

Attendees: Byron Keadle, Howard Taylor, Gary Sorrell, John Babyak, Dick Schwinger, Ralph Starkey, John Kennedy, Tom Tarpley, Earl Gayler, Pete Sorge, Tom Taylor, Dick Crone, Charlie Fieldhouse, Lloyd Stimson, Bert Bigelow, Dave Cook, Malcolm Peterson, Ted Ifft, Steve Neal, Ralph Cruikshank, Bob Turner, Jim Wilcox and Jim Ewalt.

Call to Order & President's Report - The MISGA President, Byron Keadle, opened the meeting at 10:00 P.M. Byron submitted a report via e-mail. He said that during his term as President he tried to emphasize playing by the rules of golf. The Event Director has indicated that there will not be any scrambles or mixed-sex events at the 2010 Spring Fling. For the coming year, there is a need for a photographer or a photography committee.

Vice President's Report. – No Report

Secretary's Report – The minutes of the September 11, 2009 meeting were previously distributed via e-mail and were published on the web site. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes as presented on the website. The minutes were accepted.

Treasurer's Report – A Treasurer's Report was distributed via e-mail. Gary Sorrell provided a report showing Year-to-Date Actual Income vs. the approved 2009 Budget. He also mentioned that the new IRS mileage rate is \$0.50 which will take effect on January 1, 2010. The new Treasurer is Dick Schwinger of Holly Hills. The Treasurer's Report was approved.

Division Reports

Division I – One club has dropped out, Seaford C.C. and the course is for sale. Maple Dale has approval for 84 townhouses and condos on the course which should keep the club viable.

Division II – Tom Taylor has been elected as the Assistant Director for the division. Tom said that at the Summer Frolic in 2009, there were 63 participants with eighteen clubs represented. In 2010, the event will be held on Sept 15-16, 2010 at Carroll Valley. We can have a Board meeting on the 14th. A discussion about alternate facilities followed.

Division III – Dave Cook said that he was stepping down as the Division Director. Malcolm Peterson will be the new Director and Bert Bigelow will be the Assistant Director.

Division IV – A report was distributed via e-mail. Bob Turner said that he made contact with the Salute Military Golf Association, a group of wounded Iraq and Afghanistan veterans. He has a meeting scheduled with the group to discuss hosting the veterans at Lakewood for a golf event.

Division V – Steve Neal reported that John Krall, the rep from Deer Run, the prime architect of the scheduling quota plan that the division developed to increase participation at mixers has passed away.

Division VI – A report was distributed via e-mail. Byron reported that all of the division clubs submitted an annual report and 2009 was fairly successful. The division had about 33% of the golfers at the Fall Frolic in Carthage, NC. The division clubs favor eliminating the printed Misgram and rolling the associates dues back to \$5.00. A discussion about slow play and cheating followed, with no definitive solutions agreed to.

Committee Reports

Associates – A report was distributed via e-mail. Ralph Cruikshank received a call from Division 3, before the 2-man tournament, asking if everyone was on a roster. He had not yet received a roster from all of the clubs. He felt that if a club had not submitted a roster, associates from those clubs should not be permitted to play in tournaments. There is a problem with clubs not following the guidelines. Club dues, \$50.00, is due April 1st. Rosters and associates dues are due June 1st. Forty-three percent of associates have opted out of receiving a Misgagam in the mail. The location of State Tournaments was discussed.

Audit – Howard Taylor submitted a report via e-mail. Gary Sorrell will take over the committee next year. The ABCD and Two-man Tournament financial reports were audited. It was recommended that each tournament chairman be provided with a copy of the Fiscal Conduct of MISGA Events guidelines.

Counsel – No report.

Events – Pete Sorge reported that there were 100 people at the Fall Frolic. Amelia Island and Fripp Island are being considered for 2010 plus any others that may offer a great venue and value. He has been contacted by Jekyll, Seabrook and Sea Trail. A number of people have requested that we go back to a beach resort facility. The Events Chairman will consider two Fall events, depending on MISGA feedback and if we can get enough participation. A discussion of costs and facilities followed.

