



MISGAGRAM

Volume 146 – March 2021

www.misga.org

President's Message



As the new golf season approaches, we have reason to be optimistic that things will be closer to what we consider "normal". We will most likely see versions of golf pre-pandemic and pandemic. Courses are allowing more 2-person carts versus single rider and closer to allowing shotgun versus only tee times. Some clubs will be serving food and others will not. Please have patience with clubs as they steer through restrictions placed by various government regulations. Until most of the population is vaccinated, and the spread of COVID-19 is minimized we will be dealing with various levels of

precaution.

You are ultimately responsible for how you want to proceed. If you do not feel comfortable riding with another player in your cart be sure to ask if you can ride alone.

Options for carts from various clubs I have polled range from single rider only to only two carts per foursome and a variation of both. The first option is obvious, the second option varies. Some will only allow those who arrived together, others will allow those from the same club and finally two golfers per cart regardless.

You will most likely see some changes in the formats instead of the standard formats we are used to. Be open to whatever you encounter and remember we get to play golf at courses other than our home course this season.

Wayne Rowland, MISGA President

Maryland
Interclub
Seniors Golf
Association

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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

The Lighter Side



Obituaries

Wanted to inform MISGA members of the passing of a former member Ron Richard, on November 3, 2020. Before moving to Myrtle Beach, Ron served as a club Rep at Compass Pointe from 2014-15. Ron was also a member at Timbers at Troy and also worked at Northwest Park Golf Course in Silver Spring, MD. All other info can be found at [Ron Richard](#).

Tom Davies

And You Think Progress Is an Illusion

Jim Ewalt sent the following article for the MISGAGRAM. Reading it I was struck something we tend to forget: Technology has made a real difference in our lives (beyond being able to play Tetris in the loo).

Inspired by this thought, I've included a COVID bonus for this issue -- a little something I dug from my files that proves the first point in spades. Off topic just a wee bit, but roll with it.

How A Missed Putt Started A Golf Ball Empire

Phillip E. "Skipper" Young, a graduate of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, founded Titleist in 1932.

When playing a round of golf with his dentist, Young missed a sure putt that seemed to be caused by the weight of the ball. He then asked his dentist friend to X-ray the ball and the film showed that the rubber core was off-centre.

After this initial discovery, Young took X-rays of more golf balls and found that most were poorly constructed with off-centre cores and prone to erratic shots. This inspired Young to produce his own line of golf balls, which would become known as Titleist.

1930: Young developed a machine that could uniformly wind rubber string around a rubber core, making a "dead center" golf ball. He named the ball "Titleist," noting it was the "winner" of the quest to create the best for the game.

1935: The golf division of the Acushnet Process Company produced the Titleist golf ball which had consistently been the company's most successful product.

1948: Introduced "Dynamite Thread" to increase the yardage of their balls.

1949: Titleist became the most used ball at the U.S. Open Tournament.

1976: Titleist was purchased by American Brands (now known as Fortune Brands).

1985: Fortune Brands sold off the Acushnet Company's Acushnet Rubber division, which was Acushnet's original business (circa early 1900s).

2002: Titleist reached the \$1 billion mark in annual revenues.

On December 8, 2010, Fortune Brands announced that it would soon sell or spin off Titleist and some other brands. It was then announced on May 20, 2011 that a Korean group associated with Fila Korea, Ltd. and Mirae Asset Private Equity would purchase Acushnet for \$1.23 billion in cash.

