



# MISGAGRAM

Volume 153 – December 2022

[www.misga.org](http://www.misga.org)

## President's Message



“To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often.” -Winston Churchill. Well, MISGA must be close to perfect as we are changing for the 43rd time as I assume the Presidency for 2023.

First, as we end the current year and move into the next I would like to take time to thank my predecessor Chuck Woods and those who served on the Board under him. Next, I must say I am humbled to move into the leadership position of this fine

longstanding organization and will do my best to keep it moving forward.

No sooner had the gavel passed when some long standing volunteers informed me of their stepping down. Hmmm, no one mentioned that last year when I “volunteered” for the VP spot. Well, that’s fine as I love a challenge as much as the next guy and they had certainly served their time. Anyway, I am fortunate that the majority of the Board will continue their dedication to MISGA. My thanks to them. Furthermore, through my amazing powers of persuasion (some may call it BS ability) I have been able to fill those key openings. Mike Olson (Hog Neck) will assume the Secretary position. The infamous TBD is taking over as the Division 2 Director, and I assume sane enough to pass on the rotation as VP. Luckily and thankfully Paul Bates of Div. 4 will step up early to the VP spot. I hope to be able to not make him regret it ! Lastly but not least, thanks to outgoing Treasurer Gary Mannion.

*(Continued on p 3)*

**Maryland  
Interclub  
Seniors Golf  
Association**

**President**  
Tom Ciandella  
**Vice President**  
**Paul Bates**  
**Secretary**  
Mike Olson  
**Treasurer**  
George Blair

The MISGAGRAM is the official newsletter of the organization published on the web site four times each year. The mission of the MISGAGRAM is to provide information of common interest to association members. The MISGAGRAM can be read or downloaded at:

[www.misga.org](http://www.misga.org)

The publication months for the MISGAGRAM are:

**March**  
**June**  
**September**  
**December**

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

**10 March** (March)  
**10 June** (June)  
**20 Sept.** (September)  
**20 Dec.** (December)

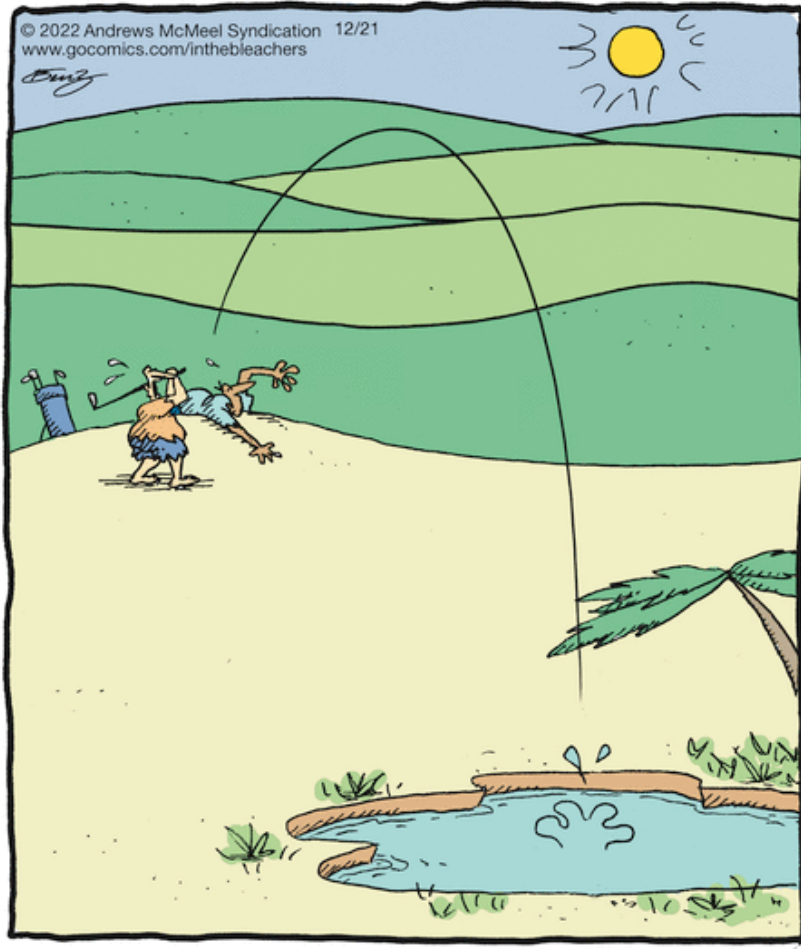
All materials should be sent via e-mail to:

[tgnome1@gmail.com](mailto:tgnome1@gmail.com)

Bob Hodges

MISGAGRAM Editor

## The Lighter Side



**"Dang it! That better be a mirage."**

### A Bit of Japery

Way down on Page 8, there's a tongue-in-cheek bit about our outgoing Treasurer. Your goal is to determine/guess who the author was.

*Clue: Not your editor*

## **President's Message, *continued***

Gary truly reorganized the MISGA finances in incredible fashion (I am told). Not only that, he continues to work feverishly to assure a smooth transition to our new Treasurer George Blair from Crofton. It takes a team and I feel we have a good one.

