Tom Taylor to the podium and announced that he is now receiving a green jacket! Taylor was completely shocked! He had no clue at all this was going to happen. His wife, Norma, never revealed the secret. Tom began his career of responsibilities in MISGA as Club Rep at Quail Valley 2003 – 2005, Handicap Committee 2003 – 2004, Chairman of the Summer Frolic 2005 – 2013, Director of Div. II in 2008, 2010-2012, Vice President 2010, and President in 2011. He also served as Membership Chairman 2013 – 2015, Division Director 2018 and Club Rep in 2018.



On December 11, 2012 at the Manor Holiday Luncheon, in recognition for his many years of dedicated service to MISGA, Ralph Starkey from Caroline C.C. was awarded the green jacket. He served as Director of Division III from 2004 to 2007, when he was MISGA President. In 2007, he began assisting Dick Dale in running the Williamsburg Spring Fling. His next activity was Membership Chairman in 2009 – 2010. Following that, he again served on the Board in 2011 and 2012, the second time he was seated as President.

On December 10, 2013 at the Manor Holiday Luncheon, 115 people signed up but only 79 attended because of a bad snow storm. When Tom Tarpley announced that Dick Dale from Hoopers Landing in Delaware is being awarded the green jacket Dick was very surprised! After donning his new jacket, Dick and wife Patty posed for a group picture with the previous recipients of the jacket. He was heard saying to her, “You really pulled a fast one on me!” Dick served as Division I Director from 2004 through 2007. From 2003 through 2006, he organized and conducted the Spring Fling at Ocean City. From 2007 – 2014, Dick and Ralph Starkey ran the Spring Fling at Williamsburg, VA.



At the annual Club Reps meeting on April 14, 2014 being held at Prospect Bay, the Green Jacket award was given to a very surprised Lloyd Stimson from Tantallon C.C. Lloyd served as Club Rep (10+ yrs.), Division VI Director, Division VI Associates Chairman, and MISGA Tournament Chairman for over 9 years. Unbeknownst to Lloyd, his wife Linda was present in the building and assisted President Jim Beisler in placing the jacket on his shoulders. Lloyd is now serving as History Chairman.



At the Manor Holiday Luncheon on December 9, 2014 Howard Taylor from Maple Dale in Delaware was awarded the green jacket. Howard served in many MISGA positions before being seated as President in 2010. His previous responsibilities were Auditor from 2005 through 2009 and Division I Director from 2010 through 2012. Our current and outgoing Presidents, Jim Beisler and Earl Gentry, placed Howard's jacket on an empty chair since Howard could not attend because his wife was in the hospital.

On December 8, 2015 at the Manor Holiday Luncheon, to his complete surprise, Errol Myers of Norbeck C.C. was awarded the green jacket. Errol has performed expertly as WebMaster of our web site from 2008 through 2018. Errol and Sally are shown here with President Gentry and Tom Tarpley, who explained to the audience the difference in the color is because his source was no longer available and he had to seek a new tailor shop.



At the Manor Holiday Luncheon on December 13, 2016 the green jacket was awarded to John Babyak from Montgomery C.C. After a few years as Club Rep, John served several years as MISGA Board Secretary. The award was being kept a secret from him because his 2 daughters and a granddaughter were to be present. His daughter Julie Collier had to attend a work conference and, at the last minute, daughter Susan Babyak and little Harper Rose Collier could not make it because of a transportation problem. Incoming MISGA President Jim Wilcox had the honor of placing the jacket on John.

On December 4, 2018 at the Manor Holiday Luncheon, the green jacket award was given to Jim Wilcox from Hobbit's Glen, shown here with his two very close friends, Connie Wagner and Judy Okcugula. Jim's nearly 20 years in MISGA includes 12 years as Club Rep and Assistant Rep, Division IV Director two different times for 2 years each time, MISGA Auditor for 4 years, President in 2017, and currently Associates Chairman.



Acknowledgement (C. J. Myers)

During the 20 years of choosing and presenting the Green Jacket to those deserving Associates I will guess that I probably spent 100 or so hours on this activity. I am certain, however, that Tom Tarpley has spent several 100 hours on this endeavor, obtaining background knowledge and jacket size from his wife, and making the purchases. I am very grateful to you, Tom, and proud to have been your partner.

Compiled February 2019. To be continued.

At the Manor Division IV Holiday Luncheon on December 10, 2019 two Green Jackets were awarded to Tom Rowlett and Gary Manion for their outstanding service to MISGA for many years.

Tom Rowlett's career in MISGA began in 2004 when he joined Glade Valley G.C. In 2007 he joined VFW Golf Club in Frederick, MD where, after one year, he became the MISGA Rep. During this time he worked with Musket Ridge to have that club join MISGA. Tom became the first Musket Ridge Club Rep, a position he held for several years. In 2014 he became the Division II Deputy Director, followed by Director. In 2016 he was seated as President of MISGA. With his computer expertise he created an automated scheduling and signup system, currently being used by several MISGA Club Reps to ease their workload.



Gary Manion's several years of service to MISGA includes Club Rep at Norbeck Country Club, Director of Division IV, Audit Chairman, tournament consultant for Norbeck, and for the past two years MISGA Treasurer. During this time he implemented several changes in our insurance coverage and accounting procedures, thereby saving a lot of expense for our organization.

Compiled January 2020. To be continued.