

## MISGA BOARD MEETING

Friday, December 1, 2006

Holly Hills Country Club

### ATTENDANCE

**Board Members:** 10 of 12 Board members were in attendance; they were: **Division I**, Dick Dale; **Division II**, Tom Tarpley, & Tom Taylor; **Division III**, Ralph Starkey; **Division IV**, Earl Gayler, Dick Hunt & Bob Turner; **Division V**, Paul Phillips & Phil Tilghman; **Division VI**, Bob Nicholson & Lloyd Stimson. (A number of Division Directors and Committee Chairman were unable to attend, due to an accident and massive traffic jam on the Bay Bridge).

### Officers & Committee Chairman:

**President**, Tom Tarpley; **Secretary**, Bob Loun; **Treasurer**, Gary Sorrell; **Counsel**, Jim Ewalt;

**Committee Chairs:** **Associates**, Charlie Fieldhouse; **Events**, Pete Sorge; **Historian**, Bill Brown; **MISGAgram**, Jim Mitchell; **Plans and Policy**, Ken Wallgren; **P. P. ad hoc History**, Charlie Fieldhouse; **Rules & Hcaps**, Dick Crone (West); **Tournaments**, C.J. Myers; **Web Master**, Byron Keadle.

Bill Rapson, Asst. to Pete Sorge/ Events.

### PRESIDENTS OPENING REMARKS:

Tom Tarpley opened the meeting at precisely 10:00 A.M. in Honor of our recently departed Secretary, Chuck Ebbecke.

All were ask to rise and silently remember Chuck, Pat and the family.

At the conclusion of the remembrance, several members arrived from the Eastern Shore and the President called a brief recess.

The Meeting was again called to order @ 10:15 A.M. and the President continued with his remarks and announcements.

Tom reminded all, that this was his last meeting and swan song as President. He was very pleased to announce that it has been a successful and eventful year as will be born out by the various upcoming reports. He expressed his most sincere appreciation to all for the dedication, hard work and assistance they demonstrated during this past year.

He introduced Bob Loun and announced that he had accepted the Secretaries Position. Bob addressed the group by first thanking them for their confidence and to please be patient with him while he places a face, name and responsibility together. He welcomed any and all suggestions that might help him in the performance of his duties. He would be asking questions as to their needs.

Tom ask the group to please present hard copies of their reports, subjects to be brought before the Board, etc to the Secretary, so that he may edit them for inclusion in the minutes and publication of the minutes on the MISGA web site.

Tom's next announcement was that Jim Mitchell, after meritorious service, hard work and dedication as the Chairman and Editor of the MISGAgram had tendered his resignation to coincide with the New Year. A new Chairman and Editor had been located and that Herb Hanson, a member of Hunt Valley CC, had accepted the position. Regretfully Herb could not attend the meeting today, but announced that Herb and Jim have been in contact and communication regarding the transfer of information. At that point Tom asked Jim to stand and as he did so, he was greeted with a warm and rousing round of applause. Tom thanked him for his superb past performance and dedication to providing the News and Messages to the Membership.

It was reported by Tom, that the Fall Fling Trips were their expected and usual successes. He expressed his sincerest and most deserved special appreciation to Pete & Susan Sorge, Bill & Mary Rapson, and Charlie & Kay Fieldhouse for a job well done and their efforts in making the events so successful. Pete Sorge will be reporting on the events in detail, later in the meeting.

Further Tom advised that the Legal Counsel was called upon for his expertise in handling a couple of situations that arose recently. Counselor's report will be covered later in the meeting.

Tom's next announcement was that our WELL "HEELED" and "HEALED" Treasurer has finally returned from the Turk Islands, financially okay and tan. It appears that our treasury is or was in good stead and He anxiously awaits the Treasurer's Report including information regarding the I.R.S.

At this time another brief recess was called for the purpose of greeting the late arrival of our current VP and President Elect Ralph Starkey, who had been held up in traffic due to the accident on the Bay Bridge.

