

# MISGAGRAM

## President's Message

This year's Fall Frolics at Sea Trail and Seabrook were completely booked. Many of the participants attended a frolic for the first time. This bodes well for the future of these events.



However, in my judgment, MISGA is not ready to return to a schedule of three fall events. The numbers just don't support it. Next year we have plans to change sites by returning to Fripp Island and Jekyll Island.

Divisions III and IV held successful pro am tournaments in October. This was Division IV's second pro am. Next year Division III will hold its 5th annual competition at Crofton Country Club. Conceived as a way to show our appreciation to the club professionals for their outstanding support of MISGA, the outings are well received by all, particularly the pros. Division II will join the fun next year by hosting its first pro am at Holly Hills. Can those on the Eastern Shore be far behind?

As many of my MISGA colleagues know by now, I'm big on compliance with the USGA Handicap System. If used properly, it can go a long way in leveling the playing field, no matter the type of competition. In 1999, we made the MISGA Two-Man Team Tournament and the division qualifiers somewhat fairer by implementing the USGA recommended handicap allowance of 90 per cent. Now we need to go one step further. The USGA recommends that handicaps of partners in four-ball stroke play (like our two-man team events) not differ by more than eight strokes. A team with a large difference has an advantage. If a difference of more than eight strokes cannot be avoided, the USGA suggests that an additional ten per cent reduction in handicap be applied to that team. If MISGA were to adhere to this recommendation, the two-man team events would have wider appeal and might finally shed its label as the "Sandbagger Tournaments." This is a sensible move, and in my view, there is absolutely no compelling reason not to take it.

As I finish my year as president, I can honestly say that I have enjoyed the experience. MISGA has had solid and dedicated leadership over the years. The structure of the organization was well conceived and it functions well. There isn't much wrong with MISGA. The Board of Directors offers its ideas and fine tunes plans and policy, but it can't do much more than nibble around the edges. MISGA's biggest asset is its good people. Its strength comes from the Club Reps who set things in motion and the several thousand associates who participate in mixers week in and week out. As long as the associates continue to promote the MISGA goals of fostering friendship and camaraderie things will be just fine. I look forward to my future involvement with MISGA.

*Sam Hall*

### Spring Fling 2003 Early Notice

The Spring Fling returns to Ocean City Golf and Yacht Club on May 5-6, 2003. This year's fling will feature accommodations and banquet at the Clarion Resort Hotel, golf at the O. C. Seaside and Newport Bay courses, and planned activities for non-golfers. An entry form is included in this MISGAGRAM for those who wish to apply early. It is downloadable from the Web at: [www.misga.org](http://www.misga.org).

### Winter Fling 2003

There are still openings for the Florida Winter Fling at Admiral Lehigh Resort. Contact : **Paul Desmond at 410-641-6149 or Joe Hollister at 301- 438-3266** if interested.

# STATE FINALS

The Past President's Tournament, hosted by Web Corley, was held at Crofton Country Club on August 19th with a full field of players. The overall low gross winner was Dick Stearns of Tanttallon Country Club with a score of 74. The overall low net winner was Paul Johnston of Green Hill Country Club with a score of 66.

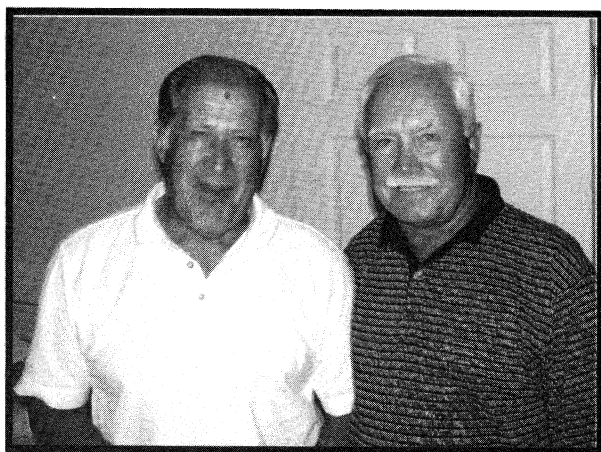
The Two-Man Team State Final Tournament hosted by Jim Connors, was held at Montgomery Country Club on August 26th with a full field of players. The championship team consisted of Bob Cohill and Charles Mangus from Rolling Road Country Club with a net score of 58.

