NEWSLETTER FOR MAY 2017

- The annual PGA golf tournaments come to DFW this month. The Byron Nelson Classic will be played at the TPC Four Seasons Resort (May 18-21) for the last time before moving to the new Trinity Forest Golf Club next year. The Nelson will be followed by the Colonial in Ft. Worth on May 25-28).
- The big winner of this year's Master's Pot was **Dick Hall**. See the write-up in this newsletter. The next major championship Pot will be open for selection at Waterchase on June 14. This year's US Open will be played at Erin Hills, outside of Milwaukee, June 15-18.
- NTSGA contributed \$25.00/player for the round at Cowboys Golf Club on March 29th.

BIRTHDAY'S FOR MAY

Terry Bell 31st Gene Clark 19th Jerry Jenkins 24th Doug Shackelford 2nd Randy Winski 22nd Shawn Butler 2nd Bob Clay 25th Hubert Lytle 1st Al Stalter 4th Rich Carmen 27th Phil Fahs 15th Bob Moreau 2nd Tim Strobel 21st Mike Chalk 5th Tom Hatfield 20th Steve Sanderson 8th Ron Swanson 6th

APRIL TOURNAMENT PARTICIPATION

	Players	Percentage of full field	Low Gross	Low Net
Apr. 5 Buffalo Creek	115	89%	Doug Shackelford 72 Harold Wilkowsky 72	Harold Wilkowsky 65
Apr 10 Stonebridge Ranch (I	Dye) 83	64%	Michael Peralta 77	Bob Lewis 61
Apr 12 Tierra Verde	87	67%	Mike Jones 70	Ben Robinson 64 Rod Wells 64
Apr. 19 Twin Creeks	109	85%	Mike Jones 72	Dwight Johnson 62
Apr. 26 Riverchase	93	72%	Rich Carmen 75 Tom McMahan 75	Billy King 62 Tom McMahan 62 Ron Swanson 62

CTP MARKERS -

The CTP markers have been left on the greens during our last 2 tournaments. Treasurer Pete Schoemann attaches reminder notes to the carts of the foursomes who will finish playing on Par 3's. If you are a "B" group and finish on a Par 3, please bring the CTP marker to the clubhouse and give it to Pete at the completion of the round. Thank you.

MORE MASTER'S SNIPPETTS:

On October 23, 1983, President Ronald Reagan was playing at Augusta National as a guest of his Secretary of State (and club member) George Schultz, when his round was interrupted at the 16th hole by a disgruntled local named Charles Harris. Harris had crashed his truck through the gate and was demanding to see the President. Harris held hostages at gunpoint in the pro shop for two hours before Secret Service agents subdued him.

NEXT 5 TOURNAMENTS

May 3 Ridgeview Ranch	8:00	
May 10 Grapevine	8:00	
May 17 Stone Creek	8:00	
May 24 Hurricane Creek C.C.	8:00	Includes Buffet Lunch
May 31 Heritage Ranch C.C.	8:00	

DIRECTIONS TO GOLF COURSES

May 3 <u>Ridgeview Ranch</u> (Plano) 972-390-1039; 2701 Ridgeview Dr. The course is ½ mile south of Hwy 121 between Independence Pkwy and Custer Road. Ridgeview Drive leads to club.

May 10 <u>Grapevine</u> (Grapevine) 817-410-3377; 3800 Fairway Dr. Take LBJ Frwy west, towards DFW airport. Prior to the airport entry, exit at Bass Pro Dr., continue to the traffic light. Turn left, drive over Hwy 121, past the Embassy Suites Hotel to the next traffic light (Hwy 26). Turn left, drive ½ mile to next traffic light, turn right (Fairway Dr.) Drive past Cowboys Golf Club and over the Lake Grapevine Dam. On the other side of the Dam, turn right into golf course entrance.

May 17 <u>Stone Creek</u> (Sherman) 903-870-7980; 2200 Club House Dr. Drive north on I-75 (Central Expy) towards Sherman, TX. Take Exit #57 (Park St.) Turn left under the freeway and south on the west side service road. Course entrance is on right.

May 24 <u>Hurricane Creek C.C.</u> (Anna) 972-924-3247; 1800 Fairway Lane. Take I-75 (Central Expwy) north, exit at Anna (Truck Stop), turn left go over I-75, right turn onto the west side service road (Caution: Exiting traffic from southbound I-75 has right of way). Drive 1.7 miles (north). Left turn at small sign, leads to club.

May 31 <u>Heritage Ranch C.C.</u> (Fairview) 972-549-0276; 465 Scenic Ranch Circle. Take I-75 (Central Expwy) north, exit at Stacy Rd., right turn (east) 3 miles to the dead end (FM 1378). Turn left, then an immediate right, back onto Stacy Rd. Continue east for ½ mile, course entrance on left.

AGE SHOOTER'S - APRIL

Jay Gasper 4/12 Tierra Verde 78 Jay Gasper 4/19 Twin Creeks 77 Harold Lockman 4/19 Twin Creeks 80 Rich Carmen 4/26 Riverchase 75 Jay Gasper 4/26 Riverchase 78 Billy King 4/26 Riverchase 84 Tom McMahan 4/26 Riverchase 75 Bill Roll 4/26 Riverchase 80



2017 MASTER'S POT....

This year's Masters Pot opened under very windy conditions; sure to give the golfers fits on all of their shots. Blustery conditions prevailed similar to what NTSGA golfers experienced at Buffalo Creek on April 5. The overall most popular selection was Dustin Johnson, the #1 golfer in the world and a favorite to win this year's Masters. Unfortunately, Johnson slipped on stairs in his rental home at Augusta and injured his back and was unable to play in this year's event. NTSGA members who picked Johnson as one half of their selection combo were given the option to select another golfer to take Johnson's place. Nine members did not make the alternative selection and their entry money will be refunded.

