



MISGAGRAM

Volume 100 – April 2010

www.misga.org

MISGA Flings

If you and your spouse haven't attended the MISGA Flings, you are missing out on one of the great benefits of being a MISGA associate. These events are golfing vacations where we engage in our favorite activities – golfing, eating, and socializing.

President Taylor and 85 others attended the Winter Fling at Crystal River, FL, which served as much needed R&R after the heavy snowstorms of February, with the repeated shoveling. Pictures of winners at that event appear later in this edition.

The next event is the Spring Fling at Williamsburg during May 11-13. This year, we are playing at two of the Kingsmill courses, the Plantation and the River Courses, plus a return to the Kiskiak Golf Club. Although the closing deadline is April 15, there may be a few openings available. Call Dick Dale if you are interested. The flyers and entry forms can be downloaded from the MISGA web site at http://www.misga.org/Events_menu.htm.

Fall Frolics 2010 – This year we plan to have two Fall Frolics. We hope the attendance warrants having two events as it has in the past. If not, we will only consider one Fall Event in the future.

The first one will be at Fripp Island Golf & Beach Resort, SC. Check in will be on Sunday October 24, 2010. Golf will be played for four days starting on Monday through Thursday. We will be playing the Ocean Creek and Ocean Point courses. Sunday evening there will be an orientation meeting with cocktail hour and appetizers included. Breakfast, cocktail hour and dinner are included each day with check out after breakfast Friday morning October 29, 2010. A food culinary and tasting tour of Savannah, Ga. is being planned for the non golfers. They will visit 7 unique restaurants and specialty food locations, including the

Lady & Sons restaurant, owned by the Queen of the Food Network, Paula Deen.

The second event will be at Amelia Island Plantation, Florida. Check in will be on Sunday October 31, 2010. Golf will be played for four days starting on Monday through Thursday. We will be playing the Ocean Links, Long Point and Oak Marsh courses. Sunday evening there will be an orientation meeting with a cash bar and dinner included. Breakfast and dinner are included each day with check out after breakfast Friday morning November 5, 2010. We will have a cash bar this year in an effort to reduce costs. The non-golfers will be going on a Cumberland Island Tour and lunch will be included at a destination to be determined.

I would appreciate it if the Division Heads and club representatives would post this information and the application forms at each club.

For complete information, please see the applications that are on line under MISGA.ORG. –Fall Frolics. If you have any questions, please call or e-mail me at 301-292-1597 or e-mail pete233@verizon.net.

Upcoming Tournaments

The snow is gone, the grass is green, and golfing season is off to a running start. Division qualifying tournaments are scheduled in June, which gives you only a month or so to get your game in shape. For the Two-Man, you will need a partner whose course handicap for the specific qualifier venue is preferably within eight strokes of yours. Otherwise, you will suffer an additional 10% reduction in your course handicaps. Like last year, there will be prizes for the gross winners in the 2-Man as well as the ABCD. This year, the State Finals for the Two-Man Team will be at Holly Hills, while Chartwell will host the Past Presidents ABCD Final. Flyers for these events are posted

**Maryland
Interclub
Seniors Golf
Association**

President
Howard Taylor

Vice President
Tom Taylor

Secretary
John Babyak

Treasurer
Dick Schwinger

The MISGAGRAM is the official newsletter of the organization published on the web site four times each year. The mission of the 'gram is to provide information of common interest to association members. The 'gram can be read at www.misga.org.

The publication months for the MISGAGram are:

April
July
October
January

Noteworthy events and announcement for away activities, and articles of general interest may be submitted to the editor at any time for printing. The closing dates for publication are:

1 April (April)
1 July (July)
1 October (Oct.)
1 January (Jan.)

All materials should be sent via e-mail to:

b.keadle@comcast.net

Byron W. Keadle
MISGAGRAM Editor

on the web site at http://www.misga.org/Tournaments/2010_2-Man_flyer.pdf for the Two-Man and www.misga.org/Tournaments/2010_ABCD_flyer.pdf for the Past Presidents.

Editor's Note

This MISGAGRAM is the 100th edition since the first MISGAGRAM was published in May, 1978.

When we have many pictures to publish, such as event pictures of winning teams, then we have to make a compromise between file size of the MISGAGRAM and quality of the pictures. Nevertheless, the pictures will still display at reasonable quality up to 420% enlargement (zoom). 200-300% will do nicely. If anyone wants a copy of an original photo, send me a request. Originals are 4 to 5 megabytes in size (un-cropped). Originals have ratio (usually) of 3:2, width to height. Pictures of teams are generally cropped at 2:1 ratio.