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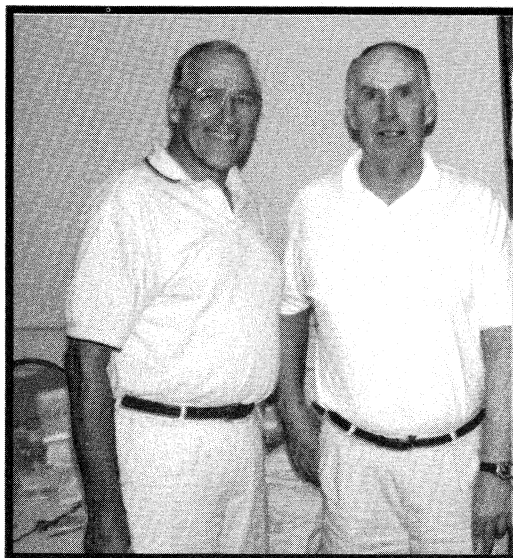
## TWO-MAN TEAM

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|     |                 |              |    |      |               |              |    |
|-----|-----------------|--------------|----|------|---------------|--------------|----|
| 1st | Bob Cohill      | Rolling Road | 58 | 9th  | Mike Oranato  | Chartwell    | 62 |
|     | Chas. Mangus    |              |    |      | Joe Rydington |              |    |
| 2nd | Ray Bryan       | Shawnee      | 59 | 10th | Joe Magnino   | Mont Village | 62 |
|     | Ken Wheatly     |              |    |      | Tom Conley    |              |    |
| 3rd | Jack McRail     | Walden       | 60 | 11th | Tom Twigg     | Montgomery   | 62 |
|     | Bob Nicholson   |              |    |      | Ed Wratten    |              |    |
| 4th | Jim Flaig       | Ocean Resort | 61 | 12th | Ed Boyer      | Harbourtowne | 63 |
|     | Frank Liebert   |              |    |      | Ed Decker     |              |    |
| 5th | John Ligon      | Montgomery   | 61 | 13th | Ed Rhinehart  | Beaver Creek | 63 |
|     | Chas. Lewis     |              |    |      | Ken Goldman   |              |    |
| 6th | Marty McHugh    | Lakewood     | 61 | 14th | Bob Imbergamo | Walden       | 63 |
|     | Dick Watkins    |              |    |      | Bob Wilkes    |              |    |
| 7th | Lee Weller      | Harbourtowne | 62 | 15th | Cory Devlin   | Marlborough  | 63 |
|     | Carter Hughlett |              |    |      | Dick Myler    |              |    |
| 8th | Dwight Short    | Tanttallon   | 62 |      |               |              |    |
|     | Lloyd Stimson   |              |    |      |               |              |    |



Winners: Charles Mangus and Bob Cohill  
Rolling Road



Runners-Up: Ray Bryan and Ken Wheatly  
Shawnee

# STATE FINALS

## Past President's Tournament

### A Flight

| Gross |               |              |    | Net |                 |            |    |
|-------|---------------|--------------|----|-----|-----------------|------------|----|
| 1st   | Dick Stearns  | Tantallon    | 74 | 1st | John Brockdorff | Montgomery | 70 |
| 2nd   | Lew Buchsbaum | Hobbits      | 77 | 2nd | Steve Parker    | Montgomery | 71 |
| 3rd   | Bob Haight    | Argyle       | 77 | 3rd | Bob Tracy       | Maple Dale | 73 |
| 4th   | Dick LeFiave  | Ocean Resort | 79 | 4th | Bob Burd        | Shawnee    | 74 |
| 5th   | Dave Markey   | Kenwood      | 79 | 5th | Donald Baker    | Beaver Crk | 75 |

