

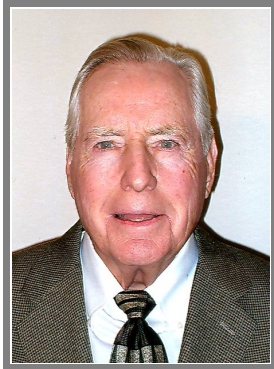


# MISGAGRAM

Volume 121 – December 2014

[www.misga.org](http://www.misga.org)

## President's Message



Jim Beisler is to be commended for the efforts he has made during last year as president of the MISGA BOARD. He had several tough issues to be resolved that he handled in a very professional manner.

Now, as I look forward, 2015 is going to be a challenging year. Eastern shore divisions have experienced a substantial drop off in membership and attendance at MISGA functions. Piney Branch and Argyle Country Clubs have decided not to participate in MISGA for 2015. Division 6 membership is down 10% (71) in 2014, but did add Timbers at Troy and Hollow Creek Golf Clubs as new members of MISGA.

The Eastern shore divisions were provided suggestions by the Board concerning their issues. Which they stated they would take under consideration.

In addition we are in discussion with three other clubs about becoming members in MISGA. They are Links of Gettysburg, Waverly Woods and Waynesboro Golf Courses.

I look forward to working with the BOARD and the DIVISIONS in the coming year.

Earl Gentry, MISGA President

## MISGA Leadership Transition at Board Meeting at Crofton, December 2, 2014



President Jim Beisler (left) passes the gavel to Earl Gentry, the MISGA President for 2015.

Maryland  
Interclub  
Seniors Golf  
Association

**President**

Earl Gentry

**Vice President**

Joe Baily

**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 MISGAGRAM is to provide information of common interest to association members.

The MISGAGRAM can be read or downloaded at:

[www.misga.org](http://www.misga.org).

The publication months for the MISGAGRAM are:

**March**

**June**

**September**

**December**

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

**10 March** (March)

**10 June** (June)

**20 Sept.** (September)

**20 Dec.** (December)

All materials should be sent via e-mail to:

[b.keadle@comcast.net](mailto:b.keadle@comcast.net)

Byron W. Keadle  
MISGAGRAM Editor

## MISGAGRAM Editor Vacancy

The MISGAGRAM editor is planning to retire before April, 2015. If anyone is interested in the job, please contact either Byron Keadle at [b.keadle@comcast.net](mailto:b.keadle@comcast.net) or Earl Gentry at [earlgentry3@comcast.net](mailto:earlgentry3@comcast.net).

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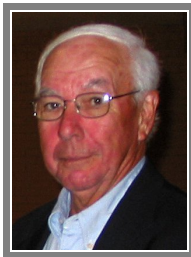
## OBITUARIES

Recent Deaths not previously reported in the MISGAGRAM

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### Charles Roger Peeling, Jr.

October 19, 2014



**Quail Valley** lost one of its MISGA members due to cancer. Charles Roger Peeling Jr., 83, of Westminster died Oct 19, 2014. Born Oct. 15th 1931 in New Oxford, Pa. He is survived by his wife Mabel of 63 yrs. and his two daughters, Debra and Christine. He retired from C&P after 37yrs of service. He served in the Air Force from 1951 - 1955. He was President of the Westminster Jaycees in 1961 and district Vice President in 1962.

-- Larry Lewis, MISGAGRAM Liaison

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### Charles D. "Charlie" White.

October 19, 1947 – October 18, 2014



On the passing of our golf buddy, Charlie White of **Patuxent Greens** : Charlie White was a great guy - yes, he was usually a cynic of the highest order and that made his jokes and his observations wry, witty, and just damned funny. In many conversations with him we talked about us both having been teachers; the good, the bad, and the wonder of seeing students finally "get it" and the feeling of accomplishment that gave us. Damn, I'll miss those conversations. He was a golfer I admired for his steady performance; rarely flustered and, always for him, it was a game to be enjoyed. More of us should have that attitude, I think. We will miss you, Charlie, and know that we're better people because we shared some time with you.

