



MISGAGRAM

Volume 157 – December 2023

www.misga.org

President's Message



Some things change and some stay the same. Well, the latter is true for MISGA leadership in 2024. At the year-end Board meeting a by-law change was made setting the term for President and VP to 2 years. Bottom line you are stuck with me for another year; or I'm stuck with you depending on one's vantage point. Historically, for those who care, there was one other instance of a MISGA President having successive terms. Al Hagen, our 1st, served five years! Insanity must have been rampant back in the 70's !!

Although Paul Bate remains as VP and George Blair enters year 2 as Treasurer one thing did change. Chuck Woods graciously stepped into the Secretary position. Well, there might have been a little arm twisting but Chuck is fine. He replaces Mike Olson who deserves our thanks and gratitude for his service. Mike has moved onto greener pastures in Baltimore. Did I really just say that. Anyway, I am humbled to continue in the leadership position of this fine longstanding organization and will do my best to keep it moving forward.

Fortunately, this year I was not stressed with finding several new committee chairs like last. Thanks to all for remaining in their spots. The one change was Jake Jacobi acquiescing to my plea to chair Policy & Planning since as promised we honored his one-year Div II Director term. Doug Walters has assumed the forementioned Director spot. Welcome Doug.

Other highlights on the MISGA front revolved around volunteerism and the difficulty of finding club reps which subsequently has ramifications in many ways. This was evidenced by the loss of 2 clubs, Norbeck and Eagles Nest. Both dropped because they had no willing rep. While not a huge impact in # of active associates, it does reduce our away options. Please consider saying yes if ever asked at your club so MISGA doesn't continue the way of the dinosaur.

(Continued on p 4)

Maryland
Interclub
Seniors Golf
Association

President

Tom Ciandella

Vice President

Paul Bate

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:

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)

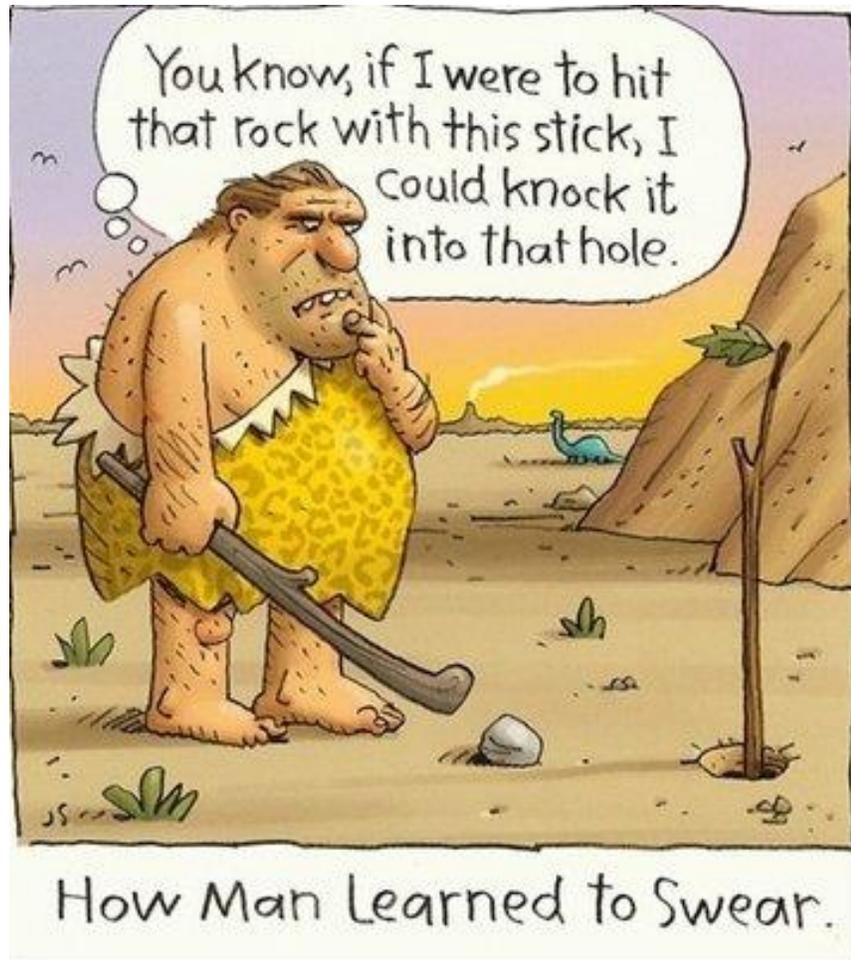
All materials should be sent via e-mail to:

tgnome1@gmail.com

Bob Hodges

MISGAGRAM Editor

The Lighter Side



President's Humor

“Golf was invented by God as punishment for guys who retire too early ! “

Tom Ciandella, Dec, '23

President's Message, *continued*

Another topic that came up was consideration of realignment of divisions for better geographic organization and more importantly balance in associate #s. This was tabled and put on the Spring Board Meeting agenda under Old Business. Speaking of which, that and the Annual Rep Meeting will be March 26, 2024 @ Prospect Bay.

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 cannot 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.

I'd also like to take a minute to emphasize that everyone is a guest when they go to an away MISGA, and we need to be respectful. There were a couple of incidents in 2023 of disrespect at events that were handled but, let's do our best to make that none in 2024!

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 when this actually publishes.

