

MISGA

GRAM

VOLUME 96

July 2009

www.MISGA.org



Global Email - Our recent use of the MISGA Email Distribution System (MEDS) served two purposes: (1) to deliver information, requesting a response; and (2) to test the MEDS system for functionality. The two most recent Global Emails required a reply from the Club Reps and the Directors in a specified format. That is more complicated than merely viewing an email.

To summarize the results of the email request about who did and did not receive the pamphlets, "Golf Rules in Brief," 25 clubs responded, more or less. Only 12 of these actually followed the guidance on how to respond. Nevertheless, we were able to piece together the responses to determine that 12 clubs received their allotment of pamphlets, while 13 clubs indicated that they did not receive their pamphlets. There were no responses from the other 39 clubs in MISGA. That's less than 40 % success rate, great for a baseball batting average, and probably better than our putting averages (without

gimmes), but no way for an organization to operate.

Consequently, I think we should not use the email system to solicit responses. Instead, we should use the system merely to deliver important information (announcements of general interest, perhaps even MISGAgrams and/or Event Entry Forms). If the attachment is received and read, great; if not, well, what's that adage about leading a horse to water?

Golfing Activity - Here in early June, the golfing season is well underway. In addition to the Mixers, the divisions are conducting qualifying tournaments for the state finals in the Past Presidents and the Two-Man Team competitions. Again, this year, the Spring Fling was held in Williamsburg, VA on May 12-14. The weather was ideal for golf all three days, and the accommodations at the Hospitality House hotel were first class, including a sumptuous banquet on Wednesday evening. The next MISGA-sponsored event will be the Summer Frolic at Carroll Valley, PA in mid-September, a delightful & scenic golf course in the eastern foothills of the Blue Ridge portion of the Appalachians. Following this, we have a new (to MISGA) venue at Little River Golf Resort in Carthage (Pinehurst area), NC during November 1-6. These well-organized golfing vacations are open to all MISGA associates and are the only events where spouses have the opportunity to participate in the golfing and social activities of MISGA.

I would like to express my appreciation for the volunteers in MISGA who arrange these events, and for the Club Reps and all the members of the Board who give so generously of their time and effort to make MISGA membership such a rewarding experience for all of us.

Slow Play - Since we have stopped taking "gimmes" (we have, haven't we?), there is a tendency to mark and wait, the assumption being that if you miss, it had to be because you didn't take your time. I miss my share of short putts, not because I rush, but because short putts are difficult. That's the real reason that golfers take gimmes. Not only is it embarrassing to miss a short putt, but it adds a stroke to one's score. I recently received an email suggesting that each of us should continue putting until we hole out. Stepping on another's line is no more than a "red herring". That line has been stepped on many times before we got to the green. This person reported that a group of men, using the continuous putting routine, shaved 30 to 40 minutes off their round by not marking every putt. It seems to me that continuous putting is certainly worth a try, in the interest of speeding up the game. Ready Golf on the Tee; Continuous Putting on the Green! What could be simpler?

Byron Keadle, President

Maryland Interclub Seniors Golf Association

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Byron Keadle

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The **MISGAgram** is the official newsletter of the organization mailed free to all Associates four times each year. The mission of the 'gram is to provide information of common interest to all association members. The 'gram also can be read at www.misga.org.

The publication months for the **MISGAgram** are:

April
July
September
December

Noteworthy events and announcement for away activities, and articles of general interest may be submitted to the editor at any time for printing. The closing dates for publication are:

15 March (April)
01 June (July)
01 September (Sept.)
10 November (Dec.)

All materials should be sent via e-mail to:

hahome@verizon.net

H. A. Hanson
MISGAgram Editor

A FEW EMAIL TIPS

Annotating Email

Sometimes, it is desirable to REPLY TO or FORWARD an email with annotations that you add to the message. If you wish to insert text or numbers into the body of the original message, you must first select the REPLY or FORWARD option. Then a new message window opens, in which a copy of the received email is already inserted. Now, you can enter characters any place in this new email. When you finish composing a REPLY, simply hit the SEND button. Another option is REPLY ALL, in which case, you send the email to everyone who was on the distribution list for the original email, including the sender. To FORWARD the annotated message, add the email addresses of your intended recipients and then hit the SEND button. In either case, you may also have to click on the SEND/RECEIVE button, depending on how your email program is set up.