--John Bertak, President, PGSMGA

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## Green Jacket Award

Presented at Manor CC Christmas Luncheon  
December 9, 2014

By and large Christmas is celebrated on December 25. If your Day of Birth coincides, you are left out, in getting goodies, or even being recognized. We will try to rectify in a small way some of the injustices suffered by a small town in Kentucky (South Kentucky) Logan County where Howard was born. For you history buffs this area of Kentucky provided the 13<sup>th</sup> Star for the Confederate Flag. Russellville (a fourth class city) is not famous for Howard, but for having the Southern Deposit Bank, owned by Nimrod Long, which was robbed in 1868 by ex-Confederates – Cole Younger and Frank and Jesse James were most likely members of the gang. To the best of my knowledge neither Howard's family nor Howard was involved.

Howard graduated Russellville High School in 1959, then on to the University of (Basketball Fame) Kentucky with a B.A. in Mathematics. An MBA followed from the University of Indiana.



He found time to marry Judith Ann Harreld in 1961 and with leisure time on hand produced two children-Howard Bradley and Rebecca Harreld.

Howard found a home in USAir Force from 1964-1992. Pilot training in Texas. Then onward and upward. Larger planes more responsibility-Squadron Commander, Traffic Control- Vietnam Combat Missions - more than we want to count-Then the good duty, Yokoto, Japan with the 5<sup>th</sup> Air Force, where his domain was Japan & Korea.

He retired in 1992 at Dover AFB with over 9930 flying hours, and took a cushy job as President of the USO Delaware.

Howard took the reins as Auditor of MISGA in 2005. He served in all the usual club jobs and was and continues to be very active in successfully organizing the Spring Flings.. Most were held in Ocean City until moving to Williamsburg. Let us not forget that his wife Judy did more than her fair share in helping Hubby!

Positions held include Division Director and Vice President in 2009 and President in 2010. He

lost his job as Auditor in 2009—he was a very picky Auditor! We have not been indicted, yet. For your dedication, past and present and effort in keeping Maple Dale a viable club in MISGA along with the success of the Williamsburg Spring Fling. We Award The Green Jacket to a First Class MISGA Associate and Veteran from a 4<sup>th</sup> class city!

Thank you for past and future service.

Jim Beisler and Earl Gentry, will you assist in presenting The Jacket?



Green Jacket awarded in absentia by Jim Beisler and Earl Gentry.



Other Past Green Jacket Awardees Attending

MISGA Fall Frolic  
Fripp Island, SC – October 26-31, 2014

The Fall Frolic October 2014: This year we returned to The Fripp Island Resort in beautiful Fripp Island, SC. It is located 18 miles South of Beaufort, SC. The weather was perfect, in the mid-70's to mid-80's.

The Ocean Point & Ocean Creek golf courses located on the Island were in perfect condition and very playable. The views of the Ocean and marsh lands are spectacular and breathtaking. The water fowl, deer and many of the varieties of birds add to the scenic beauty of the island. The gators minded their business and kept their distance. Water does come into play on a number of holes, but like any course, if you hit a reasonable shot you will do well. Play finished in about four and half hours and gave everyone a time to have a leisurely lunch and the opportunity to explore the island or just relax in the afternoon.

Breakfast was served from 6:30 to 9:00 am prior to golf. Each night dinner was served after a one hour complimentary cocktail hour. The food was excellent and everyone commented on the variety, amount available and quality.

On a very sad note, on Wednesday evening during the cocktail hour, Peggy Murray suffered a stroke and was immediately transported to a Beaufort hospital. Unfortunately, Peggy passed away at the hospital that evening. All of us express our condolences to her husband, Jack and their family and friends. Also, special thanks to the Saums and Cooks, very close friends of the Murrays, for their assistance during this tragedy. The Murrays are members of Rolling Road Country Club.

The non-golfing ladies visited the September Oaks vineyards in Ridgeland, SC. It is a family run winery. They enjoyed several wine tastings and a lunch there. Also, some of them attended a cooking lesson by the Fripp Island chef where they learned how to prepare a dish and then were able to enjoy it as lunch.

Thanks for all who attended. A special thanks to Jack & Aileen Sullivan with their help before and during the event. Also, thanks to Ed Burakowski for taking the pictures of the winners and the non-golfers and his wife Pat Aylor for her assistance. She helped rearrange the golfing ladies pairings. Also, we all appreciated Lee Von Paris's musical skills in leading a group songfest during a cocktail hour.