MISGAGRAM Articles Wanted

Please support the MISGA newsletter by contributing items of interest in the form of articles, pictures (with captions), letters to the editor, event reports, suggestions, holes-in-one, obituaries or death notices, and anything else of interest to the MISGA associate. You can use the Letters-to-the-Editor as a forum to express views or counterviews on MISGA topics.

See page 8 of February MISGAGRAM (MG-2010-02.pdf) for guidance on submitting articles and pictures.

Please notice the revised publishing schedule in the left column. Publication dates are no longer dependent on availability of Frolics flyers and entry forms. In fact, we may publish additional issues if the supply of news and articles is sufficient.

BEETLE BAILEY



MORT WALKER



MISGA Winter Fling -- February 21-27

The Winter Fling at Crystal River, FL was attended by 86 associates and spouses eager to escape the snowy conditions in the Maryland-Delaware area. Eighteen clubs were represented, with Ocean Pines the clear winner with 24 participants. The weather there was very good on Monday through Wednesday. Thursday was cool and windy. There was even a frost delay on Friday, but only for about an hour. Wednesday was an off day for rest and other activity, but some golfaholics played at other area courses.

Plantation Inn and Golf Resort – Crystal River, FL



Hole No. 8



Plantation Inn



White Ibises

Winning Teams (ZOOM 200-420% max for better detail)

Monday - Scramble



1st – John Gale, Harry Conover, Sally Stafford, Jim Phipps



2nd - Betty Jean Ennis, Bill Thompson, Judy Sarubin, Bill Hays



3rd – Dave Stevens, Paul Bowersox, Aretta Keadle, Don Schaefer



4th – John Babyak, Kate Kessler, Dixie Hughlett, Ralph Starkey



5th - Norma Spicher, Rich Boardman, Pat Beisler, Pat Mc Allorum



Ralph Starkey, Event Leaders: Bob McIntyre, Ralph & Carol Menton, Nancy McIntyre

Tuesday – Ladies 1-2-3



1st – Aretta Keadle, Dorothy Gale, Connie Phipps, Sally Stafford



2nd – Kathy Fitzgerald, Gwyn Linthicum, Judy Hays, Dorothy Gale (Blind Draw)



3rd – Pat Beisler, Betty Jean Ennis, Dixie Hughlett, Janet Bowersox

Tuesday Men 3-2-1



1st - Ralph Menton, Dick Ris, Fred Meers, Jim Phipps



2nd - Bill Hays, Gene Horan, Bill Leahy, Pat Mc Allorum



3rd - Buck Linthicum, Bob Caradona, Bob Turner, John Babyak

Thursday – Ladies - Florida Scramble



1st – Sally Stafford, Barbara Hilliard, Ann Turner, Judy Taylor



2nd – Norma Spicher, Carol Boardman, Carol Menton, Dorothy Gale



3rd – Pat Beisler, Aretta Keadle, Betty Jean Ennis, Sharon Hunsicker

Thursday – Men - Stableford



1st - Richard Ennis, Ralph Menton, Bob Kessler, Bob McIntyre



2nd - Byron Keadle, Dick Ris, Ralph Starkey, Don Schaefer



3rd – Dave Stevens, Dick Dale, Rick Hunsicker, Howard Taylor

Friday – Ladies – 2 BB



Flight 1 – Kathy Fitzgerald, Betty Jean Ennis, Aretta Keadle, Carol Menton



Flight 2 – Gwyn Linthicum, Carol Meers, Bobbie Maxwell, Dorothy Gale



Flight 3 – Marion Schreyer, Barbara Hilliard, Petie Evans, Janet Bowersox

Friday – Men – 2 BB



Flight 1 - Bob Fitzgerald, Rick Hunsicker, Gene Horan, Ron Rider (not in picture)



Flight 2 – Byron Keadle, Rich Boardman, Richard Ennis, Ralph Menton



Flight 3 – Bill Nichols, Bill Leahy, John Babyak (Blind), John Gale

Thursday Skins



Bob Spicher, Joseph Eikenberg, Ron Rider, Don Schaefer

Friday Skins



Bob Fitzgerald, Paul Bowersox, Bob McIntyre, Jim Beisler, Don Schaefer, Bill Nichols

Gross-Net-CTP



Low Gross – Gene Horan
Low Net Flt 1 – Jim Phipps
2nd Low Net Flt 1 – Bill Thompson
Low Net Flt 2 – Bob McIntyre
Closest to Pin – Ralph Menton

Rusty Duck Restaurant



Great Food! Reservations Required.
(Believe it or not!)

