



MISGAGRAM

Volume 123 – June 2015

www.misga.org

President's Message



The Reps meeting was held on April 13, 2015 at Prospect Bay C.C. Over 74 Reps and Board Members attended. While the meeting went well, there were several discussions that generated comments from the Reps regarding the Winter Fling and how to obtain

New Members for MISGA: I presented a display and provided handouts concerning MISGA that we are using at CROSS CREEK. All Divisions requested that I provide them with the input so they could make the necessary changes for their clubs, which I did.

Winter Fling: Since the meeting the coordinator for the Winter Fling has resigned. I am putting a special notice in the MISGAGRAM asking for someone to step up and become the coordinator for the Winter Fling at Plantation Resorts, FL. One bright spot was the introduction of Bob Hodges from Wild Quail C.C. who has agreed to be the new MISGAGRAM Editor. We all welcome Bob to his new position.

A Board Meeting was held on June 8, 2015 at Caroline C.C. The ABCD and TWO MAN Tournaments were discussed since all Division are in the process of scheduling them prior to the State Tournaments. Both the Summer and Fall Flings were discussed with information and Sign Up sheets for both of them on the MISGA Web Site. Cancellation of MISGAS was discussed when it's Cart Path Only, since a large number of seniors are getting older thus making it harder for them to compete. It was decided that it would be up to the Host Club whether to cancel or not knowing that a number of seniors might cancel.

The next BOARD Meeting will be held at Liberty Mountain

Golf Resort (Carroll Valley) on Sept 8, 2015 just before the SUMMER FROLIC.

Earl Gentry



Maryland
Interclub
Seniors Golf
Association

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Earl Gentry

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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.

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:

tgnome1@gmail.com

Bob Hodges
MISGAGRAM Editor

NOTICE

We are in need of someone to be the Coordinator for the WINTER FLING at Plantation Resorts, FL. for FEB 2016. We have a copy of the proposed contract, but there needs to be a number of changes. Pete Sorge has agreed to negotiate the changes if someone will step up and become the coordinator.

If no one comes forward by JULY 15, 2015 I will have no choice but to notify the Resort that we will not have a WINTER FLING in 2016.

Contact Earl Gentry 410-799-1121 or e-mail earlgentry3@comcast.net if you are interested.

OBITUARIES

Recent Deaths not previously reported in the MISGAGRAM

Bill Welch

With deep regret we announce that Bill Welch passed away on June 6. Bill was a longtime member at Westminster National (formerly Bear Creek), an excellent player with a low handicap. He was an Art Teacher and a Golf Coach in the Carrol County School system. Bill represented Westminster National as the Rep, and Assistant Rep, and was very active in the Administration of the Club

Bruce Cowan, Rep, John Jamison Assist Rep, Norbert Muench Assist Rep DAC.

Ed Harkleroad

We regret the passing of Ed Harkleroad on April 25. He was very active for many years at Lakewood, and later at Norbeck.

Larry Lewis

Upcoming Frolics & Flings

Summer Frolic – 2015

September 9th & 10th – Carroll Valley Resort, Fairfield, PA

The Summer Frolic is being held at the newly renovated Carroll Valley Liberty Mountain Resort in the beautiful town of Fairfield, Pennsylvania. Set the dates of **September 9th and 10th** aside on your calendar for two days of golf, fun and good eating!! For complete information, see the Flyer and Entry Form under <http://www.misga.org/events.htm>, then Summer Frolic. Questions should be directed to Tom Taylor, 410-848-1866 or email to trytogolf@comcast.net. All entries must be in by July 31st.

Fall Fling – 2015 ---- October 25 thru 30 – Seabrook Island, SC

Arrival is on Sunday evening October 25th with a reception and dinner that evening. There will be four days of golf with breakfast and dinner included each day. Departure will be after breakfast on Friday, October 30, 2015. A tour including lunch is planned for the non-golfers. *An extra bonus incentive has been added to this outing: You can check in one day early on Saturday 10/24/15 and can check out one day later on Saturday 10/31/15 at no extra cost. This benefit is only for lodging and doesn't include any meals or other charges you may incur.*

Click "[here](#)" for flyers and registration forms.

Report on Frolics and Flings

The MISGA Spring Fling 2015, May 12-14 in Williamsburg, Va. was attended by 59 men and 22 women golfers, joined by 24 non-golfing spouses and guests. We played three Championship courses with warm sunny weather each day. On Wednesday evening we gathered at the Ft Magruder Hotel for cocktails, followed by a buffet dinner and the award of prizes for the first two days.

