



# MISGAGRAM

Volume 154 – March 2023

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

## President's Message



Although Shakespeare started us on the track postulating “the swiftest hours as they flew” it was Einstein who coined the popular phrase “time flies when you are having fun”. Well fellow MISGAns, I must be having a blast as I’m already past a quarter way through my term and only two more articles to write ! It’s hard work trying not to piss anyone off (am I allowed to say that? well guess I did) but the point is things need to get done. I’m glad to report

we are moving along in the world of MISGA fairly easily because I have great support from our Officers and Directors. Kudos to them.

By the time you read this we will have had the Board & Annual Reps Meeting and solved all the problems. I think ? I hope ! Let me thank those who came and participated; and ate and golfed. Where I’m going is , problems get solved because people get involved in leadership capacities. Leadership positions are often a challenge to fill but rewarding when one does step up. You not only help MISGA function, but you learn, make new friends and strengthen old bonds. Now is where I make my pitch (as a Jersey Italian usually we just twist arms til we hear “yes”) to not only enjoy MISGA through the work of others but to strongly think (and hopefully act) about stepping from member to rep or from rep to Division Director or Officer when a need arises. PLEASE ! See I can do nice too.

*(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)

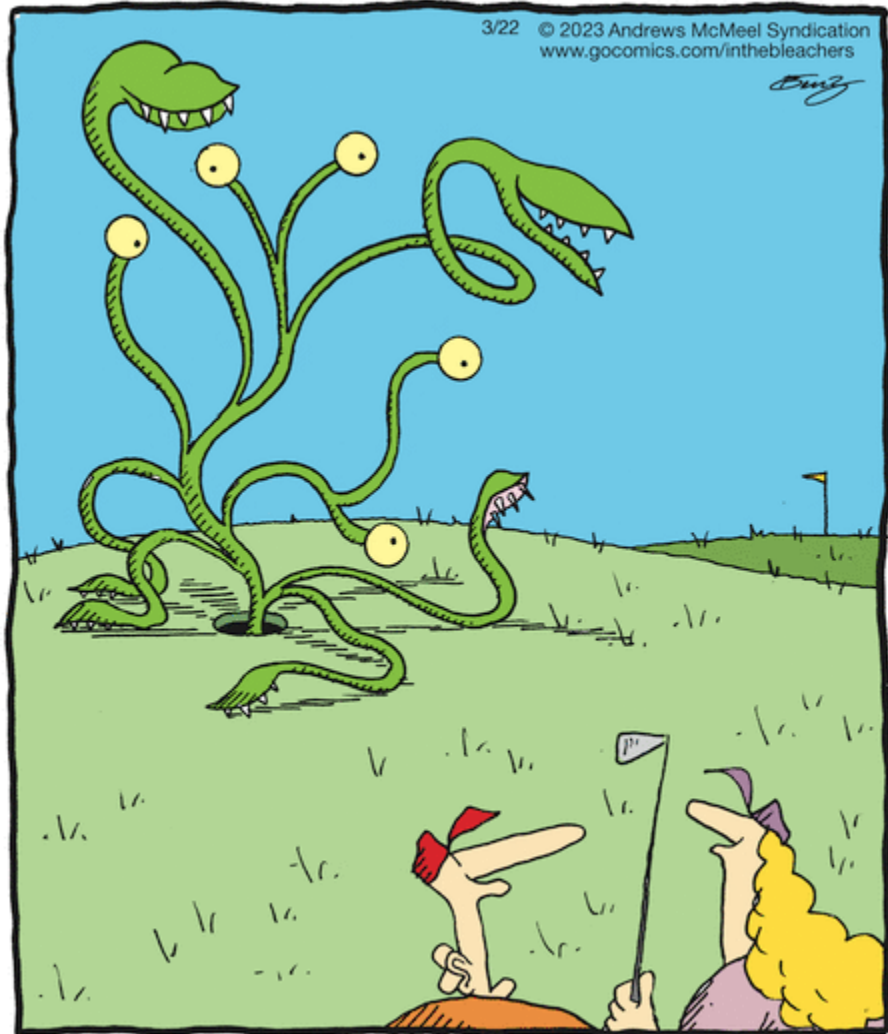
All materials should be sent via e-mail to:

