



# MISGAGRAM

Volume 162– March 2025

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

## President's Message



So many of our former MISGA Presidents often used a quote, typically from someone well known, to start their MISGAGRAM message. So let me continue this established practice for the Spring '25 edition with a quote from a fellow countryman of mine, Sir Winston Churchill: "Golf is a game whose aim is to hit a very small ball into an even smaller hole, with weapons singularly ill-designed for the purpose."

Although this reminds us not to take ourselves too seriously due to the inherent difficulty of golf, I must point out the flaw which many may have already noted: if the quote was entirely accurate, we'd all still be playing our very first hole of golf, as the ball would not drop (after all, small into smaller won't go), assuming we all putt out!

While on the topic of getting things wrong, I must point out one error in the December MISGAGRAM, Hooper's Landing will continue as a MISGA club in 2025 after receiving an accommodation from the Division to remain in MISGA but not host any home mixers. We are pleased to keep you.

With Spring upon us, the snow melted, the sun shining and consistently warmer weather we can look forward to yet another successful year for MISGA and a fantastic golf season ahead. As Bob Feller, the legendary Cleveland Indians' baseball pitcher from 1936 to 1956 once said, "Every day is a new opportunity. You can build on yesterday's success or put its failures behind and start over again." All that golf in Florida, on the simulator, or even on the range during the winter months will surely help us build on our games.

The MISGA Board of Directors and All Reps meeting, scheduled for March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at Prospect Bay, is just around the corner as I write this message. By the time that you read this MISGAGRAM, the meeting will have taken place, so be sure to sign up and mark your calendars for the Mixers, Championships, Fall Frolic and Spring Fling that offer you the chance to showcase your skills and win great prizes!

*Continued on p 3*

Maryland  
Interclub  
Seniors Golf  
Association  
**President**  
Paul Bate  
**Vice President**  
Greg Morris  
**Secretary**  
Chuck Woods  
**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:

<https://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 usual closing dates for publication are:

**10 March** (March)

**10 June** (June)

**20 Sept.** (September)

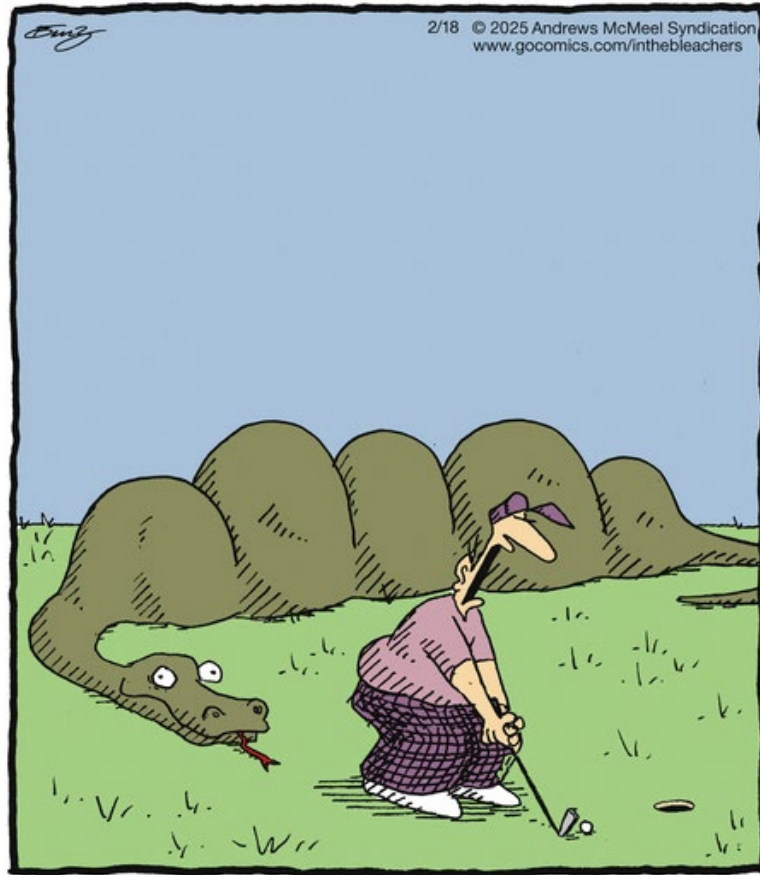
**20 Dec.** (December)

All materials should be sent via e-mail to:

[jjacobi4@verizon.net](mailto:jjacobi4@verizon.net)

Jake Jacobi  
MISGAGRAM Editor

## The Lighter Side



**“Whoever's making that hissing sound, cut it out.”**

## Volunteers Needed

MISGA is an incredible organization. It currently has approximately 100 volunteers who donate their time and efforts in support of seniors who enjoy the game of golf. Many of those volunteers wear more than one hat. However, occasionally MISGA needs someone to fill a vacant position. Currently, the following positions need to be filled:

- Chairperson for the Policy and Planning Committee – Contact Paul Bate at [bategp@gmail.com](mailto:bategp@gmail.com).
- MISGA Historian - Contact Paul Bate at [bategp@gmail.com](mailto:bategp@gmail.com).
- Flings and Frolics Coordinator – Contact Jack Sullivan at [johnsul@msn.com](mailto:johnsul@msn.com).