The format Tuesday afternoon was mixed foursomes playing two ball low net at the Golden Horseshoe Green Course. Winners were John Rosado, Thomas Lee, Janet Bowersox and a Blind. Closest to the pin winners were Bill Stafford, Bob Fitzgerald, Jim Schwille, and Louise Duncan.

Wednesday morning we played the Golden Horseshoe Gold course, one of the top courses in the East. We played two ball low net in three flights; the winners follow:

- Men A & B—Ron DeGrouchy, Jerry Moxley, Charles Kibbey, and David Schwartz.
- Men C & D—Gary Wilmsen, Robert Garrick, Carl Ridenour, and a Blind
- Ladies—Louise Duncan, Carol Boardman, Connie Mutterspaw, and Aretta Keadle
- Closest to the Pin: Richard Boardman, Carolyn Neal, Fred Gera, and Tom Zgorski.
- Thursday we played Kiskiack Golf Club where the Men and Ladies competed in separate flights.
- Ladies Winners—Louise Duncan, Carol Boardman, Connie Mutterspaw and Aretta Keadle.
- Men Winners—Ron DeGrouchy, Ed Boxwell, Fred Gera and a Blind.
- Closest to the Pin: John Rosado, Steve Neal, Joe Diamond, and Bill Stafford.

Notice the Ladies winners for two days were the same team; we will be sure to spread that talent around next year.

The Spring Fling has always been a favorite for our Misga golfers. I encourage all MISGA members to consider a trip to Williamsburg next year; we will be shooting for a date in early May. Williamsburg, is just a 3.5 to 4 hour drive from our area.

In addition to the Golden Horseshoe, we are looking into the possibility of playing at Kingsmill.

PAST PRESIDENTS (ABCD) “TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE” MEETS

On Wednesday - April 15, 2015, MISGA Tournament Chairman Lloyd Stimson hit the Capital Beltway and the Inter County Connector and drove to Norbeck Country Club in Rockville, MD to meet with the members of the MISGA leadership team and the NCC management staff to make plans for the MISGA 2015 Past Presidents (ABCD) Championship Tournament.

The primary purpose of the “orientation meeting” was to discuss the administrative and operational activities of the tournament (e.g., format, tee placements, handicap allowances & adjustments, schedule, food & beverages, entry fees, prizes, etc.) and to review the associated documents for accuracy and adequacy (e.g., website flyer, bulletin board poster, entry form, rules sheet, finance report, etc.).

Attendees at the meeting were L-R below: Charlotte Kates (NCC Director of Catering), Clark Sisson (NCC Head Pro), Lloyd Stimson (MISGA Tournament Chairman), Gary Manion (Div IV Director, Div VI Tournament Chairman & PP-ABCD Tournament Coordinator), Jake Jacobi (MISGA Club Rep) & Jay Nalls (NCC Course Superintendent).



COMPUTERIZED MISGA SIGN UP SYSTEM

Have you ever wished that your club's MISGA schedule was available so you could access it from your computer, smart phone, tablet, or any device connected to the Internet? How about being able to sign up for one of those mixers or events right then? Well with the MISGA SIGNUP SYSTEM, it is possible. All you need to do is bring up your club's MISGA Sign Up web site in your Internet browser; click on the Schedule tab to view your club's schedule; then click on one of the selectable events. By doing so the sign up page for that event will be displayed with all the details about the mixer shown. Details like the date, time, cost, player limit, and other club specific information will be there with information such as dress code, tee box options, etc. are there for you. For the Associates that do not have access to a computer, a "Buddy System" can be used to sign them up for a mixer.

This Sign Up System has been used by Musket Ridge GC; Cross Creek GC; Rattlewood GC; and Compass Pointe GC for over three years now. Recently, Montgomery Country Club, the Links at Challedon Golf Club, and Westminster National Golf Club have implemented it for use at their club. All the clubs are happy that they are using the MISGA SignUp Web Site.

