

"There's Something Special About Sapelo" Sapelo Hammock Golf Club Newsletter Spring, 2022



Springtime Greetings to Sapelo Hammock Golf Club Owners, Members & Friends

Shellman Bluff has gotten off to an early start with the greening process. For the community at large, things kicked off on March 26th with the 21st annual Friends of Shellman Bluff St. Patrick's Parade, where there was no lack of green in the parade decorations and the attire among the 5,000+ attendees. The other "greening" took place on our golf course, which came early in the season compared to normal warmups along the Georgia coast. Things continue to progress very nicely here at Sapelo Hammock and we have lots of news to convey to you. In this issue we will bring you up to date on the overall operations, the condition of the course, Business and Corporate Partnerships, recent and upcoming special events, and the status of our current stock offering. We're also introducing a new feature to our newsletter titled "Owner Spotlight" that we hope you find to be an interesting read.



Report From Our General Manager/Director of Golf Scott Hare

We are off to a fast start to the year with a lot of activities and events already completed and many more scheduled in the upcoming months. Rounds of golf played are ahead of our projections even with bad weather a problem in January. Your support of the club is evident as membership numbers continue to grow and membership rounds of golf grow. Our social events are well attended. I cannot give enough thanks and recognition to so many of the ladies who have worked tireless-



ly to make the dinners a huge success. Ellen Goldberg, Suzette NeSmith, Marilyn Saxon, Sally Cowart, Sandi Lemcke, Gretchen Logue, Candace Coburn, Kathy Carey, Nancy Cobb, and Carole Desmond have all worked hard to make the events fun and entertaining. Thank you all!

The club will be busy the next couple of months with dinners, golf tournaments, political events (Herschel Walker is coming to the club) and more fun events scheduled. I want each of you to have every opportunity to participate in some way at the club. We will have fun golf events like the Pre-Masters Par 3 on April 1st to Putting Challenges at our First Friday events. We hold a Sunday Couples Golf event on the last Sunday of every month. We have started a Friday Blitz game for those interested in some great team competition. We will also be help-ing those who are just learning or want to learn to play the game of golf a fun and relaxing opportunity to get started.

One of the things that make Sapelo Hammock Golf Club special is the tremendous support we receive from the owners and members who volunteer their time to make our club so wonderful. We are always in need of more help so if you have some extra time, contact me at the club and I can help put your special talents to good use. We need volunteers for our tournaments, Owner / Member dinners, Spring Cleaning projects, or on course projects.

I thank you for your support of the club and hope to see you soon.

Scott H. Hare, PGA General Manager / Director of Golf

Report from Chris Hankey,

Director of Course Operations

Could warmer weather actually be here to stay? After an early green up this year, we actually had record low temperatures and many more nights in the 20s than normal. We did sustain some areas of winter kill but overall the course faired well and damage was not severe. So when does the turf actually green and fill in and recover? It won't happen until overnight temperatures remain in the 60s on a consistent basis. You will find thin areas of greens, tees and fairways until we reach these temperatures, usually in May.

The bunker project is going well and is almost completed. It will have a big impact on playability and really improve the esthetics of the course. Thanks to everyone who contributed to these types of projects. We could not take them on without your support.

We have completed our spring pre-emergence application for weed control and we will likely be fertilizing the entire course on May 5th. During this transition from winter to the growing season, keep in mind any weeds visible now are only winter weeds and they will be gone with hot weather. We all look forward to warmer weather and my staff and I are anxious to begin the growing season and getting the course in great shape once again. Thanks to everyone for your support and those who volunteer with course maintenance. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 678-570-1888, or email at chankey@cornerstonegp.com

Looking forward to seeing you on the course!





Business Partners









Enroll your company as a **Business Partner and find out about** all the benefits we offer.

Please inquire in the Pro Shop

Owner Spotlight

As most of you are aware, Sapelo Hammock is a semi-private, publicly playable golf course and is owned by 165 area families. Within this owners' group is an unusual number of very talented and creative people-----professionals, artists, writers, business people, visionaries, and others.

For our very first "Owner Spotlight" newsletter feature, we are pleased to introduce you to Hue Rainey, a member of our owners' group since 2019. Hue and his wife, Jane, reside at their home here on our golf course in Shellman Bluff and their other home in Sautee Nacoochee in the North Georgia mountains. What's so special about Hue? He was one of the leaders in the early development of Helen, a stunning Alpine village in the Georgia mountains about two hours northeast of Atlanta. Hue has written a book titled Helen's Untold Story about joining in the partnership with a certain Mr. Peter Hodkinson that turned Helen into the huge tourist attraction that it is today, the third most visited city in Georgia.