The meeting was again called to order and President Tarpley called for Introductions. Each person present rose and identified himself and his area of responsibility, to the Secretary.

Tom then thanked all who were able to attend the funeral services for our departed secretary, Chuck Ebbecke at the Washington National Cathedral and the Greek Orthodox Church. He was quite sure more members would have been there if they had not been out of town. Pat Ebbecke and the family wanted to let all know how much they appreciated the kind words and remembrances.

#### **OFFICERS REPORTS:**

**SECRETARY:** Chuck Ebbecke had posted the minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, September 12, 2006 @ Carroll Valley, Pennsylvania on the Misga Web site. Motion was made, seconded and passed that the minutes be approved as posted.

**TREASURER:** Gary Sorrell reported that our financial position was solvent. He handed out a report on the status of 2006 expenditures to date indicating minor variances from the approved 2006 Budget as were indicated on attachment 1. The 2<sup>nd</sup> attachment compared the estimated final expenditures for 2006 and by adding 5 % to those figures, established a 2007 Preliminary Budget Guideline. He advised that these were preliminary figures and if anyone could foresee any additional requirements of funds for expenditures over the figure of 2006, to please advise him of those figures **before the next Board meeting.**

Looking at the 2007 and 2008 projected numbers, he would like for the Board to establish an ongoing need for the potential excess funds, similar to the History program or the AED program. He would like to see a Budget line item like "Fund for" in the plan for some proposed program expenditure.

The IRS has set the standard mileage rates for 2007. They will be 48.5 cents per mile as compared to 44.5 cents for 2006. We have authorized the payment of 45 cents in 2006 to pay for mileage while attending Official Misga Meetings. There will be further discussion regarding this matter later in the meeting.

IRS communications since last meeting:

1. Late October IRS sent request for information regarding our current status (do we exist) and ask if we had filed or when we will file 990. We responded in early November, we would file our first 990 by the end of February 2007 (5 months after the end of our fiscal year). Current IRS records list our fiscal year as ending on September 30. We will also file a partial – year return (for October thru December 2006) by May 15, 2007. This will make our fiscal year end in December.
2. The Urban Institute provides free software to prepare the 990 submission (first submission to be hardcopy, with electronic after that). The Software works very well.
3. We need to keep the IRS informed of any changes, such as change in officers. Gary plans to send the IRS the updated information each year when filing the 990.
4. Fling Reports: He has details for 2005 Reps Invitational and 2006 Winter Florida Fling; He has a check for 2006 Spring Fling, but no report (report lost in mail, being reconstructed). He will use 2005 Fall Fling reports for filing our first 990 since they occurred between October 2005 and September 2006. We must have all reports to file IRS form 990, so please follow the 120-day guideline for reporting on these events.

A motion was made and seconded from the floor and passed to approve the Treasurers Report as presented.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**ASSOCIATES:** Charlie Fieldhouse had previously forwarded written reports on the status of Membership and Dues collected for 2006. He reported that all was in good shape. However he noted that the Membership had again declined from 2005. Further he announced that beginning January 2007 the New Roster would initially show that everyone would be getting their copy of the Misgagram newsletter mailed to them in hard copy form. He will again start over by compiling a list of those members who **DO NOT** wish to receive a hard copy, but would rather read it or print it from the MISGA Web site. Charlie then called on Byron Keadle, Webmaster for comments regarding the MISGA Leadership Roster. Byron requested, that since a decision had been made, not to print the Leadership Roster and distribute it at the Spring Annual Reps. Meeting, as has been the previous custom that all changes to the Leadership Roster are forwarded to him and Charlie. **He requested that all the information on Changes, Additions and Deletions involving the individual Clubs, Club Reps, Asst. Club Reps and Golf Pro's**, is received by him and Charlie by **no later than March 1, 2007**, thereby enabling him to make the necessary changes to the information of the Web Site. **Please make sure to include correct email address for each person.**

**AUDIT:** No Report.

**COUNSEL:** Jim Ewalt reported that he had been successful thus far in keeping our illustrious President out of jail in 2006. This announcement was greeted by a mixture of light applause and boo's. However Jim noted that he had encountered 2 incidents in recent months that should be brought to the Boards attention and for the record.