Remove Clutter

After you select REPLY or FORWARD, the inserted message contains all the addresses that were attached to the original message. Unless you feel that it is important to retain the list of recipients within the body of your new message, you should delete them. Otherwise, each time you choose FORWARD or REPLY ALL, another set of addresses adds to the clutter.

Use Bcc:

To avoid having all your recipients identified in any subsequently forwarded message, you should use the Bcc (Blind Carbon Copy) option. Under TOOLS menu in your New Message window, click "Select Recipients". Then, select the names and send to the right panel with the Bcc: button.

Forward as Attachment – No-No!:

Try not to use the "Forward as Attachment" option under the Message menu list. Instead, merely use "Forward". If a message is Forwarded as Attachment several times, the recipients will have to peel off multiple layers of email encapsulations to finally reach what should have been the original forwarded message.

Byron Keadle

Nutters MISGA honors Ed Neff

Tuesday April 7th was opening day for the *Nutters Crossing* MISGA group which held a breakfast meeting and honored **Ed Neff** past Secretary/Treasurer. Ed was honored with a bench donated to Nutters Crossing Golf by the Nutters MISGA group. The bench has been placed at the ninth tee box. Ed was one of the original members of the *Nutters* MISGA group when the course joined MISGA in 1992. In 1995, he became Secretary/Treasurer of *Nutters* MISGA and he was responsible for setting up the yearly golf schedule with the other Eastern Shore MISGA clubs, which includes over 50 home and away events. He collected the money for the home events and made sure all the bills were paid at the end of the day. As the years went on, Ed became the Division 5 Tournament Chairman, arranging for the Division Qualifier Tournaments to determine who would be eligible for the State ABCD Presidents Cup and Two Man Best Ball Tournaments. Ed retired at the end of last year due to the responsibilities he holds in the National Red Men's organization. It has taken at least three men accomplish what he was doing for our MISGA organization.

Rick Bisker

2009 MISGA Florida Winter Fling

*The Plantation Inn and Golf Resort in Crystal River, Florida, was once again the site of this year's Winter Fling. Thanks to a wonderful facility and a terrific staff, a great time was enjoyed...and even "Mother Nature" was thoughtful and provided lots of sunshine. 14 Clubs were represented with 37 men, 20 18-hole ladies, 6 9-hole ladies and 8 non-golfing ladies. Special thanks everyone who helped make the Fling a success, especially **Ralph** and **Carol Menton** for the great job they did with the 18-hole golfers and to **Pat Rusman**, for the 9-hole golfers.*

The winners of MONDAY'S MIXED SCRAMBLE were: 1st - **Gene Horan**, *Westminster National*, **Bill McNelis**, *Ocean Pines*, **Carol Menton**, *Ocean Pines*; 2nd - **Carter Hughlett**, *Harbourtowne*, **Steve Neal**, *Ocean Pines*, **Joe Eikenberg**, *Winters Run*; 3rd - **Rich Boardman**, *Rattlewood*, **Mike Bennett**, *Ocean Pines*, **Sally Stafford**, *Ocean Pines*; 4th - **Ralph Menton**, *Ocean Pines*, **Don Schaefer**, *Ocean Pines*, **Ann Turner**, *Lakewood*, **Emma Frawley**, *Ocean Pines*; 5th - **Hank Rusman**, *Ocean Pines*, **Jim Podoley**, *Bowie*, **Mary Rapson**, *Hobbits Glen*, **Dick Ris**, *Lakewood*.