Historian – Charlie Fieldhouse submitted a report via e-mail. He reorganized the History of Board Actions. He also detailed some items that should be discussed or revised.

Membership – Tom Taylor submitted a report via e-mail. Two new clubs were, Cress Creek and Musket Ridge, and the committee is recommending the reinstatement of Nassawango Country Club. Ralph Starkey will be the new Membership Chairman in 2010.

Misgagam – Herb Hanson was not at the meeting but sent a report via e-mail. The next issue will be about a week late because of a problem converting the format of one of the submissions. Herb would like to be replaced as editor of the Misgagam.

Policy and Planning – No Report. The documents on the web and the by-laws need to be updated.

Rules and Handicap – Dick Crone submitted a report via e-mail. He recommended that the Board suspend the tournament ineligibility provision for the 2010 Championship Tournaments. He also recommended that there be random checks made of MISGA tournament final scores to determine if it would be appropriate to suspend the ineligibility policy for the 2011 finals.

Tournament Chairman – Tom Tarpley thanked all of the people that helped with both state tournaments. Tom will be leaving the Board. He will be replaced in 2010 by Lloyd Stimson.

Website – Errol Myers was not at the meeting. He did send a copy of the new map pages on the website.

Old Business -

Pro-Am Tees – A question was asked about the tees used in Pro-Am tournaments. The Pro-Ams are Division tournaments and are not under the control of MISGA or the MISGA Tournament Chairman. MISGA policy is that tournament courses should not exceed 6200 yards. We may need a statement that says that this should be considered when the division is setting up a Pro-Am.

New Business

Misgagram – A motion was made to stop printing the hardcopy of the Misgagram and publish it only on the website. The motion was passed by a 9 to 2 vote.

Reinstated Club – A motion was made to reinstate Nassawango Country Club. The motion was passed.

MISGA Dues – A motion was made to reduce the Associate dues to \$5.00. After discussion, the motion passed by a 7 to 4 vote.

By-law Change – There was a proposal to change the by-laws to support the on-line Misgagram. Byron read draft of a proposed temporary change to the by-laws to describe the relationship between the webmaster and the Misgagram editor. It described a Misgagram committee and its responsibilities. A motion to accept the change was passed.

Tournament Policy Guidelines – In the Division II Report, Tom Tarpley proposed some changes to State Tournament guidelines. One dealt with the use of senior tees in the tournaments, another is the awarding of a gross and runner-up trophy for the ABCD tournament and another dealt with the use of realistic numbers in the guidelines for the cost of these tournaments. A motion was made to indicate to the Tournament Chairman that these changes are acceptable for him to use when he sets up his guidelines for the tournaments each year. The motion passed.

Tournament Ineligibility – A motion was made to suspend the tournament ineligibility provision of the tournament policy for the 2011 Championship Tournaments, and to have the Rules and Handicap Chairman report to the Board the results of a random check of scores posted for the 2010 Championship Tournaments and recommend whether the Board should consider reinstating the tournament ineligibility policy for the 2011 finals. The motion passed.

Surplus Funds – A motion was made to use 2010 surplus funds equally for the 2011 State ABCD and Two-Man Tournaments instead of being used for a rebate. The motion passed.

Election of Officers – Howard Taylor became the new President upon accepting the gavel from the outgoing President, Byron Keadle. Tom Taylor was elected as the new Vice-President.

Wrap-up – There was a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 P.M.

MISGA - BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, December 8, 2009 – Patuxent Greens Golf Club
President's Remarks

1. We extend a welcome to the new clubs – Musket Ridge in Myersville, MD & Cress Creek in Shepherdstown, WV.
2. It appears that some club reps don't know how to prepare the club annual report. Preparation of the report should be emphasized at the next Club Reps' Training Seminar. Instructions are available from the web site under "Guidelines." Click on "Club Rep Tutorial for Club Annual Report (PDF)." Depending on the browser, one should right click on the link and choose "Save link as" for Firefox, or "save target as" for Explorer.
3. Under New Business, we will entertain a motion to stop printing the MISGAGRAM, and subsequently, a motion to reduce the Associate dues to \$5.00.
4. Trying to get MISGA associates to play by the rules of golf is like trying to herd cats! It's a fool's mission! Nothing will change unless and until cheaters are ostracized – and I don't see that happening. The ones who cheat are hostilely opposed to playing by the rules. Those who promote playing by the rules are the "bad" guys. It's a strange world!
5. Spring Fling 2010 – The Spring Fling at Williamsburg may (will) include two of the Kingsmill courses. The event director has promised that there will be NO scrambles and NO mixed-sex golf – just like a regular "mixer," only in Williamsburg.
6. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the MISGA Board members for their dedicated service in support of MISGA during the past year.

