



## **10th Annual Texas Shotgun**



**September 12-13, 2008**

**[www.TexasShotgun.com](http://www.TexasShotgun.com)**

**RSVP REQUEST – by Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**Limited Sponsorship Opportunities Available**  
**Shotgun Host Hotel - Hyatt Regency DFW Airport**

It is hard to believe that ten years have passed since Strom Aviation hosted our first golf tournament at Iron Horse Golf Club in Fort Worth, Texas. Some of you were there to witness the ceremonial first tee shot which has unintentionally, yet precisely, foreshadowed every event since. It all started with our president standing on the first tee box viewing a narrow fairway with all of us watching what would be his first round of golf...EVER. After hurriedly completing one of the most painful left handed swings which incorporated baseball, fishing, badminton and I think break dancing the end result was a shanked drive pelting the only roofed structure in sight with the only sound being unanimous laughter.

Those early years were both a learning experience as well as a great deal of fun for all of us as we circumnavigated the tracks of Coyote Ridge, Tour 18, Bridlewood, Doral and Bear Creek. This annual Texas tradition has exceeded our wildest expectations although admittedly it helps when you don't have many to begin with. In fact, we had no idea what, if anything, this event would turn into and unlike other famous Texas ideas written on bar napkins while drinking Wild Turkey ours was nothing as profound nor was it written although truth be told we were probably drinking. We simply wanted to find a way to play some golf and drink some beers with our friends in the aviation community and to that we have succeeded.

Over the years through all the laughs, jokes and questionable golf this event has grown into a big deal and one of the things we are most proud of is our charity affiliation with the Children's Medical Center of Dallas where we have donated upwards of \$25,000 from the tournament as a result of the generosity of the participants. Like folklore the memories and stories of each past event have become legend and with this being our tenth year it seems appropriate to celebrate ten memories that we have from our events gone by to get you in the spirit to join us this year in September.

10. Not only have we written some of the longest golf invitations on record but we are also the only aviation staffing company that was ever considered for inclusion in Al Gore's movie "Inconvenient Truth" for having contributed to the clearing of a small rain forest in Australia while also endangering the lives of one spotted owl, three prairie dogs and one wombat due to errant golf balls.

9. In an industry famous for sandbagging and generating questionable scramble scores, usually in the neighborhood of 36 under par, we take great pride that we have consistently turned in the highest team score cards in golf history. This confirms that we are an honest group and not very good at golf but we do realize that our sponsorships with both Miller Brewing and Hooters could be skewing these results.

8. As an aviation group consisting of “managers and executives” we have hit more than our fair share of cars but honestly it is the houses that are even more concerning. Now granted most of these “incidents” have occurred under the duress of our patented “Speed Hole” which has our guests running down the fairway with clubs and balls in hand but if anything should have been hit it should be the aviation professionals standing in the middle of the fairway acting as human targets waiting for the ball!

7. Our very first year we purchased an inexpensive trophy and it was quickly decided that the winning team should drink from the cup together in the spirit of teamwork. So that year just before announcing the winners we quickly filled the cup with what else? Beer. Almost immediately the beer was flowing out of all the unsealed joints in the cup and I couldn't help but think of that scene from Vegas Vacation where Chevy Chase tries to plug the leaking Hoover damn with gum! We began cheering “drink, drink, drink” in part out of necessity and the first winners responded in kind drinking quickly to avoid wearing the beverage. In the sake of improvement I just want to say that in the off chance that you actually win the trophy feel comfortable knowing that we purchased one that actually holds liquid and as an added bonus we applied some industry strength “herpes repellent” to the coating. We also periodically wash it at least once every three years.

6. One year at the Doral the smack talking got the better of us and the person who could drive the ball the farthest had to be resolved right then and there. Even though it was almost dark ten of us grabbed our ego, our driver, a couple of buckets of identical red and white striped range balls and headed to hole 10 to settle our dispute once and for all. It wasn't long until we realized that we couldn't hit the fairway and even when we did after racing to the ball in our 5 golf carts (which was an adventure in itself) we could not differentiate whose ball was whose. That night however we did determine that plenty of beer, a couple buckets of range balls and a driver can be time well spent with friends.