1. The first involved a letter that was written and published by a Rep to his Club Management. He pointed out in writing the same facts and feelings that had been previously stated in person and face to face, that being some of the failures on Management's part to have a positive influence on the further development of and increase in volume of play at schedule Misga events. The Boards primary concern, was if and what degree of liability that might have place on the Board, as the document was written on MISGA letterhead without prior approval from any authority above the Rep until after the fact. After many questions and much discussion by most members present, it was determined that the President would provide Byron Keadle, our Webmaster, with a few lines to post on the web site regarding the proper use and liabilities involved in the use of Misga Letterhead and such documents from our web site.
2. The second issue that arose was that of a gentleman from Hobbits Glen C.C. asked our Legal Council, "What is the policy on the Playing of the Clubs that do not have Black Members"? Jim's response was, quite simply, we do not have a policy. We don't have a policy on what clubs can join and the criteria they must meet to join Misga and that is spelled out clearly on our web site in public documents. Jim directed the gentleman to the web site that he might view for himself. There has been no further contact, but felt the Board should be aware of the question and the action taken.

**EVENTS:** Pete Sorge reported that both Events at Fripp Island and Amelia Island were well attended and went extremely well as born out by the positive comments received. The weather and golf were fine and the food was exceptional. He has received numerous requests to repeat Amelia again next year. He is also going to investigate Sea Trail, Sea Brook, and Kiowa for future fling events. Pete offered his special thanks and appreciation to Bill and Mary Rapson for their superb handling and directing the Fripp Island event. Pete reported that the food and service had improved tremendously for a number of reasons. Also, there was an increased interest on the part of the establishments in wanting us back. They were able to increase the prize money at Amelia by holding a successful raffle. Funds were also generated thru the sale of Bingo cards at the events. The report was very upbeat and high expectations are held for the future events.

Pete inquired of the Treasurer as to how Gary wanted Pete to handle the financial report of the events in the future? In the past, Pete had forwarded the information to Howard Taylor (Audit) who then forwarded to Gary. Gary instructed Pete to forward the report directly to him and he would forward to Howard. By taking this measure it would help in getting the information into Gary's hands within the 120-day time frame from the completion of the event. Additionally, Pete advised he would hand carry the report to Gary at the next meeting and thereby eliminating the U.S. Postal Service.

Pete then expressed his appreciation and gratitude to Charlie and Kay Fieldhouse for the wonderful job they did on the running of the Bingo events. Bingo was a big hit and greeted with much interest, so much so that they sold out of Bingo cards. Charlie Fieldhouse rose to make a motion to purchase additional bingo cards for future events. Motion was seconded and passed.

**HISTORIAN:** Bill Brown reported that he is “underwelmed” by the amount of materials that have been sent to him regarding the Archives. He is confident we are on the right track.

**MEMBERSHIP:** Arnie Simms not present, however a lengthy discussion ensued in an attempt to address the issue of declining membership. All were in agreement that it was a subject not to be ignored and that measures need to be taken to halt the decline. It was felt that the lowering of the age requirements from 55 to 50 had not had enough time to have any great effect on the reversal since its adoption in March of 2006. It was agreed that to stop the decline of members, you first had to identify the causes, and then develop the cure. A couple of reasons for the decline were mentioned earlier in the meeting under Associates Report.

