



MISGAgram

Maryland Interclub Seniors Golf Association

NUMBER 18

BILL WOOLSTON, EDITOR

SUMMER 1985

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Worse than the Bing Crosby Clambake at Pebble Beach was the weather (snow, rain, and gale winds) at Prospect Bay on April 9th for the Annual Club Reps Meeting. In spite of that, the attendance was excellent. Eight "crazies" finished the round, including two presidents and a board member, who wish to remain anonymous. Many thanks to Carl Blakely and Prospect Bay for everything, except - you guessed it - the weather.

The 1985 Spring Fling was exceptionally grand. Condolences to all those who, for whatever reason, were unable to participate. Bouquets to everyone, and especially to Bill Ransdell and Jim Cabler, who made it such a grand success. Sincere thanks to the Elks Club, Green Hill, and Nassawango for so graciously opening their facilities to us.

It is gratifying to note that MISGA continues to grow. We now have some 2800 MISGA Associates and 40 golf and country clubs in the organization. Importantly, the Policy and Planning Committee has identified 50 more clubs within Maryland eligible to join MISGA. There are two in Division I, 27 in Division II, 15 in Division III, and two in Division IV. With the recent addition of Norbeck, the Naval Academy, and Andrews AFB, it is anticipated that there will be a redistribution of clubs in, at least, Divisions III and IV next year.

With the Board's approval, we are going to try "it" next year, "it" being a MISGA-organized trip in the Spring of '86 to the origins of golf, namely Scotland. (See accompanying article) e, save your winnings and mark your calendar.

Sam Hastings
President

FOXFIRE '85

MISGA's annual Fall Frolic will again be held this year at the Foxfire Resort and Country Club in Pinehurst, North Carolina. This will be MISGA's fourth visit to the popular resort since 1981. The excellent accommodations, the food, the two championship golf courses, and all of the other facilities have combined to make this an extremely popular event. Last year this affair was over-subscribed, and as a result, the MISGA Board of Directors has arranged for two groups to go this Fall. By so doing, it is hoped that everyone who wishes to go can be accommodated.

The first section will go from October 28 through November 1, and Section 2 will be there from November 4 through November 8. From 150 to 180 people can be accommodated in each group. Full particulars will be mailed individually to all MISGA Associates whose names and addresses are in the computer. It is our understanding that this year's Fall Frolic will cost no more than last year's event, which represents a really great value for both golfers and non-golfing wives.

The 1984 Fall Frolic was a complete sell-out within two weeks of the mailing of the announcements, so be sure to return your application promptly if you are interested.

Remember the dates: Sec. 1, Oct. 28-Nov. 1; Sec. 2, Nov. 4-Nov. 8

ON TO SCOTLAND

MISGA first ventured to Myrtle Beach and then to Callaway Gardens. Finding that to be fun, we pushed further afield to the Bahamas and Mexico. Now we are going all out to visit Scotland and see for ourselves the origins of golf.

Golf probably developed in Scotland around the year 1100 from a Roman game called paganica. The Romans played paganica in the open countryside with a bent stick and a leather ball stuffed with feathers. In 1457 the parliament of King James I of Scotland banned 'futeball and golfe' because their popularity threatened the practice of archery for national defense. The ban on golf ended when England and Scotland signed a treaty of peace in 1502.

Our trip is arranged for the period May 22 - June 1, 1986. It is planned to stay three days each at Turnberry, St. Andrews, and Edinburgh. One round of golf is scheduled for each of the following courses: St. Andrews, Turnberry, Troon, Carnoustie, Muirfield, and Dalmaiony. It should be noted that there will be no golf carts, and everyone must walk and use a caddy.

The tour includes: roundtrip airfare from Washington, D.C. to Prestwick; a welcoming cocktail party; lodging and breakfast daily; a bus at our continuous disposal; free sightseeing tours to Bobby Burns country, St. Andrews, the Whiskey Trail, Edinburgh; and a farewell banquet. The land portion will cost \$940 per person (double occupancy), with a \$130 rebate for non-golfers. (Continued on page 2)

ON TO SCOTLAND

(Continued from page 1)

It is anticipated that the airfare will be about \$655, for a total package cost of \$1595.00 per person.

Two optional add-on tours have been arranged. The first is a 4-day/3-night trip through the Scottish highlands for \$305 per person with two people in each auto. The second option is a 3-night stay in London with bed and breakfast at the Piccadilly Hotel. Included is airfare to London, one show, and one full day's sightseeing for \$440 per person, double occupancy. Return to the U.S. is from London.