Hopefully, I haven't missed acknowledging anyone for their help. We hope to see you next year for the Fall Frolics.

Peter Sorge, Jr. Events Chairman, MISGA

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**Monday – 2BB Net**



**1st:** Mary Lapides, Carol Meers  
Barbara Shearer, Mary Ross (no pic)



**1st:** Ed White, Jerry Shearer,  
David Cook, Jack Saum



**2nd:** Jack Sullivan, Owen Wise,  
Ed White, Norbert Muench



**3rd:** Sandy Ross, Peter Sorge,  
Dick Dale, Fred Meers

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**Tuesday- 666**



**1st:** Pat Aylor, Carol Miller, Carol Meers



**1st:** Peter Sorge, Tom Brown,  
Jerry Shearer, Lee Von Paris



**2nd:** Dick Dale, Norbert Muench,  
Fred Gera, Richard Violette



**3rd:** Peter Sorge, Fred Meers,  
Jack Saum, Ed White

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**Wednesday 3-2-1**



**1st:** Mabel Muench, Pat Aylor, Barbara Shearer



**1st:** Peter Sorge, David Cook  
Ed Burakowski, Fred Gera



**2nd:** Owen Wise, Peter Sorge,  
Jerry Shearer, Jack Sullivan



**3rd:** Tom Brown, Norbert Muench,  
Ed White, Lee Von Paris

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**Thursday- Scramble**



**1st:** Dick Dale, Mary Lapidés,  
Mabel Muench, Jack Sullivan



**2nd:** Ed Burakowski, Peter Sorge,  
Fred Gera, Barbara Shearer



**3rd:** Owen Wise, Carol Miller,  
Fred Meers, Lee Von Paris



**4th:** Richard Violette, Carol Meers,  
Jerry Shearer, Jack Miller

## Profile of a Golf Addict



Nearly everyone playing golf is an addict. However, some are embarrassingly addicted. One of those is Dick Dale. He has now played in 58 MISGA flings at 14 different sites. He said he enjoys playing different courses and meeting new people. His first experience with a MISGA fling was at Cape Coral in 1999. It is an exceptional course that hosted the 1972 NCAA individual championship that ended with a tie between Ben Crenshaw and Tom Kite. After finishing his first round, the helper taking clubs off the cart asked what he had shot. Dick said 88. The helper said: You were in 88 traps? Dick said what? The helper said: Sir, we keep score here by how many traps you were in, since we have 120 traps on the course.

He was assigned to a threesome with two women for his first round at Cape Coral. One player was allowed to hit two tee shots on each hole. Barbara was a marginal player (she decided after the first day to become a nine-hole golfer) but she was a lot of fun. She had trouble hitting any balls in the air. When they came around to a short par three over the water, it was her turn to hit two tee shots. Lightning must have struck. She hit her tee shot 110 yards onto the green, about four feet from the pin. Dick said: Nice shot. Hit another one since this is your hole to hit two tee shots. Barbara said: "Not in your lifetime." She did not hit a second shot. Dick and the other lady were riding together and decided to let Barbara putt even though she was not supposed to. Barbara made the putt, dropped the club and said "I have never made a birdie in my life!" Their team ended up out of the money but the wonderful memory remains.

Some of his other memories include playing with a person from the western shore at Fripp who had to go to the pro shop to purchase more golf balls since he had lost nine balls in the first nine holes. The Davis Love designed course at Fripp is very tight! On the same course, Gene Horan laid up short of the water by the green on a par five. It was a beautiful shot. The only problem was, when we came over the ridge, we saw that his ball was about two feet from an alligator. He took a drop and let the alligator have the first ball.

While running the Spring Fling at Williamsburg, Dick decided to have a skins game for the ladies in addition to the normal game for the men. It became a little embarrassing when he had to award five skins to Kathy Fitzgerald. When you are hot, you are hot!

At Sea Trail, Dick was in a foursome that started on the closest to the pin hole. Don Tiedemann was the first to tee off and his ball landed one inch from the pin. One of the other players started to just mark Don's name down as the winner. Don insisted that we measure. One of the other guys said "watch this". The two guys got into a two minute argument on how to measure the distance. Middle of the cup to the middle of the ball, etc. Was the distance  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch? Finally," Don relented and said "just put my name down as winner." That contest was over on the first shot.