Byron Keadle
President

**MISGA Board Meeting
December 8, 2009
Patuxent Green**

Audit Committee Report

1. 2009 Past Presidents (A-B-C-D) Tournament 8-13-09 at Manor CC Financial Report

Expenditures were supported by receipts or checks and all income was identified by source.

2. 2009 Two Man Team Finals 8-24-09 at Prospect Bay CC Financial Report

Expenditures were supported by receipts or checks and all income was identified by source.

Recommendation: The MISGA Tournament chairman provide each Tournament chairman a hard copy of the 'Fiscal Conduct of Misga Events' guidelines published on the MISGA web site when the Chairmen are first selected.

Howard E Taylor
Audit Committee Chairman

2009 MISGA Annual Report

Division	Home	Home	Visiting	Total	Carts	Food	Prizes	Total
Mixers	Events	Players	Players	Players	\$	\$	\$	\$
Division I								
ABCD Qual								
2-Man Qual								
Pro Am								
Spring Fling								
[Other]								
Division II	103	3,111	4,507	7,618	120,687	114,741	35,969	283,192
ABCD Qual								
2-Man Qual								
Pro Am				76	1,444.00	4,655.00	680.00	6,779
Fall Fling								
[Other]								
	103	3,111	4,507	7,694	\$122,131	\$119,396	\$36,649	\$289,971
Division III								
ABCD Qual								
2-Man Qual								
Pro Am								
Annual Meet								
A-B-C-D Finals								
Division IV	62	1,287	1,985	3,272	56,557	55,375	20,256	132,188
ABCD Qual				66	990	1,320	660	2,970
2-Man Qual				82	1,712	1,404	574	3,690
Pro Am								
2-Man Finals								
	62	1,287	1,985	3,420	\$59,259	\$58,099	\$21,490	\$138,848
Division V								
ABCD Qual								
2-Man Qual								
Pro Am								
[Other]								
Division VI	54	1,214	2,183	3,397	58,483	57,848	17,256	133,588
ABCD Qual				56	1,120	1,008	560	2,688
2-Man Qual				72	1,119	1,346	720	3,185
Pro Am				85	1,700	3,570	1,530	6,800
[Other]								
	54	1,214	2,183	3,610	\$62,422	\$63,772	\$20,066	\$146,260
TOTALS	219	5,612	8,675	14,724	\$243,812	\$241,267	\$78,205	\$563,284

Membership Committee Report
Patuxent Greens
December 8, 2009

2009 was a good year for the membership committee with the addition of two new clubs, Musket Ridge Golf Club and Cress Creek Country Club for 2010. To finish the year we will be voting upon the reinstatement of Nassawanna Country Club which had dropped out of MISGA in 2003.

Nassawanna Country Club has requested reinstatement in Division V. All of the necessary steps have been taken and it is the **recommendation** of this committee that they be reinstated in 2010.

MISGA Associates Chairman

December 8, 2009 Board Meeting

The year ended with a total of 3,716 Associates in 64 clubs. This number is a 3.3% drop in membership as compared with 2008.

All clubs have submitted dues and refunds have been made in accordance with the Treasurer's report.

New Club Rosters will be provided to each Division Associate Chairman either before the December 8 meeting or at the meeting.

The working relationship between the Treasurer and the Associates Chairman has been outstanding. My appreciation to the Treasurer who me walk through the various minefields of being the Associates Chairman.

Observations/Suggestions:

Better than 25% of the clubs submitted rosters/dues on or before the deadline as established in the By-Laws. Several clubs participated in the ABCD and two man tournaments without a submission of a roster. Procedures need to be implemented to correct this situation in the coming year.

