



HERON LAKES  
COUNTRY CLUB

# June 2011 Newsletter

3851 Government Blvd. \* Mobile, Alabama 36693  
Ph. (251) 666-7040 \* Fax (251) 660-2526

## President's Letter

I feel compelled to talk about the financial health of the club once again because I have been hearing rumors about the health of the club and how bad a shape we are in and it disturbs me. People come to me telling stories about how they heard we are about to go under and close the doors or how we don't have a choice and are going public. These stories are coming from all kinds of people, even including past members, vendors, ex-employees of the club and people that have nothing to do with the club, many of which are still enjoying the occasional use of our club. These stories disturb me because I love Heron Lakes and hate to hear people talking bad about it, but mostly they disturb me because they are simply not true.

Heron Lakes is doing great! We have been operating in the black each month for over a year. In February 2010, we changed our budget so that we could operate within our means and have been diligent to make sure that we stay within that budget and that we don't spend more than we receive. We have done this without cutting any of the services or amenities offered at Heron Lakes.

As a matter of fact, we are doing more now, with fewer members, than we have in the recent past. This month alone we played over 2,700 rounds of golf and served over 4,000 meals in our restaurants and banquet facilities. Our Member-Guest was a fun success with 80 participants, both men and ladies, ranging in age from teenagers to seniors in their 80s. Last year we had 64 participants. If you call to book an event in our banquet halls on a Saturday night, you will have to turn your calendar to November as we are booked through October. Our swim and dive teams are larger this year than last year. And the list goes on.

Our staff, Executive Committee, Board and I have been working very hard to make sure that your club is strong and we are succeeding. I would put our facilities and services up against any in town. Walter, David and the guys have done a great job with the golf course while Robbie, Calvin, Chef Clarence and the gang have been cooking and serving up a storm and delivering some fabulous meals. Our tennis, with Tomas and swimming pool complex is arguably one of the best in town. So next time someone tells you that Heron Lakes is on its last leg, tell them they don't have a clue. And if you haven't been out lately to see what is going on at your club, come and see for yourself

Sincerely,

Phil Purpura  
President, Heron Lakes CC

**2011 Commodore Steel Firecracker  
Invitational Golf  
Tournament July 2nd-4th**

## 2011 GOLF SCHEDULE

(DATES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Jun. 2 (Thu.)	Jimmy Green Jr. Tour tba	
Jun. 7-10 (Tues.-Fri.)	Junior Golf Clinic	8-9:00
Jun. 13 (Mon)	Dixie Section Pro-Am	9:30
Jun. 21-24 (Tue.-Fri.)	Ladies State Amateur Championship	
Jul. 2-4 (Sat.-Mon)	Firecracker Invitational	
Jul. 7 (Thu.)	Mobile Seniors	8:30
Jul. 21 (Thu.)	Jimmy Green Jr. Tour (ages 8-10, 11-12)	
Jul. 26-29 (Tues.-Fri.)	Junior Golf Clinic	8-900
Aug. 4 (Thu.)	HLCC Junior Golf Championship	
Aug. 6 (Sat.)	HLCC Parent-Junior Championship	12:30
Sept. 30-Oct.1 (Fir-Sat)	Men's Club Championship	
Oct.	Fall Match Play Championship begins	
Oct. 6 (Thu.)	AG Contractors-Crow Outing	
Oct. 24-25	Univ. of Mobile (Women's) College Invitational	
Oct. 31-Nov.1	Univ. of Mobile (Men) College Invitational	
Nov. 7 (Mon.)	USA Golf team birdie club	

### 2011 Commodore Steel Firecracker Invitational Golf Tournament July 2nd-4th

Title Sponsor: Commodore Steel Buildings—Roddy Fitzgerald

Silver Sponsor : Beau Rivage– Biloxi

\$225.00 Entry Fee

Format: Championship & Sr. Championship Flights- Stroke Play

Other Flights- Point System

Contact Golf Shop at 666-7070 for invitations & information

### Heron Lakes Country Club Junior Golf Program Summer 2011 (David Musial, PGA Professional Fee \$60.00 per clinic 8:00-9:00 each day (Tue-Fri))

Clinic 1	June 7-10 (Tue-Fri)	Ages 4-15
Clinic 2	July 26-29 (Tue-Fri)	Ages 4-15

Call 666-7070 to register-Limit 40 per clinic  
(Guest of members and grandchildren welcome)

### Senior Championship

Gross Winner – Wayne Gardner

Net Winner—George McDonald

### GOLF LESSON INFORMATION & RATES

[Contact the Golf Shop for help with your game this summer]

David Musial, PGA Director of Golf, \$45 per lesson

Jordan Youngquist, Assistant Golf Pro, \$40 per lesson

Custom club fitting available, Callaway –Diablo, Ping, Titleist, Cobra, and Nike...