Tom Ciandella

MISGA President 2023-2024



Obituary

CLARENCE J. "CJ" MYERS

One of MISGA's longest serving, most industrious and prodigious members - "CJ" Myers - passed away at his home in Olney, MD on November 4, 2023. "CJ" was born in Butte, Montana on August 25, 1932.

"CJ's" responsibilities in MISGA began as Club Rep at Manor Country Club in 1994-1996. He served as Director of Division IV from 1995-1999. During that term, "CJ" served as the MISGA Vice President in 1996 and MISGA President in 1997. From 2000-2002, he was Chairman of the Policy & Planning Committee. In 2003, "CJ" chaired the Rules & Handicap Committee. From 2004-2008, he served as MISGA's Tournament Chairman. Once again, during 2016-2018 he served as Club Rep for Manor CC. In 2018, he served a second term as Director of Division IV. For many years, "CJ" directed the annual Division IV Holiday Luncheon and awards ceremony at Manor Country Club.



In 2005, "CJ" was awarded the *Sam Hasting's Green Jacket*. The *Green Jacket* is awarded to MISGA volunteers who have provided many years of outstanding service and contributed much time and effort for the furtherance and enhancement of the MISGA organization.





2023 GREEN JACKET RECIPIENT

Established in December 1999, the *Sam Hasting's Green Jacket* is awarded to MISGA volunteers who have provided many years of outstanding service 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 Past Presidents Ad Hoc Committee. He is responsible for the selection of recipients and the awarding of the *Green Jacket*. Prior to this board meeting, 23 *Green Jackets* have been awarded to deserving MISGA associates (refer to page 2).

During the Board of Directors Meeting held at Montgomery Country Club on December 5, 2023, one of MISGA's most dedicated and distinguished gentlemen was awarded a *Green Jacket* - Carl Lazar.

Carl became a member of MISGA in 2006 after he switched his club membership from Bay Hills to Walden. He served as the Assistant Club Rep at Walden 2006-2011. Carl moved back to Bay Hills in 2012. At that time, he accepted the Club Rep position and has continued to perform its duties and responsibilities. During 2011-2012, Carl served as the Assistant Division Director for Division VI and assumed the Division VI Director position 2013-2014. In 2014, he accepted and continues to serve as the MISGA Club Membership chairman.



L-R: Chuck Woods (MISGA Planning & Policy Chairman), Dr. Tom Tarpley (MISGA PP AD HOC Chairman), Awardee Carl Lazar, Tom Ciandella (MISGA President)



Other awardees in attendance at the December 2023 Board Meeting (L-R) - John Babyak, Lloyd Stimson, Carl Lazar, Bob Hodges, Tom Tarpley (*behind Hodges*), Greg Morris, Jake Jacobi (*behind Morris*) & Chuck Woods. Refer to chart below for their award year and home club.

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)	2023 - Bob Hodges (Wild Quail)
2013 - Dick Dale (Hooper's Landing)	2023 - Chuck Woods (Crofton)
2014 - Lloyd Stimson (Tantallon)	2023 - Carl Lazar (Bay Hills)
2014 - Howard Taylor (Maple Dale)	
2015 - Errol Myers (Norbeck)	

Toys for Tots

We had the Annual Toys for Tots check presentation today. Since the CSMGA (Crofton Senior Men's Golf Association) started the Toys for Tots drive for donations in 2015, we have raised \$42,837 for this great cause! I would like to thank all who participated and generously contributed this year!

Chuck Woods.



George Blair, MISGA and CSMGA Treasurer; Chuck Woods CSMGA Secretary; Maj. Smith, Anne Arundel Toys for Tots; Ken Barausky, Tournament Chairman; Gary Carpenter, Jr. Asst. Golf Pro at Crofton CC.



Tidbits of MISGA History



MISGA CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

Annually, MISGA sponsors two championship tournaments - *2-Player Team* and *Past Presidents (ABCD)*. They are one day, 18 hole championship tournaments that are played on the elite courses of MISGA. The Grand Champions of each tournament are presented with an elegant trophy and a pro shop gift certificate. Pro shop gift certificates are awarded to the other winners.

The *2-Player Team* tournament began in 1976 at Eaglehead Country Club located in New Market, MD. This year's tournament was played at Holly Hills Country Club located in Ijamsville, MD.

The *Past Presidents (ABCD)* tournament began in 1991 at Sussex Pines Country Club located in Georgetown, DE. This year's tournament was played at Crofton Country Club located in Crofton, MD.

Stim

Lloyd Stimson
MISGA History Chairman



Frolics 'n Flings

Flings and Frolics News. We are in the countdown to sign-up deadline of January 25 for the 2024 Winter Fling. Come join us in sunny and warm Crystal River Florida from February 25 to March 2. This long-standing event has past the 20-year mark and may be your last chance to attend. Detailed information is available online at misga.org or by contacting Jack Sullivan directly at johnsul@msn.com

The NEW Fall Frolic has been booked for next October 6 to 12 at Virginia Beach VA. Detailed info is also on the misga.org site. A Spring Fling is under development for May 2025, stay tuned.

Jack Sullivan

SMGA Chair, MISGA Club Rep. NGC Tantallon

MISGA Division 6 Tournament Director

Coordinator Winter Fling at Crystal River FL and Fall Frolic at Va Beach VA
(info on misga.org)

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