### B Flight

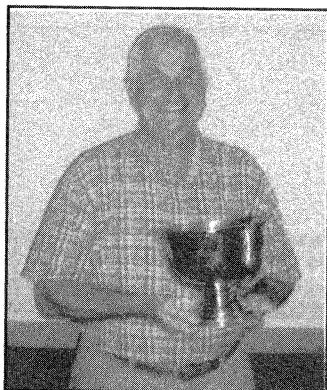
| Gross |               |              |    | Net |               |              |    |
|-------|---------------|--------------|----|-----|---------------|--------------|----|
| 1st   | Bob Decker    | Lakewood     | 83 | 1st | Dan Hunt      | Chester R    | 68 |
| 2nd   | Russ Lewis    | Maple Dale   | 86 | 2nd | Dick Boardman | West Winds   | 71 |
| 3rd   | Dave Houston  | Bay Hills    | 86 | 3rd | CJ Myers      | Manor        | 74 |
| 4th   | Ben Snouffer  | Glade Valley | 88 | 4th | Dall Parsons  | Prospect Bay | 75 |
| 5th   | Larry Blanken | Norbeck      | 89 | 5th | Dave Woodward | Maple Dale   | 75 |

### C Flight

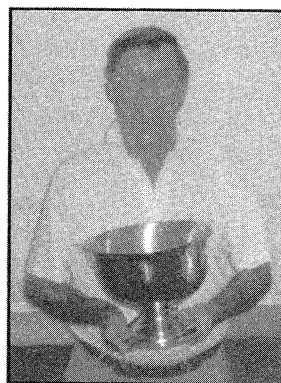
| Gross |                 |              |    | Net |                 |              |    |
|-------|-----------------|--------------|----|-----|-----------------|--------------|----|
| 1st   | Paul Johnston   | Green Hill   | 87 | 1st | Bob Gladden     | Elks         | 68 |
| 2nd   | Frank Liebert   | Ocean Resort | 89 | 2nd | Mike Lederer    | Prospect Bay | 69 |
| 3rd   | Dick Walsh      | West Winds   | 90 | 3rd | Jim Oberndorfer | Montgomery   | 74 |
| 4th   | Herb Fanz       | Naval Acad   | 93 | 4th | Jim Dougherty   | Rolling Road | 75 |
| 5th   | Marvin Phillips | Nutter's     | 94 | 5th | Bill Kline      | Tantallon    | 76 |

### D Flight

| Gross |               |              |     | Net |              |              |    |
|-------|---------------|--------------|-----|-----|--------------|--------------|----|
| 1st   | Jim Flaig     | Ocean Resort | 89  | 1st | Roy Betts    | Ocean City   | 71 |
| 2nd   | Paul Smith    | Ocean City   | 94  | 2nd | George Shenk | Naval Acad   | 72 |
| 3rd   | Bob McMinn    | Kenwood      | 95  | 3rd | John Butler  | Green Hill   | 73 |
| 4th   | Larry Baker   | Bear Creek   | 97  | 4th | Dennis Lewis | Quail Valley | 75 |
| 5th   | Lloyd Stimson | Tantallon    | 100 | 5th | Dave Lyons   | Hobbits      | 76 |



Low Gross Winner  
**Dick Stearns**  
Tantallon



Low Net Winner  
**Paul Johnston**  
Green Hill

# Division IV Pro- Am

On October 15, a sunny, balmy fall Tuesday, 24 foursomes of MISGA Division IV seniors brought their golfing talents to Kenwood with 24 club pros from member clubs in the division. The major purpose of this, the second annual Division IV Pro Am, is to recognize and reward the professionals who have been so very knowledgeable, diligent and generous in running MISGA mixers and tournaments.

