



SAPPELO
HAMMOCK
G O L F C L U B

“On The Bluff”
Sapelo Hammock Golf Club Newsletter
April, 2021



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

Lots of wonderful things are happening at our golf club and our community at large: Considering the past year's difficulties, our club is doing well; the golfing business across the nation has seen dramatic positive changes; our local area is experiencing a real estate revitalization; and our friends and families are emerging from their pandemic cocoons and reengaging with others at events and social activities. For all of these good things, we are very grateful.

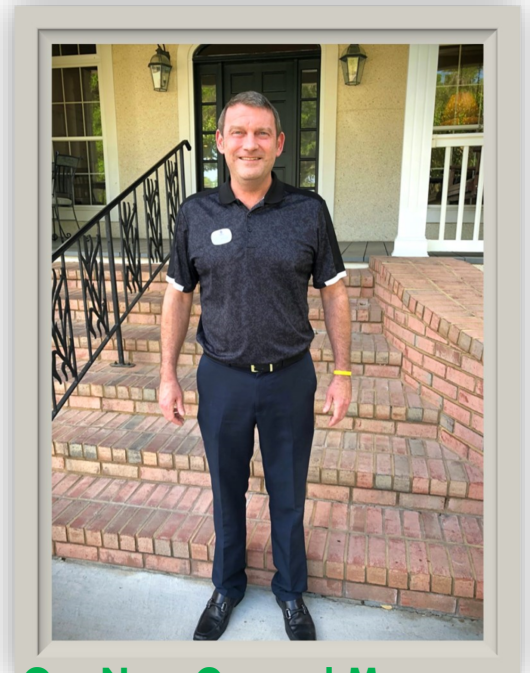
Our performance continues to improve. This month we had the largest daily gross sales in the history of Sapelo Hammock. Like all businesses in our area, we have concerns about hiring a full staff and continue to seek out strong employees in the pro shop, kitchen, and cart assistant areas. We are exploring creative avenues to address this vital need, including an increase in compensation.

We are expecting our best year of performance.



New General Manager Hired

Alan Cale of Cornerstone Golf Partners (our management company) recently sent a letter to all members and owners announcing the appointment of our new General Manager/Director of Golf, Jason Mitchell. We'd like to share with you a little more information about Jason and his 25 year background in the golf business. Jason was born and raised in a small town with no traffic lights (Philo OH, population 700) which should make him feel very much at home here in our little community of Shellman Bluff. He graduated from Ohio University in 1991 and started working in the golfing business during his student days. He soon entered the PGA apprentice program and spent two years at the Desert Mountain Club in Scottsdale, AZ, gaining membership in the PGA in 1994 as a lifetime member. Jason later spent a very interesting three years in Jakarta, Indonesia, helping to open a new golf club there. He then spent six years in Tampa with a golf management company during which time he had the good fortune to work three PGA tour events in Tampa and Scottsdale. He then served for a while in the golf paradise of Pinehurst, NC and later in Cape Cod. He has spent the last fifteen years in Myrtle Beach, most recently at Long Bay Club. The variety of places and locations in which he's spent his career serves as proof of his adaptability at different courses and different cultures and we're sure he will fit in well with our laid back, low country culture here in Shellman Bluff. Jason is looking forward to meeting everyone and learning all about Sapelo Hammock so please be sure to introduce yourselves the next time you're at the club.



**Our New General Manager,
Jason Mitchell**

Welcome New Staff Members

Bernard Monroe

Syntel West

Palmer Sebastian

Judith Herren

Cart/Driving Range Staff

Cart/Driving Range Staff

Cart/Driving Range Staff

Food and Beverage Staff

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

David and Joann List

(Social)

Marc and Lynn Lobit

(Social)

Johnny Harris

(Golf)

Daniel and Susan Martin

(Community)

Robert Handberry

(Social)

Derek Fruge

(Social)

Ronald Patz

(Golf)

Ronald McIntosh

(Social)

Jim Tino

(Social)

Anthony and Kali Boatwright

(Social)

Nathan McNeil

(Social)

Cynthia Casher

(Social)

Guy Anderson

(Golf)

**UPCOMING SUMMER CAMP
GRAHAM LEWIS, DIRECTOR SAPELO HAMMOCK GOLF ACADEMY:**

The summer junior golf camps are back this year. After a year with no junior camps due to Covid 19, the Sapelo Hammock Golf Academy is ready to welcome our youth to come and enjoy learning and playing golf at one or both of the summer camps. The camps are four half day sessions on June 7-10 and July 26-29. Due to remaining attention to Covid precautions, each camp will be limited to 25 kids from the ages of 6-16.

