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**“The Tee Box”©**

***“The Only Official Newsletter of Rolling In Golf Club”***

***Vol #15 August 17, 2017***

***“ PMMPC THE FINALS”***

***COMMENTARY . . . . . . . BY DAVID FAILURETEE***

**So, who is David Failuretee? Many have asked. Well, I grew up in a suburb of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, in a family of golf nuts. When I was very young my Uncle Junior lived with us and he fantasized that he was Ben Hogan, wore a Hogan style cap, even looked like him a little. I displayed interest in golf at an early age. Dad built me a nine hole course around the house. Put tin cans in the ground and made little flags using dowels. Only broke out a window twice. My family used to gather around the TV and watch golf. When some unfortunate pro missed a short putt my Mom would exclaim “Well, I swear, that boy missed that putt”!**

**I developed an interest in sports journalism in high school. As you may know the University of Missouri has one of the top journalism schools in the country. Didn’t do me any good, they denied my acceptance, grades sucked. Instead, I attended Truman University in Kirksville, Missouri, a Division II school with a good sports program. After graduation I was able to land a job at the Kirksville Sentinel News. Over the years I’ve worked at five newspapers in Missouri and Tennessee. Along with that I’ve done free lance golf reporting for numerous publications. I’ve seen it all in the world of golf.**

**I decided to escape the full time writing five years ago, but thru my contacts in the industry I can still finagle press credentials to any event, including The Masters. It was via a mutual friend that I became aware of RIGC and learned the club was seeking someone to compose a regular newsletter. I do this for other clubs, so the decision was a no brainer, and it’s been very interesting. That’s my story.**

**There is much to report on in this issue. The final match of the 2017 PMMPC was held at Cherry Creek G. C. on August 16. Also, on the same day at Cherry Creek the JUG Shootout was held for those who qualified during the season long competition. So lets get started . . . . . . DF**

***FINALLY, THE FINALE OF THE 2017 PMMPC***

**The entire country has been eagerly awaiting two major events. First, the Total Solar Eclipse, currently scheduled for August 21, will take place, blinding people from Oregon to South Carolina. Second is the playing of the final match of the 2017 President’s Medallion Match Play Championship. What was begun at the end of May has now been concluded with the final match being contested at Cherry Creek on August 16.**

**The two combatants left standing were RIGC veteran and Executive Committee member Bob Hagedorn, and big hitter and wine collector John Skiragis. The Windsor Casino sports book installed Skiragis as the 3-1 favorite to claim the prize, and those odds barely moved during the past several weeks. So going in to the match Hagedorn knew that he was the clear underdog, and was getting four strokes from Skiragis. Problem was Hagedorn was in the midst of a two week golf adventure in northern Michigan. So what does he do, he drives back for one day to play the final match, then heads back north. Now that is dedication.**

**But did it pay off? Well, on the first hole Hagedorn claimed it and found himself in a very early lead. For the rest of the round he often was hitting first which is always a good thing in match play. And he did what one is supposed to do in that situation, put his tee shot in good shape the fairway placing pressure on his opponent. Skiragis found this a difficult situation to overcome early on, and in spite of several decent comeback attempts it wasn’t enough to overcome the steady play of Hagedorn. So, let’s all say hello to the PMMPC Champion for 2017 . . . . Bob Hagedorn! Congratulations Bob on your 3 & 2 victory. And, congrats also go out to Skiragis for an finely played tournament. After the round Hagedorn was adorned with the Medallion for winning the PMMPC, the only such award on planet earth. He was informed of his duty to wear the Medallion proudly at all RIGC events, and also to weddings, bar/bat mitzvahs, funerals, birthday parties, movie premiers, Christmas Day morning, Grand Jury testimony, and court sentencings. Finally, congratulations to all who helped make the 2017 PMMPC another success!**

***HANSINGER IS BACK, WITH A GOOD BACK AT GREYSTONE***

**Tiger Woods and Dennis Hansinger. Both golfers troubled much of the year with back problems. But unlike Woods, Hansinger has returned to golf action. And at Greystone on August 9 he returned in a very big way, shooting a sizzling round of 88, for a net score of 63 and first place in the net score race. Congrats Dennis! Claiming second place were Scott Moore and Willie Smith who both had net 64’s, excellent.**

**I’m told there was a bit of controversy about the two Closest To The Pin holes, both of which were less than 100 yards in length. Personally, I commend clubs who offer up very short CTP holes. With them, all players feel pressure on the tee shot, as opposed to longer holes where the higher handicappers know they don’t have much of a chance, and thusly just go thru the motions. There’s another added benefit to very short CTP holes. The chances of a hole-in-one go way up, meaning the chances of free drinks after the round also go way up.**

***JUG CHAMPIONSHIP UPDATE***

**The JUG Shootout was held at Cherry Creek on August 16. Realistically there were only about a dozen players who had a mathematical change of winning the season long competition. The results of the play at Cherry Creek will be tabulated and the coveted JUG will be awarded at the Awards Banquet in October. Stay tuned as the suspense builds.**

***MEMBER-MEMBER IS UP NEXT AT TWIN LAKES***

The extremely popular RIGC Member-Member Championship is up next on August 23 at Twin Lakes. At total of about 30 teams will be vying for the top prize which was won last year by the team of Karam/Hansinger with a score of 59. Good luck to all of the two man teams of friends, some of whom sadly may be former friends after the round. A full report will be in the next issue.