1. Outsiders consider us to be Old Slackers and Cheaters.
2. Unfair or less than true Handicaps are considered to be a problem area, but it is felt this does not apply to the majority of our members. It applies to the minority; however it is probably spoken of most frequently. Even when the facts disprove the allegation, it never quite gets told as far and wide as when it is first alleged to be a dishonorable act.
3. Slow Play is certainly a reason that affects the lack of interest in becoming a participant in Misga events. No one wants to spend 5 to 6 hours playing a mixer.
4. We have become complacent and we do not **“TOOT OUR HORN & PROMOTE ALL OF OUR POSITIVES”**.
5. Costs are beginning to have an effect on member participation in our mixers. Not only the cost of the mixer itself, but the cost of time and transportation in getting to the event.

The following are a number of suggestions offered to aid in correcting some of the perceived ills, which are having a negative influence on the growth of membership and participation in Misga.

1. Aggressively continue to expand, develop and monitor the steps to comply with the USGA Handicap requirements. Hand down penalties where and when they are needed to have a positive effect on the program.
2. We need to develop an organized, positive campaign, whereby everyone is on the same page and all speak as one. We can then expound on all the good times, fellowship and benefits we enjoy by being a participant in Misga and at the same time, endeavor to clarify and correct some of the false misconceptions regarding Misga. (TOOT OUR HORN)
3. Consider going outside of Misga to a professional consultant for recommendations and possible programs to initiate to enhance the MISGA image. Being ever mindful, that a Professional Consultant have their agendas and sometimes is self-serving. Don't just throw money at the problem. It rarely works.
4. Attack the on going problem of SLOW PLAY. Make the necessary changes to effect faster play. Then make sure all persons, (non members & current members) are made aware of the changes and what the positive effect has been achieved as to the speed of play. A suggestion was made to consider a method that has proven itself in other events. That being the “15 Minute Rule”. Explanation of the rule is very simple and easy to monitor. If your foursome or group finishes the event more that 15 minutes behind the group in front of you, your group or foursome is disqualified from the competition. Another measure that could be taken is to make the low handicapper of the foursome or group the captain and thereby held responsible for the slowness of play. The Host Club Rep or the Club Pro should announce this action prior to starting of the event. Making the announcement at this time will take some of the pressure off the Captain, as to being perceived a bad guy or worse. And thus the group hopefully will be more responsive to his urgings to pick up the pace, should they fall behind.
5. The Reps should take a bigger role in promoting the positives of Misga. We are in need of Cheerleaders. By taking the suggested actions and continuing to develop additional measures, we will be cleaning up our act. As we achieve our goals, tell the world what we have accomplished and what they are missing by not being a part of Misga. It is the **BEST BANG FOR YOUR BUCK IN GOLF** in the region. While the subject matter and discussion was of a major concern no action was taken at this time, but will become an even more important matter to discuss in future meetings.

**MISGAGRAM:** Jim Mitchell reported that the December issue of the Misgagram is posted on the Misga web site and it is currently at the printers and should go out for mailing during the first week in December. Jim has had several transition meetings with Herb Hanson, the new Misgagram Chairman and Editor, all is reported to be working smoothly. Jim reminded all of us, to send in information and photos of interest. The material sent in, is a direct reflection as to how successful the publication can be.

**PLANNING & POLICY:** Ken Wallgren reported that his committee was in dire need of committee members from Divisions II, III, V and VI. He pleaded with the Directors of the Divisions to select members that are interested and will actively serve and attend the meetings.

He then addressed the matter from the previous meeting @ Carroll Valley, regarding the percentage of Prize Money Payout @ our mixers and special events. He was looking for direction and suggested action from the Board. This topic brought forth a multitude of discussions, agreements, disagreements, questions, and responses from practically everyone present and all at the same time. Out of the chaos, the questions as to what the percentages of breakdown should be and should they be set as a guideline or a hard fast Rule. A motion was presented and seconded to establish a Rule of payout with a set minimum of 25% with a suggested payout of 33%, dependant upon the number of participants involved in the event. The Motion failed 3 to 5. No further discussion or action was forth coming.