Only 43% of Associates have indicated a desire to receive the MISGAgam in other than hard copy. This number might not be a real number as several clubs have all members desiring to receive a hardcopy.

I encourage all clubs/Divisions to use the "ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION COVER SHEET Appendix 2.1.1C". The use of this Cover Sheet will ensure that submissions/dues match up with roster totals. An electronic copy of this Cover Sheet was provided to each DAC.

The current electronic submission of rosters works very well. All clubs follow the published documentation to submit rosters.

MISGA YEARLY ASSOCIATES DUES REPORT

January 25, 2010		2009	2009		5-Dec-09	2009	2009		
DIVISION I	CLUB	PAID	ROSTER	DIFF	DIVISION IV	CLUB	PAID	ROSTER	DIFF
CRIPPLE CREEK	101	69	69	0	ARGYLE	432	95	95	0
EAGLE CREEK	104	54	54	0	HOBBITS GLEN	434	85	85	0
MAPLE DALE	106	21	21	0	KENWOOD	435	139	139	0
SEAFORD	110	24	24	0	LAKEWOOD	436	91	91	0
SHAWNEE	111	66	66	0	MANOR	437	128	128	0
WILD QUAIL	115	46	46	0	MONTGOMERY	438	49	49	0
JONATHAN'S LNDG	121	60	60	0	MONT. VILLAGE	439	63	63	0
SUSSEX PINES	123	50	50	0	NORBECK	440	76	76	0
BEAR TRAP DUNES	125	65	65	0	LEISURE WORLD	441	89	89	0
* NO ROSTER					BRETTON WOODS	442	85	85	0
Division TOTALS	9	455	455		Division TOTALS	10	900	900	
Club Total over paid	0	Club Total not paid		0	Club Total over paid	0	Club Total not paid		0
DIVISION II	CLUB	PAID	ROSTER	DIFF	DIVISION V	CLUB	PAID	ROSTER	DIFF
BEAVER CREEK	214	86	86	0	EASTERN SHORE	503	35	35	0
HOLLY HILLS	216	38	38	0	ELKS	505	20	20	0
HUNT VALLEY	217	55	57	2	GREEN HILL	507	18	18	0
PINEY BRANCH	218	42	42	0	NUTTER'S	511	64	64	0
ROLLING ROAD	219	45	44	1	OCEAN CITY	513	55	55	0
SPARROWS POINT	220	51	51	0	OCEAN PINES	514	111	111	0
VFW	221	21	21	0	GREAT HOPE	519	36	36	0
WAKEFIELD VALLEY	222	33	33	0	DEER RUN	522	42	42	0
GLADE VALLEY	224	74	74	0	BAY CLUB	523	27	27	0
QUAIL VALLEY	226	57	57	0	BEACH CLUB	525	31	31	0
WESTMINSTER NATL	227	41	41	0					
WINTERS RUN	228	31	31	0					
RATTLEWOOD	229	48	48	0					
CHALLEDON	230	40	40	0					
CRESS CREEK CC	231	0	0	0					
MUSKET RIDGE GC	232	0	0	0					
Division TOTALS	16	662	663		Division TOTALS	10	439	439	
Club Total over paid	0	Club Total not paid		0	Club Total over paid	0	Club Total not paid		0
DIVISION III	CLUB	PAID	ROSTER	DIFF	DIVISION VI	CLUB	PAID	ROSTER	DIFF
CAROLINE	302	28	28	0	BAY HILLS	610	27	27	0
CHESTER RIVER	303	80	80	0	CHARTWELL	623	57	57	0
HARBOURTOWNE	305	58	58	0	CROFTON	625	109	109	0
PROSPECT BAY	309	80	80	0	PATUXENT GREEN	627	49	49	0
TALBOT	313	43	43	0	NTL GC (TANTALLON)	629	67	67	0
EASTON CLUB	319	63	63	0	UNIV. OF MD	630	56	56	0
CLEARVIEW	320	26	26	0	US NAVAL ACDMY	631	136	136	0
HOG NECK*	322	46	51	5	MARLBOROUGH	635	34	34	0
HUNTERS OAK	323	32	32	0	WALDEN	636	31	31	0
					BOWIE	641	61	61	0
					FAIRWAY HILLS	642	97	97	0
					FORT MEADE	643	74	74	0
Division TOTALS	9	456	461		Division TOTALS	12	798	798	
Club Total over paid	0	Club Total not paid		0	Club Total over paid	0	Club Total not paid		0
GRAND TOTALS	PAID	ROSTER	Over paid	UNPaid	TOTAL	Clubs	in	out	
2009	3710	3716	0	0	2009	66	1	0	
2008	3845	3843	2	0	2008	63	5	1	
2007	3969	3948	20	0	2007	58	2	2	
2006	4018	4007	18	11	39047	59	1	1	
2005	4097	4073	45	21	25-Jan-10				
2004	4239	4211	43	15	\$ Income Total	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	