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

Bob Hodges

MISGAGRAM Editor

## The Lighter Side



**"Let's skip this hole."**

*Starting with this issue, we're going to include clickable links for those who receive the M-GRAM electronically. To follow those links you need to CTRL-Click. Slightly awkward but... blame Microsoft.*

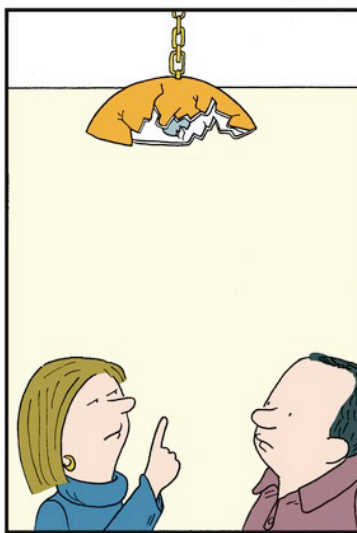
## President's Message, *continued*

We had a glaring need this year for a Division Director as a great man stepped aside after doing it multiple years while not even playing golf. Thanks Jeff Hild. Now that's the kind of special person I hope at least some of us will emulate. Anyway, the need has been filled for this year as Jake Jacobi has stepped up despite already holding TWO committee positions. Thanks Jake. The takeaway is we will need someone next year for that spot. Be the MAN !

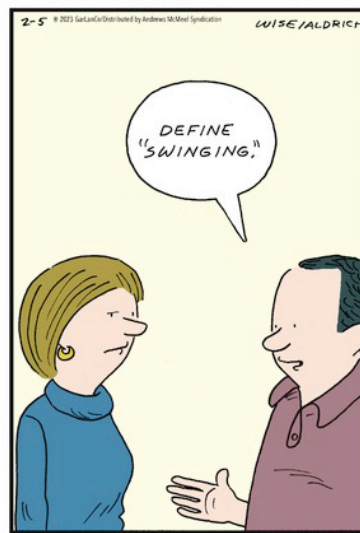
In conclusion, I hope Mother Nature treats us well as there is certainly an active mixer schedule out there to participate in and our two annual tournaments. For convenience, after much "discussion", a Master Schedule is posted on the Website with the CAVEAT – do NOT call the hosting pro shop if you have interest in a mixer your club is not scheduled for ! In such case you MUST go through your own rep. Should this become an issue, the violator will lose this privilege and also jeopardize it staying on the website for others. So go play well, stay well and have fun, maybe even a beer after with friends. As Dean Martin said "If you drink don't drive. Don't even putt" ! Good luck.

Tom Ciandella, MISGA President

### REAL LIFE ADVENTURES



### BY GARY WISE & LANCE ALDRICH





## 2023 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, 21 *Green Jackets* have been awarded to deserving MISGA associates (*refer to page 2*). At the combined Board of Directors Meeting and Annual Club Representatives Meeting held at Prospect Bay Country Club on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, two of MISGA's illustrious gentlemen were awarded a *Green Jacket* - **Robert "Bob" Hodges** of Wild Quail CC and **Charles "Chuck" Woods** of Crofton CC.

**Robert "Bob" Hodges** became a member of Wild Quail Country Club in 1990. In 2013, he became the Club Representative and continued in that position through 2022. Since 2015, he has been the Editor of the quarterly MISGAGRAM (*MISGA's newsletter to its members*). He continues in that position. During 2018 & 2019, Bob served as the Assistant Division Director for Division I. Then he served as Division Director for Division I - 2020 & 2021. He also served as the Division I Tournament Chairman in 2016 & 2017. In addition, Bob served as Tournament Coordinator for 3 MISGA Championship Tournaments at Wild Quail CC - 2014, 2016 & 2017.