Our local travel agent is Kevin Gillespie of Crescent Travel. Mr. Gillespie is very active in the St. Andrews Society and is a frequent traveler in Scotland. Our travel agent in Scotland is John Burns, a distant relative of THE Burns, who is with Buchan Travel, Ltd., and an avid golfer. I have met with both Kevin and John and feel that they understand what MISGA desires in a golf outing and that they will make every effort to provide us with a happy and memorable experience. We plan to make a direct mailing to each MISGA member with more complete details in the near future. It should be mentioned that wives are welcome and that the group size will be limited to a total of 40 persons. If necessary, two groups can be accommodated. Reservations will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis. A \$100 deposit per person is required to insure a reservation. Checks should be made payable to "MISGA Travel" and mailed to Sam Hastings, 15416 Tierra Drive, Silver Spring, Maryland 20906.

Sam Hastings

1985 SPRING FLING

The 1985 Spring Fling was held, for the second year in a row, at the Green Hill Yacht and Country Club in Salisbury and the Nassawango Country Club in Snow Hill. The ladies' 18-hole group again played at the Ocean City Golf and Yacht Club, while the ladies' 9-hole group played at the Elks Club in Salisbury. This year's event again was a sell-out, with a full field of 288 men and a large number of ladies enjoying two fine days of golf. In addition, a truly outstanding program of activities was provided for the non-golfing wives.

MISGA's sincere thanks are extended to the members and the golf professionals at the participating clubs for making their facilities available to us and for the friendship and hospitality they extended to all those who took part in the two-day event. We are especially grateful to Co-Chairmen Bill Ransdell of Green Hill and Jim Cabler of Nassawango, and to all the members of their committees, for the fantastic job they did in planning and organizing this tremendously successful event.

SPRING FLING RESULTS

Thursday, May 9: AT NASSAWANGO: 1st (116) Larry Gibbons, Bob Wilson, Gerry Collins, Len Stone; 2nd (120) John Hardy, Chas. Rider, Dan McMullen, Sandy Ednie; 3rd (121) Rudy Korade, Larry DeLizia, W. F. Offenheiser, Wilbur Barr; 4th (Tie - 123) Joe Christifulli, Bill Boteler, Norm Wood, and Wayne Fort; and, Bob Edwards, Don Banes, Tom Campbell, Joe Weber; 6th (Tie - 126) Myron Shpur, Herb Carlson, Clayton McGarvey, Max Kohler; and, Jack Styer, Chas. Buteher, Marlowe Cline, Bill Young; 8th (Tie - 127) Ernie Hauser, Jim Fuller, Jim Forbes, Knowles Newman; and, George Kohut, Jim Hurd, Bill Burleigh, Harry Byrne
AT GREEN HILL: 1st (122) Claude Widerman, John Price, Norm Holland, Bill Tilghman; 2nd (Tie - 123) Norm Czajkowski, Bob Rawson, Ted Walsh, Francis Jahn; and, Bob Evans, Merv Disharoon, Francis McKee, Sam Connor; 4th (124) Tom Paskalides, Francis Byrne, John McCarthy, Ray Sorenson; 5th (126) Mike Licentra, Dick Barth, Sid Rapoport, Chas. Frank; 6th (Tie - 127) Jim Remson, Emmet Radcliffe, Irv Levine, Edwin Smith; and, Mike Ballos, Ed Custer, Jim Emerson, Lloyd Turville; 8th (Tie - 128) Jack Nichols, Jim Reber, Sid Taylor, Ned Wienecke; and Jack Nichols, Fred Forconi, Geo. Kerchner, Bud Clevenger; 10th (129) Landy Altman, Jim O'Connor, Kohlman Morgan, Charles Murray

Friday, May 10: AT NASSAWANGO: 1st (119) Bob Evans, Merv Disharoon, Francis McKee, Sam Connor; 2nd (121) Ike Proffit, Dick Gibson, Jack Wolk, Homer Elseroad; 3rd (Tie - 122) Herb Hudson, Ed Maguire, Mayo Pittman, Merrill Cohan; and, Jim Remson, Fred Forconi, Geo. Kerchman, Bud Clevenger; 5th (Tie - 123) Jack Nichols, Jim Reber, Sid Taylor, Ned Wienecke; and, Jack Sanford, Bob Haden, Phil Lowenthal, Ted Hayward; and, Claude Widerman, John Price, Norm Holland, Bill Tilghman; 8th (Tie - 124) Tom Paskalides, Francis Byrne, John McCarthy, Ray Jorgensen; and Doug Moats, Arnold Brunner, Jack Glover, Ray Keany
AT GREEN HILL: 1st (Tie - 123) Geo. Kohut, Jim Hurd, Bill Burleigh, Harry Byrne; and Joe Crisafulli, Bill Boteler, Norm Wood, Wayne Fort; 3rd (Tie - 129) Tom Hutchison, Bob Johnson, Rush Buckley, Tom Gorman; and Bob Edwards, Don Banks, Tom Campbell, Joe Weber; 5th (Tie - 130) Geo. Wilson, Ed Malinowski, Dick Redinger, Pete Sivess; and Ed Schmidt, Bill Pump, Hugh Berry, Vern Summers; 7th (131) Bill Leberherz, Chas. Nelson, Bill Peter, Homer Gatrell; 8th (Tie - 132) Wally Sager, Bernie Baldwin, Ed Lindsey, Parker Armstrong; and Bill Mitchell, Leland Beckworth, Ken Harper, Gordon Darby; and John Hardy, Chas. Rider, Don McMullen, Sandy Ednie