So what does this web site look like? There is a demonstration site (Demo Land GC) that uses the operational web site. You can visit the site and sign up for one or more of factitious mixers at <http://demo.misga-signup.org>. You will need the access code of DEMO to sign up for a mixer. Go ahead and give it a try. You cannot hurt anything that cannot be fixed. Also, on the Demo Land GC site there are:

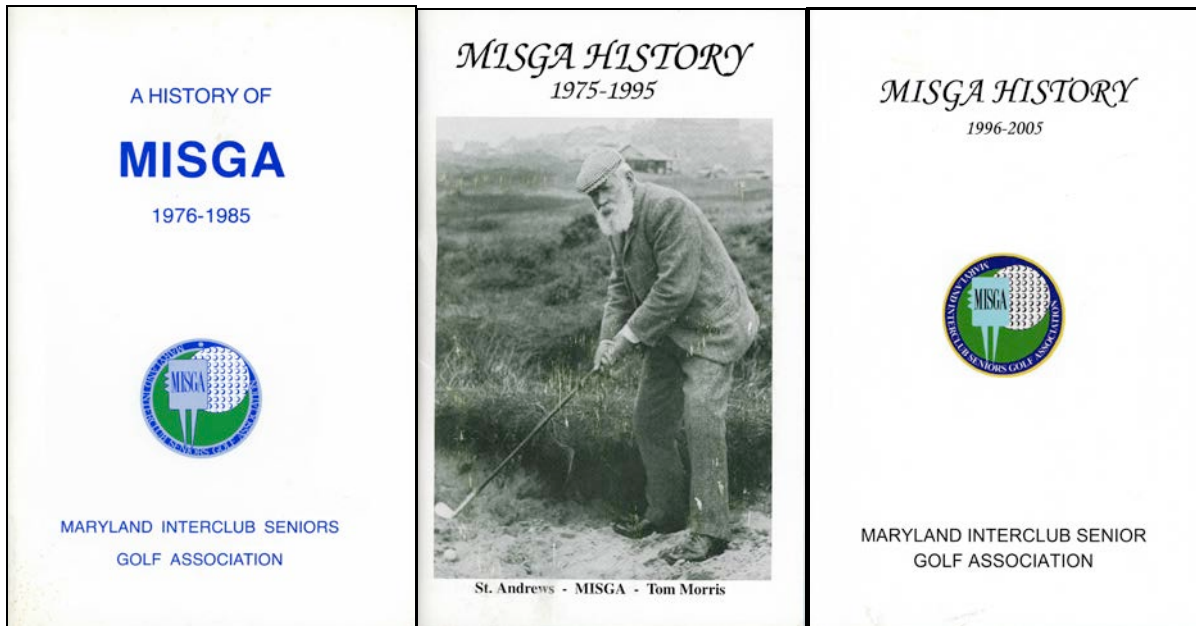
- Comments about MISGA Sign Up from clubs that have implemented it;
- more information about MISGA Sign Up; and
- Contact information.

Fee for access to this system is \$50 per year for your MISGA chapter.

HISTORIAN'S REPORT - DIVISION II

Hunt Valley, March 30,2015

For all factual information I refer you to the previous publications of MISGA History that were done so nicely by Ted Hayward, Merle Shumaker, and Charles Fieldhouse. These publications cover more or less the total History of MISGA and I urge you to peruse at your leisure. They are also on our web site, <http://www.MISGA.org> .



My comments and reflections are based on impressions and personal opinions formed during my time in this great organization. I will try to omit names and petty disagreements that occur in almost all groups. The early clubs to join MISGA were Eaglehead, VFW, Hunt Valley, Wakefield and Holly Hills.

When I joined MISGA at the age of 55 at Eaglehead CC most of the Club Reps were permanent fixtures. They usually were replaced only when ill health occurred, moving up in the organization, and moving or changing clubs. On my second or third time attending, Chester Petranek gave me a key, showed me a locker and said he needs an assistant - "you will make the coffee when we have guests." The Assist. Rep was not even invited to the Annual Meetings – went on my own about the third year. Many Reps wanted to move up to Division Office and politics were rampant. Some things just don't change.

All the clubs were Private in the beginning and a majority of the old timers wanted it to stay that way. Hunt Valley was one of the most influential clubs early on. As more courses were being built and with more folks playing golf, competition for players and money led to changes in dues structure for the clubs. Each club had its own answer as how to manage loss of income and members.

In the old days each club and each division followed a matrix, constructed so that were a set number of clubs you had to play and these were rotated yearly so one was never stuck with a club or a distance that was prohibitive. After scheduling the mandatory clubs you were free to pick and choose your clubs to play. Reasons for not wanting to play haven't changed much over time. Toilet facilities not up to snuff, food not as good as club X, people cheat, course not as nice as my club, travel distance. You get the drift.

