



**Texas Shotgun** 



September 14-15, 2007 www.TexasShotgun.com

## **RSVP REQUEST – by August 29th**

**Sponsored by:** Jet Works Air Center, www.jwac.aero Landmark Aviation, www.landmarkaviation.com Dallas Airmotive, www.dallasairmotive.com Ship It AOG, www.shipitaogllc.com Hooters of Grapevine, www.hooters.com Miller Brewing, www.millerbrewing.com Embassy Suites Dallas Love Field, www.dallaslovefield.embassysuites.com Golf Galaxy, www.golfgalaxy.com

## **Sponsorships Still Available – Contact Marc Immediately**

It is again time to send out the Strom Aviation Texas Shotgun Golf Invitation and like every year, this event benefiting the Children's Medical Center Dallas promises to be the aviation golfing event you won't want to miss.

Each year we try to shake things up a bit and again in true Shotgun fashion history will repeat itself. What has been exceptionally interesting and borderline bizarre is that prior to us even sending out any information this year many of you were already saying you would be attending. At first this was flattering. It felt like we had reached a certain level of notoriety and could have very well been the featured story in Golf Digest Magazine. I got suspicious when unsolicited sponsorship money started flowing in like lead toys from China and it hit me. You guys somehow all got in cahoots together in an attempt to try to fill up our event without having to read our invitation that is almost as famous as it is long.

All I can say is that I am onto you guys, we are keeping the money and I am still sending you an official invitation now and am asking for you to reply by August 29<sup>th</sup>.

Your loyal golf committee at Strom Aviation is excited about the event but there is no denying it is a stressful period of time for us as we prepare for the annual aviation

invasion into the DFW area on September 14-15<sup>th</sup>. We take comfort learning that other local businesses, not to mention area law enforcement officials, are also scrambling to get ready and wanted to share with you the positive impact your attendance to this aviation only golf event has on the local businesses and economy.

As an example our new host golf course, Bear Creek Golf Club, told me on the phone today that after they heard about our previous eight years they learned that as a group we are not the best of golfers nor are we quick to buy over priced name brand balls. To better prepare they tried to buy up all of the inexpensive balls in the area but did not have much success as some of you have already played out there recently.

It was really strange as I could hardly hear what he was saying as it sounded like an aircraft sheet metal shop in the background. He then explained that they were currently pulling out all the non-alcoholic drinks from the beverage carts and were installing crude cargo containers capable of holding the 72 dozen inexpensive golf balls that they were able to purchase on-line in addition to a variety of wedges in anticipation of everyone inadvertently leaving them behind. They thought this would not only speed up the round but also increase the revenue they brought in from our event.

He was really quite proud with finding some balls that he thought our group might enjoy and although I had not heard of them they were called Viagra Long Flites. He wanted me to make sure everyone knew they could be purchased during the round as he was fearful that he might be left holding any that did not sell. Should you decide to buy any of these he cautioned that it was important to time your round because if your round lasts longer than four hours you might have a disorder called priapism. If this happens be very cautious around your putter as this can affect your short game. Immediately contact your doctor or seek out the nearest golf ranger to inquire about the immediate availability of ice packs and/or medical shunts.

Even after all that work they are still concerned they will not have enough golf balls on hand so they employed three local artists to repaint the range balls and repackage them as, "FAA approved".

Lastly, as it relates to the Golf Course they said that there was a line outside their office this morning from guys that were offering their services to dive into the ponds to retrieve golf balls for a per ball fee. Sounds like the Bear Creek plan is to have at least one former Navy Seal scuba diver who may or may not look like former Minnesota Governor Jesse Ventura in each body of water watching us tee off to capitalize on this ball finding bonanza. Do not be alarmed if you see what look like walruses in the waters but do let us know, however, if they run across the fairway, take your ball and then dive back into the pond as that was one of the concerns I raised.

The DFW Hyatt Regency, which is now our host hotel, placed an advert in the Dallas Morning News on Sunday indicating they were looking for extra bartenders and servers just for the weekend of our event. The hotel is working behind the scenes to make sure our group enjoys their stay which I very much appreciate. Something that the hotel had not thought of yet was that while we are thankful that they provide transportation to/from the airport as well as to/from the hotel and the golf course they failed to address how some of our guests will get to/from the hotel bar and their respective hotel room just a few flights above. We hope to have this issue resolved by tee off on Saturday.

