

July 2022

Signal Mountain Golf and Country Club

Club News



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www.smgcc.org

President's Message

June was a very busy month at SMGCC. Thank you to Macie and her pool staff for hosting our first poolside Karaoke night. This was a fun and entertaining event for both children and adults. The Middle Creek Band, including Weston Dunlap, continued our live music series on the new patio, and we hosted our Club Championship.

The club will be open on Monday, July 4th to celebrate Independence Day. As a reminder SMGCC will be closed on Tuesday, July 5th and Wednesday, July 6th for our paving project. I apologize for any inconvenience, but it's necessary to keep traffic out of the paving area from start to finish.

Please be on the lookout for communication concerning the Mountaineer Tournament schedule. Practice rounds begin on Thursday, July 21st, and the tournament will conclude on the evening of Sunday, July 24th. Thank you to the Tournament Committee, Social Committee and all the departments for diligently planning this year's festivities.

Our golf course is in fantastic shape. Tyler Guy and his crew installed a truck load of sod in some problem areas. This included collars, approaches and tee boxes. With the extreme heat and dry weather, we are experiencing, golf cart etiquette is very important. Golf cart traffic is very stressful for turf under these conditions. Our members can help by walking the course, avoid driving on par 3's, never come within 30 yards of any green, obey cart path only and 90 degree rule, and avoid high traffic areas. As members we take pride in our golf course, and we can lead by example.

May was the busiest food and beverage month we've had in recent history at the club. I really appreciate all our kitchen staff and wait staff for what they do for our membership on a daily basis. We will continue to evolve as a club and raise our standards across the board. Get out and enjoy our amenities and golf course!!

Chad Sikes





Centennial Spotlight

Our Pros...

Unfortunately, there don't seem to be any records about the staff of the Signal Mountain Golf & Country Club for the first few decades of the club's existence. The first head golf professional whose name we know is **Dorsey Meade**, a Virginian who served at SMGCC until 1956. We don't know how long he worked at Signal, but after he left our club, he owned and operated a golf course and golf school in Norfolk, Virginia, for 42 years, finally retiring at age 86 in 2000. Dorsey passed away in 2013 at the age of 99.

He was succeeded at Signal by **Don Malarkey**, who served here from 1956 until 1973. A native of Pennsylvania, Malarkey was an accomplished player who competed in two U.S. Opens and two PGA Championships prior to working at Signal, where he served our club as both the head golf pro and as the greens superintendent simultaneously. Under his leadership, many significant changes were made to our course, including switching to bent grass greens and reworking several holes. Don remained a fixture at our club in retirement, astoundingly shooting his age over 600 times before eventually losing count. In 1999, he was inducted into the Tennessee Golf Hall of Fame, becoming one of its first 15 total inductees and one of the first two inductees who were club professionals. Up until Don's passing in 2006 at the age of 101, he was the oldest living member of the PGA of America.

It's not easy to follow a legend, and that job fell to **Lee Campbell**, who served from 1973 until about 1980. Lee was succeeded around 1980 by **Ike Franklin**, who had served as an assistant under Lee for a couple of years before taking over as head pro. Ike was a native Tennessean and very popular at Signal. He served the club until 1994 and was retired and living in Florida when he passed away a couple of years ago.

Don Jones followed Ike as the head pro, arriving in 1994 after serving as an assistant at Farmington CC in Charlottesville, VA. Like Ike, Don was a native of middle Tennessee, and he was an excellent player. In 1995, while serving as Signal's pro, Don won the Tennessee PGA Championship, the most prestigious tournament in the state for club professionals. During Don's years at Signal, the pro shop and clubhouse were renovated, and the greens were re-done. He left in 2001 to become the head pro at Cherokee CC in Knoxville, where he served for 20 years.

Scott Hare followed Don and served as head pro from 2001 to 2007. For the last 11 years, he has served as General Manager/Director of Golf at Collins Hill Golf Club in Lawrenceville, GA. He was succeeded by **Jay Underwood**, who came to Signal after serving at Moccasin Bend, Black Creek, and The Honors Course. Jay was our head pro from 2008 to 2011, when he was succeeded by **Paul Helle**, who is still leading our golf operations today. Paul is a native of Knoxville who served at Chattanooga Golf & CC and Wild Dunes Resort in Isle of Palms, SC, before taking over as head pro at Signal 11 years ago.

Being a golf professional is not an easy job - with long hours, many varied responsibilities, and plenty of members willing to share their opinions and critiques. As SMGCC celebrates its first century, we recognize and salute these men who have served our club faithfully through the years and helped enhance the enjoyment of the game for countless members.



Don Malarkey



Ike Franklin



Don Jones



Paul Helle



From the Clubhouse



Happy Independence Day

Join us Monday July 4th at the pool and celebrate Independence Day. Reservations are no longer needed but arrive early for best seating. The Poolside Cookout will be available from 11-7. Parking will be at a premium early on with the Lions Club BBQ happening at the park behind the Pool. Additional parking is available at the tennis court lot.