Men's Play - TUESDAY'S 1,2,3 winners were: 1st - **Bill Stafford**, *Ocean Pines*, **Mike Bennett**, *Ocean Pines*, **Bob Caradona**, *Ocean Pines*, **Dick Ris**, *Lakewood*; 2nd- **Paul Bowersox**, *Quail Valley*, **Don Schaefer**, *Ocean Pines*, **Bill Nichols**, *Ocean Pines*, **Joseph Eikenberg**, *Winters Run*; 3rd - **Bob Fitzgerald**, *Hobbits Glen*, **Richard Dale**, *Seaford*, **Harry Conover**, *Quail Valley*, **Dave Stevens**, *Ocean Pines*. THURSDAY'S STABLEFORD winners were: 1st - **Buck Linthicum**, *Chartwell*, **Carter Hughlett**, *Harbourtowne*, **Jim Beisler**, *Ocean Pines*, **Bob Fralley**, *Ocean Pines*; 2nd - **Bob Turner**, *Lakewood*, **Harry Conover**, *Quail Valley*, **Bob Caradona**, *Ocean Pines*, **Paul Bowersox**, *Quail Valley*; 3rd - **Bob Koubek**, *Ocean Pines*, **Frank Schreyer**, *Lakewood*, **Sam Barrow**, *Montgomery Village*, **Joseph Eikenberg**, *Winters Run*. FRIDAY'S BEST 2 BALLS OF FOUR winning teams were: - 1st - **Buck Linthicum**, *Chartwell*, **Don Hilliard**, *Chartwell*, **Bill Stafford**, *Ocean Pines*, **Bob Fitzgerald**, *Hobbits Glen*; 2nd - **Ralph Menton**, *Ocean Pines*, **Steve Neal**, *Ocean Pines*, **Frank Schreyer**, *Lakewood*, **Mike Bennett**, *Ocean Pines*; 3rd - **Felix Marucha**, *Rattlewood*, **Bob Caradona**, *Ocean Pines*, **Gene Merkert**, *Chartwell*.

18-Hole Ladies Play - TUESDAY'S 1,2,3 winners were: - 1st - **Dixie Hughlett**, *Harbourtowne*, **Pat Merkert**, *Chartwell*, **Ann Turner**, *Lakewood*, **Nancy McIntyre**, *Ocean Pines*; 2nd - **Carolyn Neal**, *Ocean Pines*, **Carol Boardman**, *Fort George Meade*, **Barbara Hilliard**, *Chartwell*, **Marion Schreyer**, *Lakewood*. THURSDAY'S FLORIDA SCRAMBLE winners were: - 1st - **Carol Menton**, *Ocean Pines*, **Ann Turner**, *Lakewood*, **Kathy Fitzgerald**, *Hobbits Glen*, **Marion Schreyer**, *Lakewood*; 2nd - **Dixie Hughlett**, *Harbourtowne*, **Sally Stafford**, *Ocean Pines*, **Barbara Hilliard**, *Chartwell*, **Pat Beisler**, *Ocean Pines*. FRIDAY'S BEST 2 BALLS OF FOUR winning teams were: - 1st - **Carolyn Neal**, *Ocean Pines*, **Dixie Hughlett**, *Harbourtowne*, **Carol Menton**, *Ocean Pines*, **Mary Rapson**, *Hobbits Glen*; 2nd - **Diane Blubaugh**, *Wakefield Valley*, **Kathy Fitzgerald**, *Hobbits Glen*, **Barbara Hilliard**, *Chartwell*, **Ann Turner**, *Lakewood*.

9-Hole Ladies - TUESDAY'S LOW NET winners: - 1st **Eileen Koubek**, *Ocean Pines*, 2nd **Pat Rusman**, *Ocean Pines*. THURSDAY'S LOW GROSS winners: - 1st **Patty Dale**, *Seaford*, **Pat Rusman**, *Ocean Pines*. FRIDAY'S LOW GROSS winners: - 1st **Pat Rusman**, *Ocean Pines*, **Patty Dale**, *Seaford*.

Special Prizes - MEN - Low Gross: **Gene Horan**, *Westminster National*; Low Net - **Ralph Menton/Steve Neal**, *Ocean Pines*. Closest to Pin - **Bob Caradona**, *Ocean Pines*. LADIES - Low Gross - **Carol Menton**, *Ocean Pines*. Low Net - **Kathy Fitzgerald**, *Hobbits Glen*/**Mary McNelis**, *Ocean Pines*. Closest to Pin - **Ann Turner**, *Lakewood*.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS - THE 2010 FLING WILL AGAIN BE HELD AT THE PLANTATION - FEBRUARY 21 - 27, WITH GREAT RATES!!

Bob McIntyre, Event Organizer

2009 SPRING FLING – Williamsburg, VA

The **MISGA** Spring Fling was held at Williamsburg, Virginia, May 12, 13 and 14. The weather was perfect with temperatures in the middle seventies in the daytime and middle sixties at night, and absolutely no threat of rain; an exact duplicate of last years weather at this same location. We played the *Green* course at *Golden Horseshoe*, the *Jamestown* course at *Williamsburg National* and the *Kiskiack* course. There was very positive feedback from the participants concerning the *Kiskiack* course. It is a little shorter than the others, but with some spectacular shot values. The *Kiskiack* course seemed to fit the **MISGA**-style game very well.

