

October 2020

Signal Mountain Golf and Country Club

Club News



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President's Message

Fall is officially upon us. The weather is cooler and finally football is on the field. With the change in seasons we also are going to start seeing some changes at SMGCC. The pool is now officially closed and most of the kids are back in school.

This is generally the time of year that we slow down but due to the Rona, our schedule keeps moving forward in earnest. In addition to the Member-Member, we will also host a series of member informative sessions regarding a long awaited potential clubhouse renovation. The Board of Directors and Renovation Committee have worked hard with our resident architect to come up with a viable plan to improve your member experience.

Since we are asking for your support for this project, we have not planned a dues increase of any kind in 2020 or 2021. Most of you know the shape our building is in. Its' not great and most of the work that has been planned would have to be undertaken regardless in order for us to continue to operate.

Please email Joe about meeting availability as they are starting to fill up fast.

Get out and enjoy the course soon. It is in phenomenal shape thanks to Pat Rose and his staff.

FORE!

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The Signal Mountain Golf & Country Club would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members and returning members for September 2020:

Welcome To:

John D. Cate (Full), semi-retired, and wife Stephanie and children Preston (25), Michael (22), and Lillie (19)

Chris Duffey (Full), Sales with Shaw Industries, and wife Brook (Program Manager) and children Morgan Jean (8) and Carly Jo (7)

Zach Hurst (Junior), Financial Planner with the Trust Company of TN, and wife Ashley (Public Relations) and children Jackson (5), Beckham (3), and Hanna (7 months)

Brett Jackson Varner (Full), VP of Transmission and Distribution at Mesa Associates, and wife Terra Rhea (part-time Clinical Pharmacist) and children Graham (9) and Kate (7)

Membership,

The time has come for you to be involved in the future of SMGCC. As I stated at the beginning of the year, my goal was to renovate our aging clubhouse. With tremendous help from the Board of Directors and the Renovation Committee, we will begin posting the initial drawings and FAQ's in the Grille starting later this week.

In addition, we will host a series of informative sessions to allow members to ask questions of the Renovation Committee and architect in the next couple weeks.

All of this will culminate with a Special Vote/Meeting that will be held on October 20th, 2020 at 6:00 PM in the ballroom. Due to Covid restrictions, we won't be able to have more than 60 attendants, so reservations will most likely be necessary for these events. We will allow for Early Voting in the Pro Shop as we do for the annual meeting which will be held in November.

The following are the dates for the Informative Sessions which will also be held in the ballroom and will begin at 6:00 PM promptly. PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS BACK to Joe at jfidelibus@smgcc.org or directly back to this email. These sessions will be limited to 24 people per meeting and will last no more than an hour.

10/1/20

10/6/20

10/12/20

10/15/20

*If we receive an overwhelming response in terms of attendance, we will do our best to add more meetings.

Thanks again for being the best membership in town. Its time we deserve a more modern place to hang our hats.





A necessary part of maintaining a high-end golf course is establishing a tree management program. Long-term sustainability, playability, turf health and member expectations are all integral pieces of this tree program. Dead, decaying and problematic trees are easy to identify in most cases. However, we must also consider the issues many mature trees are causing to our turf grass, bent grass greens and overall playability of the course. Root encroachment (root structures on mature trees can be 1- 1.5X the height of the tree), shade issues, air flow and water and nutrient competition are all factors that come into play with large trees around our course. The USGA guidelines suggest a large tree should not be planted within 75' of any green or tee box. Over time, many of our mature trees have just outgrown their environment. In any given year, the club spends around \$25,000.00 on sod and seed for replacing shaded and drought stressed turf. This does not include the amount of man hours our golf course staff spends maintaining these problematic areas, cleaning up debris and supplementing the irrigation water these trees consume (1 large Oak tree can absorb 100-150 gallons of water daily during the growing season). We are not taking the "clear-cut" approach and intend to fully nurture, prune and protect the properly positioned mature specimen trees amongst the course. Keeping in line with the mission of the tree management program, we only aim to remove the ill-advised plantings and the trees that have outgrown their position on the course over the past 105 years. This approach is working and the playing conditions are improving in many areas through out our golf course. In the end, our goal is to provide our members the best golf experience we can with lush greens, fairways and tees.

Chad Sikes
Greens Committee

Note from the Club Manager

Get your voices ready for the October Piano Night and Sing Along!

With the cooler weather upon us we begin the indoor member social events. First up on Saturday October 17th we feature Piano Night and Sing Along. John and Sylvia Friedl along with Lauren Kaywood will provide the entertainment. John will host a sing-along during his segment. Seating is limited so please email me with your reservations at jfidelibus@smgcc.org.

You should have received our emails regarding the upcoming Club Remodeling Meetings. The meetings will go over our desperately needed updating of the Clubhouse and exciting improvements to our venues. The meeting dates are **Thursday 10/1/20, Tuesday 10/6/20, Tuesday 10/13/20 and Thursday 10/15/20**. Please make your reservation by emailing me.