Since 2010 the Academy has seen more than 350 young golfers participate. Each camp has grown from as few as 6 in the first year to as many as 30 in 2019. This year we will again have our same instructors supervising and teaching the kids who will be divided into groups based on age and ability. Our instructors include: Graham Lewis (Academy Director and a Certified United States Golf Teachers Federation teacher); Mark Harman (Certified Master teacher with the USGTF who teaches at Southbridge and the PGA Super Store in Bluffton, South Carolina); Ron Smith (McIntosh Academy golf coach); and Megan Shinske (U of Mississippi golfer).

Parents and relatives are welcomed to watch their kids participate in camp activities and on the last day they can drive the carts and watch as the kids play nine holes on the course. The cost is \$150 per child and \$225 for two in the same family. Lunch and water will be provided each day and an awards ceremony will be held after play on the last day of each camp.

Call the Club at 912-832-4653 or Graham Lewis at 912-617-3743 to sign up.

P. S. The importance of Sapelo Hammock's youth program was recently highlighted in an article in The Brunswick News that described the success of young Jeremiah Austin, a student at Brunswick High School who competed in the Mack Champ Invitational Junior Championship in Houston. In the article, Jeremiah attributed his success to the owners and members at Sapelo Hammock and particularly to Graham Lewis. Making a difference in the lives of young people - that's what the Sapelo Hammock Golf Academy is all about.



Sapelo Hammock Golf Academy

2021 Junior Summer Golf Camps

For Junior Golfers Ages 6 to 16

June 7-10 (Monday thru Thursday) 9:00am until noon

July 26-29 (Monday thru Thursday) 9:00am until noon

- - - Rain or Shine - - -

Instruction Includes: Golf Etiquette, Rules of Golf, Sportsmanship, Putting, Chipping, Pitching, Full Swing, and more.

Juniors will be grouped by ages

Cost for each camp is \$150/student, \$225 for 2 in same family. Included are: Golf Instruction, Drinks, Lunch, Awards, and a 9 hole scramble on the last day with parents and grandparents driving the carts and watching the kids play.

Instruction directed by: United States Golf Teaching Federation Professionals

Report from Chris Hankey, Director of Course Operations

Special Note: The following report was written prior to the severe storm that hit Shellman Bluff on April 24th. The impact was significant but an extraordinary effort by staff and volunteers brought the course back into good shape and we became fully operational again on April 29th.

Could warm weather actually be here? As is typical, an early green-up has been followed by colder weather- hot one day, cold the next. Along with the below average temperatures came a flush of late season winter weeds. I was pleased with the success of our weed control program this past fall and winter. The course remained virtually weed free. What I did not expect was the loss of turf on some greens after a winter that saw the most frost delays and coldest consistent temperatures we have had in the last ten years.

The board approved tree removals around the greens on holes 1, 6, and 9. These are the greens most impacted by shade. The work has been completed and you will see improvement in these greens, especially during next year's spring transition. No one likes removing trees on our beautiful course but it had to be done.

The month of May is when we usually turn the corner and the course greens begin to grow. We have a course wide fertilization scheduled for May 7th. Hopefully we will experience normal temperatures and the season will begin on time. The biggest improvement we will see will come from hot weather. Any weeds currently visible on the course are all winter annuals and will die out when temperatures increase. Every effort is being made to regrow turf on the damaged greens. Patience is needed during this process. We will see major improvements in the coming weeks.

Thanks to the board and our volunteers for your support and help with course improvement.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at 678-570-1888.



The Pavilion at Sapelo Hammock in Honor of Martin NeSmith

As you all know, Martin NeSmith played an incredibly important role in the success of our golf club through his hard work and dedication, financial contributions, and sponsorship of tournaments.

In Martin's memory, a special fund has been established to construct a pavilion behind the clubhouse overlooking the marsh on the exact spot where his memorial service was held last fall. This will be an 18ft by 14ft structure with six white columns and will contain a seating area, internet service and electricity. It will hold a special plaque commemorating Martin with the theme of "He will always be missed but never forgotten". The pavilion will be used for all types of special events, including weddings and ceremonies. A special dedication ceremony will be held on May 14th, so please mark your calendar.