...all available in the Heron Lakes CC Golf Shop

# HLLGA NEWS

THE ANNUAL LADIES CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP AND HANDICAP TOURNAMENT WAS HELD ON MAY 10 AND 11, 2011. CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLUB CHAMPION, JILL MARTIN, AND THE HANDICAP CHAMPION, MARY JANE COLEMAN.

OTHER WINNERS WERE:

## OVERALL WINNER

JILL MARTIN 80+78= 158

## FIRST FLIGHT:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Jill Martin	140
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Janice Vickers	144
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Connie Brady	149

## SECOND FLIGHT:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Pat Ramey	142
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Joyce Hardy	141
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Nancy Lowe	144

## THIRD FLIGHT:

1 <sup>st</sup>	Mary Jane Coleman	140
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Terry Latimer	141
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Ealine Locke	142

## 2011 LGA Handicap/ Club Champ

### Closest To The Hole:

#6	Earline Locke
#17	Jill Martin

### Low Putts:

Joyce Hardy & Donna Moore

### Longest Drive:

#10	Jill Martin
#10	Earline Locke

The last Inter-Club of the season will be played at Timber Creek in Daphne on May 24. If you would like to play, please call Pat Ramey, 639-1083 to sign up.

Heron Lakes hosted the Championship Round for the Alabama Gulf Coast Ladies Golf Association - 44 women from the southwest Alabama area came together on May 16th and 17th for their annual tournament. The first day's match was held at Azalea City Golf Course and the second day was at Heron Lakes. Heron Lakes ladies did really well in the tournament. Overall Champion was Jill Martin. In addition, ladies from Heron Lakes won in four of the five flights. Jill Martin won the 1st flight, Nancy Lowe won the 2nd flight, Connie Brady won third in the 3rd flight, Earline Locke won second in the 4th flight. Congratulations Gals!!

The Alabama Golf Association's State Women's Amateur Championship will be held at Heron Lakes on June 21 - 24 this year. This annual tournament brings together the best women amateur golfers in the state for a 4 day double elimination Match Play tournament. Any female amateur who is a member of the Alabama Golf Association (has an established GHIN handicap) and is a legal resident of the state of Alabama is eligible to participate. Full information and registration can be found at the website [www.bamagolf.com](http://www.bamagolf.com). Chris Marr is tournament chairman.

The Ladies Golf Association will hold their annual luncheon on May 25 at Heron Lakes. The new slate of officers will be voted on and new officers will be installed. Thanks to Joyce Hardy for all her hard work and great leadership this past year. Welcome to Janice Vickers, president elect, we look forward to her great ideas and leadership in the coming year.

A memorial plaque honoring long time member Eileen Von Sprecken will be presented by the ladies and will be placed in the lobby of the Club. Eileen had held every position in the ladies golf association and the club from grass cutter to the ladies president. We all miss her.

Congratulations to Connie Brady, Golfer of the Year. She is an inspiration to all of us. Super Job.

# **JUNE NEWSLETTER:**

Dear members,  
Summer days are here and as every summer we have plenty of events for your family and friends to choose from. To keep you informed about all of our events, in addition to our website we created a tennis Facebook page (heron lakes country club tennis) and a Twitter account (@hlcc\_tennis).

## **MEN'S TENNIS PROGRAM**

HERON LAKES FLEX LEAGUE (2.5, 3.0, 3.5, and 4.0) Sign up at the pro shop.

Saturday Clinic 9 am-10 30am

Men's Night Wednesdays at 6pm,

## **WOMEN'S TENNIS PROGRAM**

HERON LAKES FLEX LEAGUE (2.5, 3.0, 3.5, and 4.0) Sign up at the pro shop.

2.5-3.5 Clinic Tuesday 6:00pm—7:00pm  
(Please call to sign up)

4.0-4.5 Clinic Thursdays 8am-9:30am  
(Please call to sign up)

Ladies Open Clinic Friday 8:30-9:30 **\$7 per person!!!**

## **TENNIS SHOP:**

### **JUNE SALE!!!**

Buy Racket, Shoes or Bag

and **get FREE PAIR OF SHOES** (*Wilson Vision*)  
or **60%OFF additional item** or **FREE**

**STRINGING Including strings** or **FREE PAIR OF SUNGLASSES**

(While Supplies Last, Excluding junior 23" rackets and smaller, excluding already discounted items)

# **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

## **2011 Summer Tennis Camps**

**Session 1:** May 23-27

**Session 2:** May 30-June 3

**Session 3:** June 6-10

**Session 4:** June 20-24

**Session 5:** June 27-July 1

**Session 6:** July 11-15

**Session 7:** July 18-22

**Session 8:** July 25-29

## **Half Day Stay Camp**

(Tennis & Swimming after)