Halloween looks different this year. We have planned a special spooky menu for the kids as well as a festive Halloween themed dining room setup in the Presidents room. So, please join us the week of Halloween - bring the kids in costume, see the decorations, and enjoy a fun dinner!

Thinking of Roast Turkey with all the Trimmings? Chef Jason will be providing a Thanksgiving Take and Bake full and half orders will be available on all items. Look for the take and bake menu and order form in November's newsletter. **Dine in on Thanksgiving** at the Club from 11:00-2:00. Reservations are required as seating is limited.

We are still doing family take-out including curbside service for those who want to keep their distance. Call or email your orders in for Safe Curbside Pickup. 423-886-5767 option 3 for takeout or email me at jfidelibus@smgcc.org

Please remember that face masks must always be worn when entering the facility and kept on unless dining.



Stay healthy,
Joe Fidelibus, Clubhouse Manager

General Manager





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Click Here

All Things Social

Happy Fall y'all! I hope that you are enjoying this nice change in weather. Although the pool has closed for the season, there's still plenty of pleasant afternoons and evenings to enjoy at the club.

Thank you to those who RSVP'd to the Member Member Cocktail Party on Saturday, October 3rd. We've met our RSVP max and look forward to gathering in the ballroom at 6:00pm.

We still remain mindful of social gatherings, but also want families to enjoy Halloween festivities at the end of the month. So, we've planned a special spooky menu for the kids as well as a festive Halloween themed dining room setup in the Presidents room. So, join us the week of Halloween - bring the kids in costume, see the decorations, and enjoy a fun dinner!

We will also have a best decorated pumpkin contest by the staff. Pumpkins will be displayed at the bar, so be sure and come by to vote for your favorite pumpkin!

All the best,
Kathryn Trimble

SMGCC Book Club

The September Book Club was cancelled due to so many members playing in the week-long Kistler Cup 9/14-18. Therefore, the selected book for the Thursday, October 22 meeting will be *Her Last Flight*.

The Lit Ladies meet monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 6 pm to discuss/rate the current book selection and have dinner. We usually have 12-15 members attend each month and have been meeting in the Ballroom to better social distance. All Ladies of the Club are welcome to attend. If you would like to be added to the Book Club email group, text or email Lynne Marks at 423-902-0096 or lymarks53@gmail.com. Come join us for an evening of fun and camaraderie!



Out of the Rough

October has arrived and with it the expectation of cooler temperatures, lower humidity and most importantly, SEC football! Fall also means shorter day length, colorful leaves and of course, reduced, offseason staff levels. Here are a couple things to keep in mind as you enjoy fall on the golf course.

As the days get shorter and temperatures drop, our focus changes drastically. We redirect our labor pool from a near 100% focus on mowing to nearly a 100% focus on debris removal. During peak summer months we spend well over 60 man hours per day cutting fairways, tees, rough, etc. In the fall, that same labor pool is directed towards debris removal & collection. It is not unusual for our entire crew to be devoted toward shoveling acorns and hickory nuts or backpack blowing leaves from playing surfaces.

Each morning we make decisions that impact your experience on the golf course. An example of this might be... Do we change hole locations today? The factors that go into this decision might be rounds booked, historical volume of play on that day of the week, expected precipitation, wind speed/ direction, etc. Changing the hole location on that day might not be as beneficial as having our crew blowing or collecting leaves. After all, the most important thing for the player is being able to find your golf ball... And of course, having a reasonably clear path to the cup. The best way to ensure outstanding playing conditions this fall is to book your tee time in advance. This allows Paul and I to plan accordingly and provide an experience that at a minimum, meets your expectations.

Lastly, I beg you to use your own golf balls at the short game green. From a tech perspective, proper golf balls fly, bounce, spin and roll out much differently than range balls. From a practicality perspective, using range balls at the short game facility is creating hundreds of unrepaired ball marks. This green will never play like the greens on the course if we don't treat it like a green on the course. On many occasions we see people hitting dozens of range balls at the short game green and then simply walking away. By using your own golf balls, you get more out of each shot, you create less damage by hitting fewer shots and since you're retrieving your golf balls, you're more likely to repair those pitch marks.

See you on the course!

Pat



Golf News

The fall season looks to have arrived and the recent weather has been wonderful. The golf course is in great condition. The greens are perfect after the early aerification. We hope to see you all using the golf course as much as possible over these next few great weather months.

September Winners

Congratulations to all of the winners of our September Events:

Hot Ball Scramble- Mauney, Nolan, Beckman, Gardner / Dickenson, Helle, Smith, Helle

Kistler Cup- Debbie Durham

Parent-Child – Perry, Timblin, and Hogue

One Day Member-Member/Member-Guest- Baker/Johnson, Strain/Hughes, McGarry/Patterson, and Strain/Waite

Titleist Fitting Day

Titleist has released its 2021 line of Drivers and Fairway Woods. The new TSi Drivers are receiving rave reviews and have some great new technologies included. The Titleist Tech Rep will be here on Thursday, October 29th with the entire line-up for fitting appointments. Please contact the golf shop if you would like to schedule an appointment.

