

MISGA

MARYLAND INTERCLUB SENIOR GOLF ASSOCIATION MISGA HITS ONE OUT OF THE BALL PARK WITH THE BASES LOADED OR A HOLE-IN-ONE ON THE DAY OF A BIG TOURNAMENT!

During my membership in MISGA, two events are paramount in demonstrating the charitable aspects of this organization. The first was Charles Fieldhouse collecting for the September 11th disaster and now our partial funding of the Operation Second Chance Golf Tournament held October first in Montgomery County Md. This year the event was held at Montgomery Village Golf Club. We were not the major sponsor but we did have an impact. As you will notice in the photos submitted MISGA signage is evident. As liaison, I played in a sixsome consisting of Ralph Starkey, our President, Tom Taylor, Assistant Director, Div. II, Frank Bennett, from Div 4. (The vice president and director from Div. 4 had previous commitments).

We were blessed to have Lt. Joe Bogart, a seriously wounded veteran of Iraq and his Seeing Eye companion, Gillian. Joe was happy to show he was an army engineer by removing his sun glasses and showing his prosthesis (right eye) with a nice engineering insignia in the central area. He has minimum vision in his remaining eye. Joe has been in Walter Reed for over a year. In fact he should be home in Missouri now. He has chosen to stay in the army. Our prayers are that he can.

What a day of laughs we had. It was difficult to take advantage of Joe, but I certainly tried. Our group played so badly we had to use his shots and putts numerous times. We gave no quarter; nor did he. There were numerous wounded vets playing—leg, arm, and hand prostheses were evident. Our service people have a great attitude. We treasure and honor these vets for giving so much for us.

We as a group (MISGA) owe so much, to so few and their families. There is much to be done and as Joe indicated plenty of time for crying a bit, but a lot more time for laughing and forging ahead.

As part of MISGA, I want to thank Joe & Gillian and all his comrades in uniform for a magnificent day and a chance to share a moment in their lives. President and founder Cindy McGrew, of OPS thank you for your work and I hope that MISGA can once more participate with you in this outstanding mission.

Tom Tarpley
Director Division II, MISGA
Attachments will be in separate folder.