## **NEWSLETTER FOR FEBRUARY 2016**

- 11 new members join NTSGA this month. See their introductions in this newsletter.
- Tournament registration fees are now \$50.00 due to increased fees being charged by all of the Metroplex golf courses. See accompanying article in the December newsletter.
- Please get in the habit of reading the Newsletter every month. The newsletter for the next month is usually posted on the ntsga.org website towards the end of each month. It contains updated information and items of interest pertaining to our tournaments.
- Our tournament start times will change beginning with the Bridlewood event on March 2. Start times change to 8:00. Check-In table closes at 7:30.

## **BIRTHDAYS FOR FEBRUARY**

Gerry Bell 23<sup>rd</sup> David Depue 24<sup>th</sup> Bob Lewis 2<sup>nd</sup> Paul Myers 2<sup>nd</sup> Joe Ben Ramos 22<sup>nd</sup> Ken Talburt 1<sup>st</sup> David Bramlett 14<sup>th</sup> Dale Graves 22<sup>nd</sup> Pat Martin 18<sup>th</sup> Mike Neeley 15<sup>th</sup> Frank Riley 3<sup>rd</sup> Dorie Wesson 3<sup>rd</sup> John Carrick 21<sup>st</sup> Skip Greathouse 10<sup>th</sup> Dal McKinney 21<sup>st</sup> Tony Nelson 3<sup>rd</sup> Ben Robinson 14<sup>th</sup> **Clint Culp 13<sup>th</sup>** Bill Kayser 16<sup>th</sup> **Danny Millaway 13<sup>th</sup>** Elliott Prater 16<sup>th</sup> Ralph Storey 25<sup>th</sup>

"Last night my wife met me at the front door. She was wearing a sexy negligee. The only trouble was, she was coming home!"

.....Rodney Dangerfield

#### JANUARY TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION

	Players	Percentage of full field	Low Gross	Low Net
Jan 13 Firewheel-Bridges	100	78%	Ollie Cromwell 77 Butch Vaut 77	Mike Vestal 64
Jan 20 Waterview	110	85%	Mike Hatfield 74 Butch Vaut 74	Bill Kibler 61

Jan 27 Hurricane Creek C.C. (Results will be posted in the March newsletter)

Two guys were discussing popular family trends on sex, marriage and family values. Bill said, "I didn't sleep with my wife before we got married, did you?"

Larry replied, "I'm not sure, what was her maiden name?"

## NEXT 4 TOURNAMENTS....

Feb 3 WestRidge (McKinney)	8:30
Feb 9 (TUESDAY) Canyon Creek C. C. (Richardson)	8:30
Feb 17 Open Date	
Feb 24 Pecan Hollow (Plano)	
Mar 2 Bridlewood (Flower Mound)	8:00

## **DIRECTIONS TO GOLF COURSES**

<u>WestRidge</u> (McKinney) 972-346-2212; 9055 Cotton Ridge Road North. Take I-75 north to McKinney, exit at Virginia Pkwy. Turn left (west) and drive 5.5 miles to Custer Rd. (FM 2478); turn left (south) for 1/2 mile, course entrance on right.

<u>Canyon Creek</u> (Richardson) 972-231-3083; 625 Lookout Dr. Take Geo. Bush Turnpike west of Central Expwy, turn south at Custer Rd., for approx. 1 mile, right turn at W. Lookout Dr., golf course ½ mile on left.

<u>Pecan Hollow</u> (Plano) 972-941-7600; 4501 E. 14<sup>th</sup> St. Drive the Geo. Bush Turnpike, exit east of Central Expy (I-75) at Jupiter. Drive north for 1 mile, turn right on 14<sup>th</sup> street and drive 2.3 miles. Course entrance on left.

<u>Bridlewood</u> (Flower Mound) 972-355-4800; 4000 W. Windsor Dr. Proceed north on I-35E, exit at FM1171/Main St. (Lewisville). Turn left (west), drive 5 ½ miles, right turn at Bridlewood Blvd. At 1<sup>st</sup> stop sign, turn right, course entrance on left.

## HANDICAPS....

Handicap computations will now fall more closely in line with USGA standards. Handicap Chairman, Howie Bacharach will compute handicaps twice monthly in hopes of greater stabilization of individual handicaps. You will receive an "NTSGA Index" determined by the lowest 10 out of your last 20 gross scores, adjusted for the course and slope rating of the tees you played and factored by 0.96. This new "NTSGA Index" is very similar to GHIN or similar service, which creates an average handicap index based on all courses and tees that you played.