**Charles "Chuck" Woods** became a member of Crofton Country Club in 1985. He became Crofton's Assistant Club Representative in 2008 and assumed the Club Representative position in 2010 at which he continues to serve. In 2016, Chuck served as the Assistant Division Director for Division VI. Then, he became the Division Director in 2018. He served as MISGA Vice President in 2021 and became the MISGA President in 2022. In 2018, Chuck became the catalyst that permitted women to join and participate in Crofton Senior Membership Golf Association (CSMGA) golfing activities. In addition, Chuck assisted MISGA clubs in setting up and using the TMR sign-up system and Golf Genius.







Awardee Chuck Woods, Dr. Tom Tarpley (*Chairman PP AD HOC*), Awardee Bob Hodges.

### Green Jacket Awardees

2000 - Sam Hastings (Argyle)	2016 - John Babyak (Montgomery)
2005 - Charlie Fieldhouse (Piney Branch)	2018 - Jim Wilcox (Hobbit's Glen)
2005 - C. J. Myers (Manor)	2019 - Gary Manion (Norbeck)
2007 - Dr. Tom Tarpley (Holly Hills)	2019 - Tom Rowlett (Musket Ridge)
2008 - Pete Sorge (Tantallon)	2021 - Jake Jacobi (Norbeck)
2009 - Ken Wallgren (Hobbit's Glen)	2021 - Jeff Hild (Musket Ridge)
2010 - Byron Keadle (Patuxent Greens)	2022 - Wayne Rowland (Montgomery)
2012 - Tom Taylor (Quail Valley)	2022 - Greg Morris (National at Tantallon)
2012 - Ralph Starkey (Caroline)	
2013 - Dick Dale (Hooper's Landing)	
2014 - Lloyd Stimson (Tantallon)	
2014 - Howard Taylor (Maple Dale)	
2015 - Errol Myers (Norbeck)	

# Pace of Play Tips

## 1. MISGA Pre-Announcements

- a. Pace of Play is 4:30 minutes
- b. Keep up with the group in front of you
- c. Replace large divots and use sand to fill fairway divots
- d. Repair ball marks on the green
- e. Utilize the USGA “Out of Bounds” or “Lost Ball” play
  - i. Estimate the spot where your ball went out of bounds or is lost
  - ii. Find the nearest fairway edge that is not nearer the hole
  - iii. Drop the ball in the fairway within 2 club lengths of that edge
  - iv. Take a 2-stroke penalty

## 2. Senior Golf Play

- a. Play “Ready Golf”
  - i. If your cart mate is preparing to hit, and your ball is close by, take your club(s), go to your ball, and prepare to hit as soon as your cart mate has played. Your cart mate can come pick you up.
  - ii. Take multiple clubs if you are walking to your ball
  - iii. If you are ready to hit, and the person with “honors” is not, go ahead and hit. There’s no reason to wait
- b. Posting Score
  - i. When finished with a hole, get in your cart, drive to the next hole, and post the score on the scorecard then. Do NOT wait by the green you just finished and write in the scores. Do it at the next Tee box.
- c. Plan your shot before you get to your ball. ESPECIALLY when putting. Line up your ball while others are planning their putt.
- d. Keep your pre-shot routine short, try for a maximum of 2 practice swings.
- e. Aim to play in 20 seconds from when you arrive at your ball for your shot
- f. If you putt without a golf glove, take it off as you walk from the cart to the green. Do NOT wait until it is your turn to putt, and then take it off.
- g. If possible, watch everyone else’s shot – especially where it landed. Especially if it is an errant shot, into the trees, or into taller grasses. This reduces the time to look for a lost ball
- h. The USGA rule is 3 minutes to look for a lost ball.
- i. If there is a group behind you, do not re-putt if you miss the first one.