**RULES & HANDICAPS:** Dick Crone, Co-Chairman (West), reported for the Committee, as Co-Chairman (East), Jim Brittingham was not able to attend.

Dick stated that Beginning early in 2006 and thru the major portion of the year, the committee was very involved in getting the Clubs in Misga qualified and licensed to issue handicap indexes and meeting the USGA requirements. It was quite a task, but he was pleased to announce that all 59 clubs are now qualified and will remain so thru 2007. The Handicap Chairmen at the club level will not have to complete any forms or paperwork in 2007. All persons who are presently on the approved list will remain so from 2008 thru 2011, with the stipulation that they will all get re-tested, by taking the exam on the internet sometime during 2008 and 2011. The committee has also been busy thru the year of developing informal Misga contacts at each of the clubs. This action is needed due to fact that there are no formal Seniors/MISGA handicap contacts at each MISGA Club. The Committee needs to develop the informal contact to facilitate the distribution of information to the members at each club.

Dick reported that Jim Brittingham is very dedicated to this effort and was solely responsible for going into the Golf Net Computer system and checked on the posting of scores by the participants of Tournament events in Divisions 1, 3, and 5. These we selected at random as test results. The findings were that the participants posted very few scores.

Dick provided an outline of committee plans for 2007.

1. Continue to develop Informal MISGA Handicap Contacts @ Clubs. If significant numbers of contact can be developed at enough clubs in a Division, the committee will consider forming an informal Handicap Committee. This effort is needed to facilitate the exchange of handicap information.
2. Continue to Monitor Tournament Score Postings and expand the monitoring to include all Divisions. Because the Committee found such poor posting of Tournament Scores in 2006, the committee will consider working with the Division and State Tournament Directors, both before and after tournaments, to ensure that associates enter 2007 tournaments with the correct handicap indexes, and to determine appropriate Sanctions to be applied for violations. An example might be; barring the person or persons from future Misga Tournaments for failure to timely post a MISGA Tournament Score.
3. At this point of report Charlie Fieldhouse rose to suggest that at least the winners (top 4 or 5) should have their scores posted and that the Chairman of the Tournament or the club Rep hosting the event should make sure the posting of scores happens. Further, Charlie volunteered to take on the responsibility of posting if he were involved or at the tournament. Simply notify him and he would see that it was posted.

**MIXERS:** Dan Williams was not present to file a report, However the President recognized Dick Crone who requested that he be allowed to present some suggestions from his Co- Chairman of the Handicap Committee, for consideration by the board and the Mixer committee. With that Dick informed the board that Jim Brittingham (co-chair) was not only a dedicated doer, but that he was a thinker as well. He surely is dedicated to the success of MISGA. Dick felt that since Jim had apparently spent so much time in thinking of improvements or hopeful improvements, it surely deserved to be brought to the board's attention. It could also be of some consideration on behalf of the Mixer committee as well as the Membership Committee. Jim offered thru Dick that those previously mentioned groups might consider a Flighted Mixer i.e.; A's play with A's, B's play with B's etc. Another suggestion was that they might consider Selecting 2 A's, 2 B's, 2 C's, 2 D's from each of the clubs attending the mixer and create a match play event while the rest of the members played a regular 2 ball event. Also, another twist could be, using the 2A, 2B, 2C and 2D from each club and play a separate event similar to a Ryder Cup format i.e.; 6 holes individual score, 6 holes better ball and 6 holes alternate shots. While these suggested formats might take some tweaking, they may be of interest to some of the members and create some renewed enthusiasm by offering something new and different. Dick further reported that he had emailed these suggestions to Dan Williams for his committee's consideration.