Hue lived for many years in the Atlanta area where he owned a successful construction company. In 1975, a desire for a quieter lifestyle away from the big city, along with a fortunate and timely phone call, brought Hue to Helen. On that phone call, Pete Hodkinson invited Hue to join him in "this madness" that was going on in Helen-----the "madness" being the metamorphosis of the town from a small mountain hamlet into a Bavarian themed village.

Hodkinson, the man who conceived the idea of Alpine Helen in 1969, was a gifted entrepreneur with a proven track record of successful businesses earlier in his career. While many folks said that he simply couldn't turn his idea into a reality, Pete was a highly driven individual who saw failure as unacceptable. Through hard work and the power of persuasion, he enlisted the right folks (Hue among the main ones) to help make his dream come true. And......the rest is history, as is evident to anyone who has ever visited the charming tourist town.



In addition to his success in the construction business, Hue has been involved in several other businesses, including ownership of Sautee Nacoochee Vineyards and the ownership/management team of Bavarian Brook Golf and Racquet Club in Helen. Hue's marketing skills in these businesses were put to good use during his days in Helen where one of his most satisfying accomplishments was obtaining a lot of great, free publicity for the town which eventually put it on the tourist map.





We asked Hue what brought him and Jane to Shellman Bluff. Their first coastal home was in St. Simons Island in the 1990s but they had decided that it was way too busy for their liking. Their next home was in Mexico Beach, Florida, which unfortunately was wiped out by Hurricane Michael in 2018. Their continued love of the coast brought them on an excursion to Shellman Bluff to check out a golf course they had been hearing about----Sapelo Hammock. They loved it here and in 2019 bought a golfside condo at The Hammocks and a marshfront lot in Sutherland Bluff. In 2021 they sold those properties and purchased their home on the golf course in Sutherland.

Hue and Jane were very big into sports in their early years, an interest that they each got growing up in families of athletes. Jane played basketball in high school and Hue played scholarship football and baseball in college. Hue was even invited to spring training tryouts with the Los Angeles Dodgers (his pangs of regret at not accepting the invitation still linger). Hue and Jane have a big blended family of three children, five grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

The story of Helen in many ways parallels the story of Sapelo Hammock Golf Club. In the 1960's, Helen was a tiny, sleepy mountain town of 225 people with a dying economy----and a spot in the road to which travelers would pay little attention. Sapelo Hammock went out of business in 2010 due to the recession and began growing up in weeds. Both places went through a revitalization----Helen, beginning in the 1970s and our golf course beginning in the 2010s. The common ingredient in these two stories was a group of people who had a clear goal and fulfilled that goal through passion, hard work and a vision for the future. Today, both Helen and Sapelo Hammock are great success stories and have been totally transformed. Things like this don't just happen-----it takes people like Hue Rainey to make them happen.



You can read more about Hue and his book Helen's Untold Story at <u>www.huerainey.com</u>

Recent Events at Sapelo Hammock



Annual Owner/Member Christmas Dinner, December





Owner/ Member Valentine's Dinner, February



Dinner, January

THE CHAMBER Darien-McIntosh County

Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf Outing, March



Owner/Member Irish Italian Dinner, March

A Warm Sapelo Hammock Welcome To Our Newest Social and Golf Members:

Monrow Britt Golf Membership

Charlie Morgan Golf Membership

Donald McDuff Golf Membership

Mary Ann Carson-Kelley Social Membership

John & Jean Patelidas Social Membership William & Hannah Craig Golf Membership

Alan & Linda Gravitt Social Membership

William Schieferdecker Social Membership

> James Walker Social Membership

Scott Speed Member of Our Staff

Welcome!

Not Yet a Member?