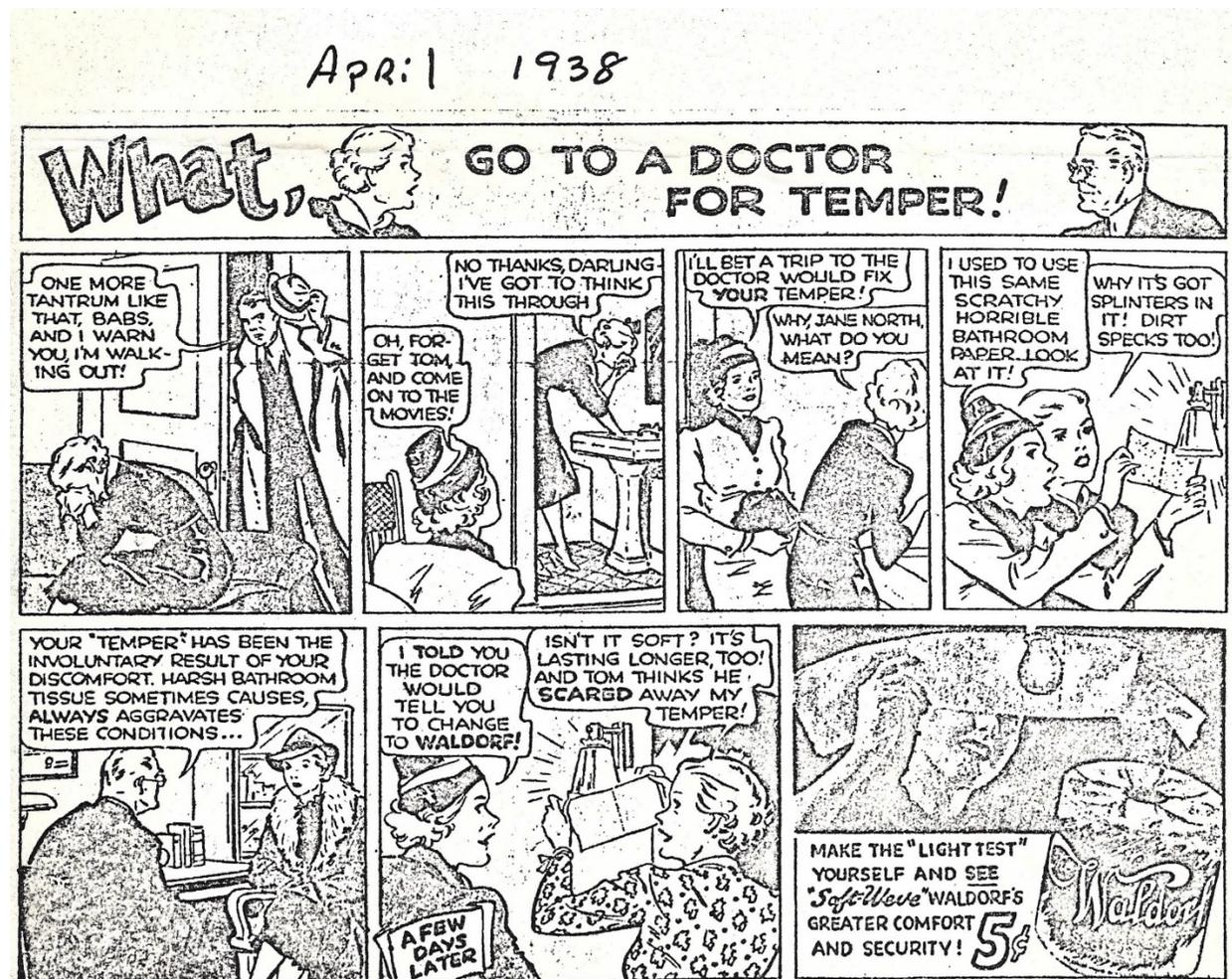
Acushnet employs roughly 3000 people in Massachusetts, making it one of the largest employers in the region. It is headquartered in Fairhaven, Massachusetts

alongside its Packing and Distribution Center about three miles south of its original location.

They also have two golf ball manufacturing plants and an R&D Technology Center located in the New Bedford Industrial Park, as well as a Custom Golf Ball plant located in New Bedford.

And all this due to a missed putt... and a lot of blood sweat and tears, persistence, & dedication to making things happen!