IN MEMORIAM

MISGA notes with sorrow that the following Associates have died in recent months:

Nelson R. Bohn, VFW	David Brooks, Leisure World	T. W. "Woody" Harrison, VFW
John C. Staley, VFW	Herbert White, Elks	

GUADALAJARA REVISITED

Motivated by last year's glowing reports, two groups traveled South of the Border to golf and have fun in the Mexican sun. The first group consisted of 17 couples and two singles, and were in Guadalajara from February 5th through 13th. Following on their heels, the second group of 20 couples (including 3 couples staying over from Group I), was there from February 13th through the 21st. The arrangements for both groups were essentially identical and had been made "on Site" by Duane and Ethel Swindle. They included: clear, blue, cloudless skies, mid-day temperatures around 80°, play on three fine golf courses with good caddies, a bus dedicated to golfing, sightseeing, and shopping from eight A.M. to nine P.M., lodging in the comfortable and picturesque 4-Star El Tapatio, and perfect cocktail parties for both groups given by Duane and Ethel at their home in nearby Chapala.

Thanks to Duane's continuing quest for perfection, the 1985 program included several additions. Notable among these was the Ballet Folclorica of Guadalajara University in the beautiful Degollada Theater. The 2-hour ballet was most colorful and vibrant and a delight to both eye and ear. The complex rhythms and dance movements were representative of the country's many native cultures. Following the Ballet we went to the Fiesta Americana for their famous brunch. The many, many dishes were beautifully prepared and displayed and included steaks, chops, and ribs cooked to order. We even had a strolling Mariachi band.

A visit to Tonalá, an ancient Indian village on the outskirts of Guadalajara, was enjoyed by many of us. Tonalá is known for its wide variety of pottery and large street-side markets.

Our dinner at the Posada Ajijac was truly memorable. Ajijac is an Indian fishing village on the north shore of Lake Chapala, about 30 miles south of Guadalajara. A center for artists, handicrafters, and writers populated by former U.S. residents, it is noted for its weaving and embroidery. The Posada is located on the lake and has a long and interesting history, having its origin as a mill. Our party was held in the walled courtyard which is planted with many different semi-tropical plants. The round dining tables were arranged on a raised stone terrace adjacent to a reflecting pool. Here we were serenaded by our own strolling troubador, Lyle Lipscomb, singing and playing his original composition, "Nothing Could be Fairer than to be in Guadalajara with the MISGA." Cocktails and dinner were followed by our own fireworks display from a bamboo tower erected at the end of the reflecting pool. The Finale was a blazing, multi-colored "Welcome MISGA".

As last year's scribes so aptly put it, "The MISGA groups were congenial ones, just the right size to form friendships and share activities. As we returned to the Maryland winter, we all had a warm sense of joy and gratitude that we had the privilege of sharing in this truly memorable experience."

Sam Hastings

MISGA IN PALM TREE PARADISE

When our President Emeritus, Al Hagen, suggested that we have a Winter Fling in Fort Myers, Florida, last February, he accurately described it as the "Palm Tree Paradise". Seventy-two MISGA Associates and spouses participated in four fun-filled, sun-filled days of golf and sightseeing in perfect weather over three of the most incredible golf courses any of us have ever played. Few of us will ever forget the "Long Mean" course at Fiddlesticks Country Club with its island greens at the 9th and 18th holes and lots of trouble in between. The "Wee Friendly" is a little more forgiving but still a good test. I'll wager, however, that none will forget the great condition of both these courses and the beautiful setting from which they are carved. Burnt Store Marina, on the other hand, was another story! We will never forget that course! I'll wager that no one began and finished that course with the same ball -- same sleeve -- same BOX of balls.

While it may be true that none of us "burned up" any of the courses we played, there were TWO - count 'em - TWO HOLES IN ONE, one by our own MISGA Treasurer, Sid Rapoport of Hobbits Glen and the other by the illustrious Claude Wideman of Montgomery CC. Sid's feat was on the 147-yard 11th hole at Fiddlesticks' Wee Friendly course, while Claude's was on the 135-yard 12th hole at Burnt Store Marina. It was Sid's second ace, with 34 years in between. For Claude, it was "old hat" his third. Congratulations, fellows. You are the pride and envy of MISGA.