The challenge for MISGA continues to be retaining members and trying to recruit new ones. We all can do our part in that by relaying the good times we've had, the friends we've made and talking it up to prospective members. Besides those benefits, less time home can keep one out of trouble with the Mrs.!

Another issue for MISGA is the pricing. We can not do much about what things cost and the rising price of our mixers; but, we can do things to add value to the mixers. Last year at Prospect we varied menus, used different formats, added individual awards, used live scoring, etc. to add value. I encourage club reps to similarly be creative for your events and give 'em the best bang for the buck you can. That will keep them coming back and more likely to spread the word; in turn helping MISGA to grow.

Pace of play is the final area we need to continue to make inroads. No one (especially me) likes slow golf. Positive attitudes and encouragement to keep it moving by the host club member in each foursome go a long way to timely rounds. I've forwarded a sheet of simple tips to help maintain pace of play that hopefully can be included in this or next MISGAGram. Hey, this is a good time to give a shout out to our talented(?) scribe Bob Hodges who puts this publication out.

With all those MISGA challenges solved we can now look forward to an outstanding upcoming 2023 MISGA season. Reps have been very busy putting together home and away schedules. Rumor has it that several have over 50 options on their schedules. So, let's get ready to.....Golf

Well guys, Grandma always told me: say your piece, keep it short, make it count and then shut up ! I think I've reached that point. So stay well, play well and Happy Holidays, or New Year depending on when this actually publishes.

Humor corner: If you drink, don't drive . Don't even putt – Dean Martin

Tom Ciandella, MISGA President

## THE TORCH HAS BEEN PASSED



At the MISGA Board of Directors Meeting held at Crofton Country Club on Wednesday, December 7, 2022, outgoing MISGA President Chuck Woods (2022) presented "the gavel" to incoming MISGA President Tom Ciandella (2023).

Woods is a member of Crofton CC and has been a member of MISGA since 2005. Many kudos and accolades must go to Chuck for the extraordinary and highly effective job he has performed as this year's MISGA President. In addition, he has served as MISGA Vice President, Division VI Director, Deputy Director and MISGA Club Representative. Also, Chuck is the President of the Crofton Seniors organization and is the Seniors Rep on the Crofton Board of Governors.

Ciandella is a member of Prospect Bay CC and has been a member of MISGA since 2008. During his tenure, he has served as MISGA Vice President, Division I Director and Deputy Director, and Division I Treasurer. He is a member of the MISGA Course Rating Team and is the MISGA Club Representative for Prospect Bay.

## Tidbits of MISGA History

### MISGA LEADERSHIP

Over the 46 years of MISGA's existence, many of its associates have volunteered to perform the duties and responsibilities it's leadership team. In 1976, MISGA's first year, there were a total of 5 board members: President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and 2 "committee" members.

Today, there are a total of 24 associates on the MISGA leadership team: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, 8 Division & Assistant Directors and 12 non-voting committee chairs.

For a complete list of all who have served on MISGA's board of directors (1976-2022), paste this link:

[http://misga.org/Organizational/Board\\_Member\\_History.pdf](http://misga.org/Organizational/Board_Member_History.pdf)

Stim

Lloyd Stimson

MISGA History Chair





## 2022 GREEN JACKET RECIPIENTS

Established in December 1999, the Sam Hasting's Green Jacket is awarded to MISGA volunteers who have provided many years of outstanding service (beyond the call of duty) and contributed much time and effort for the furtherance and enhancement of the MISGA organization. Dr. Tom Tarpley, of Holly Hills CC, is Chairman of the Committee (PP Ad Hoc) that is responsible for the selection of recipients and the awarding of the Green Jacket. Prior to this year's ceremony, 19 Green Jackets have been awarded to deserving MISGA associates.

At the Division IV Holiday Luncheon held at Montgomery Country Club on Tuesday, December 6, 2022, two of MISGA's finest gentlemen were awarded a Green Jacket - Greg Morris of National GC at Tantallon and Wayne Rowland of Montgomery CC.

**Greg Morris** became a member of National Golf Club at Tantallon in 2010. He was immediately "hoodwinked" by two old-time MISGA associates into taking on the MISGA Club Representative job. Hence, it was OJT for him. In 2015, Greg became the Assistant Director for Division VI. Then, in 2017, he assumed the Division Director's position and became the MISGA Vice President. In 2018, he became the MISGA President. The next year, in 2019, Greg took over as the MISGA Tournament Chairman and is currently performing that role. In 2022, because no one would take the job, he volunteered to accept the Division VI Assistant Director position again. Greg will become the Division VI Director again in 2023.

**Wayne Rowland** became a member of Montgomery Country Club in 2010 and, in 2011, became the club's MISGA Assistant Club Representative. In 2012, he became the MISGA Club Rep and has continued to serve in that role. In 2017, Wayne became the Assistant Director for Division IV, then assumed the Division IV Director's position in 2018. Also, in 2018, Wayne volunteered for and continues to serve as MISGA's Rules & Handicap Chairman. In 2020, Wayne became MISGA's Vice President and, in 2021, he became the MISGA President. Since 2020, with the advent of WHS, he has managed the GHIN handicap system for MISGA and assisted clubs in using the Golf Genius and the mobile scoring systems.