Door Prizes



Tony Almond, Joseph Eikenberg, Dianne Almond, Nancy McIntyre, Don Hilliard

Gross-Net-CTP



Low Gross – Norma Spicher
Closest to Pin – Carol Meers
Low Net – Barbara Hilliard

Twisted Oaks G. C.



No. 11

Non-Golf Ladies on Boat Tour



l. to r.: Mary Stevens, Kay Starkey, Barbara Horan, Patty Dale, Marie Babyak
Not pictured: Dianne Almond

Plantation Golf



No. 18

Ocean Pines Group



Letters to the Editor

[Letters to the Editor are expressions of opinion by the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the MISGA Board of Directors or the Editor.]

MISGA's CASTE SYSTEM

In the February 2010 edition of the MISGAgram, a MISGA Club Rep expressed indignation at what he considers an act of “*arrogance, elitism, snobbery*” by one of MISGA’s clubs. He admonished this club for refusing to schedule home and away mixers with MISGA clubs it considers inferior in quality - clubhouse, course, meals and amenities. He rebuked the club’s board of directors for enacting a policy that prohibits the scheduling of mixers with MISGA clubs from “the other side of the tracks.”

This practice of elitist *mixer scheduling discrimination* is not new. It has been going on for many, many years. A number of years ago a scheduling matrix was developed and mandated for Divisions 2, 4 & 6. On an annual basis, the matrix required each club to play a minimum of 3 clubs within its division. Each successive year, a new set of 3 clubs would be scheduled until the cycle had been completed...then it was repeated. Depending upon the number of clubs within a division, the length of a cycle was 3-4 years. Hence, clubs within a division had to exchange mixers with another club only once every 3-4 years. In addition, an inter-divisional matrix was developed and mandated between Divisions 2 & 4, 2 & 6 and 4 & 6. The inter-divisional matrix followed the same formula but required a minimum of only 2 clubs per year.

A couple of years after implementation of the scheduling matrices, a number of the elite clubs complained. They objected vehemently to being forced to schedule mixers with clubs they considered inferior. Representatives from these elite clubs presented their case to an ad hoc committee of the Board of Directors. The complaining clubs threatened to withdraw from MISGA if the ad hoc committee did not repeal the mandated scheduling matrix. Not wishing to lose these clubs from the MISGA stable, the ad hoc committee acquiesced. A compromise was agreed upon. The scheduling matrix would continue, but only as a *guideline*. Hence, the elite clubs were allowed to return to their discriminatory practice with impunity. It continues today. The nobles refuse to play with the peasants. The matrix *guideline* has since died a slow death.

The stated policy and goal of MISGA is to *foster friendships and camaraderie through tournaments and mixers on a host and guest basis, and to provide an opportunity to play at other member golf and country clubs*. There is nothing in this mission statement that distinguishes between the status levels of clubs. The perceived inferior clubs (*mostly semi-private clubs with a lower fee structure*) are as officially and justifiably members of MISGA as are the self-perceived superior clubs (*a number of the fully private clubs with a higher fee structure*).

Following the intent and spirit of the MISGA mission statement, all clubs within an established division and a reasonable commuting distance should schedule host and guest mixers with each other. The status level of a club should never be a factor. If a club refuses to abide by this fundamental principle of “friendship and camaraderie,” expulsion from MISGA should be considered. As a minimum, a censure should be invoked (e.g., prohibit a guilty club from participating in MISGA championship tournaments and special events). As a fair- and equal-minded golfing organization, MISGA should never condone nor allow its member clubs to practice elitist *mixer scheduling discrimination*. MISGA should put an end to this mixer scheduling caste system.

Is it possible the elitist attitude permeating within a number of MISGA’s clubs is a contributing factor to the membership decline of MISGA over the last few years?

FYI: I’m a member of a fully private club with a high fee structure. My club does not practice elitist *mixer scheduling discrimination*. If it did, I guess I wouldn’t be writing this “Letter to the Editor.”