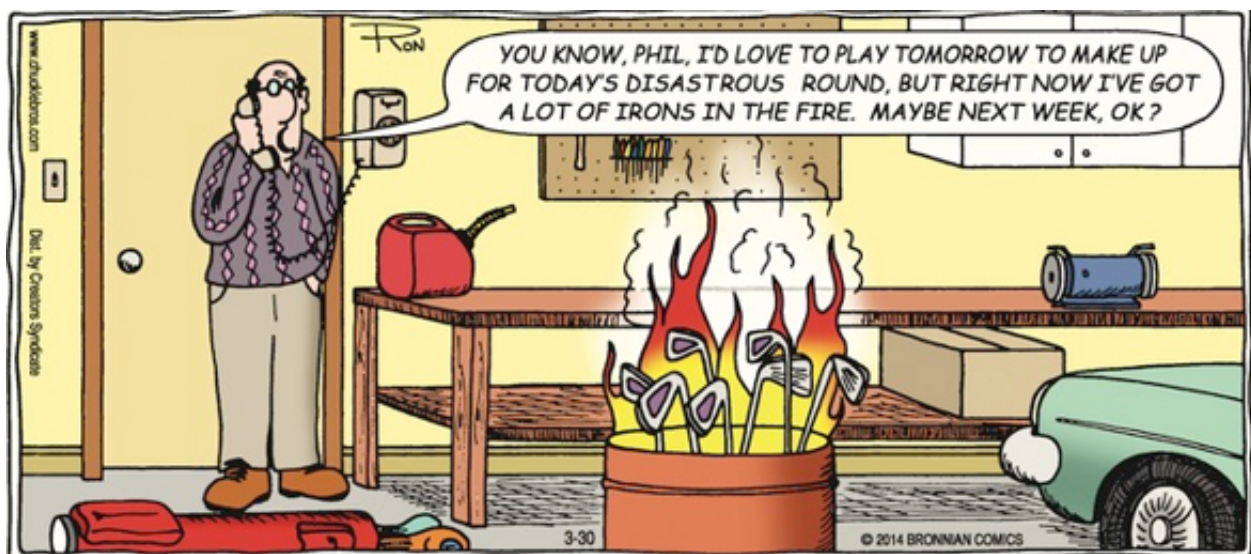


## 2023 - MISGA CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

Championship	Host Club	Date	Rain Date	* Entry Fee
Past Presidents (ABCD)	Crofton CC (Div. VI) Crofton, MD	Monday July 31, 2023	TBD	\$110 pp
2-Player Team	Holly Hills CC (Div. II) Ijamsville, MD	Monday August 21, 2023	Monday August 28, 2023	\$110 pp

\* The Entry Fee includes the prize pool, a buffet breakfast (eggs, bacon, etc.), range balls, cart fee, post-golf cash bar cocktail hour (w/light hors d'oeuvres) and a buffet dinner.

Note: From the east side of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge, Crofton CC is 26 miles - Holly Hills CC is 68 miles.



## Tidbits of MISGA History

### MISGA PRESIDENTS

Since its beginning in 1976, MISGA has had a total of 41 associates serve as President of the organization. Three associates served more than one year: Al Hagen (*Lakewood*) - 1976-80; Herb Hudson (*Indian Spring*) - 1983-84 and Ralph Starkey (*Caroline*) - 2007 & 2012.

For a complete list of all who have served as a MISGA President, open this link:

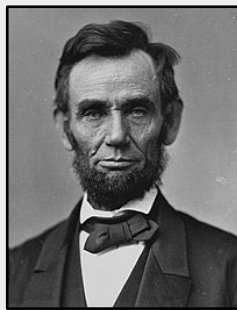
[http://www.misga.org/Organizational/Past\\_Presidents.pdf](http://www.misga.org/Organizational/Past_Presidents.pdf)