Under the tournament's format, each group consisted of four amateurs and a club pro. The four amateurs played a modified scramble and the club pro played his own ball for an individual score. The amateurs could use the club pros drive twice on each nine holes, the pro also could putt on every green in the amateur scramble if needed. And the pro's score could be used by the amateurs on any hole.

In the professionals' individual gross play, first place went to **Steve Madsen** of Lakewood with 68; **Clark Sisson** of Norbeck was second with 69; third was **Oliver Coune** of West Winds with 71; **Randy Barnes** of Bretton Woods was fourth with 72; Manor's **Tim Ruddo** was fifth with 73 and Kenwood's **Steve Papanek's** 73 was 6th.

In the amateur/pro scramble, first place went to Lakewood's team of **Steve Madsen**,(pro), **Bob Decker**, **Jack Burkenshaw**, **Neil Birch** and **Norris Hekimian** with a 59. Second place went to Manor's team consisting of pro **Tim Ruddo**, **Andy Miller**, **John Ogilvie**, **Ed Healy** and **John Mohler**. Third, fourth, fifth and sixth places went to teams from the following clubs: Hobbits Glen, Argyle, Manor, and Montgomery.

Closest to the pin were **Oliver Coune** of West Winds in the pro division and **Owen Kirkley** from Leisure World in the amateur division. **Fran Hogan** of Montgomery won the long drive contest among the pros and **Doug Bradshaw** of Montgomery Village out drove all the MISGA amateurs. (These drives were so long that the measuring tape was not long enough to record the distances.)

Congratulations to all the money winners!! Also, thanks to Kenwood for providing good weather, a golf course in very good condition, a fine lunch, and a well-organized event. Division IV gives its heartfelt thanks to all the club professionals who have assisted the MISGA program this year. We could not have done it without you! We hope you enjoyed the Division IV Pro Am.

**Dick Crone - Kenwood**

# Handicap Problems

The Rules and Handicap Committee has been reviewing the MISGA positions related to handicaps. A recent study was conducted by Terry Stuver at Eastern Shore Country Club. This study examined all of the scores from the Division V two-man team qualifier. For evaluation purposes, Terry broke the field into three categories: players from 0 to 10 handicaps, players from 10 to 20 handicaps, and players from 20 to 30 handicaps. The results were worrisome. Only 20% of the low handicap players (2 out of 10) shot a net differential less than 0. However, the mid-handicappers (10-20) had 59% of their players shoot a score with a negative differential. Even worse, the high handicappers (20-30) had 81% shoot a score with a negative differential. A negative differential means a score better than the course rating. USGA data indicates that one should shoot the course rating only one time in four. The odds against shooting a net differential of one under the course rating are ten to one. And yet we had 81% of one group beat those ten to one odds. Twelve players exceeded 50 to one odds! As Terry indicated: a cynic would call the Two-Man Tournament, "The Sandbagger's Tournament".

The committee's concern is not only the scores from the Two-Man Tournament. It appears that players from many clubs are very lax in recording scores in general. War stories abound. It is interesting to observe the final "Roundup Tournament" scores at one of our clubs that routinely enters all of the scores for its players. The course rating is 68. The average net score is 76. There were only five scores under 70. There were four scores with negative differentials. this means that 10% of the field had negative differentials. This contrasts sharply with the Division V tournament results.

The committee has discussed this problem and is preparing a proposal for the December board meeting. It will be published in the next MISGAGRAM if approved by the board.