Those of you who thought about joining us in Fort Myers and then decided against it REALLY made a BIG mistake. It was, by far, one of the very best out-of-state events ever run by MISGA. Not only were the golfers well satisfied with the outing, but the non-golfing ladies were well-occupied with visits to Edison's home, the Shell Museum, the Fort Myers Museum of History, and shopping, shopping, shopping. Florida cooperated with beautiful weather and excellent food. All of those who went are deeply indebted to Al and Betty Hagen for making the arrangements for the trip.

Are you sorry now that you didn't go? Well, put a note on your calendar for February, 1986 and we'll see to it that an even better Winter Fling is planned. O.K.?

Herb Hudson

FORT MYERS WINTER FLING RESULTS - FEBRUARY 25 - 28, 1985

In the Mixed Handicap Scramble, held on the Fiddlesticks Long Mean course, the winning team of Gil Williams, Vern Summers, Marv Lynch, and Marjorie Leming turned in a fantastic low net score of 40.

In the Individual Class A - B - C Tournament, also played on the Fiddlesticks Long Mean course, Claude Wideman was the Class A winner, with a low gross of 80 and a net of 72. Class B was led by Ernest Leming, with a net 73, while host Al Hagen, a member of Fiddlesticks, won Class C and the overall trophy with a low net score of 70.

(Continued on page 4)

Fort Myers Winter Fling Results

(Continued from page 3)

The 2 Best Balls of Foursome Tournament, played at the Fiddlesticks Wee Friendly course, resulted in a first place tie. The team of Claude Widerman, Art Browne, Walt Anderson, and Sid Rapoport and the team of Jack Willard, Herb Hudson, Jim Fuller, and Don Rice both turned in net scores of 125. Sid Rapoport scored his hole-in-one during this event.

The team of Logan Schutz, George Wilson, John Moore, and Ed Tennant won the Man-in-the-Box event at Burnt Store Marina with a net score of 99. Claude Widerman's ace was made during this tournament.

Meanwhile, the ladies were staging events of their own at Fiddlesticks and Burnt Store Marina. The team of Irene Pennington, Louise Ogle, Aideen Fuchs, and Phoebe Angel won the Lady-in-the-Box event at Fiddlesticks' Wee Friendly course with a net score of 122. At the same course, the team of Esther Meyer, Katie Widerman, Phyllis Summers, and Chloe Hudson scored a Low Net 114 in the 2 Best Balls of Foursome event. The winners of the Ladies Individual Tournament at Burnt Store Marina were Irene Pennington with a Low Gross score of 81 and Marjorie Leming, who took Low Net by Match-of-Cards with Esther Meyer. Both had a net score of 59.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, September 13: MISGA State 2-Man Team Championship, Argyle Country Club, Silver Spring,
(Rain date Sept. 20) Maryland

Monday, October 28 MISGA Fall Frolic, Foxfire Resort and Country Club, Pinehurst, N.C.
thru Friday, Nov. 1:
Section: 1

Monday, November 4
thru Friday, Nov. 8,
Section: 2

May 22 - June 1, 1986: MISGA's Golfing Expedition to Scotland

"SLOPE" - THE USGA's ATTEMPT TO SOLVE "THE HANDICAP PORTABILITY PROBLEM"

For some time the USGA has recognized that the existing handicap system - which is based on course length only - is deficient. The basic problem has been that players who have developed their handicaps on an average length course with few obstacles find themselves at a significant disadvantage when playing against players with handicaps developed at courses with many different and difficult obstacles, such as Pine Valley, Merion, and Oakland Hills. Players from the same club do fine versus each other: their handicaps have been based on the same course and are thus comparable. The present system of course ratings, based on length alone, does not begin to solve the problem.

The Slope system is an attempt to rate courses on the basis of obstacles, not just yardage. Ten obstacles have been identified, and degrees of difficulty - ranging from 0 to 10 - have been assigned to each of them when a course is being rated. These obstacles are: (1) Topography, (2) Fairways - width, slope, doglegs, etc., (3) Recoverability and Rough, (4) Out-of-Bounds, (5) Water Hazards, (6) Trees, (7) Bunkers, (8) Green Target - size, firmness, shape, and slope, (9) Green Surface - speed, etc., and (10) Psychological Hazards.

Taking all of the above factors into consideration, a rating is assigned to each course. Any differences in the ratings form the basis for adjustments when players are competing against players from other courses. The actual formula by which this is done is quite complex and is much too complicated to be covered in this article.

The Slope System has been installed in a few areas, beginning in 1983. Within the next few years it may well be adopted on a nationwide basis. Those who have worked with the new system feel that golfers will quickly adjust to the new procedures and will be pleased with the more accurate handicap adjustments that it provides.

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