I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to the MISGA Leadership team, club representatives, and assistant representatives. Without their hard work and dedication, MISGA would not thrive or possibly even survive. Thank you to our officers for the time and effort they invest in our organization. I encourage everyone to show support by responding promptly to their requests and, even better, by volunteering to fill positions as they become available at the club, division, or state level. Indeed, we are currently seeking a Chair for the Policy & Planning Committee and someone to perform as the MISGA Historian.

Additionally, I would like us all to extend appreciation to your respective club's management and staff, including the club pros, grounds crews, food and beverage teams, pro shop staff, and cart preparation teams. Their efforts in hosting MISGA events and preparing our courses for play are invaluable. Simple gestures of thanks can go a long way in fostering their continued support for our MISGA clubs.

As always, I encourage you to play the role of ambassador in expanding the reach of MISGA and to bring in new Associates. I look forward to a busy and fulfilling year with MISGA and wish you all the best both on and off the course. If you have any comments or suggestions regarding MISGA, please feel free to reach out to me.

Now go out and "Tee 'em high and let 'em fly," a phrase commonly attributed to Lee Trevino!

*Paul Bate*

*MISGA President 2025 - 2026*

## **Pace of Play**

The Fall 1983 issue of the MISGAGRAM has an article entitled "*LET'S GO TO WAR AGAINST SLOW PLAY - A SELF-EXAMINATION.*" Pace of play has been an important topic for MISGA for at least 42 years and while there have been some improvements we still need to work on it. Players don't like 5-hour rounds and neither do the clubs who host MISGA events. This is a serious business.

The 2025 golf season is here, and it is about time to once again think about pace of play. There is some excellent material on the MISGA website which addresses this topic. If you would like a quick reference take a look at [USGA Tips and Suggestions for Improving Pace of Play](#). It's only about 2 ½ pages long.

Another very good source of guidance is in the [R&A Pace of Play Manual](#). This is a comprehensive document that addresses management practices, course set-up and player behavior.

Finally, there are tons of pace of play videos for those who prefer to learn that way. Check this out: [USGA Understanding Pace of Play Video Series](#)

## The Green Jacket Award

For those of you who are not familiar with it, the Green Jacket Award is awarded by MISGA for outstanding service to MISGA. It was first awarded to Sam Hastings on April 10, 2000. This year, on March 25 at the MISGA Board Meeting the Green Jacket was awarded to Jack Sullivan of National Golf Club. Jack has contributed many years of service organizing and running the MISGA Frolics and Flings and is currently serving as the MISGA Auditor and the Club Rep at National Golf Club.



Left to right are Pete Sorge (National Golf Club), Tom Tarpley (Holly Hills Country Club), Jack Sullivan (National Golf Club), Chuck Woods (Crofton Country Club), Jake Jacobi (Musket Ridge Golf Club), and Greg Morris (National Golf Club).



## **Sharing Responsibilities at Rattlewood by T Watts**

Unfortunately, over the past multiple years we have had clubs drop out of MISGA because they haven't found anyone to take on the responsibility of being the club rep. At Rattlewood we have implemented a system to share the responsibilities between a committee of members. In addition to keeping our club viable when Doug Walters stepped down, this scheme has the added benefit that if we lose a committee member in the future, the task of finding a replacement is not as daunting, as the responsibility is not as great.

We have always had some sharing of responsibilities with Don Hoffmeyer as our treasurer, Bob Brewer handling closest to the pin, Rich and Carol Boardman handling the 50/50 and Jim Ballor managing the Rattlewood sign-up webpage. Warren McKinney coordinates match play for Rattlewood. We have been blessed also to have the Rattlewood GM/pro handle the pairings and scoring. But Doug performed all the other responsibilities.