Trivia Night returns on Saturday, July 9th. This event usually sells out, so reserve your table in advance. There are still tables available for teams. Don't have a team? We can pair you up with other couples. Caribbean Buffet will be available plus a full bar in the living room.

Live Music Saturday Night returns on July 16th from 6:30 - 9:30, featuring Tanner Hillis. Reservations are suggested. Seating will be available in the patio, bar and dining room.

Mountaineer 2022 will be the weekend of July 22-24. Mountaineer Ladies Day at the pool will be on Friday July 22 from 10-4. The pool will be closed for non-mountaineer ladies until 4:00. Regular Pool hours Saturday and Sunday. The Dining Room will be closed Saturday July 23rd with Mountaineer Events.

Warm Summer Wishes,
Joe Fidelibus, Clubhouse Manager

Golf News

The summer has arrived and I just hope that the weather cools down a bit but continues to give us these beautiful sunny days. The tournament season has started off nicely and is beginning to really crank up. We hope to continue to see some great tournament participation in the future.

Driving Range

Please refrain from hitting balls over the net on the driving range. When balls clear the net, it creates a safety hazard for golfers on hole #7 as well as a major nuisance and hazard to the residents on the other side of #7. If you wish to hit drivers and are worried about flying them over the net, feel free to take some balls to the back side of the far left and hit towards the right side of the driving range. The added length and elevation change should give most golfers adequate distance to hit their driver. First offenses will be given a verbal warning. Repeat violators are subject to loss of driving range privileges without a range fee refund, a fine, or both, at the Board's discretion.

Short Game Facility

The short game area at the driving range has been a great addition to the club and continues to get significant use. Spending time practicing your short game is one of the best ways to quickly improve your scores on the course. With that being said, it is extremely important to properly maintain the short game area. When chipping, please make sure to clear the green of your practice balls when you finish. The green is also receiving large amounts of ball marks. Please take the time to repair ball marks on the short game green when you have completed your practice session. We have received new ball mark repair tools in the golf shop if you need one.

Pace of Play- 10 Best Practices

- 1. Play Ready Golf** - NOT Honors especially when others are not ready on the course or tee
 - 2. Play your shot** before assisting other in locating their ball
 - 3. Play Provisional Ball** to prevent from returning to previous shot or tee
 - 4. Read putts** when entering the green and while others are preparing to putt
 - 5. Putt out** whenever possible to avoid re-reading the line again
 - 6. Do Not be a spectator** - get your distance and be by your ball ready to play
 - 7. Pre-shot routine** - speed up process or begin routine sooner
 - 8. Carts** - park closest to the next tee and other should be preparing for their play
 - 9. Pace between Shots** - quicken the pace between shots, not the shot itself
 - 10. Walkers** - yield to those in a cart; do not wait for a walker to get into position
- NOTE: Pace of play is about what we do before and during the shot; NOT the score. Always be aware of where the group is in front of you NOT behind you. Play moves forward, not backwards.**

Mountaineer Course Schedule

Due to the increased field size of this year's Mountaineer, the course will be open Thursday-Sunday for Mountaineer participants only.



Putts From The Fringe

Well I have been asking for it and summer is definitely here. Last year we were very fortunate to have limited major interruptions in our operation, we were conscious and grateful of this at the time but 2022 has brought on new challenges. A series of irrigation, equipment and unfortunate weather has left us playing catch up. Costs and availability of materials has also been a challenge. I try to be careful when explaining our challenges to the membership because I think it is important for you guys to know a little bit about what we are up against without making excuses or complaining.

I am very optimistic about the course conditions over the coming weeks and months. The sod I have been trying to get delivered since early June is finally here and on the ground, the 10 day weather forecast looks more like what we were seeing last year and less like the near record breaking temperatures we have been seeing for the last few weeks, and I am very excited about the staff we have put together this year. Our new Assistant Superintendent, Alex Agnew has already been a great addition to our team. Alex comes from us from Troubadour in Nashville and Man O' War in Myrtle Beach before that. He is originally from Soddy Daisy and a good golfer. Our team of Signal Mountain students is inexperienced but enthusiastic. There have been some growing pains involved with training these guys up but they have a good attitude. I am excited to have these guys around for a few summers and seeing how good we can be with an experienced team that wants to work hard. I give them a lot of credit for challenging the narrative that the Gen Z crowd does not want to work. As we get our equipment issues figured out at the weather looks to get a little bit milder I am looking forward to greens rolling a little quicker than they have been. We start playing defense against hot weather that will slow the greens down but even for playing it safe I think they have been a little too slow.

Thank you all for the continued support and patience. Stay hydrated and pray for rain!

Tyler



SMLGA NEWS

Greetings!



The June 11th Ladies Golf Clinic was well attended by golfers of all skill levels- it was fun meeting new people and we all learned something new. Since it was such a success, we decided to schedule it monthly, so please note that the next Ladies Clinic will be **Saturday, July 2nd** @ **3 pm** on the Driving Range. The charge is \$20 each for the first 20 who sign up with the Golf Shop. Paul Helle, Head Golf Professional, and his staff are also available for private lessons, questions on golf etiquette/protocols and course layout.