At Ocean City, Dick played with Tom Tarpley. He said that Tom was on the first tee getting ready to hit. Dick was looking through his golf bag for tees while Tom was talking. All of a sudden Dick heard a click. He looked up to see that Tom had teed off while continuing to talk the entire time.

Dick said that he has loved all the courses, (never met a course he didn't like) but his favorite remains the Gold Course at Williamsburg. He says "everyone must play that course at least one time". The beauty of a MISGA fling is that you can play a top notch course, like the Gold course at a reasonable cost and avoid the very high rack rate.

(EDITOR: If anyone has played in more MISGA Flings and Frolics than Dick Dale, we would like to have your story.)



## Evaluation of Hollow Creek Golf Club

### **Background:**

On Oct. 30, 2014, Mr. Gary Chapman, Club Pro, on behalf of several members of Hollow Creek Golf Club, made application for said Club to become a member of MISGA.

On November 13th a committee consisting of Gary Manion, Director of Div. IV, Clarence Moody, Director of Div. II, Thomas Tarpley, Past President of MISGA, and the undersigned Thomas Taylor, PP and Membership Chairman visited the club and met with Mr. Chapman and two of their members to review their application. The committee also toured the facilities and sampled the food (at their own cost).

### **Evaluation:**

All of the members of the committee, except Mr. Manion, have played the course and due to the unfavorable weather felt it was unnecessary to replay it as no changes have been made, except the rough has been lowered. In discussions with the Hollow Creek gentlemen, we have ascertained the following.

- A. There are approximately 63 senior members eligible to join MISGA.
- B. They have 75 riding golf carts which are not GPS equipped
- C. The banquet room has a capacity of 140 which is indoors and air conditioned.
- D. They have a large kitchen and prepare all food on the premises. It will be served buffet style.
- E. They do not have a lightning & weather warning horn to warn golfers. They instead send out their staff.
- F. They do not have smart Automatic External Defibrillators.
- G. The club will use their green tees which measure 5719 yards.
- H. The club uses GOLFNET for maintaining their handicaps which is also used to make-up equitable foursomes and print scorecards with all relevant information. They are licensed by the USGA and the MSGA.
- I. The club will not block days, weeks or months during the calendar year to prevent MISGA mixers or tournaments.
- J. The club will conduct in home mixers on Tuesdays or Wednesdays.
- K. The Golf Professional is Gary Chapman  
Handicap Chairman is Jeff Tomaski  
Sr. Club Rep is Frank Wickless  
Sr. Asst. Rep is Jeff Tomaski

This is a well maintained golf club in the public domain. The facilities are first class as is the staff. Many holes are surrounded by environmentally sensitive areas that player may enter and play their ball. Carts are barred from these areas.

The club is aware of the \$50.00 annual club dues payable to the state MISGA treasurer and of the annual \$5.00 per associate payable to the Division treasurer.

### **Recommendation:**

The professional is familiar with our organization and the members selected to be potential Club Reps are eager to attend their duties. A dues structure was proposed that is acceptable and thought through. It was a pleasure to evaluate a well prepared club seeking entrance to MISGA.

It is the unanimous recommendation of the evaluation committee that Hollow Creek Golf Club be approved for membership in MISGA. They would be assigned to Division II due to their location in Middletown, Maryland.

Respectively Submitted,

Thomas Taylor  
Membership Chairman

## WHACKING SANDBAGGERS

Bitching about the authenticity and legitimacy of an associate's handicap after he has won a championship title is the same as "closing the barn door after the horse has escaped."

Over the years, there has been profuse concern and angst over the validity and correctness of the playing handicap of a few MISGA associates. The perception has been that these rogues maintain a handicap higher than their true playing ability merits. This apprehension always comes to the forefront when one of these perceived sandbaggers has won or placed very high on the net side of a tournament. Consecutive tournament victories always generates increased and massive grumbling with extortions for "tarring & feathering" the scallywags.