After many years as the club rep, Doug stepped down a couple years ago. T Watts is the current club rep but did not take over all that Doug did. T sets up the season schedule and handles general communications and dealings with MISGA, Rattlewood members and prospective members. Pat Conroy compiles and distributes the rosters of Rattlewood players at mixers we are visiting, in addition to providing backup for Jim on the schedule webpage. John Seto provides summaries of our home mixers and generates the end of year reports. Tim Brewer coordinates merchandise purchases and distribution and also summarizing our budget and auditing our books. Don H also picked up the responsibility for the home mixer announcements and awarding of prizes (we needed someone who was there almost all the time, even when he wasn't playing – thank you Don!).

For all of you overworked reps out there, I recommend parsing out some of your responsibilities. Perhaps even some of the clubs that dropped due to loss of a rep could adopt this model and come back into the fold. It will make life better for all in the long run.

## Frolics 'n Flings

### The 2024 Fall Frolic Report

A small but merry group attended, ate, drank and even played some golf at the Virginia Beach Fall Frolic this past October 6 to 12, 2024. Our host hotel was the Oceanfront Courtyard by Marriot and each room had balcony overlooking the ocean. Our MISGA format included a Sunday night reception with light fare and a cash bar for an hour plus, four buffet dinners with a varied menu on golf days, and we did play golf at four different courses. Monday was Heron Ridge, Tuesday was Virginia Beach National, Thursday was Honey Bee and Friday was Stumpy Lake. All were about 20 minutes from the hotel. The weather cooperated with no rain but a little windy on two days. Notice we don't play on Wednesday. We as a group prefer to have that day as a rest day. However, a few hearty golfers did play Cypress Point for a 5-day golf outing.

Competition results all with cash payouts were:

Heron Ridge was a standard 2 best-ball nets with an ABCD lineup. First place to team Ed Kelly, Wayne Rowland, Christa Storm, and Tom Tarpley at 145, Second place team Helen Mulford, Charlie Roderick, Steve Irish, and Tom Tarpley (blind) at 149.

Third place money went to Bill Buffington, Mike Roblyer, Hobie Swartwood, and Sandra Hochstein at 150. Additional payouts went to Ed Kelly's low gross 75, Steve Irish's low men's net at 77 and Helen Mulford low women's net at 75. Our Closest to the pin (CTP) Helen (again) with 2<sup>nd</sup> CTP Sandra Hochstein.

Tuesday at Virginia Beach National playing a Stableford format: first place team was Bill Buffington, Don Seyfferth, Sperry Storm, and Kip Seyfferth (blind) 125, Second place to Ed Kelly, Steve Irish, Jack Sullivan, and Carol Boardman at 122, Third place to Greg Morris, Mike Roblyer, Christa Storm, and Sperry Storm (blind) at 117.

Low gross was Bill Buffington's 79, low men's net to Sperry Storm at 72, and low women's net to Carol Boardman 73.

CTP Rich Boardman and 2<sup>nd</sup> CTP Kip Seyfferth.

Day 3 golf at Honey Bee: first place to John Weiss, Chester Taylor, Hobie Swartwood, and Carol Boardman (blind) at 129. Second place to Jim Dong, Helen Mulford, Carol Boardman, and Michael Mulford (blind) 132. Third to Michael Mulford, Mike Roblyer, Tom Tarpley, and Christa Storm at 133.

Low gross to John Weiss at 68, low men's net to Ken Lee 69 and low women's net to Christa Storm at 71. CTP won by Ed Kelly and 2<sup>nd</sup> CTP Don Seyfferth.

Friday at Stumpy Lake GC: Playing a shamle: First place to Sid and Sandra Hochstein, Rich and Carol Boardman at 117, Second place to Ed Kelly and Martha Arthur, Hobie Swartwood and Christa Storm (blind) at 120, Third place to John Weiss, Charlie Roderick, and Sperry and Christa Storm also at 120. Tie was broken by a putt-off at dinner won by the Kelly team. Low gross by Michael Mulford with 72, low men's net by Tom Tarpley's 65, and low women's net by Christa Storm's 61!! CTP Helen Mulford and 2<sup>nd</sup> CTP Charlie Roderick.



ONE MORE THING: Ed Kelly was awarded the crown of MR VIRGINIA BEACH 2024 with a combined 4 round total of -1 net and Christa Storm was crowned MZ VIRGINIA BEACH with a combined 4 round +5 net.

All in all, we had 33 in attendance with 26 golfers from Bay Hills, Compass Pointe, Hobbit's Glen, Hampshire Greens, Holly Hills, Leisure World, Montgomery, Northwest, Ocean Pines, Rattlewood, Musket Ridge and Tantallon (National).