Stim

Lloyd Stimson

[Letters continued next page]

OPEN BAR at MISGA FLINGS

Do we need open bars at the MISGA Flings? At the last Board meeting a discussion of “open bar” cocktail hours was brought up when Peter Sorge said that he could get a reduced rate at Amelia Island if we did not have an open bar cocktail hours. The discussion revolved around the idea that persons who did not drink alcohol at all or in very limited quantities objected to paying for other’s drinking. I understand that open bars have been defended in the past as a means to promote socializing rather than having members stay in their rooms to drink. It seems to me that in the last 15 to 25 years, the amount of alcohol consumed has generally decreased as has the number of people who drink at all. Also, some people, who do not appreciate being in the company of heavy drinkers, might be the ones to stay in their rooms and not attend open bar cocktail hours.

The current reduction in attendance at the MISGA Flings is being affected by the depressed state of the economy. If the total cost of the Flings could be reduced by eliminating the open bars I believe it might entice more members to attend than it would deter members from attending at all. We need to consider all ways to keep costs lower so we can continue to have fun at the Flings.

Steve Neal, Director, Division V.



Wordsworth Re-Worded

by Robert Browning, 1910

An aged man,

Racked by a ceaseless cough,
And shivering in his wretched clothes,
What should he know of golf?

But when he saw me start to play
His sides he well nigh split;
He said, “I’ll take you round today
For the mere fun of it.”

“With strokes and misses, empty head,
How many have I had?” –
“You’ve taken seven to here,” he said.
His answer made me mad.

“And how d’ye think that that can be?” –
He answered, “Take my word;
Two strokes to knock it off the tee,
And bunkered from your third.

“And other two to get it out,
And also --- here’s the rub ---
Two more, because beyond a doubt
I saw you ground your club.”

“But this is not a match,” said I,
“For cups I do not strive;
And leaving out the penalty,
It seems I’ve taken five.”

“Two on the tee – and one - makes three” –
He checked them on his hand –
“Two to get out, and other two
For grounding in the sand.”

“But they don’t count; those two don’t count;
The slip must be forgiven.” –
Twas throwing words away, for still
That ancient man would have his will;
“I say you’ve taken seven.”

NECROLOGY

DICK KWOLEK

Dick Kwolek, who has been at Hobbit's Glen for a few years and was a member for some time at Rolling Road, died on March 1, 2010. --Jim Wilcox

JOHN E. MULLIKIN

John E. Mullikin, MISGA Associate and member of Clearview CC, passed away on March 9, 2010. --John Buck, Jr.

EDWARD L. ATHEY

Edward L. Athey, a dear friend, long-time MISGA associate and member of Chester River Yacht and Country Club, and coach and athletic director at Washington College for over 50 years, passed away on February 28, 2010. He will be sorely missed by many, many people in Chestertown and the entire Maryland/Delaware area. --Jim Sood

JACK (JOHN M.) DRESCHER, JR.

Jack Drescher, Jr., 85, passed away on November 25, 2009. Jack was an outstanding Glade Valley MISGA member. He served on the steering committee and was chairman of the 50/50 committee. He will be missed dearly. --Leo Duncan

FRED DITTMER

Fred Dittmer, 76, member of Nutters Crossing, died on December 13, 2009. --Rick Bisker

GEORGE R. McELWAIN, SR.

George R. McElwain, Sr., of Nutters Crossing, died in February 2010. --Rick Bisker

WILLIAM I. GOUKER, JR.

Bill Gouker, 77, longtime member of the Senior MISGA group at Patuxent Greens GC, passed away on March 26, 2010. His many friends will miss his friendly wisdom and cheerful attitude on golf and life.--John Haggerty

JAMES PODOLEY

James Podoley, 76, passed away on January 24, 2010 at home after a brief battle with melanoma cancer. He was a member of MISGA and played every weekend until his death. Jim was a two-sport stand out in football and track at Central Michigan University, establishing numerous records in both sports and briefly held the world record in the 220 low hurdles. He was chosen in the fourth round of the NFL draft in 1957 by the Washington Redskins, playing in the "Lollypop" backfield – a Pro Bowl selection in 1957 and 1959. We will all miss him on the weekends here at Bowie. --Gary Rottmann