The big change for 2016 is that to comply with USGA Handicap Manual Sect. 3-5a for each round, players will have their "NTSGA Index" **adjusted** to the course and tee they are playing **during that round**. Section 3-5a states that when different tees are being used and the course ratings are different for each, "the player playing from the tees with the higher USGA course rating receives additional strokes equal to the difference between each USGA course rating." The additional strokes are added to the course handicap of the player playing from the higher rated set of tees". Your **adjusted index** will be used to calculate your net score, which determines flight winners. This allows players playing from different sets of tees to compete more fairly for prize money.

## **NEW MEMBERS: FEBRUARY, 2016**

Scott Daum – Bartonville D.D. Lewis – Plano Dal McKinney – Richardson Scott Medlin – Rowlett Tony Nelson – Farmersville Craig Oakley – Dallas Michael Peralta – Richardson Fred Rabinowitz – Plano Scott Reed – Allen Rob Ruth – Colleyville Ernie Sparks – Paris

## Diver drowns while collecting golf balls

HUTTO — Police in Central Texas say a man drowned while he searched for golf balls while illegally scuba diving in a pond at a golf course. Authorities in Williamson

County say the body of the man was found Friday at the course in Hutto.

Sheriff's Capt. Mike Gleason said that divers began searching for the man Thursday after receiving a call from his father saying his son was missing. Gleason said a bag of balls was found with the body and it appears the man's oxygen tank ran out of air. The Associated Press

Playing golf can be very dangerous!

# **INDIAN CREEK GOLF COURSES**

With 1700 signatures (many NTSGA members) and passionate pleas from residents and avid golfers, the Carrollton City Council voted 5-2 in favor of re-opening the Indian Creek Golf Courses in its entirety. City planners were debating whether to convert the acreage into hiking/biking trails. The courses suffered severe water damage caused by flooding last October. The Lakes course is expected to re-open in April and the Creeks course is scheduled to re-open in June.

**OOPS.....**This article was supposed to be in the January newsletter, but was mistakenly omitted:

At the last Board of Directors meeting of 2015, the Board made the following decision regarding Skins participation:

Skins. There are 3 skins pots. Members may only participate in 1 pot:

Regular Pot: players tee off from the back tees, regardless of age. Age 75+: players tee off from the forward tees, if desired. Handicap 16+: players tee off from the **back** tees. (This is a change to our rules approved by a 7-2 vote).

## SAD NEWS:

Recently, both Bob Clay and Dave Clelland lost their wives. The entire organization mourns the passing of these fine ladies. May they forever rest in peace.

## **RULES CLARIFICATION**

Even though our NTSGA Rules don't exactly follow USGA Guidelines, our rules are spelled out on our website (behind the By-Laws tab). We alter the USGA rules slightly to compensate for courses that are not always in pristine condition and to make it more enjoyable for all members. Last year we passed out rules booklets in hopes that members would carry them in their golf bags for easy on-course reference, if needed. All new members receive a booklet when joining NTSGA.

If a question occurs during the round, all four members of the group should engage in conversation to make the best ruling for a particular situation utilizing the rules booklet as reference. If a suitable solution cannot be determined after group discussion, the golfer should play a provisional ball and the ruling question brought before the Tournament Chairman after the round. In the absence of the Tournament Chairman, 3 available Board members may listen to the scenario and render a decision.

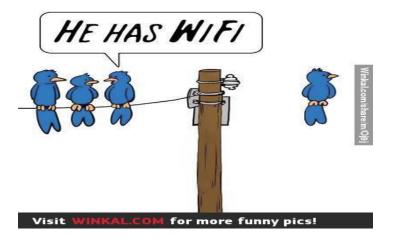
## **OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF LITTLE CHILDREN:**

Children were asked to finish the following phrases:

A penny saved is ....."not much!" Children should be seen and not ....."spanked or grounded!" If at first you don't succeed ....."get new batteries."

## SCORECARDS.....

Please help Treasurer Pete Schoemann, Handicap Chairman Howie Bacharach, the 2-man team coordinators and Skins Coordinators by making names on the scorecards very legible. Use last names and at least the first initial. The Association now has 2 Bell's, 2 Clark's, 2 Hatfield's, 2 Jones', 2 Lewis', 2 Martin's, 3 Miller's, 2 Reed's, 2 Robertson's, 2 Smith's, 3 Thompson's and 2 Wood's. Don't make it difficult for these scorekeepers to record accurate scores for the correct member.. Thank you.