In addition to the normal **MISGA** games, we also had an optional skins game and, for the first time, included a separate skins game for the ladies. These skins games had \$50 additional prize funds added from the **MISGA** Spring Fling treasury since we reduced our mailing costs approximately \$50 by e-mailing information to all but two of the participants. We had 87% participation in the men's skins game and 85% participation in the women's game. It is interesting to note that two non-participants, one in the men's and one in the women's skins, would have each won a skin! Two men players, **Gene Horan** and **Ralph Starkey**, split \$226 since they were the only two clear skins winners. The women had eight skins winners with **Kathy Fitzgerald** the big winner with three skins worth \$21.

Low gross prizes were given on Thursday to **Ralph Starkey** for a 76 in flight one and to **Richard Martin** for an 85 in flight two.

A lottery was held for two certificates for three nights and two rounds of golf at *Amelia Island* (Florida). They were won by **Ruth Crovo** and **Howard Taylor**.

The non-golfing ladies visited the *Williamsburg Winery* on Wednesday. They saw an historical film about the winery, toured the winery, had a wine tasting session, and then had a luncheon. Apparently, they had a very good time. We had asked a couple of them to help check skins scorecards when they got back and they were just so happy that it was tough to get any work out of them!

Approximately, 20 people stayed for an extra day to play at *Fords Colony*. There was no **MISGA** game but everyone had fun and the weather, again, was magnificent.

Winning teams:

TUESDAY at *Golden Horseshoe, Green* course:

Men: **Tom Zgorski**, *Wakefield Valley*, **Bob Turner**, *Lakewood*, **Richard Martin**, *Glade Valley*, **Ed White**, *Glade Valley*.

Women: **Ginny Grossnickle**, *Wakefield Valley*, **Mary Rapson**, *Hobbits Glen*, **Barbara Shearer**, *Easton*, **Kathy Fitzgerald**, *Hobbits Glen*.

WEDNESDAY at *Kiskiack*:

Combined: **Judy Taylor**, *Lakewood*, **Howard Taylor**, *Lakewood*, **Nick Smith**, *Easton*, **Tom Zgorski**, *Wakefield Valley*

THURSDAY at *Williamsburg National, Jamestown* course:

Flight One Men: **Dennis Helm**, *Wakefield Valley*, **Bob Fitzgerald**, *Hobbits Glen*, **Joe Bailey**, **Charlie Fieldhouse**, *Piney Branch*.

Flight Two Men: **Larry Bathgate**, *Easton*, **Milton Zepp**, *Wakefield Valley*, **Bill Brown**, *Ocean City*, **Don Tiedmann**.

Women: **Ruth Crovo**, *Easton*, **Barbara Shearer**, **Maryann Zgorski**, *Wakefield Valley*, **Arline Paulson**, *Wild Quail*.

Dick Dale, Event Organizer

The Rules – Don't Touch That Ball!

(Except in certain situations: Local Rule - lift, clean, and place; Identifying Ball - USGA Rule 12-2)

At (some) **MISGA** mixers, players are permitted to improve their lies in their own fairways. This is an exception (by local/event rule) to the *USGA Rules of Golf*, considered necessary (when playing conditions are so poor that the club declares "lift, clean and place" in effect for that day). Be aware that this exception does not apply elsewhere on the course. If your ball ends up in the rough, you must play the ball as it lies.

But, a lot of **MISGA** players know that except in a hazard they may, without penalty, lift a ball believed to be their own for the purpose of identification and clean it to the extent necessary for identification. (A recent rule change allows lifting a ball in a hazard to identify it [*Rule 12-2*]). But, (some) players lift a ball (not merely to identify it, but also) to improve their lie. Their actions run counter to the intent of this exception.

Player beware! Before lifting the ball, you must announce your intention to your opponent in match play or fellow competitors in stroke play and mark the position of the ball. If you lift the ball without announcing your intention in advance, don't give your opponent or fellow competitors an opportunity to observe your actions and clean the ball more than necessary for identification, you will incur a penalty of one stroke and the ball must be replaced [*Rule 12-2*].

