

# REGION FOUR – GOLF COLLECTORS SOCIETY

(TEXAS, LOUISIANA, ARKANSAS, OKLAHOMA and NEW MEXICO)



## ONION CREEK HICKORY CLASSIC and 7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SWIFT TROPHY MATCHES (USA vs. CANADA) March 20-22, 2014, Onion Creek Club, Austin, TX

Fifty-two golfers turned out this year to play this classic course designed by founder **Jimmy Demaret**.

On Thursday, March 20, the Americans retained the Swift Trophy, 14.5 to 12.5. The

USA leads the series 5 - 2. USA Captain **Russ Fisher** named **Chris Palar** of Ankeny, IA American MVP and Canadian Captain **Dave Jardine** named **Kim Haley** of Edmonton, Alberta Canadian MVP. Onion Creek member Virgil Swift (originally from Canada) is our benefactor.

YEAR	LOCATION	USA	CANADA	USA MVP	CANADA MVP
2008	Austin, TX	19.5	7.5	-	-
2009	Austin, TX	8.0	19.0	-	-
2010	Austin, TX	11	10	Randy Clark	Troy Schnell
2011	Irving, TX	5	16	-	-
2012	Irving, TX	16	14	-	-
2013	Austin, TX	15.5	11.5	Mike O'Brien	Dave Blocksidge
2014	Austin, TX	15.5	12.5	Chris Palar	Kim Haley

### MEDAL PLAY

In the 36-hole medal play tournament, **Jeff Smith**, Greenwood, AR, took first with 154 (76, 78) in the CHAMPIONSHIP division.

Net winner was Marcel Valade of Edmonton, ALB.

**David Barnard** of Austin, TX won the age 60-69 division with a 158 total (80, 78). Net

winner was Bob Wolfensperger of Modesto, CA..

**John Piffer** of Indianola, IA took the age 70-plus division with 158 (78, 80). Net winner was Bill Reed of Des Moines, IA.

In the Ladies Division, **Kim Haley** of Sherwood Park, Alberta captured low gross honors with 189 (99, 90) and Susan Black of Austin, TX won low net.

### SCRAMBLE

There were two Scramble divisions (regular and four-from-the-same-golf-club). Onion Creek Club of Austin (**John Drake, Rob Marchese, Mike O'Brien and Donnie Jones**) took the golf-club division and a mixed team of **Rives McBee, Jonathan Pilgrim, Dean Townsend and Scott Pilgrim** won the regular scramble.

### JOHNNY HENRY AWARD

Former GCS President **Bill Reed** of Des Moines, IA won the prestigious JOHNNY HENRY award which goes to the low net senior GCS member. Bill's name goes on the perpetual trophy which is displayed year-round in the Onion Creek clubhouse and he took home a beautiful engraved crystal tray.

### MISCELLANEOUS

The 2013 Halloween Flood inflicted devastating damage to the original front nine of this 27-hole layout, and major damage to trees, structures, fairways and greens on the remaining holes. However, Superintendent **Ryan Crump** and his crew performed minor miracles and had the North Course open for play, prompting numerous favorable comments by the players. In fact, at the conclusion of the Swift Trophy Matches, **Craig Spicer**, superintendent of Legends Golf Club (Edmonton, Canada) passed the hat and he then presented Onion Creek's

**Ryan Crump** with a nice little token of the players' appreciation! (Late note: I saw Ryan Crump during the members' divot-repair-day today and he told me that he is throwing a BBQ for his crew after work on Friday, April 11. You rock, Ryan!

Most improved Saturday performance over Friday's performance: 1. **Curt Sampson** (87, 74)