## MENDING.....

Gary McCool is recovering from vertigo/dizziness issues and should be able to play golf again soon...David McCoy underwent shoulder surgery and should be ready to play by March...Dave Clelland suffered a stroke, is resting comfortably and hopes to start playing golf again soon.....Ben Robinson is recovering from a detached retina and hopes to begin playing golf again very shortly...Mike Neeley is having knee surgery and should be out a couple months....Paul Price is still recovering from a bicycle spill, but should be able to continue playing golf soon....Doug Shackelford is currently rehabbing after knee and shoulder surgery and is anxious to start playing again in our tournaments....Gene Kurihara underwent colorectal surgery and will be out for 2 months....Will Cornell will be out 2 months following shoulder surgery....Bob Crews suffered a heart attack late last year, is rehabbing and hopes to start playing at the beginning of the season....Mike Chalk had gall bladder surgery and eye surgery and hopes to begin playing again in another month....John Kandal suffered ligament damage to his forearm and should be ready to play soon....Al Stalter is currently rehabbing after undergoing hip replacement surgery.

#### USGA rules...

The "teeing ground" is the starting place for the hole to be played. It is a rectangular area two club lengths in depth, the front and the sides of which are defined by the outside limits of two tee markers. A ball is outside the teeing ground when all of it lies outside of the teeing ground. A player may stand outside the teeing ground to strike the ball within the teeing ground. Playing a ball from outside of the teeing ground, the player incurs a penalty of two strokes and must then play a ball from within the "teeing ground".

## FROM THE YEAR 1955:

"The fast food restaurant (McDonalds) is convenient for a quick meal, but I seriously doubt that they will ever catch on."

## AGE SHOOTERS....JANUARY

Bob Murphy 1/13 Firewheel-Bridges 87 Bill Roll 1/13 Firewheel-Bridges 81 Joe Thompson 1/13 Firewheel-Bridges 82 Bill Roll 1/20 Waterview 81

# HOLE-IN-ONE, JOEL ROGERS

Under bitterly cold conditions, NTSGA President Joel Rogers recorded the first hole-in-one of the 2016 season. Joel aced the 17<sup>th</sup> hole at the Waterview Golf Club on January 20<sup>th</sup> using a 6 iron. It was the third hole-in-one of his golf career. Measuring 141 yards, Joel's accurate shot was witnessed by playing partners Gerald Gotcher, Phil Head and Joe Philpott.

This is the third time Joel has guided NTSGA as President during his 16 years as a member and the 1<sup>st</sup> hole-in-one he has recorded while playing with the association.

Joel is a retired salesman working for Hormel Foods for 32 years. His sales territory took him through Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas and Oklahoma retiring in 2000.

NTSGA is happy to add \$200.00 to Joel's bank account for his great shot.

## **CONGRATULATIONS, JOEL ROGERS!**

#### \*\*\*\*\* WEATHER \*\*\*\*\*

Tournament Chairman, Rod Wells sometimes has the arduous task of trying to out-guess the weather, and many times this is very difficult. If the weather for a tournament looks hopeless, Rod will usually cancel the event by Tuesday afternoon and issue an email to all internet subscribers. Try to get in the habit of checking your emails every Tuesday evening. The non-internet subscribers will receive a phone call via the emergency notification plan. If for some reason you still haven't heard about the playability of one of our events, you can call the golf course pro shop on Wednesday morning. Most pro shops open at 6:00 AM. The phone number for all pro shops is listed on the NTSGA schedule and also in the current newsletter.

## CLUB FITTING....

Past President Chris Haas just had a club fitting and is recommending the fitting to any member interested. A thorough 4 hr session costs \$175.00, which is a 50% discount from normal pricing. Chris said the session is very instructive examining many shafts, heads, lofts and lies custom fit to the individual. The company is located in Plano and additional information can be found at clubchampiongolf.com If you speak to the company make sure to mention that you are a member of the North Texas Senior Golf Association.

## FUNNY.....

An airline Captain hammered a landing hard on the runway. The airline had a policy which required the First Officer to stand at the door while the passengers exited, smile and thank them for flying on their airline. He said that, in light of the Captains bad landing, he had a hard time looking the passengers in the eye, thinking that sooner or later someone would have a smart comment. Finally, everyone had gotten off except a little old lady walking with a cane.

She said, "Sonny, do you mind if I ask you a question?" Why no, Ma'am, said the pilot. What is it?" The little old lady replied, "Did we land or were we shot down?"