5. At the Doral Blue Moon Lounge we almost had to administer the Heimlich to one participant if only we had been paying attention. While none of the approximate 50 people at the bar saw anything odd that night the video from the hotel lobby clearly captures him one minute eating his hot dog in the corner of the bar and the next suddenly standing up trying to act cool calmly reaching for his throat. Shortly there after there was some arm flailing and leg gyrations until he propelled himself onto the nearest bar chair. It isn't until you slow the video down that you can see the hot dog shooting across the room faster and farther than this guy is capable of hitting a tee shot! It is then that it made sense why we all turned around to see him lying down in a pool of sweat next to a chair with three legs.

4. Over the years our tournaments have helped countless golfers master their left handed shots, use of Snoopy golf clubs for 2 year olds, hitting a 7 iron from tee to green and even recently teeing off while sitting on an actual toilet. You never know when these skills might become just as critical as the Heimlich maneuver.

3. I remember the thrill when our friend Wayne Cecil was the first to sponsor our event from Jet Works Air Center. That simple act paved the way for so many of our friends to actively support this event and our charity. There are too many sponsors to list but you know who you are and we appreciate it and hope that you will continue to support the Texas Shotgun.

2. There were several stories that came from our event at Coyote Ridge. Although it was hot that day I remember as I flew through the air with all my clothes on thinking, “maybe we shouldn't

have a golf event at a place with a community pool". The other thing that I remember from that year was it was the only time we offered a "horse's ass trophy" for last place. Although I have never had the honor of drinking from the cup (unless you include that one year there was an underage guest that won) I did win that damn horse's ass trophy we purchased. No more pools or horses ass trophies at our events!

1. Over the years our president has set a laundry list of course records exhibiting his golfing prowess as a lefty. Some of his accolades include; most strokes on a par 3, the only player routinely asked to sign a legal document at check-in demanding that he not drop his pants if he fails to reach the ladies tee box, most shots while standing in the same bunker and one of my favorites one of the only people that I have ever played with who was tracked down by a ranger in the middle of a round and asked, "by any chance did you hit a moving car on hole 7?" This year, in his tenth year of playing golf he has decided to throw out his left handed clubs and recently purchased right handed clubs. There is no telling what this year will bring but it will definitely be worth watching as he has pledged to at least eliminate two of the above issues although he has not committed to which ones yet.

As I look back, our fondest memories of these events are all the friendships and acquaintances that have come from everyone converging on DFW to be a part of the Texas Shotgun Golf Tournament. What started as a simple idea to have fun has turned into far more and the fact that we are all now helping raise money for such a great cause is icing on the cake. We could say, "Thanks for the memories" but that wouldn't be Strom so how about, "thanks for the memories especially the ones we can no longer remember".

With this being our shortest invitation on record, it is with great pleasure that we present to you this invitation to join us and so many of your friends and colleagues in aviation from all across the country to our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Shotgun Golf Tournament benefiting the Children's Medical Center Dallas. This year's event will be held at Bear Creek Golf Course in Dallas/Forth Worth, Texas on Saturday. This shotgun event will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday September 13<sup>th</sup> with an optional pre round of golf on Friday at 1:30 p.m.

**Please reply to this e-mail with your interest in participating by Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup>.**

If you are interested in forming your own foursome whereby reducing the possibility that you will be playing with Jared or myself we are now offering that option at a cost of \$500 with some of the money going toward the Children's Medical Center Dallas. An application to create your own team can be found on our website at [www.TexasShotgun.com](http://www.TexasShotgun.com) or you can call us to discuss. As always if you know of another aviation manager or executive who would enjoy getting an invitation please let me know in your response.

Lastly, please help us raise money for this great cause by buttering up your marketing people and either send me a name and number to contact or go to our website to see our full PowerPoint Presentation outlining all the options. We need your help!!!!

On behalf of all of us at Strom Aviation we look forward to hearing from you soon.