**TOURNAMENTS:** C. J. Myers, Chairman, distributed a number of documents covering the Running of the 2-Man Team Tournament, the ABCD (Past Presidents) Tournament and a 3-page document offering many suggestions in how to operate a successful tournament. These Documents went into much detail and were very easy to follow. This will certainly be a set of procedures that will be beneficial to MISGA for some time to come. C.J. reported that The Tournaments were very successful in 2006 and were reported in the Misgagram. Tournament Finals in 2007 will be the responsibility of Division 6; Tanttallon CC will host the ABCD (Past Presidents). While Division 1, Shawnee CC will host the 2-Man Team.

The quotas for each Division have been emailed to the Division Chairmen and Directors as per the total amount of members (4008) broken down respectively with in each Division. At the end of his email and for long range planning, all were advised That Division 2 will host the ABCD (Past Presidents) Tournament @ Piney Branch CC and Division 5 Will host the 2 Man Team @ Green Hill CC in 2008.

C.J. announced he would remain on as Chairman of the Tournament Committee in 2007 and would volunteer to remain on thru 2008 at the pleasure of then President Bob Turner. At the conclusion of 2008 will make a total of 5 years of service, as Chairman and he will resign. In 2009, Will Hall will be in line for the Presidency and he will need a Tournament Chairman for his year. C.J. feels that it is not to early to be thinking of who that person may be, due to the amount of information that needs to be passed along to his predecessor, which will be beneficial to him in taking over the duties.

C.J. then referenced the 3-page document he had distributed to the Division Directors. This document covered a synopsis of subjects and things he has learned while functioning as the Tournament Chairman. He has requested suggestions and criticisms regarding the document so that he may address those items before he distributes copies of the document to all the Division Tournament Chairmen for their use and guidance. The Board Recommended unanimously, that given a normal amount of time for the feedback to filter back to C.J., that the educational document be placed permanently on the MISGA Web site for future use.

**WEB MASTER:** Byron Keadle reported that the Fall Fling Photo's have been posted on the Web Site as well as the December issue of the Misgagram.

Byron received a request from a group to provide them with a web Link to their organization who provides information to others. He polled members of the Board and the majority of sentiment was negative, so he did not provide Link to them. Byron felt there should be a policy developed in how to address these types of issues. President Tarpley responded by stating we need no policy and Byron was to continue in the future as he has in the past in handling and managing the web site. He should continue to use his proven excellent judgment and satisfactory decision-making abilities. It was suggested that Byron handle all future items with the primary thought of "What ever is the easiest for him to accomplish".

Byron reported that All Misgagrams had been added to the Web Site as a single down-loadable ZIP file. He continues to update the Leadership Roster as the need arises. Under the Misga Archive Project, we now have OCR-converted to searchable text all 71 of the MISGAGRAMS that were not searchable in the past.

**OLD BUSINESS:** President Tarpley in an effort to bring this yearlong project to some finality, addressed the AED project. Tom summarized all of the Data, Cost, Requirements and the 11 Point Commitment policy, that would be required of a Club to receive a Misga sponsored machine. With all of the information that had been made available and the length of time all persons have had to consider this admirable endeavor, and after a spirited discussion, he ask for a motion to made as to what action the Board wished to take. The request was made several times with no response coming forth. The President then declared the matter a dead issue.

Tom then opened the subject of Travel Allowance Funds for discussion and recommendations from the members of the Board. After a voluminous amount of discussion as to the rate of pay for mileage while attending official MISGA meetings, several motions were made and defeated. More conversation ensued and no consensus could be reached and the matter was closed.

Thus the current policy will be followed, that being to comply with the IRS Allowance of rate of payment, currently @ \$.45 per mile for 2006 and to increase to \$.48 per mile in 2007.