### OTHER TOUCHES

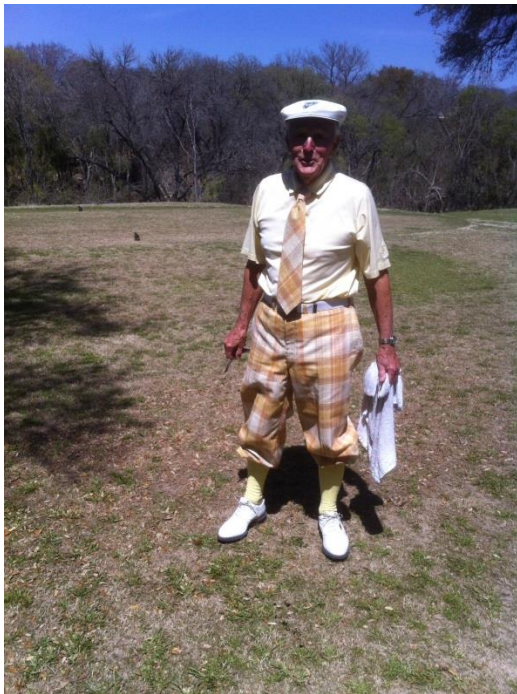
A well-stocked hospitality room at the host hotel, hamburgers and beer at Onion Creek Club following the Swift Trophy Matches on Thursday, an outstanding Texas BBQ at **Max Hill's** home on Friday and a concluding Mexican banquet at Onion Creek Club on Saturday, featuring guest speakers **Terry Todd** and **Cindy Slater** of the world-acclaimed Stark Center at The University of Texas at Austin. Attractive engraved crystal and glass awards went deep into the results.

Taking a cue from the British Open, OCC member **Tom Fortin** ensured the Swift Trophy was engraved with the 2014 results by the time of the trophy presentation.



## TALES FROM THE ROAD

Edmonton's **Ron Lyons** drove a van full of Canadians and hickory clubs out of the host hotel and as he merged onto Interstate 35, his tailgate popped up and out dropped Ron's hickories! And he was right in front of a school bus. The bus driver swerved and did very well to avoid hitting all but one of Ron's hickories. A tense moment, but except for that one club, all turned out fine.... forgetful tournament director **Pete League** was driving to the golf course on Saturday morning and as he turned from the frontage road to cross the overpass on Interstate-35, he ran out of gas in his Mini Cooper... right on the overpass and only a quarter-mile from the clubhouse. The second car to come along was driven by Onion Creek member **Rob Cullen**, who helped Pete push the Mini out of harm's way and then went to the nearby Shell station and purchased a gas can and a gallon of gas. What a good Samaritan!! Forgetful Pete was underway again in less than ten



And then everyone will remember the gentleman in the plus-fours who was spotting balls on holes 14 and 15 on Saturday. **Don Bledsoe** was wearing the original marshalls' uniform (plus-fours, shirt, tie, long socks, and hat) from the very first Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf Tournament held at Onion Creek in 1978. And his uniform continues to fit him after 36 years!!! Don's wife, **Mary Lou Bledsoe** was one of the two ladies managing the check-in table. Mary Lou also told me that the Onion Creek Women's Golf Association literally made the ties that were a part of the uniform, as well as a number of other items. Now, THAT'S member involvement!!!

SPECIAL THANKS... to director of golf **John Ferguson** and head golf professional **Colby Cobb** for their professional support during the entire week. To **Lisa, Melissa** and **Jennifer**, OCC's outstanding cart attendants... the entire catering staff... and to the following Onion Creek members who assisted in many different ways... **Gene Arnold, Stephanie Arnold, Dean LaBonte, Cathi LaBonte, David Boyle, Don Bledsoe, Mary Lou Bledsoe, Winn Carrick, Tom Fortin, Perry Woolley, Paul Romero, Donnie Jones, Mike O'Brien, Theresa Babineaux, Lynn League, John Drake, Art Danart, Doug Hickman** (and others?). And let's not forget **Ron Groves** of Lost Creek C.C. who managed the "shirts".



***ONION CREEK HICKORY CLASSIC SHIRTS AVAILABLE...***

*\$35.00 INCLUDING shipping.*

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**PHOTOS, PHOTOS, PHOTOS!!!!!!**

**Many thanks to John Drake, Onion Creek member, photographer, and hickory player!**

**Check out:**

**<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/821wm1qct8i9up4/-BBmwTscu8>**

**The photos are unedited, but they are terrific and portray an outstanding sense of the fun we had in Onion Creek during late March!**

**AND A SPECIAL TOAST TO....** As the Scramble foursome of Rives McBee, Dave Townsend, Scott Pilgrim and Jonathan Pilgrim were about to tee off on Saturday morning for the final round, Jonathan Pilgrim proudly and with a particular flourish, presented each person in the group a shot glass. He then pulls from his golf bag a fine, priceless, antique golf-themed flask in which he had deposited an appropriately generous amount of fine Scotch whiskey. Of course, each person had to down his allotted beverage before taking his first official swing of the day. And they did so, it was reported.