25-Jan-10

RALPH CRUIKSHANK PO BOX 356 BOZMAN MD 21612

Report of the MISGA Rules and Handicap Committee
to the Board and Officers of MISGA
for the MISGA Board Meeting
at Patuxent Greens
on December 8, 2009

Committee Activities in 2009

Monitoring of Posting of 2009 Championship Tournament Scores

The Chairman randomly checked the Associates' postings of their 2009 Championship tournament scores, to determine the effectiveness of the announcements and notices given at those tournaments.

This procedure implements the Board's March 18 vote to suspend the tournament ineligibility provision of the tournament policy for 2009-2010, but to have random checks of 2009 postings to determine whether it might be appropriate to reinstate the ineligibility policy for the 2010 Championships.

Score checking of the associates' postings of the 2009 MISGA finals revealed that more than ninety percent of the associates who participated in the two finals posted their scores.

Because these numbers are comparable with the percentages of associates who posted their MISGA tournament finals scores in 2008, the Chairman recommends that the Board not reinstate the tournament ineligibility policy for the 2010 finals.

Further, again, because these numbers are comparable with the percentages of associates who posted their MISGA tournament finals scores in 2008, the Chairman recommends that the Board again vote to suspend the tournament ineligibility provision of the tournament policy for 2010-2011 (as it did in March 2009, when it voted to suspend the tournament ineligibility provision of the tournament policy for 2009-2010, subject to the random checking of the 2009 postings revealing comparatively good results, in the ninety percent area).

The Chairman therefore also recommends that the Board also vote to again have random checks made of associates' MISGA tournament final scores, in 2010, as in 2009, so that after the 2010 finals, a recommendation and Board decision can be made regarding whether to reinstate the ineligibility policy for the 2011 finals.

2009 Tournament Score Postings Warning

Participants in the 2009 Championships had been notified at the tournaments that non-posting of their scores might result in their ineligibility to enter the 2010 MISGA Championships. This warning obviously produces favorable results, and the Chairman will work with the Tournament Chairman for 2010 to continue this important notification at the 2010 Championship Tournaments.

Informed Membership regarding Rules issues - in the MISGAGram

Carrying on the original work of former MISGA President Sam Hall's 2001 Rules and Handicap Project, and implementing President Keadle's desire to emphasize rules issues, the Chairman prepared rules articles for the April, September, and December MISGAGrams:

- the April article was titled "Don't Touch that Ball"
- the September article was titled "The Provisional Ball -- Steps to Avoid the Mess."
- the December article is titled "Immovable Obstructions"

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Crone, Kenwood -- Chairman, MISGA Rules and Handicap Committee