Days: Tuesday-Friday

Time: 9:30am-1pm

Ages: 4 and up

Level: Beginner and Intermediate

Fee: \$85 per week or \$30 per day

## **High Performance Camp**

(Tournament and High School Players)

Day: Monday-Thursday

Time: 1:30pm-4pm

Ages 9 and up

Level: Intermediate and Advanced

Fee: \$80 per week or \$25 per day

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Junior Summer Camps**

**May/June/July**

**Men's Night** Wednesdays at 6pm

**Ladies day** TBA

**4<sup>th</sup> of July Mixer** (Wimbledon Mixer)

### **SUMMER SPECIAL!!!**

**FREE 1<sup>ST</sup> LESSON FOR BEGINNERS**

## Hello All!

The sound of children splashing in the pool is the best sound of summer! The pool is already loving all the attention and we are looking forward to having everyone out and having fun over the next few months. Please remember to let us know of any special dietary needs you or your family might have so we can accommodate.

The new wine list is complete for the summer months and we have had great response with the selection. I will be adding a few more for the fall. We will be focusing on some fun summer drinks over the next couple of month and one of my favorite is the hand crafted mojitos. We will offer an original and berry mojito...oh so YUMMY!

You will see some new faces in the F&B department . They are very excited and are eager to get to know each one of you. They understand the importance of knowing your name and learning your individual needs. I thank you for generous welcome extended to them so far. It certainly has made them feel welcome.

Please be sure to watch your emails and check out happenings on our Facebook page. I welcome and encourage your feedback and any ideas you might have to help me better serve your needs.

I look forward to hearing from YOU!

Robbie Fitzgerald

Director of Food and Beverage

[rfitzgerald@heronlakescc.org](mailto:rfitzgerald@heronlakescc.org)

666-7673



## From the Vine Meritage



Meritage is pronounced Meh-rih-TIJ, rhyming with Heritage. This is a made-up word, registered as a US trademark, that wineries must pay to use on their wines.

Back in 1989, wineries were all choosing names for their various blended wines, and it was getting hard to keep track of them all. An association was formed to try to define a "Bordeaux Blend" of grapes that was done on non-French soil. They had over 6,000 people submit choices for the name of this blend, and "Meritage" won. This is a combination of the words "Merit" and "Heritage", and shouldn't be pronounced as if it were French!

What is in Meritage?

First off, this can't be a mass-marketed wine. The release of Meritage must be under 25,000 cases. It has to be a "high-end" wine for the winery - it can't be their bargain basement offering. And finally, it has to be a blend of certain grapes. These are: Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot. There is also a white Meritage, which is far less common. This uses Sauvignon Blanc, Semillon, and Muscadelle.

How does it Taste?

Just like Bordeaux, since it's made with the same grapes!! There's a rich, full aroma to it. Depending on the particular blend, it can be blackberry, black cherry, spices, chocolate, and vanilla. Most Meritages have the Bordeaux signature flavors - cigar box, rich fruits, with a hefty feel. It's great with a steak, or with game meats - venison, pheasant, or so on!

Meritage should be served at 64F for the best flavor.

We are offering you the Trinchero Family Meritage here at Heron Lakes and thought you would like to know a little about a wine that is uncommon due to its small production. I was introduced to this wine back a few years ago when I stayed at the Trinchero Family Estate and its been a favorite ever since!

Winemaker Mario Monticello notes :

This is my favorite wine to make because, like having all the crayons in the box, it lets me paint the prettiest picture. Having an incredible arsenal of vineyards at my disposal enables me to make a wine with layers and layers of aromas and flavors. Cabernet is the backbone, Merlot contributes to the mid-palate and the aromatics, Petit Verdot adds color and floral aromatics, and Cabernet Franc elongates the finish. I think he likes to make this wine!

From their vines to our tables....cheers!

# JUNE 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Prime Rib Night Texas Hold'em	2 Jimmy Green Jr. Tour tba	3	4
5 Sunday Brunch	6 <b>Club Closed</b> <b>Fitness &amp; Tennis Open</b>  Tennis Clinic	7 <i>Lunch Buffet</i> \$9.95 Family Grill	8 Prime Rib Night Texas Hold'em	9 <b>Kids Build your own Pizza</b>	10 Surf & Turf	11
<b>Junior Golf Clinic &amp; Tennis Camp</b>						
12 Sunday Brunch	13 <b>Club Closed</b> <b>Fitness &amp; Tennis Open</b> <b>Dixie Section Pro-Am</b>	14 <i>Lunch Buffet</i> \$9.95 Family Grill	15 Prime Rib Night Texas Hold'em	16 Build your Cupcake 6pm Family Grill	17	18
19 Sunday Brunch	20 <b>Club Closed</b> <b>Fitness &amp; Tennis Open</b>  Tennis Clinic	21 <i>Lunch Buffet</i> \$9.95 Family Grill	22 <i>Bottomless Pasta</i> Prime Rib Night Texas Hold'em	23	24 <i>Surf &amp; Turf</i>	25
<b>Ladies State Amateur Championship &amp; Tennis Camp</b>						
26 Sunday Brunch	27	28 <i>Lunch Buffet</i> \$9.95 Family Grill	29 Prime Rib Night Texas Hold'em	30		