## *Rules and Handicap Committee*

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### Words To Live By

*Golf is a sport whose aim is to hit the ball hard, straight and not too often.*

*Golf is a game where the ball always lies poorly and the player well.*

## Great Golf Get Aways

### The Grand Experience

Like golfers everywhere, MISGA members look forward to the Masters every year. For inveterate golfers, deep involvement in this four-day rite of spring, though limited to television, approaches religious ritual. But for virtually all golfers, enjoyment of this annual tournament at Augusta is always tempered with a touch of envy, because we know that in all likelihood we will never be allowed to set foot on that hallowed ground, much less have the opportunity to tee it up among the azaleas and the pines. And the same is true of the other venues where golf's major tournaments are played. Our otherwise perfect golfing lives will always be incomplete. Or will they?

At Renditions, golf's "Grand Slam Experience", ten minutes from Annapolis and fifteen from the Washington Beltway, in Davidsonville, every lowly duffer has a shot at the demanding holes of Augusta National's Amen Corner, the familiar island green at Sawgrass, and some of the most remembered holes of fourteen other renowned American and British courses. Renditions' designers used aerial photos and computer models to replicate the tees, fairways and greens, reportedly to within six inches of the original.

When we played at Renditions this summer, we found the course in A-1 condition, and the cost was reasonable, given the unique nature of the place. Weekdays the fees are \$79 with cart, \$49 after 2:30 and weekends are \$10 more, plus 10% tax. Even if you don't score well at Renditions, and I didn't, it won't matter. Regardless of what you shoot, for four hours you'll feel like you've died and gone to golfer's heaven!

*Jim Douds - Tantallon*

Thanks to Jim for picking up on the theme of GREAT GOLF GET AWAYS. I hope others will follow by sharing their favorite golf courses with MISGAGRAM readers!

*Dick*

### From the Editor's Desk

I would like to thank you all for the opportunity to serve as your MISGAGRAM editor. The past five years have been very rewarding as well as fun. I have enjoyed getting to know and working with the board's Division Directors, and committee chairmen. Thanks to all the folks who have generously contributed articles, information, pictures and golfing humor which made my job so much easier.

Thanks to my wife Kay for her assistance as well!

Welcome **Jim Mitchell** - we look forward to the next issue of the MISGAGRAM!

### Deceased

*Beaver Creek*

*Pete Bates*

*Holly Hills*

*Bill Hall*

*Kenwood*

*Paul Havenstein*

*William Wohlfarth*

*Montgomery Village*

*Richard A. Allen*

*Patuxent Greens*

*Alfred Poirier*

*Piney Branch*

*Jim Kristoff*

*Prospect Bay*

*John Tobin*

*Seaford*

*Jim McKEEVER*

*Sparrows Point*

*Andy Stark*

### **Delmarva Peninsula Golf Association Inc. Scholarship Program**

The DPGA Inc. will be offering a special golf discount booklet for the year of 2003. This booklet will enable you to pay cart fees only, or other special rates at over 30 Peninsula courses. They are available for a donation of \$49.00 to the DPGA Scholarship Fund.

Checks should be made out to D.P.G.A., Inc. To order a booklet or get information about it, please contact Jack Slayton, Elks Assistant Rep,  
7772 Broadleaf Drive  
Parsonsburg, Md. 21849  
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### **Board Highlights**

September 10, 2002

1. The president noted that the MISGAGRAM of August 2002 incorrectly reported, under Board Highlights item # 6, that the board approved the policy of awarding prizes to one third of the field at MISGA mixers. The policy that one quarter of the field should receive prizes remains in effect, while one third is encouraged where appropriate, e.g.. at larger fields, etc..
2. The treasurer noted that in his judgment a dues increase will not be necessary next year.
3. The Vice President, Ken Wallgren announced the appointments of **Bob Dernoga** of Prospect Bay as Associates Chairman to succeed John Babyak and **Jim Mitchell** of Walden as MISGAGRAM Editor to succeed Dick Hunt. Both will assume new duties in 2003.
4. A motion to approve expenditures by the rules and handicap committee for additional copies of the "USGA Handicap System" for the committee and board members at \$10 each was passed. Also included in the motion was approval to send four committee members to the USGA seminar next April at a cost of \$160 plus mileage.