(*[USGA Rule 13]* contains other) don'ts. Here are a few of them, but by no means all of them. Don't "fluff up" the ball with your club. Don't use your foot [or club] to press down on the grass, soil or sand behind your ball (except on the tee box). Don't move, bend or break anything growing. Each of these don'ts is a two stroke penalty in stroke play; loss of hole in match play.

(This article was part of the **MISGA 2001 Rules and Handicap Project**, a well-crafted set of 28 one-page articles on rules, etiquette, and handicapping, produced by former **MISGA** President **Sam Hall's** Ad Hoc Committee on Rules and Handicaps. Those articles were handed out to the club reps in 2001, with the intent that they be posted or distributed at the clubs. Only a few were inserted into the **MISGAgrams**. To give these fine articles a new life and to provide "reminders" of rules, etiquette, etc., it is intended that they will be reprinted somewhat regularly in the **MISGAgrams**.) (Updating and enhancing edits appear in parentheses and *USGA Rules* are in brackets [].)

Dick Crone, Chairman, MISGA Rules and Handicap Committee

Recently Deceased

<u>Name</u>	<u>Club</u>
Dick Aitken	Lakewood CC
Bill Aitken	Manor CC
Tom Cahill	Prospect Bay GC
Jack Dilli	Hunt Valley GC
Harold Fairman	Chartwell CC
Cliff Geiger	Crofton GC
Joe Gude	Manor CC
Gene Houpert	Manor CC
John Insley	VFW GC
Pat McDermott	Argyle GC
Glenn Piercy	Bretton Woods CC
Robert Purcell	Leisure World GC
Eugene Schertz	Bretton Woods CC
Robert Sewell	Piney Branch GC
James Stevens	Ocean City GC
Ron Surgen	Univ. of MD GC
Nat Terry	Eastern Shore GC
Buzz Warfield	USNA GC

ENTRY FORM

**2009 MISGA Summer Frolic at *Carroll Valley*
Wednesday, September 16th and Thursday, September 17th**

Entries must be received by **August 1, 2009**
(Full refunds will be granted **only until 15 August**)

Name: _____ Plan: _____ July Index: _____

Name: _____ Plan: _____ July Index: _____

I will be rooming with: _____

NOTE: All fees are per person, Double Occupancy.
For single occupancy add \$53 and check here (___)

Room Request	Number	Fee	Amount
PLAN A: 18 Hole Golfer For smoking room check here (___)	(___)	@ \$235.00	\$ _____
PLAN B: Non-Golfer or 9-hole Golfer For smoking room check here (___)	(___)	@ \$135.00	\$ _____
PLAN C: 18-Hole Commuting Golfer	(___)	@ \$155.00	\$ _____
TOTAL (<u>Payable to MISGA DIV II</u>)			\$ _____

We plan to be overnight Tuesday at *Carroll Valley* (or in the vicinity). _____

Signed: _____ Club: _____

Street: _____ Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mail form and check to **Thomas Taylor, 843 Fairfield Avenue, Westminster, MD 21157**

Questions: email trytogolf@comcast.net or Phone **410-848-1866**

Entries must be received by August 1, 2009

MISGAgram

2107 Old Pine Road
Timonium, MD 21093



2009 Summer Frolic at Carroll Valley, PA (Wednesday Sept. 16 thru Thursday, Sept. 17)

The arrangements & costs and the entry form for the **MISGA** 2009 Summer Frolic at *Carroll Valley Resort* for all Associates are reprinted in this issue. The announcement and the Associates entry form are available also on line at www.misga.org/documents. The Summer Frolic is a two-day event at a nearby location within easy driving distance. The *Carroll Valley* golf course is well maintained and challenging (but not unreasonable). If you have not played *Carroll Valley*, consider doing so; the package cost is inexpensive and the event is fun.

2009 Fall Frolic at Little River, NC (Sunday, November 1 thru Friday, November 6)

The **MISGA** Fall Frolic will be at *Little River Golf & Resort*, Carthage, NC (Pinehurst Area). Pinehurst is approximately a six (6) hour drive from the Washington area. The announcement, arrangements and costs, and entry form were printed in the April issue of the **MISGAgram** and are available for download from the web site (www.misga.org/documents). The Fall Frolic has been popular in past years and is limited to 128 golfers this year. If you plan to attend and have not yet submitted an entry form, please do so soon.