- Access to ALL exclusive Member / Owner functions at least 2 per month
- Meet and enjoy members of our community
- Charge account for golf, food and functions
- \$31.25 per month or \$375 per year your choice of billing
- Please help support this important linchpin of our community

Sign up today by calling 912-832-4653 or stop by the Clubhouse



Update on Our Current Stock Offering

As many of you know, our previous preferred stock offering enabled us to make the turnaround that we did from 2018 to 2022. The first offering of \$1,500,000 was completely sold in 2018 and was soon followed by a second offering of \$750,000 in 2020. This current campaign expires at the end of 2022 and we have sold to date shares valued at \$519,000, leaving us \$231,000 to reach our goal. This current offering will be the final one and will enable us to continue our capital improvement projects as well as provide additional reserves that will keep us moving forward for many years to come. Please help us with this campaign by talking to your friends and neighbors (particularly new ones) about the importance of continued growth for our golf club and the critical role that Sapelo Hammock plays in the economy and the social and recreational lives of our residents. For further information, please contact Rose Anne Giles at 770-634-4543 or raggiles@aol.com

What Are the Benefits of Owning Stock and Being a Part of the Sapelo Hammock Golf Club Owners Group?

- Pride of membership with a group of people that has made a difference in the community and touched many lives in a positive manner. The economic growth that the community has recently experienced would not have happened without the golf course.
- Membership in the owners group allows access to the golf course grounds for you and your family including sunset golf cart rides and walks along the pathways. It's your property!
- Discounts in renting the Eagles Nest condo for family and friends (\$150 per night vs \$225 public rate).
- Future sale of the golf course or any percentage sold would provide a dividend for preferred stock owners.
- When you get ready to sell your home, stock ownership can be transferred to the buyer.



Upcoming Events





STARTING THURSDAY, APRIL 14TH 6:00 PM

LADIES BEGINNER CLINIC

Ladies, do you want to learn to play Golf?

Here is your chance!

This Beginner Clinic will be a fun and relaxed environment where you will learn the basics of the game and get started playing golf the first night!

\$20 PER PERSON FOR EACH SESSION

TO SIGN UP, CALL THE GOLF SHOP OR STOP BY THE CLUBHOUSE



FRIDAY BLITZ

Starting Friday, March 18th 1:00 PM Tee Times \$20 Prize Fund Two-Man Blind Draw Partners Stableford Scoring on Front, Back and Overa Skins Game all the Golf Shop by Noon on Fridays to Sign





SUNDAY, APRIL 24TH

COUPLES GOLF EVENT

3:00 PM SHOTGUN START

\$20 PER COUPLE INCLUDES FOOD & PRIZES (DOES NOT INCLUDE GOLF FEES)

Call the Pro Shop to sign up or use the sign up sheet in the clubhouse.





MENU

FROM THE GRILL All items include a bag of chips.

Add French Fries to Grill and Deli Selections for \$2.00/ Hamburger or Cheeseburger \$10 Mouth-watering grilled ground chuck served on a roll with your choice of condiments. Add Cheese \$.50 Add Bacon \$.50 **Grilled Chicken** \$8.50 A tender, marinated breast of chicken slowly charbroiled. **DELI SELECTIONS Traditional Club** \$9.50 Ham, Turkey, Bacon, Cheddar Cheese, Mayo, Lettuce and Tomato The Sapelo Hot Ham & Cheese \$10 Ham, Pimento Cheese, Bacon Jam on Toasted Bread **Chef Salad** \$8.50 Bed of Lettuce, Ham, Turkey, Boiled Egg, Cheese, Tomato Chicken Salad or Tuna Salad Plate \$9.50 Your choice of Seasoned Chicken or Tuna on a Bed of Lettuce and Tomato **Grab and Go Hot Dog** \$5 Quarter Pound All Beef Hot Dog on a Fresh Bun **Chicken Salad or Tuna Salad Sandwich** \$9.50 Delicious Chicken Salad or Tuna Salad on your choice of White or Wheat Bread Ham or Turkey Sandwich **\$8** Your choice of Ham and Cheese or Turkey and Cheese on either White or Wheat Bread

Hours of Operation: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10:00 am – 2:00 pm Golf Shop Phone:912-832-4653

Sapelo Hammock Clubhouse Spring Cleaning

A group of dedicated volunteers have been busy at the clubhouse as of late. Two teams have a long list of spring cleaning projects to tackle that includes both the clubhouse interior, chaired by Marilyn Saxon, and the exterior, chaired by Ray Williams.

This initiative aims to spiff up the windows, paint, install new decor and equipment, redo restrooms, pressure wash exterior of buildings and concrete surfaces, replenish flowers and plantings, replace mats---as well as several other similar tasks along the cart paths and at many of the tee boxes. A huge **Thank You** to the owners and members who are working on this current initiative. Check out the list of projects posted between the bar and the kitchen door!

As always, it takes an amazing amount of volunteer effort to continue our improvements and we are always looking for new helpers (please contact Scott Hare for further information or signup)





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