Now for the COVID bonus. Sorry for the poor quality, but the poor thing has been copied on inferior equipment too many times. I believe it's a legit ad.



Waldorf was a Scott Paper brand. I know for a fact that some of the pulping and papermaking technology in use in the 30's and earlier would yield a pretty scratchy sheet. No comment on the social dynamics.

TIDBITS OF MISGA HISTORY

The Eastern Shore

From its inception, the leaders of MISGA were well aware of the fine golf courses and golfers on the Delmarva Peninsula. Equal recruiting effort was spent there as well as in the Washington-Baltimore areas. Meetings were arranged at Green Hill on November 17, 1976 and at Talbot on November 30, 1976. MISGA President Al Hagen and other MISGA officials met with representatives from eight clubs - Cambridge, Caroline, Elks, Green Hill, Nassawango, Ocean City, Ocean Pines and Talbot Country Clubs.

The representatives from Ocean City and Ocean Pines felt their seniors' programs did not match-up with the MISGA program and practices; hence they opted not to join. However, the other six clubs joined MISGA. The Club Representatives formed an Eastern Shore organization with Reed Kurtz of Green Hill, as president and Ames Schuck from Caroline, as Vice-President. Other Club Reps in 1977 were Allen Eckel of Cambridge, Bill Grant of Nassawango, Bill Long of Elks and Ed Schmidt of Talbot.

The Eastern Shore began "mixer" operations in 1977 and began expanding their region in 1978 with the addition of Seaford in Delaware. This became a source of a misunderstanding. When the Seaford application reached the MISGA Secretary, he returned it as unacceptable because Seaford was in Delaware. The By-Laws at that time specified only Maryland clubs could be a member of MISGA. The Secretary was unaware that the situation had been thoroughly discussed by the Board. Specific authorization had been granted by the Board to MISGA President Hagen to invite Seaford to join MISGA. At the next Board meeting, the By-Laws were modified using wording proposed by Allen Eckel, to allow membership by clubs in "*contiguous areas*".

Seaford joined MISGA in 1978. Shawnee became a member in 1979, as did Ocean City, followed by Ocean Pines in 1980, Chester River in 1981

and Prospect Bay and Sussex Pines in 1983. The Eastern Shore activities ranged from “mixers” through the full spectrum of MISGA events. With regard to “mixers”, it was early decided that distances were too great to insist on routine “mixers” between the Eastern and Western Shore clubs. However, the Eastern Shore clubs have always been active in special events and invitational outings. One such, in 1979, had Eastern Shore seniors playing at Kenwood and Bethesda in August, then in September, Caroline and Talbot were hosts to the Washington group.

Source: MISGA History 1975-1995 (pages 10-12)

Stim

Lloyd Stimson

MISGA History Chair



Flings and Things (Or... Frolics and Stuff)

Planning for these fun outings starts at least 6 months in advance. With that in mind the 2021 outlook is bleak.

Winter Fling 2021

Before COVID-19: Held in March

Status: NGH (Not Gonna Happen)/SITY (See I Tole Ya)

Spring Fling 2021

Before COVID-19: Held in March

Status: NFL (Not Flippin' Likely)

Summer Frolic

Before COVID-19: Held in September

Status: MAM (Maybe A Miracle)

Fall Frolic

Before COVID-19: Held in October/November

Status: AOC (An Outside Chance,)



2021 - MISGA CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

Championship	Host Club	Date	Rain Date	Cost
Past Presidents (ABCD)	Holly Hills CC (Div II) Ijamsville, MD	Monday August 23, 2021	TBD	TBD
2-Player Team	Norbeck CC (Div IV) Rockville, MD	Thursday Sept. 9, 2021	TBD	TBD

Note: From the Bay Bridge, Norbeck is 52 miles - Holly Hills is 68 miles.
(directions to each club are provided on the 2021 MCT flyers - refer to the MISGA website)