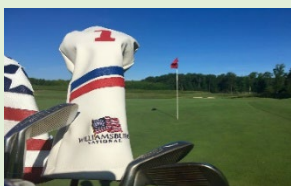
Only one major injury came at the expense of Wayne Rowland who tore a muscle in his hip on day one and could hardly finish the round, but he did on his first-place team. On Tuesday he left for home and a repair job. Last report he is healing and will be ready for next year's Fall Frolic.

Speaking of which, the Winter Fling at Crystal River 2025 has been cancelled by the resort for hurricane damage so severe they won't reopen until April/May of '25. We hope they will be receptive for February of 2026.

NEXT UP: The Fall Frolic will drive over to Williamsburg, Virginia for October 5 to 11, 2025. We will be staying at the Embassy Suites and playing golf at 4 fine courses (Williamsburg National, Kiskiack, Colonial Heritage and Ford's Colony). All the info will be posted online at <https://www.misga.org/events.htm> as soon as the final contracts are ratified. The total package prices are going to be very reasonable. Looking forward to doing our thing in Williamsburg. The total package prices are going to be very reasonable. Interested? Get on my Fall Frolic interest list for direct and timely emails. ([johnsul@msn.com](mailto:johnsul@msn.com))

**The 2025 Fall Frolic**  
**Sunday October 5 to Saturday October 11, 2025**  
**Williamsburg, Virginia at the Embassy Suites**

- 6 Night's Hotel Room Accommodations (Sunday thru Friday night)
- 6 Full Hot Buffet Breakfasts with eggs to order
- A Sunday Reception with Hors d'oeuvres- 2 drink coupons pp included
- 4 Group Buffet Dinners in Private Room w-drink coupons (on golf days)
- 4 Rounds of Golf at Williamsburg National, Kiskiack, Colonial Heritage, and Ford's Colony (Mon, Tues, Thurs & Friday), Reserved Tee Times.



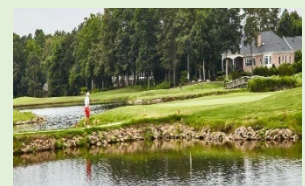
**Williamsburg National**



**Kiskiack**



**Colonial Heritage**



**Ford's Colony**

The package includes King or Double Suite rooms, breakfast, 4 dinners, 2 drinks every day, fees, and taxes. Commuters get golf, dinners, and reception. No drinks, cash bar. The entry form can be downloaded from the MISGA website by clicking on: [Fall Frolic 2025 Entry Form](#). The entry deadline is August 31, 2025.

Some interesting games are being planned, and winners can make some moola as well as the recognition. What we're going to have is fun. All will be revealed at the Welcome Reception on Sunday evening.

Open to MISGA members, prior MISGA members, prior attendees, want-to-be MISGA members and friends. We'll mix you up for golf and dinner. Roommates stay together for dinner and final golf day.

NEW for this venue: There is a 56-person limit to include golfers and non-golfers. Our rates are based on 20 room/40 person minimums.

### **PROPOSED COMPETITION for Williamsburg 2025**

It's a work in progress. We will try and make teams with balanced handicap indexes and try to get as many combinations as possible over 4 golf days. Hopefully, the weather cooperates, and we keep Wednesday as an off day for rest/recuperation. For the hearty, the off-day golfers might want to try the Golden Horseshoe Gold course for about \$150.

If we manage to get a shotgun start at any of our chosen courses, we will do a ClusterPutt to start the round. Consideration is being given to the Chip-off competition used last at the Winter Fling. This is a part of the work in progress that might come down to the Sunday night reception decision with input from players. With all competitions there will be nominal cash prizes for outstanding performances. Awards will be at dinner and if there are scorecard ties, they will be decided by a putt-off at dinner. Always a crowd pleaser.

There will be a twist or two to make it fun on the course. Also, with a few drawings at dinner, you might be able to 'buy' a mulligan. Our Closest-to-the-Pin (CTP) on one par 3 in each round also pays 2<sup>nd</sup> CTP. Your ball does not have to be on the green, just not in the trap to be CTP. To top it all off, someone will EARN the title of Mr and Mz Fall Frolic 2025.

The option to play a round or more as a Pitch-and-Putt (PnP) competitor is available to anyone. There are conditions that may force a player out of normal golf and this PnP can keep you on the course.

### **2026 Winter Fling February 28 to March 6, 2026 The Plantation on Crystal River, Crystal River, FL**

I'm looking for someone to train to take over organizing future Flings and Frolics. If you love to travel and play golf with a social crowd you can do it. It's not that hard.

Jack Sullivan  
SMGA Chair, MISGA Club Rep. NGC Tantallon  
MISGA Division 6 Tournament Director  
Coordinator Fall Frolic at Virginia Beach, VA

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