*Stim*

Lloyd Stimson  
MISGA History Chair



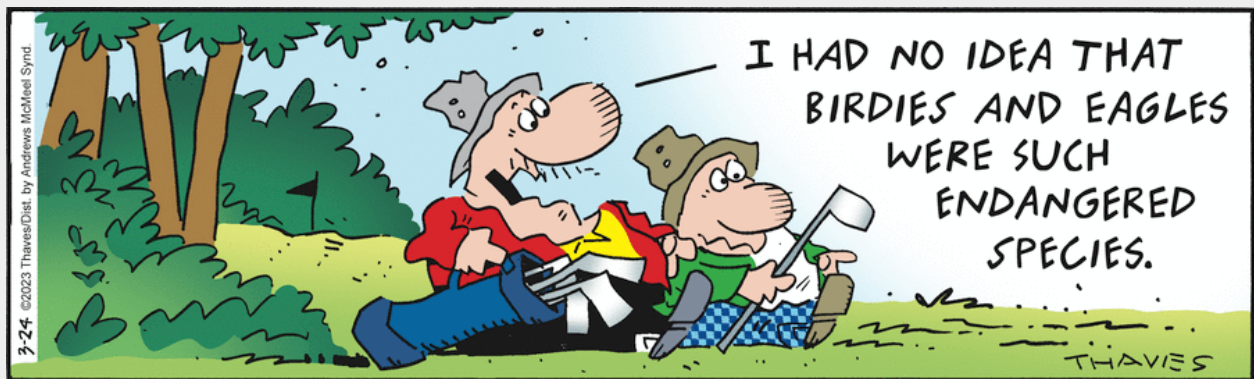
George



Abe



Tom





## Winter Fling

The MISGA Winter Fling for 2023 is in the books. The event ran from February 26 to March 4 under mostly sunny skies and temps 70s to 82. We did have to brave a couple of windy days but nothing our players couldn't handle as the overall scoring was on average several strokes better than 2022. Every golfer and 3 non golfers were in the money, sharing \$960 in prizes.

We started the festivities off with our opening reception on Sunday evening where the heavy appetizers almost lasted the hour and our bartender stayed busy dispensing from an Open Bar. We discussed the four days of golf and all the formats and gave out name tags, handicap data sheets, tee sheets, guest list and a sleeve of Noodle golf balls marked with our MISGA Crystal River Logo and hand marked with players initials. One of these Noodles would be used in the opening Cluster Putt competition that was won by Richard Mulford on Tuesday as no one made the putt on Monday.

Monday's game "MISGA Mixer" won by Greg Morris, Dick Dale, Christa Storm and Jack Sullivan. CTP Christa, 2<sup>nd</sup> CTP Sid Hochstein.

Tuesday's game was Handicap matchup A's vs A's, B's vs B's, etc. Used Modified Stableford format. A group Sid, Helen Mulford and Tom Starbuck. B group Tom Starbuck, Bob Fitzgerald and Wayne Rowland. C Group Chester Taylor, Christa and Patrick McAllorum. D group Mike Roblyer, Mark Rayford and Sandra Hochstein. CTP Wayne and 2<sup>nd</sup> CTP Richard Michaud.

Thursday (we don't play Wednesday-we need some rest) the format was 1 from A/D and 1 from B/C. At dinner we Blind drew the B/C teams to add to the A/D duo for a total team score and low and behold the best A/D team was paired with the best B/C for a huge 19 under par. Winners Sid, Kathy Fitzgerald, Chester and Christa. CTP Mark and 2<sup>nd</sup> CTP Patrick.

Friday. The only day roommates play together. winners Sid and Sandra Hochstein with Hobie Swartwood and Cliff Valliant. CTP Wayne and 2<sup>nd</sup> CTP Chester.

Also, on Friday night we crowned **Dick Dale, MR Crystal River and Sandra Hochstein, MZ Crystal River.**(pictured here) They had the best 2-day combined net scores.



Saturday, after breakfast, everyone went on to their next stop or back home. One note, nobody had to utilize the Chip and Putt format I have available for those who want to participate but can't do the big swings. We had two that almost had to use this but managed to overcome a wrist and the other a stiff back. I'll keep it available in future flings.

If interested in joining next year's Winter Fling set aside February 25 to March

2, 2024, if not on my email list, send me an email to get info direct. Soon to be on misga.org.

This year we had 28 attendees, 22 golfers and 6 non golfers. If we get to 40 our prize money goes way up.

Players were from the following clubs: National at Tantallon, Bay Hills, Northwest, Compass Pointe, Turf Valley, Ocean City GC, Norbeck, Leisure World, Musket Ridge, TPC Potomac, Montgomery, Hoopers Landing and my friends from Man O' War Myrtle Beach.

Some pictures taken by an expert, Greg Morris, are viewable on this link <https://www.flickr.com/photos/137399004@N02/albums/72177720306478397>

Jack Sullivan, Coordinator Winter Fling at Crystal River FL



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

*Spring Fling 2023, TBD*

*Summer Frolic 2023, TBD*

*Fall Frolic 2023, TBD*

## 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