If your schedule allows and you are interested in joining the Ladies Golf Association members in their regular Tuesday &/or Thursday game, our tee time is 9:30 am for 18 holes with lunch to follow. Just let me know ***at least a day before*** if you would like to sign up. The goal is to grow the game and have fun doing it!

Have a fun & safe July 4th! 

Lynne Marks, SMLGA President
423-902-0096
lymarks53@gmail.com

Happy Birthday to our Cancer & Leo Swinging Sisters!



Peggy Ballman- Mon July 4th
Wanda Hicks- Sun July 10
Joan Adcock- Sat July 16
Emogene Lewis- Sun July 31





2022 SMLGA Events Schedule

July 9-10 (Sat & Sun)	Ladies Club Championship
August 2 & 4 (Tues & Thurs)	Laura Newbourne Best/Better Tournie
September 11 (Sun)	St. Charles Cup at SMGCC
September 20-23 (Tues/Thurs & Fri)	Kistler Cup & Awards Luncheon
October 27 (Thurs)	Closing Day 9-Hole Select Shot & Lunch
Date to be Announced	Shootout

Good, better, best- never let it rest until your good is better and your better is best.



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SMGCC Book Club

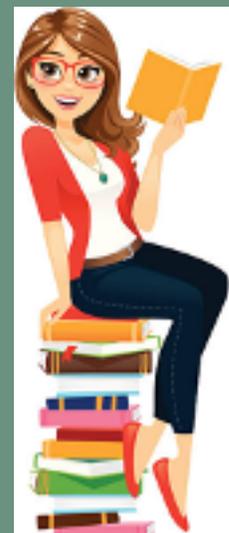
July 28, 6:00 PM

This month we are meeting a week later than our normal schedule to avoid conflict with the tournament schedule.

The Lost Summers of Newport
by Beatriz Williams, Lauren Willig, and Karen White

The "Lit Ladies" meet monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 6 PM to discuss & rate the current book. We have dinner afterward. All Ladies of the Club are welcome. Please text or email Trenea Smith 423-785-7470 or squirtzer@aol.com.

Come join us for an evening of fun!



July 2022

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm Family Night Kids Eat Free	4 Flag Day / Shootout #4	5 Club Closed For Parking Lot Paving Junior Golf Camp #2	6 Club Closed for Parking Lot Paving Junior Golf Camp #2	7 Junior Golf Camp #2	8	9 Ladies Club Championship Trivia Night 7pm
10 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm Family Night Kids Eat Free Ladies Club Championship	11 Club Closed	12	13 Wine Wednesday 50% off House Wines	14	15	16 Live Music with Tanner Hillis 6:30-9:30
17 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm Family Night Kids Eat Free	18 Club Closed	19	20 Wine Wednesday 50% off House Wines	21	22 Mountaineer	23 Mountaineer
24 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm Family Night Kids Eat Free Mountaineer	25 Club Closed	26	27 Wine Wednesday 50% off House Wines	28 Book Club	29	30
31 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm Family Night Kids Eat Free						

August 2022

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 Club Closed	2 Laura Newbourne Better-Best Tournament	3 Wine Wednesday 50% off House Wines	4 Laura Newbourne Better-Best Tournament	5	6 Super Skins/ Shootout #5
7 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm Family Night Kids Eat Free	8 Club Closed	9	10 Wine Wednesday 50% off House Wines	11	12	13 Haskew Cup at SMGCC
14 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm Family Night Kids Eat Free Haskew Cup at SMGCC	15 Club Closed Aerification	16 Aerification	17 Wine Wednesday 50% off House Wines Aerification	18 Book Club Aerification	19 Aerification	20
21 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm Family Night Kids Eat Free	22 Club Closed	23	24 Wine Wednesday 50% off House Wines	25	26	27
28 Sunday Brunch 9am – 2pm Family Night Kids Eat Free	29 Club Closed	30	31 Wine Wednesday 50% off House Wines			



Clubhouse Extensions:
(423) 886-5767

Ollies
Press: 0

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 Manager
Press: 7

Course Superintendent, Tyler Guy
Press: 8

Club Manager, Joe Fidelibus
Press: 9

Administrative Fax
(423) 886-2879

Golf Shop Hours

Tuesday - Sunday
7:30am - 6:30pm
(shop will close at 5:30pm after
DST)

Range

Tuesday - Sunday
8am - Dusk

Main Dining Room & Bar

Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 8pm
Sunday: 10am - 7pm

Men's Card Room

Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 8pm
Sunday: 10am - 7pm

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 2021

OFFICERS:

Chad Sikes, President
Rob Pearce, Vice-President
Nick Carden, Treasurer
David Marks, Secretary
Arch Trimble IV, Past-President

DIRECTORS:

Andrew Guth
Greg Russell
Alan Kelley
Kyle Wittler
Lynne Marks
Andrew Holt

MANAGEMENT STAFF:

Tyler Guy, Golf Course Superintendent
tguy@smgcc.org
Paul Helle, Head Golf Professional
phelle@smgcc.org
Joe Fidelibus, Club Manager
jfidelibus@smgcc.org
Katherine Powers, Accounting
kpowers@smgcc.org