By the way, Martin was recently honored with a resolution by the Georgia General Assembly in tribute to his business acumen and service to others over his lifetime. In the same way that he served his local community and Sapelo Hammock, he did the same for Georgians all across the state. The following pages has the full text of the resolution:

21 LC 122 0255 House Resolution 458

By: Representatives Powell of the 32nd, DeLoach of the 167th, Parrish of the 158th, Williams of the 168th, Tankersley of the 160th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the life and memory of Martin Walton NeSmith; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia mourns the loss of one of its most distinguished citizens

3 with the passing of Martin Walton NeSmith on November 17, 2020; and

4 WHEREAS, Martin Walton NeSmith was born on November 1, 1948, in Nevils, Georgia;

5 and 6 WHEREAS, he served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the United

7 States National Guard and later began his distinguished career in the automotive industry,

8 working with Siefert Equipment and, at the age of 24, becoming the youngest dealer in the

9 nation after purchasing a Chevrolet dealership; and

10 WHEREAS, Martin conducted his business with grace, integrity, and geniality,

11 revolutionizing the car industry with his No Hassle Buying policy and exemplifying his

12 mission to ensure that customers were always treated as honored guests; and

13 WHEREAS, as a result of his dedication to excellence, he was bestowed the prestigious

14 TIME Magazine Quality Dealer of the Year Award in 2001, and with 61 dealers nominated H. R. 458 - 1 -

LC 122 0255

15 out of 20,500 dealers nationwide, was selected as their National Winner, and the 2008

16 General Motor Dealer of the Year Award; and

17 WHEREAS, he was a philanthropist at heart who contributed to innumerable causes,

18 including the United Way, Red Cross, and local recreation departments; served on many

19 boards, such as the Chairman of the Board of the Georgia Automobile Dealers Association

20 from 1993 to 1994; the National Automobile Dealers Association Board from 2001 to 2008;

21 the Board of Regents from 1999 to 2006; and Chairman of Coastal Conservation Association

22 of Georgia in 2000; and joined together with partners to build a local medical clinic in

23 Shellman Bluff; and

24 WHEREAS, a man of deep and abiding faith who witnessed Christ through word and deed,
25 Martin was an active member of First Baptist Church in Claxton for many years and
26 Shellmen Bluff Baptist Church; and
27 WHEREAS, he was united in love and marriage to his wife, Suzette, and was blessed with
28 two remarkable children, Demere and Chad, as well as five outstanding grandchildren; and
29 WHEREAS, a compassionate and generous man, Martin Walton NeSmith will long be
30 remembered for his love of family, friendship, and community and will be missed by all who
31 had the great fortune of knowing him.
32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
33 the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Martin Walton NeSmith
34 and express their deepest and most sincere regret at his passing. H. R. 458 - 2 - LC 122 0255
35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
36 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the
37 family of Martin Walton NeSmith.





Sapelo Hammock Hosts Its Largest Tournament Ever

Sapelo Hammock is extremely proud of its role in hosting the 2nd Annual **Veteran Carriers Trucking For a Cause** Golf Tournament on April 23rd. This was the largest tournament that we have ever hosted (144 players) and the event was a resounding success. It was a perfect weather day with temps in the lower 70s, brilliant sunshine, and a gentle breeze. The fun filled scramble took about six hours and was followed by an enthusiastic live auction where one charity minded supporter bid a whopping \$2500 for a cake! That was an indication of the type of bidding that other high value items brought during the auction. The goal was to raise over \$50,000 in support of the TACP Foundation.

Cliff White, a resident of Sutherland Bluff Plantation, played the key role in acquiring this tournament for our club. Cliff co-owns (along with Rob Cooch) Veteran Carriers, a trucking firm based in Savannah. He served in the special forces and was deployed multiple times during his military career. He has personally known many families who have lost loved ones in global conflicts - the source of his interest and his dedication to the TACP Foundation.

The foundation serves the TACP (Tactical Air Control Party) community by memorializing the fallen, inspiring young TACPs and providing support for the families that have lost a TACP due to combat, training or tragedy. As members of Air Force Special Warfare, TACP specialists imbed with Army and Marine units on the frontline with the responsibility of calling in air strikes on the right target at just the right time. These highly trained experts go through intense physical, mental and technical training in order to withstand the demanding conditions of battle.

In the photo above, Cliff White addresses the players at the opening ceremony.

The photo below shows Marcus Mader, The President of the TACP Foundation, presenting a check to Lillian Losano, the daughter of a fallen TACP hero, A1C Raymond Losano. She was accompanied at the event by her mother Sarah and her sister Alorah. Also in attendance was Lauren, the daughter of fallen TACP hero SSgt Brian Daly.