As some clubs began to drop out of MISGA, a method to keep the numbers up was put on the table to accommodate some of the not so private clubs. The discussions become very heated over which club does what and which ones are just letting people in so they might play the private clubs. Feelings were/are tender, as different philosophies are proposed to deal with the issue.

An early solution that emerged from a meeting in Ellicott City at Jim Bell's home was to strengthen the Matrix.

It was to make sure that no club that was voted into MISGA was to be excluded from an official invite of a matrix scheduled club. However, after years of debate, in 2011 the Matrix Scheduling of Mixers was scrapped. Even today one can enjoy in heated discussions over the merits of either plan. Dick Walsh was a visionary in seeing the need for the inclusion of Semi-Private/Public or in Musket Ridge's case, pure public club, (with membership fee), to keep MISGA a viable organization.

We have lost Eaglehead/WestWinds, Wakefield, VFW, Piney Branch, Rolling Road, all private and all early members of our Division. Fountain Head and Waynesboro joined during my tenure. Both left and now Fountain Head has returned. We added Glade Valley, Quail Valley, Challedon, Musket Ridge, Cress Creek, Rattlewood, Westminster National, and Winters Run. Geographics and traffic have greatly impaired participation in Mixers for most Clubs. Hollow Creek was just added, but is on the auction block as I write. West Winds was trying for a comeback, but have just learned it too is on the brink of financial disaster once more. Beaver Creek no longer rents a bus to transport players. Sparrows Point opted to leave one Division and join II. A personality conflict must/could have been the culprit.

Our Division met the challenge of accepting all clubs that were voted into MISGA with minimal discomfort and now look forward to a hopeful bright future.

During this period there were highly active discussions about who is/was elected or appointed to what office.

At this juncture, I would like to encourage you younger members and those who have not chosen to be active, please do so. It might help you to appreciate how MISGA works and what you can do to institute change. As an aside, don't be discouraged if you run for office and fall short on the vote count. I missed election to two positions that I would have liked by 1 vote. You see, I was able, with help, to eventually obtain same. Division 4 was the controlling force in MISGA for a number of years and continues to offer significant guidance. At a Board Meeting at The Naval Academy, we were instrumental in getting the Board to rotate "The Office" through the Divisions. In my opinion, this lets each division have an equal share in holding this prestigious office. Am also aware that some feel the old way was better.

We thought most of the volatile issues had been settled, and then "Women in MISGA" will never happen, said some. That is a feeling that some still maintain and shouldn't. Hopefully the "Lady Golfers" that wish to join are accepted and welcomed. Once more our Division has displayed leadership with the issue. Accommodations have to be made to make sure all players are handicapped correctly and playing from the correct tees. I enjoy playing and competing with women. Some do not, my suggestion is don't play in that foursome. Would safely bet when these gentlemen go home it is "Yes dear, what do I do next?"

We in our Division have been most fortunate in having outstanding leadership, innovative and dedicated Reps, and supportive members as experienced in my 25 years. There are always some that one can never please, but then, who would we have to talk about.

My purpose in writing this is to add my perspective into some of the factual accounts that are found in our MISGA HISTORY. I have witnessed a change in structure, a change in perception, and attitudinal adjustments in our membership. Most today don't feel the need, nor accept responsibility for, taking leadership roles to make our organization stronger and more enjoyable. Yes, there are many areas to improve and old farts to replace. I am way behind in my commitment to do my share, but I have thoroughly enjoyed every minute of serving in MISGA at all levels. As Charlie Fieldhouse and Tom Taylor would add "There are not as many hard workers as there used to be." I am encouraged by recent acceptance of vacancies filled on The Board by our Division.

Be thankful you can play and play at every opportunity available.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Tarpley, "Coffee Boy" at Eagle Head and Historian Div. II

MISGA Event Calendar

Jul '15	2 Man & ABCD Qualifiers
Aug '15	2 Man Tournament 27 ABCD Tournament 6
Sep '15	Board Meeting 8 Summer Frolic 9-10
Oct '15	Fall Fling 25-30
Nov '15	
Dec '15	Board Meeting
Jan '16	
Feb '16	
Mar '16	Board Meeting
Apr '16	Rep's Meeting
May '16	
Jun '16	2016 2 Man & ABCD Qualifiers