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>Phil Purpura</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>Allan Crow</b>	<b>Vice President</b>
<b>Chester Mathers</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>Pat Lursen</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Tim Jackson</b>	<b>Director</b>
<b>Nancy Lowe</b>	<b>Director</b>
<b>Robert Mullen</b>	<b>Director</b>
<b>Paul Sousa</b>	<b>Director</b>
<b>Richard Sullivan</b>	<b>Director</b>
<b>Tom Vollmer</b>	<b>Director</b>
<b>John Williams</b>	<b>Director</b>

## STAFF OF HERON LAKES

<b>Robbie Fitzgerald</b> <a href="mailto:rfitzgerald@heronlakescc.org">rfitzgerald@heronlakescc.org</a>	<b>Food &amp; Bev. Director</b>
<b>Calvin Dickerson</b> <a href="mailto:catering@heronlakescc.org">catering@heronlakescc.org</a>	<b>Banquet Manager</b>
<b>David Musial</b> <a href="mailto:musialgolf@yahoo.com">musialgolf@yahoo.com</a>	<b>Golf Professional</b>
<b>Tomas Catar</b> <a href="mailto:tennis@heronlakescc.org">tennis@heronlakescc.org</a>	<b>Tennis Professional</b>
<b>Walter Peters</b> <a href="mailto:gcsuper@att.net">gcsuper@att.net</a>	<b>Golf Course Super</b>
<b>Pat Lursen</b> <a href="mailto:accounting@heronlakescc.org">accounting@heronlakescc.org</a>	<b>Accountant</b>
<b>Brandy Bramblett</b> <a href="mailto:bbramblett@heronlakescc.org">bbramblett@heronlakescc.org</a>	<b>Membership Coordinator</b>
<b>Gwen Powell</b> <a href="mailto:gpowell@heronlakescc.org">gpowell@heronlakescc.org</a>	<b>Accounts Receivable</b>

**Please visit our website**  
[www.heronlakescc.org](http://www.heronlakescc.org)  
 Heron Lakes is now on

## HOURS OF OPERATION

### FAMILY GRILL

<b>Tue</b>	<b>11:00am— 3:00pm</b>
<b>Wed—Fri</b>	<b>11:00am — 8:30pm</b>
<b>Sat &amp; Sun</b>	<b>6:30am — 3:00pm</b>

### Nineteenth Hole

<b>Tue, Fri, Sat, Sun</b>	<b>11:00am - 7:00pm</b>
<b>Wed</b>	<b>11:00am-10:00pm</b>
<i>*Texas Hold 'em Every Wed 7 to 10 pm</i>	
<b>Thu</b>	<b>11:00am-8:00pm</b>

### GOLF SHOP

<b>Tue—Fri</b>	<b>8:00am — 5:00pm</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>6:45am— 4:45pm</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>7:30am — 5:00pm</b>

### TENNIS SHOP

<b>Mon—Thu</b>	<b>8:30am—7:00pm</b>
<b>Fri</b>	<b>8:30am-6:00pm</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>9:00am-4:00pm</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>12:00pm — 6:00pm</b>

### FITNESS CENTER

<b>Mon—Fri</b>	<b>5:30am — 9:00pm</b>
<b>Sat—Sun</b>	<b>8:00am — 5:00pm</b>

### OFFICE

<b>Tue-Fri</b>	<b>8:00am — 5:00pm</b>
----------------	------------------------

### CLUB TELEPHONE NUMBERS

<b>Main</b>	<b>666-7040</b>
<b>Food &amp; Bev</b>	<b>666-7673</b>
<b>Golf Shop</b>	<b>666-7070</b>
<b>Tennis Shop</b>	<b>666-7665</b>
<b>Main Fax</b>	<b>660-2526</b>
<b>Golf Course</b>	<b>660-2529</b>
<b>19th Hole</b>	<b>660-2524</b>

## ONLINE BILL PAY

You can now make  
 your payments on-line  
 by visiting HLCC website.

**Fee for late payments has changed  
 to 5% (\$25.00 minimum).**