DIVISION III

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

NOVEMBER 19, 2009

1. The Division III annual meeting was held at Clearview at Horn's Point CC. on October 22, 2009 with Club Reps. and their assistants from seven of our eight member clubs in attendance. Chester River was not represented due to scheduling difficulties.
2. Our finances are in good shape with our checking account balance registered at \$2,331.15. I am awaiting Club Annual Reports from two clubs.
3. Assistant Director Malcom Peterson provided a briefing of the results of the Carroll Valley board meeting held on September 15, 2009, where a discussion of women as active MISGA members was a focal point of the meeting.
4. A review of the State 2-MAN finals of August 24, 2009 hosted by Prospect Bay was held, and special congratulations to Club Rep. Bert Bigelow, and Ralph Starkey our Tournament Chair, as well as Malcom Peterson for the fine tournament was extended.
5. For 2010's tournaments, Harbourtowne was chosen to hold the **ABCD qualifier** for Div I/III, with a date of Wednesday, June 23, and rain date Wednesday, June 30. Also, for 2010, Chester River was chosen to host the **2-Man qualifier** for Div I/III with a date of Tuesday, July 6, and rain date of Tuesday, July 13. Furthermore, Hunter's Oak was selected to host the Div III **Pro/Am** on Monday, October 4, 2010 with a rain date of Monday, October 11, 2010.
6. A discussion ensued of how to cope with memberships of some clubs below the threshold number of thirty-two as well as low participation of some clubs in attending other club mixers. Given the difficult economic times and considering the numbers of our members who are in the twilight cruise of their careers, it was felt that we can only encourage greater participation for the benefit of all, and be thankful for those other clubs who are still viable even though they are not as viable as in years past.
7. Given that I will be stepping down as Director after two years service, an election was held for 2010 with Malcom Peterson chosen to step up as Div III Director, and Bert Bigelow as Assistant Director. Congratulation to both.

Respectfully Submitted:
Dave Cook, Director III

DIVISION IV
DIRECTOR'S REPORT

November 18, 2009

1. A meeting of club reps and other Division IV officials was held at Montgomery C.C. on October 13. Attendance was good except for two clubs which had scheduling conflicts.
2. The Division had excess money in its account. Therefore, to the rebate of \$2.16 per Associate from MISGA, I added \$1.50 per Associate from the Division account making a total of \$3.66 per Associate for the rebated amount. These amounts were distributed at the October 13 meeting.
3. The Division currently has \$1479.59 cash on hand.
4. The Division still does not have a Historian.
5. As of this date two clubs in Division IV have not submitted their annual report despite repeated requests.
6. At the meeting of club reps October 13, there was near unanimous recommendation to eliminate the printed version of the MISGAGram.
7. It was a disappointment that at the Fall Frolic only three Division IV clubs were represented. The Fall Frolic was successful and enjoyable.
8. The Division IV pro-am was held at Norbeck October 19. It was considered a success.
9. A review of the eight annual reports submitted indicates that member clubs seem to be scheduling fewer mixers than in the past, but are inviting 2-4 clubs, thus boosting overall participation.

Submitted by:
Bob Turner

MISGA – BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, December 8, 2009 – Patuxent Greens Golf Club
Division VI Report

1. The Division VI Fall Meeting was held at the U. of MD clubhouse on 16 November 2009, followed by a round of golf on the revamped golf course.
2. Qualifier venues for 2010 are: ABCD Qualifier at Tantallon, June 9, Rain June 16.
2-Man Qualifier at Walden, June 28, Rain July 12 or 19.
3. The new Division Associates Chairman is Russ Smith of the Naval Academy. He succeeds Lloyd Stimson, who served in that capacity for 12 years. We sure could use more dedicated and capable people like Stim. The History chair and the Webmaster chair are still vacant; i.e., no one in Division VI volunteered to fill either of these slots.
4. All clubs have submitted their Club Annual Reports and show a fairly successful 2009.
5. The Fall Frolic at Little River Resort at Carthage, NC was well attended by Div. VI clubs, who accounted for approximately 33% of the 18-hole golfers. After a lousy Sunday drive through heavy rain, the rest of the week had very good weather, reaching close to 70 degrees each day. One woman, Bev Hogate from Ocean City Golf Club, had a hole-in-one. The scramble at Seven Lakes was a fun event, with the men playing the Gold and the women playing mostly the Green tees. At Seven Lakes, the Green tees are used by senior women and juniors. Most teams had two women, and the men had trouble getting their required ONE drive on each 9 holes.
6. The Division VI clubs are highly in favor of eliminating the printed version of the MISGAGRAM and in reducing the dues back to \$5.00. Even the backwards “opt out” program had 82% of Div VI opting out, whereas the overall MISGA opt-out was only 42%, probably because it required an overt action to opt out.
7. As usual, there was much discussion of slow play and cheating and what to do about it. Surprisingly, the suggested punishment for slow play was far more draconian than for cheating. Basically, it was to DQ for slow play, but to rely on the honor system for playing by the rules of golf.