It was also noted that some Divisions pay the Travel allowance and some do not. This decision is left to the Division as to how they wish to spend their allotment of funds. However, should a Division find itself with a

shortage of funds and not being able to meet their needs with their allotment, their Director should bring the matter before the Board and request additional funds

Tom Tarpley then announced the receipt of a letter of resignation from the Past Presidents ad hoc Committee that was formed in 2003 and consisted of Charlie Fieldhouse, Ken Wallgren, Byron Keadle and Bill Brown for the purpose of producing a book on the History of Misga for the last 10 years. Tom accepted the resignation dissolved the committee. He stated "we are indebted to these good folks for completing the task assigned to them in a very timely manner". "This assignment has been brought to a very successful conclusion". All were greeted with a rousing round of applause, expressing our thanks for their efforts in doing such a splendid job.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Tom Reported on the 2006 Annual Report. While not totally complete (it never is at this time of year due to last minute bills and check cashing delays) has been posted on the Web site. The figures certainly point out that MISGA is not a small time organization. When the report is totally complete, Tom will forward copies to all Club Reps. It is his hope that the Reps will use this Report to influence their individual clubs and its Management, Non Misga Members as well as Members of Misga. This will certainly point out the dollars of revenue generated to the various facilities. Hopefully, if used in a positive and effective manner this can be another tool to enhance our reputation and develop additional members.

He filed a report on the status of 2 Clubs, which are of major concern. With much regret, Bay Hills Golf Club has unofficially resigned due to declining Membership, with no possibility of regaining a satisfactory level in the future. They are being encouraged to remain in MISGA and more successful clubs have been asked to help them meet their goals. Marlborough CC is currently having a problem maintaining sufficient numbers and is working diligently to keep their membership at Misga required levels. Efforts have been and will continue to be made to work with clubs that are encountering membership difficulties. It's easier to retain a club then get a new club.

Tom's final announcement was that Byron Keadle, our most worthy Web Master and a member of Patuxent Greens CC in Division 6 has been elected to the position of Asst. Division Director. In addition, Bob Turner of Lakewood CC in Division 4 will serve as Asst. Division Director as well as VP of Misga during 2007. This move was made to fill the vacated position of Asst. Division Director currently held by Richard "Dick" Hunt of Manor Club. Dick has announced that he will resign his position effective December 31, 2006. Congratulations and much continued success to all. Dick, you may have resigned, but don't be a stranger, remember, **WE KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE!**

That being the last official item of business to be conducted during Tom Tarpley's term as President of MISGA for the Year of 2006, he fulfilled his obligation by ceremoniously passing the Gavel of Authority on To Ralph Starkey, who will serve as your President of MISGA thru the year of 2007. In turning over the reigns, Tom wished Ralph every success during his term. He related that he was positive that Ralph would have and enjoy as Tom did, the terrific aid and support of one fine group of dedicated Board Members, Committee Chairmen and Officers. Further, Ralph was extremely lucky, due to the fact that he would have Tom's assistance, wisdom and undying support. The ceremony was concluded just in time, as some forms of moisture were beginning to appear.

**PRESIDENT RALPH STARKEY:** Ralph expressed his appreciation and thanks to Tom and the Board Members for their confidence in him. He stated that the President and organization could only be as good as the help he receives. He will rely on each persons support and continually looking to them for guidance and direction It is Ralph's sincerest wish that we can achieve a couple of things during his term. Those being, one: Increase our Membership, two; Keep Dues Structure @ Current Level, three; Keep Cost in Line, and last but certainly not the least; Making this year as enjoyable and pleasurable as possible for our Membership both off and on the Golf Course.

Ralph had 1 item of Business to be resolved. That being, the Date and Location for the Annual Reps. Meeting in the spring. Of the possibilities available, Ralph requested the Board approve the Location of Prospect Bay CC, however the meeting cannot be held on the date as specified by our bylaws. The reason being that the Course will be undergoing aeration of the greens on that date. The management of Prospect Bay has offered the date of April 17<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday). A motion was made, seconded and passed to permit a deviation from the by-laws this one time and approved the date of Tuesday, April 17, 2007.

Ralph announced that the next Board Meeting would be announced at a later date. He will notify the Board of the dates and locations in early March of 2007.

**CLOSING:** There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned @ 1:33 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Loun, MISGA Secretary  
December 1, 2006