2nd Annual Veteran Carriers Trucking For a Cause
Golf Tournament Results:

1st Place
Score 35
Chad NeSmith
Dan Shalonga
Ryan Robertson
Brandon Simmons



2nd and 3rd Place

Score 36
Noah Allen
Dylan Peterson
Willie Pusakis
Damien Shields

Johnny Myrick
Paul Otto
Keith Hendrix
Virgil Edwards



Update On Our Current Preferred Stock Offering

With so many new residents coming to our area, we often are asked "Is there still stock available to purchase?" The answer is "absolutely yes" though the window on this offering will close at the end of this year. Our first preferred stock offering a few years ago helped us completely pay off all of our debt and established operational funding for the short term. This latest offering will provide us with cash reserves so we can continue to improve our golf course and remain financially strong for several more years to come. The minimum investment is \$5,000. Thus far, we have sold \$220,000 in this offering. Please help us spread the word so that we can attain our goal of \$750,000. For further information, please contact Rose Anne Giles at 770-634-4543 or raggiles@aol.com

Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming Social Events and Tournaments:

May 2nd: Vendor Day at Sapelo Hammock Golf Club (see further information below)

May 7th: First Friday (Mexican Dinner)

May 12th--15th: River Cup Tournament

May 14th: Owner/Member Dinner and Martin NeSmith Dedication

May 17th: SEGA Seniors Tournament

May 21st: Owner/Member Sapelo Sunset Dinner

May 22nd: McIntosh Sheriff's Tournament

June 4th: First Friday Social Hour

June 7th--10th and July 26th---29th: Junior Summer Golf Camp

June 18th: Owner/Member Dinner

July 2nd: First Friday Social Hour

July 16th: Owner/Member Dinner

July 21st: Low Country Inter Club Tournament

McIntosh County Vendor Day Sponsored by Sapelo Hammock

Our McIntosh County Vendor Day on May 2nd will be the first of its kind for Sapelo Hammock. We are excited about this unique event that will bring visibility to our club and attract artists, merchants and vendors from all over the county. Just as Darien and South McIntosh bring so many positives to our county (shops, restaurants, history, lodging), this is the opportunity to showcase and share our portion of the county and our social and recreational opportunities. The vendors and services will include local artists and authors, gourmet gift items, fine wines, gift certificates, hand crafted chocolates, raffle baskets, live music, drinks, deli sandwiches, and hot dogs along with a putting contest and live music. This will also be a chance for Sapelo Hammock to promote membership and ownership opportunities as well as advertise the excellent accommodations we have to offer at The Eagles Nest.

For further information, contact Gretchen Logue at 314-378-6568 or loguek@aol.com

McIntosh County Vendor Day

Sunday, May 2, 2021
1 to 4 p.m.

SAPELO HAMMOCK GOLF CLUB

1354 Marshview Dr., NE, Shellman Bluff, GA 31331

**Local artists, authors, vendors, gourmet/
gift items, fine wine, hand-crafted
chocolates, raffle baskets**

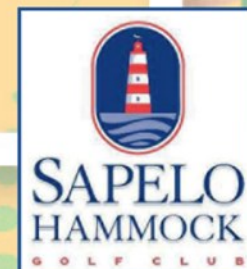
Drinks - Hot Dogs - Putting Contest

SHOP LOCAL!!

**Support McIntosh
Merchants!!!**

**To find out how to participate or
for more information contact:**

Gretchen Logue 314-378-6568 loguek@aol.com



Recent Tournament Results

The 2021 Darien-McIntosh County Chamber of Commerce Golf Tournament Results:

1st Place Team

Score 52

Websters Tree Farm

Harold Webster

Jason Webster

Brandon Webster

Josh Dormey

2nd Place Team

Score 55

Cook Team

Hank Cook

John Gordon

Todd Danato

Hank Brady

Check Out Our New Spring and Summer Apparel:

Be sure and come by the golf shop and check out the new Spring and Summer Merchandise. New Sapelo Hammock logoed Ladies and Men's Antigua Shirts, Sapelo Hammock Logoed Ladies and Men's Foot Joy Shirts, Ladies and Men's Foot Joy Shoes, Sapelo Hammock Logoed hats, Foot Joy Gloves and new Sapelo Hammock Ball Markers. Also, we can special order merchandise for your personal needs.

Sapelo Hammock Cafe:

The Sapelo Hammock Deli is open for lunch Tuesday through Saturday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Be sure and come out and have one of Susan's homemade sandwiches and don't forget about our Tuesday and Thursday Lunch Specials. Also the Sapelo Deli is now serving Hamburger and Home Made French Fries on Saturday.

Sapelo Hammock Seeking New Staff Members

Please help us spread the word! Our club is looking for full or part time employees to work in our pro shop, grounds maintenance and kitchen/dining services. If you know of an interested young person, neighbor or friend, or perhaps a retiree who's looking to fill some spare time, please refer them to our General Manager Jason Mitchell. This need has become particularly important due to all of the positive things that are going on at Sapelo Hammock.



*There's something special about
Sapelo Hammock*