Another company that is scrambling to get ready for their 4<sup>th</sup> year of sponsorship is Miller Brewing. This year they wanted to provide us with the kegs for free which would have saved us about a thousand dollars but as long as golf courses are "for-profit" they tend to like the income stream that a 275 dollar keg can provide and don't like that idea so much. Fortunately for us though Miller is an active sponsor and after consulting with Bill Murray, who was in a golf cart in down town Sweden at the time they were able to hatch a covert plan. As you read this invitation right now the Miller people are connecting miles and miles of industrial garden hoses purchased from Home Depot to connect the master Miller Lite keg at the distribution center to one of the sprinkler heads on the course. Since the staff at Bear Creek might be on to this secret mission all I can really say is that you might want to walk through the sprinklers on hole 7. Just a thought.

In speaking to Hooters of Grapevine, a three year sponsor, it sounds like a variety of what can only be described as cat fights have been erupting at the restaurant between the employees that want to come work our tournament as we have the history of being a respectful but fun group. I have not figured it all out but while I was testing the first 10 miles of hose from the Miller Project on 183 and Central (which works by the way although it was a little warm and they are looking into it) I am exploring the idea of proposing the concept of a VH1 Reality Program where the employees at Hooters get to compete in various events in order to win their place at next years tournament. Look for more information to come on this development but I believe there is something to that idea.

We are very thankful for our other loyal sponsors and friends at Jet Works Air Center, Landmark Aviation, Dallas Airmotive, Ship It AOG, Miller Brewing, Hooters Grapevine, Embassy Suites Dallas Love Field, Golf Galaxy and the more that will be jumping on prior to the event. The long and short of it is that this event is the real aviation deal and if you don't believe us talk to some who have attended but just know that the local businesses, Strom Aviation and The Children's Medical Center Dallas are hoping you join us again this year.

With the required amount of text now fulfilled **Strom Aviation is proud to officially announce the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Shotgun Golf Tournament benefiting The Children's Medical Center Dallas. We will be playing the West Course at Bear Creek Golf Club on Saturday September 15, 2007 with a 1:30 p.m. shotgun start.** On Friday the 14<sup>th</sup> we will again have our optional pre-tournament shotgun event at 1:30 p.m. playing the East course for a reduced rate of \$55.00 per player. We have found the pre-tournament event to be an excellent opportunity for our guests to practice and get the feel for the course type although I have got to be honest that there has been no scientific proof or indication that this works. In fact the studies are showing we are getting worse! Book your hotel now to make reservations at the DFW Hyatt Regency at 800-233-1234 and mention the Strom Aviation group booking rate of \$99.00 per night.

One final note seems appropriate as hundreds of us have experienced the great hospitality of the Doral Tesoro Golf Club and storied Blue Moon Lounge over the last three years. There are just too many stories and memories to relate but a few stand out in my mind and for the embarrassment of those involved it seems more than appropriate to reminisce one last time.

Last year we shared the Blue Moon with at least 2 wedding parties, one professional extreme fighter and his ex-girlfriend who was also a professional extreme fighter. I understand some single people within the group might have actually been hitting on her and that could have contributed to our coveted trophy being stolen but we will never know. In hindsight this might not be so bad as no fewer than 32 aviation professionals have drank from it symbolizing there first place victory but I was just informed that it might not have been cleaned....ever. The funny thing is that justice might actually prevail as there could be a trophy thief out there running around with bad breath and some kind of lip fungus. Now that is justice!

At one point during the night one of our attendees in an attempt to make friends with the wedding party was passing around all of our used raffle tickets saying they were drink coupons! This must have gone on for hours and he was definitely the coolest person in the room had it not been for the rest of us who exposed his plot.

Of course my personal favorite, that we can write about, is the time when one of our attendees who will remain nameless as long as he continues to send the "hundys' to me got confused on which hand he was holding the beverage and which hand he was holding the hot dog. Next thing we know he is hopping all over the bar as to what looked like some new and interesting Britney Spears dance maneuver. We just started laughing like good friends do. Then he threw himself onto a chair and a piece of hot dog shot out of his mouth and dang near broke the window of the Blue Moon! As a result of this experience one person has requested that we put a permanent Texas Shotgun ban on all hot dogs, Italian sausages or even bratwursts that were above the cocktail type size at all future event.

So a fond farewell for now to the Doral Tesoro and Blue Moon Lounge but a very happy hello to the Bear Creek Golf Club and Hyatt Regency Hotel as we look forward to creating our memories with our new venue!

Congratulations, you have just now finished the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Shotgun Golf Invitation. A certificate of completion should be mailed to you shortly. **Please reply to this e-mail no later than August 29<sup>th</sup> with your intention to join us this year.** As always we hope you enjoyed the read, although expect you to complain, and we look forward to seeing you soon!