For many years, MISGA leadership, at all levels (*club, division & executive*), has been cognizant of and has been in constant battle with the rascals of sandbagging. The problem is not easily solved. Sandbaggers are very clever and resourceful at managing their handicaps. It takes exceptional talent and ingenuity for them to manipulate their "magic number" without exposure or revealing detectable evidence of their dastardly deed.

Whether we like it or not, a MISGA official cannot merely wave his magic baton and reduce an associate's handicap. We can't arbitrarily lower a handicap just because we think it's too high and should be slashed. There must be tangible proof and authoritative guidance (*i.e., USGA, MSGA, etc.*) to empower and support any formal action MISGA might take to lower a handicap.

Fortunately, the USGA provides operational guidance for establishing and maintaining the accuracy of golfing handicaps. Section 11-1 of the **USGA Handicap System** guidebook specifically states: *An essential element of the USGA Handicap System is the Handicap Committee. Each golf club utilizing the USGA Handicap System must have a Handicap Committee to ensure the integrity of the USGA Handicap System.* The guidebook further states: *The Handicap Committee sees that scores are posted, all elements of the USGA Handicap System are followed, and the integrity of each Handicap Index is maintained.*

The **USGA Handicap System** manual makes it quite clear the responsibility for maintaining the integrity (*i.e., authenticity, legitimacy*) of a golfer's *handicap index* rests at the feet of his club's Handicap Committee. When a MISGA associate's handicap is formally challenged and a request for reduction is made, it must be presented to the **club Handicap Committee** for adjudication. The MISGA Club Rep and the Division Handicap Chairman (*with guidance from the MISGA Handicap Chairman*) should participate in the analysis and decision making process.

Last year, MISGA took a definitive step to "whack" perceived sandbaggers. At its September 10, 2013 meeting, the MISGA Board of Directors voted to adopt and implement the "handicap lowering procedure" utilized by the Maryland State Golf Association (MSGA). The procedure was added to the *MISGA Championship Tournament Guidelines* for implementation during the 2014 MCTs. It states:

*Individuals or 2-man teams who have won a Net Grand Champion title in two successive annual MISGA Championship Tournaments (Past Presidents {ABCD} and/or 2-Man Team) will incur a 20% reduction in their course handicap when they compete in their third successive MISGA Championship Tournament. A 3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive win will result in a 30% reduction in course handicap; a 4<sup>th</sup> consecutive win will result in a 40% reduction, etc.*

Recently, Ray Campbell, Div. III Rules & Handicap Chairman, recommended the **Knuth Tournament Point System** be adopted and implemented by MISGA. This system was designed to lower the handicap of golfers who are constant net winners of golf tournaments. This system ... awards a golfer 5 points for a 1<sup>st</sup> place finish, 4 points for a 2<sup>nd</sup> place finish, 3 points for 3<sup>rd</sup> place, 2 points for 4<sup>th</sup> place and 1 point for 5<sup>th</sup> place. Golfers who accumulate more than 6 points in a year will receive a 2 stroke reduction to their official USGA handicap.

I wholeheartedly agree with Campbell's recommendation. It would provide MISGA with a second enforceable procedure for "whacking" sandbaggers. The 20% Rule is currently administered by the Tournament Committee of a MCT. If adopted by MISGA, the *Knuth System* would be a tool for club Handicap Committees.

Too many MISGA associates are under the misconception that when it comes to the two MISGA championship tournaments, verifying the authenticity and accuracy of a finalist's *handicap index* is responsibility of the Tournament Committee (*i.e.*, MCT Coordinator, the Division Tournament Chairman, the host Head Pro, the Club Rep and the MISGA Tournament Chairman). Wrong - this assumption is incorrect. The job of the Tournament Committee is to ensure the *handicap indices* assigned to the finalists are the ones closest and most practical to the date of the MCT.

The current 20% rule and the proposed *Knuth system* can provide MISGA with two tools for "whacking" perceived sandbaggers. And these two tools do not require extensive research of the alleged sandbagger's "handicap manipulation techniques" - only his wins and finishing places in tournaments. However, these two "whacking" instruments are after-the-fact solutions. Thus, the "perps" won't be penalized until they compete in subsequent golfing events.

Lloyd "Stim" Stimson  
MISGA Tournament Chairman

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