Golf News



Upcoming Events

- October 3-4 – Member-Member Tournament
- October 17- Putting Tournament
- October 21- One Day Member-Member / Member Guest
- October 29- Ladies Closing Day
- October 29- Titleist Fitting Day
- October 31- Superintendent's Revenge



SMLGA News

Oh my, can it be October? This will be the last month of organized play for SMLGA. So, get out to enjoy the final days while you can. Closing Day will be at the end of the month on Thursday, the 29th.

September was a busy month with our 4-day Kistler Match Play Tournament. We had a full field of contestants and then in the days leading up to the tournament, there was another player threatening to join our fun! Hurricane Sally considered trying to play through, but she decided her game was just not up to par with the SMLGA and stayed out of our way. As always the competition was close. ***The winner of the 2020 Kistler is Debbie Durham with Deedee Raulston Runner-up. Winner of the Consolation Bracket is Dennie Taylor with Rebecca Travis Runner-Up. Pat Herring won the Friday 9-hole handicapped tournament. Congratulations, Ladies!***

Our Awards Luncheon was held on Friday of the Kistler, September 18th. Prizes were given to the winners of both the Maryellen Cook Tournament & the Kistler Match Play Tournament. Many thanks to *Doris Chambers* for organizing a delicious lunch and *Naomi Lindsey* for the lovely table decorations. Our deepest appreciation goes to *Debbie Durham* who organized the tournaments and still had the energy to win the Kistler!

The Closing Day 9-hole Black Cat Fight, Luncheon and election of new officers will be the 29th of October. Sign up in the Ladies Lounge as usual.



October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Family Night Kids Eat Free	2 Chef's Dinner Specials	3 Member/Member Member/Member Party
4 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm Member/Member	5 Club Closed	6	7	8 Family Night Kids Eat Free	9 Chef's Dinner Specials	10
11 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm	12 Club Closed	13	14	15 Family Night Kids Eat Free	16 Chef's Dinner Specials	17 Fall Putting Tournament
18 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm	19 Club Closed Superintendent's Revenge / Shootout Finale	20	21 One Day Member- Member / Member- Guest	22 Family Night Kids Eat Free Book Club	23 Chef's Dinner Specials	24
25 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm	26 Club Closed	27 Halloween Theme Dining	28 Halloween Theme Dining	29 Family Night Kids Eat Free Ladies Closing Day Titleist Fitting Day Halloween Theme Dining	30 Chef's Dinner Specials	31 Superintendent's Revenge

November 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm	2 Club Closed	3	4	5 Family Night Kids Eat Free	6 Chef's Dinner Specials	7
8 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm	9 Club Closed	10	11	12 Family Night Kids Eat Free	13 Chef's Dinner Specials	14
15 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm	16 Club Closed	17	18	19 Family Night Kids Eat Free Book Club	20 Chef's Dinner Specials	21
22 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm	23 Club Closed	24	25	26 Thanksgiving	27 Chef's Dinner Specials	28
29 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm	30 Club Closed					



Clubhouse Extensions:
(423) 886-5767

Pro Shop & Tee Times
Press: 1

Head Golf Pro, Paul Helle
Press: 2

To-Go Orders & Reservations
Press: 3

Main Bar
Press: 4

Men's Card Room
Press: 5

Business Office
Press: 6

Controller & Office Manger
Press: 7

Course Superintendent, Pat Rose
Press: 8

Club Manager, Joe Fidelibus
Press: 9

Administrative Fax
(423) 886-2879

Golf Shop Hours

Tuesday - Sunday
7:30am - 6:30pm

Range

Tuesday - Sunday
8am - Dusk

Signal Grill

Tuesday - Saturday 11am - 9pm
Sunday Closed

Main Dining Room, Bar & Deck

Tuesday - Thursday: 11am - 8pm
Friday: 11am - 9pm
Saturday: 11am - 8pm
Sunday: 9am - 8pm

Men's Card Room

Tuesday - Sunday: 8am - 9pm

Pool (Memorial Day - Labor Day)

Tuesday - Thursday: 10am - 8pm
Friday & Saturday: 10am - 9pm
Sunday 12:30pm - 8pm

Reservations & Party Inquiries

jfidelibus@smgcc.org

Signal Mountain Golf & Country Club

Board of Directors 2020

OFFICERS:

Arch Trimble IV, President
Rob Pearse, Vice-President
Andrew Ruffner, Treasurer
David Marks, Secretary
Jeff Caplenor, Past-President

DIRECTORS:

David Cates
Mike Levan
Chad Sikes
Chris Collins
Kirk Burns
Pixie Lanham

MANAGEMENT STAFF:

Pat Rose, Golf Course Superintendent
prose@smgcc.org
Paul Helle, Head Golf Professional
phelle@smgcc.org
Joe Fidelibus, Club Manager
jfidelibus@smgcc.org
Katherine Powers, Accounting
kpowers@smgcc.org