DIVISION VI MATCH PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP

Division VI is initiating a Match Play Championship this year. Seven Division VI clubs have elected to participate in the tournament – Crofton CC, Fairway Hills GC, Fort Meade GC, NGC Tantallon, Patuxent Greens GC, University of Maryland GC and the U S Naval Academy GC. Play begins in April and will continue through October. Participating clubs will play in home and away competitions involving eight golfers from each club. There will be four singles and two doubles matches in each event. All golfers will play at 100% handicap with a maximum handicap index of 36.4. The top two teams at the end of September will play in home and away matches in October with the winner being crowned the Division VI Champion. Monthly results will be published so clubs will be aware of the standings. The idea for the competition came from Terry Coleman, Fairway Hills Rep. Fairway Hills and NGC Tantallon played in home and away match play events last year in the same format. All participants enjoyed the experience and wanted it to continue. It was proposed to all Division VI clubs this year and the initial championship became a reality. --Bob King, NGC Tantallon Rep

PLAY BY THE RULES OF GOLF

Strange But True

There are no gimmes in basketball!

Golf is one of the few “sports” where you can drink beer and smoke cigars while participating.

Short Putts

“Long ago I learned that no putt is short enough to take for granted.” -- Bobby Jones

Nearest Point of Relief

Your ball came to rest in the middle of a cart path. To the left of the cart path in the direction of the green is a huge tree two yards away. If you drop on the left, you will be stymied by the tree; on the right you would have a clear shot to the green. You are right-handed. Where do you take relief – on the left or on the right?

To determine your nearest point of relief, take your stance and ground your club so that you have complete relief from the obstruction (cart path), first on the right side of the path (place a tee where your ball would be) and then take a stance on the left side and ground the club where you have complete relief for stance and swing.

Now, measure from the ball (middle of cart path) to each tee. Since the tee on the left is the “nearest point of relief” for a right-hander, you must drop within one club length of the tee, no closer to the hole. Of course, you could play from the cart path, which would avoid the tree (not recommended). If you were left-handed, you would drop on the right side of the cart path.

Preferred Lies

“Playing golf with the ball up is like playing tennis with the net down.” --Anonymous

Wiggles & Waggles

“My own preference is for a manner of addressing the ball that wastes little time. Having decided upon the club to use and the shot to play before stepping up to the ball, I can see no reason for taking any more time in the address than is necessary to measure one’s distance from the ball and to line up the shot.” ---Robert T. Jones, Jr., *Bobby Jones on Golf*

“Did you ever notice how fascinating a man’s waggle is? A man with a good waggle is like a man with a good cigar. He may stink, but at least he looks impressive.” --Dorothy Langley

QUESTIONNAIRE

Page 10 of this MISGAGRAM is a questionnaire prepared by the Past Presidents AD HOC Committee. Please complete this form. PRINT “current page” and then fill it out by hand. Give the completed form to your club rep so he can take it to the annual meeting on April 12, or just mail it to Tom Tarpley at 10736 Renner Road, Woodsboro, MD 21798. If you have already received this Quiz by global email attachment, then don’t fill out page 10 – just fill out the form you have already received.

Short Self Help Quiz and Questionnaire for ALL who are Members of Misga 2010!

The Past President's AD Hoc Committee has generated this survey. We want your answers and input. A box to collect answers will be provided at the Annual Meeting at Prospect Bay or email as shown below.

Please encourage all MISGA Associates to give thought to this survey.

GOLF

Do you play for prize money? Yes _____ NO _____
Do you cheat? Yes _____ NO _____ DON'T KNOW _____

--If No, remember there is a bad place!

If Yes: Check One.

- _____ Occasionally
- _____ Frequently
- _____ Rarely
- _____ Whenever necessary

Would you report a friend who cheated? Yes _____ NO _____
Would you report anyone who cheated? Yes _____ NO _____
Have you ever reported anyone who cheated? Yes _____ NO _____
Should YOU protect the field? Yes _____ NO _____

What is "protecting the field?" The concept maintains the integrity of the game. It guarantees an equal playing field for all golfers. The field is all of us who play.

ORGANIZATION

For those of you who do not take an active role/part, other than playing.

Why do you not volunteer to serve in Misga at the Club, Division, or State level? Check One

- _____ I am serving or have served as _____
- _____ Don't want to be bothered
- _____ Don't Care
- _____ Let someone else do it
- _____ Never been asked

Is there any inducement that would lead you to participate? If so, what? Please list – write on back if needed. _____

Add any comments you think appropriate. Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions.

You may email your response to me at the addresses below or give your response to your Club Rep to bring to Annual Mtg and drop in the box provided, or just mail (USPS) it to Tom Tarpley at 10736 Renner Road, Woodsboro, MD 21798.

Past President's AD Hoc Committee

Tom Tarpley, Chairman

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