## FULL RESULTS

NAME	DIVISION	GROSS DAY 1	GROSS DAY 2	GROSS TOTAL	HICKORY HANDICAP	NET TOTAL	GROSS PLACE	NET PLACE
BARNARD, D	60-69	80	78	158	13	132	1	
WOLFENSPERGER, BOB	60-69	84	89	173	18	137		1
REAM, CHRIS	60-69	83	79	162	11	140	2	
MYRICK, MICHAEL	60-69	84	82	166	8	150	3	
MCDONALD, DAVE	60-69	86	84	170	16	138	4	
ROOFNER, BOB	60-69	85	88	173	16	141	5	
CRAIG, STEVE	60-69	95	89	184	22	140		2
BROOKS, CLIFF	60-69	93	87	180	19	142		3
COWARD, HAL	60-69	88	86	174	14	146		4
KUWITZKY, KIRK	60-69	94	95	189	18	153		5
HUTTON, JOHN	60-69	84	92	176	10	156		6
PIFFER, JOHN	70+	78	80	158	9	140	1	
REED, BILL	70+	87	81	168	20	128		1
BERGGREN, JOHN	70+	80	83	163	13	137	2	
LEAGUE, PETE	70+	87	78	165	13	139	3	
HOFFMAN, TONY	70+	83	82	165	12	141	3	
FISHER, RUSS	70+	99	87	186	20	146		2
AARON, WAYNE	70+	108	97	205	19	167		3
ROOFNER, BRADLEY	CHAMP	107	WD		22			
SMITH, JEFF	CHAMP	76	78	154	5	144	1	
VALADE, MARCEL	CHAMP	79	87	166	11	144		1



SAMPSON, CURT	CHAMP	87	74	161	8	145	2	
WRIGHT, JEREMY	CHAMP	81	82	163	9	145	3	
DUCHERER, WILLIE	CHAMP	88	89	177	13	151	4	
HELLER, M	CHAMP	95	82	177	12	153	5	
PALAR, CHRIS	CHAMP	96	87	183	16	151		2
FILIPAN, JOHN	CHAMP	99	94	193	20	153		3
CONINE, JIM	CHAMP	93	87	180	10	160		4
SPICER, CRAIG	CHAMP	98	99	197	16	165		5
SLOAN, MICHAEL	CHAMP	98	112	210	18	174		6
HALEY, KIM	LADIES	99	90	189	22	145	1	
BLACK, SUSAN	LADIES	119	107	226	31	164		1

## JOHNNY HENRY AWARD TO LOW NET, GCS MEMBER, AGE 60 AND OVER, MAN OR WOMAN

**BILL REED**

### SCRAMBLE TEAMS - REGULAR

	NAME	DAY 1	DAY 2	TOTAL
<b>2nd PLACE</b>	D. Jardine	62	66	128
	G. Proctor			
	M. Hill			
	D. Verinder			
<b>1st PLACE</b>	R. McBee	63	58	121
	J. Pilgrim			
	D. Townsend			
	S. Pilgrim			
<b>3RD PLACE</b>	J. Hill	67	66	133
	P. Clark			
	J. Ausen			
	R Groves			

**SCRAMBLE TEAMS - GOLF CLUB \***

<b>1ST PLACE</b>	J. Drake	64	61	125
<b>ONION CREEK CLUB</b>	R. Marchese			
<b>(Austin, TX)</b>	DJ Jones			
	M. O'Brien			
<b>2ND PLACE</b>	R. Lyons	66	61	127
<b>LEGENDS GOLF CLUB</b>	E. Chan			
<b>(Edmonton, Alberta)</b>	R. Galloway			
	J. McMurchy			

***Y'ALL COME BACK AND SEE US, HEAH?***