Byron Keadle
Director, Division VI

Proposal to Stop Printing the MISGAGRAM

I believe that MISGA should discontinue the printing of the MISGAGRAM based on the following arguments.

1. Since the first electronic issue of the MISGAGRAM in Feb. 2003, we have spent over \$91,000 (estimate) in the seven years through 2009 in printing and distributing the MISGAGRAM- money down the drain. Hardly any large organizations distribute printed newsletters now-a-days, only electronic. Frolics flyers and entry forms are routinely printed in the MISGAGRAM, requiring many extra pages. Prior to Feb. 2003, the MISGAGRAM was the only method for distributing event flyers and entry forms. That is no longer the case. In fact, using the MISGAGRAM for that purpose has caused much aggravation in updating rosters for address labels and for scheduling the printing to coincide with announcements of events. Besides, printing them in the MISGAGRAM adds to the cost. Obviously, all associates will not use the application forms. It would be much better to download Frolics information directly from the web site, or alternatively, to distribute the Flyers/Entry Forms to all associates who have email using the established MISGA Global Email Distribution System (GEDS). Distributing by email is essentially free.

2. The web version of the MISGAGRAM offers several advantages aside from cost savings. First of all, nothing is given up. The MISGAGRAM (web) is not limited in number of pages, or in number of "copies," or in number of issues per year. All pictures are in full color, and event results (with pictures) can be fully covered. The cost is the same no matter how many associates receive their MISGAGRAMS on the web, whether one or 5,000. Again, that cost is essentially free. In the case of the web MISGAGRAM, I recommend sending an email notification to all associates who have email that the MISGAGRAM is now available for download using the following link, etc. With the anticipated larger size of the MISGAGRAM, it would be impractical to distribute it as an attachment.

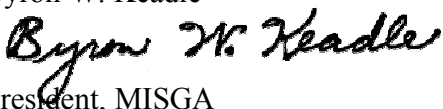
3. Without the cost of printing and distributing the MISGAGRAM, the MISGA Total Expenses would drop to under \$20,000 per year. Thus, we could drop the associate dues back to \$5.00 and still generate surpluses. At \$10.00 dues, the income is \$37,500 (for 2009). At \$5.00 dues, the income would be \$18,750, which when added to the club dues of \$3,150 and interest of \$583 would produce \$22,483. That should easily cover MISGA expenses, including the very generous Division Operations (rebates) of \$7,750, the next largest item in the budget after the MISGAGRAM. Another bonus: We wouldn't have to keep explaining the large surpluses and consequent rebates to antagonistic questioners.

4. If we don't reduce the dues from \$10 to \$5, then we will have to give back \$5 in rebates. Actually, \$8,000 + \$13,000 (no printing of 'gram) is \$21,000, even more than \$5.00 per person, more like \$5.60. Wouldn't it be better not to collect the extra \$5 in the first place? Then, we wouldn't need the rebate program.

5. What about those who don't have email or access to the web? In that case, the Club Rep can put the MISGAGRAM PDF file on a CD and take it to the local FedEx Kinko's. There, he can have copies printed directly from the CD for \$0.96 a copy for an eight-page MISGAGRAM, or \$1.43 for a 12-page 'gram. Ah, but color is out of reach at \$11.35 for 12-page 'gram. The only reasonable way to see color is to view it from the web site. Or, the Rep can print it on his own printer (in color) and give (or sell) it to the technically challenged associates. Another option: Print a copy and post it on the bulletin board.

For these reasons, I propose that we stop printing the MISGAGRAM, but continue the web MISGAGRAM in expanded form. We could then, if we choose, produce a monthly newsletter with regular columns, lots of color pictures, and no limit on number of pages. Each Division could contribute a page or two according to pre-established standards.

Byron W. Keadle



President, MISGA