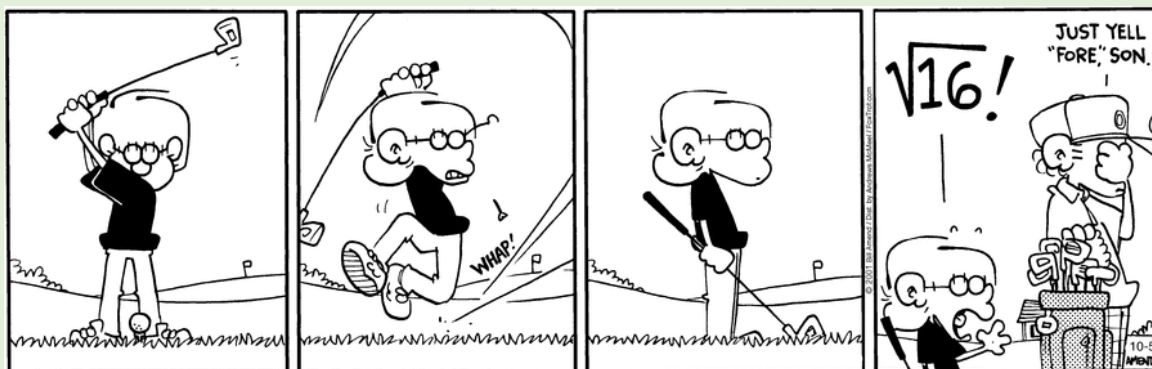
Dr. Tom Tarpley, Audrey Morris,  
Greg Morris



Carolyn Rowland, Wayne Rowland,  
Dr. Tom Tarpley



Other awardees in attendance (L-R) - Jim Wilcox (2018 - of Manor CC) , Lloyd Stimson (2014 - of National GC Tantallon), awardee Wayne Rowland, Dr. Tom Tarpley (2007 - of Holly Hills CC), Pete Sorge (2008 - of National GC Tantallon) & awardee Greg Morris.





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

### *Winter Fling 2023*

*February 26 to March 4, 2023 at The Plantation on Crystal River, which is in Florida. Check out the details on the MISGA website. Or... contact Jack Sullivan at [JohnLSul@msn.com](mailto:JohnLSul@msn.com)*

### *Spring Fling 2023*

*TBD*

### *Summer Frolic 2023*

*TBD*

### *Fall Frolic 2023*

*TBD*

## Ode to Greg Morris

Once upon an evening dark, while whacking balls of golf about the course - I drove



my cart from the green at 10 to the tee box at 11. I crossed the street and made a turn to the right - heading down the path toward the proper striking spot. However, with no light, I was unable to see.



Then I felt a bump, bump, bump and into the pond I did fall - cart, clubs and all. "Tis some mishap," I muttered, "but I shall complete the round. Only this and nothing more." (with apologies to Eddie Poe)



## Rules Changes for 2023

It was a good year for Rules & Handicap issues. Nothing major just the usual where does net double bogey apply; course handicap or playing handicap.

The USGA and The R&A have unveiled a regular update to the Rules of Golf as they continue to make the Rules easier to understand and apply. The new Rules will go into effect on January 1, 2023.

The 2023 edition continues the modernization process, with an emphasis on both inclusion and sustainability. For the first time, the modified Rules for players with disabilities have been fully incorporated into the playing rules without the need to adopt a local rule.

Several penalties have been relaxed and language has been clarified to help golfers at all levels of play.

Key changes include:

- **Modifications for Players with Disabilities:** The modifications to the Rules for players with disabilities have been made part of the Rules and are in effect for all players who are classified in the categories covered in Rule 25.
- **Handicap Usage in Stroke Play:** With the continued growth of score-posting technology following the adoption of the World Handicap System™, players are no longer penalized for failing to put their handicap on their scorecard in stroke play. The committee will be responsible for ensuring the accuracy of each player's handicap.
- **Club Damaged During Round:** The Rule has been amended to allow a player to replace a club that is damaged during a round, provided the player did not damage it through abuse.
- **Ball Moved by Natural Forces:** A new exception provides that a ball at rest must be replaced if it moves to another area of the course or comes to rest out of bounds after being dropped, placed or replaced.
- **Back-on-the-Line Relief Procedure:** The back-on-the-line relief procedure, often used for penalty area and unplayable ball relief, has been simplified so that the player now drops their ball on the line, and the ball must come to rest within one club-length of where it is dropped.

Golfers will be able to learn more about the major changes and review the official 2023 Rules of Golf by visiting [www.usga.org/2023Rules](http://www.usga.org/2023Rules) and [RandA.org](http://RandA.org). Full updates to the official Rules of Golf digital applications will be available starting on January 1.

*Wayne Rowland*, Rules and Handicap Chair