Day 1 got underway with the opening shots made by ceremonial golfers, Jack Nicklaus and Gary Player. A brief tribute was held to honor recently deceased, Arnold Palmer. As expected, the golfers had a tough time with the blustery wind conditions, except journeyman Charlie Hoffman. He posted a sterling 65 which led the field by 4 strokes. He was not selected by any NTSGA golfers as ½ of their combo picks. The most popular selections by NTSGA members were hometown favorite Jordan Spieth, Rory McIlroy, Jason Day, Phil Mickelson, Rickie Fowler and Hideki Matsuyama.

Day 2 opened with the same windy conditions as players were hopeful of shooting low scores because the weekend weather was forecast to be more typical Masters weather, with calmer wind conditions. Jordan Spieth made a strong comeback, to the delight of 37 NTSGA members as he trailed the leaders at the end of the day by only 4 strokes. After play concluded on Day 2, four players were tied at the top: Rickie Fowler, Sergio Garcia, Charlie Hoffman and Thomas Pieters. This delighted NTSGA members **Dick Hall, Al Stalter, Paul Price, Bobby Wood, Gene Lindsey, Bill Roll, Gene Edmondson, Mike Robertson, Basil Greaves and Stan Robertson** who all had selected players near the top of the Master's selections. Unfortunately, some of the favorites did not make the cut and eliminated the chances of **John Stieneker, Roger Nondorf, LeRoy Worm and Roger Ball.** All of the loud noise, screaming and yelling was coming from **Mike Robertson's** house, as he had selected Sergio Garcia and Rickie Fowler and both of those golfers were tied for the lead at the halfway point.

Saturdays round began with weather as predicted: warm, sunny with no wind. Charlie Hoffman climbed back into the lead, but was closely pursued by Sergio Garcia, Justin Rose, Rickey Fowler and Jordan Spieth. Hoffman fell back and at day's end, Sergio Garcia and Justin Rose were in the driver's seat. Many NTSGA members were pulling for their selected two man combo picks, but none more than **Mike Robertson, Dick Hall, Donnie Marks, Al Stalter, Gene Edmondson and Basil Greaves** who all had players close to the top of the leaderboard. The 4th and final round of this year's Masters promised to be a shootout from start to finish.

Sunday's final round began with a Spaniard (Sergio Garcia) an Englishman (Justin Rose) at the top of the leaderboard; however, 4 Americans (Jordan Spieth, Rickie Fowler, Charlie Hoffman and Ryan Moore), Aussie Adam Scott and South African Charl Schwartzel were all within 4 strokes of the lead. The weather conditions were ideal but nobody made a move to challenge the leaders most of the day until the last 2 hours. Justin Rose and Sergio Garcia staged a classic duel that had the patrons screaming. Trading good shots back and forth they were tied at the top at the end of regulation. The ensuing playoff provided high drama and excitement for the conclusion of this year's tournament as Sergio Garcia won his first Masters.

The NTSGA runner-up for the Masters Pot was **Russ Medlin** selecting Rory McIlroy (T7) and Matt Kuchar (T4). The overall winner was **Dick Hall**, having selected Rory McIlroy (T7) and Charl Schwartzel (3). Dick pockets \$440.00.

CONGRATULATIONS, DICK HALL!

PUTTING TIPS:

Don't take it too lightly. Even though two-footers might seem like tap in's, they can easily slip out of your grasp if you're not paying attention. Go through your standard pre-shot routine and don't forget to read the green. Even short putts can break enough to cause a miss.

Don't take it too seriously. If you over-analyze a two foot putt, you'll find yourself tensing up and stabbing at the ball. Remember to breathe and make a smooth confident stroke just like you would on a 5 or 10 foot putt.

Keep your head still. On short putts most golfers are eager to watch the ball drop into the hole. This causes them to lift their head, which causes their body to move, which causes the putter to travel off line, which causes the ball to go shooting off in the wrong direction. Instead of trying to watch the ball roll into the hole, keep your head still and listen for it to drop to the bottom of the cup. There is no sweeter sound.

CLOSEST TO THE PIN.....

If you hit a superb shot on a par 3 and the ball ends up 2" in <u>front</u> of the hole....Hooray, great shot! The courteous thing to do would be to put the CTP marker 2" <u>behind</u> the hole. This is so the CTP marker does not block the hole and prevent a fellow member from the possibility of making a hole-inone. Thank you for your consideration.

FUNNY....

A young family moved into a house next to a vacant lot. One day a construction crew turned up to start building a house on the empty lot.

The young family's 5 year old daughter naturally took an interest in all the activity going on next door and spent much of each day observing the workers.

Eventually the construction crew, all of them "gems in the rough", more or less, had adopted her as a kind of project mascot. They chatted with her, let her sit with them while they had coffee and lunch breaks and gave her little jobs to do here and there to make her feel important. At the end of the first week, they even presented her with a pay envelope containing a check for ten dollars.

The little girl took this home to her mother who suggested that she take her ten dollars "pay" she'd received to the bank the next day to start a savings account.

When the girl and her Mom got to the bank, the teller was equally impressed and asked the little girl how she had come by her very own paycheck at such a young age. The little girl proudly replied: "I worked last week with a real construction crew building the new house next door to us."

"Oh my goodness gracious," said the teller. "And will you be working on the house this week, too?"

The little girl replied, "I will if those assholes from the lumber yard ever deliver the friggin' sheet rock!"