



JAN & FEB 2024

# THE 19TH HOLE

STONO FERRY • THE PLANTATION COURSE • TOT HILL FARM

GENERAL MANAGER **STONO FERRY**

## GREG WOOD

Happy New Year! I hope you and your family had a wonderful holiday season to finish out 2023. Reflection on the past year triggers new plans, habits, and ideas for the upcoming one. If you are having trouble coming up with ideas for 2024, I would like to make a couple of suggestions. Number one idea for 2024 is working on the body to have it be in better condition during the new year. The gym at The Links at Stono Ferry has all of the equipment and space needed to help you with all of your physical fitness needs. Number two idea revolves around being a better golfer. Improving at golf can be a little daunting without good guidance. The golf professionals at Stono Ferry and Tot Hill will help you with your goals of being better at the game we all love. Number three idea is golf travel. With the addition of Tot Hill Farm, the members now have access to a Mike Strantz design golf course in Asheboro, NC. The course is located fifty minutes north of Pinehurst and thirty minutes south of Greensboro. You could stay in Asheboro and play Tot Hill Farm multiple times, or stay in Pinehurst and make Tot Hill Farm a part of your golf itinerary.



If you are planning on playing Tot Hill during U.S. Open week please make contact with me so advanced tee times can be made. Demand will be strong that week with the U.S. Open being played on Pinehurst #2.

My hope is you take your improved body and golf game and play the best golf of your life. In fact, it is so good you decide to take a trip to Tot Hill and you play the absolutely best round of your life!

I do hope you have a great 2024! Thank you for being a member! My staff and I look forward to serving you in 2024.

Greg Wood

## GRASS CLIPPINGS STONO FERRY

### MICHAEL EARGLE

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!! I hope everyone had a great holiday season and created special memories with family and friends. I know 2023 presented many challenges for us across the board, but I find myself being truly thankful that we were able to continue enjoying golf and the golf course.

For the maintenance operation, during the months of January and February our top priority is to prepare the golf course for play each morning. This takes about four hours and requires every staff member. Once the golf course is ready for play, work efforts will be focused on things such as, irrigation repairs, bunker repair, tree work, and managing leaves. Much of this clean up and repair work is performed on a priority basis or “moments of opportunity.”

Your comments are always much appreciated, please continue with your feedback, so we can continue to get better with our day to day operations. I also, want to thank you for creating many bright spots for my crew and myself this past year with your praise and appreciation for our efforts in maintaining your golf course. May your drives be straight and your putts short!





## PRO SHOP UPDATE **STONO FERRY**

### **PETER SKIRPSTAS**

The Golf Staff wants to thank everyone for a wonderful 2023. We have had record participation for every event this year and we look forward to continuing this trend going into 2024. The Tournament and Maintenance Schedule have been completed and, in an effort, to improve our communication the website will be adding a Calendar with upcoming Tournaments and Course Closures, as well as continuing to send a monthly calendar well in advance..

A New Year's resolution for the Golf Operations is upholding our 4 hour and 15-minute pace of play policy and enforcing that policy so that everyone can enjoy what Stono Ferry has to offer. Please help us with being mindful of your pace and when you find yourself out of pace working with your group to get back on time.



Speaking of New Year's Resolutions, I am certain that all of us have few things we would like to improve when it comes to our golf games. Whether you want to shoot your lowest score, add a few yards to your driver, hole a few more putts, or accomplish all the above. It can all happen; however, it certainly does not happen overnight. My biggest recommendation is staying consistent. We find ourselves playing a game that is wildly inconsistent and as you know as soon as the ball leaves the club face it does not listen. When I talk about consistency what does that mean? Listed below are a few recommendations that you can pick and choose to implement that will lead you to enjoying the game more than you already do.

- Adapt a simple 15-minute stretching routine that elevates your heart rate. Your body will thank you and you have a better chance of putting a consistent strike on the ball.
- Pre-Shot Routine- Read the Lie, Wind, and play the high percentage shot. The focus on your Grip, Stance, Alignment, and Ball Position. Control what you can control- You will build confidence if you know your set up right you have that much better of a chance for a successful outcome.
- Forget about your score and focus on the task at hand. Golf is a game within a game. If you lose focus on what is in front of you 2 shots turn into 3 instead of turning 3 shots into 2.
- Make an appointment with a Golf Professional and manage your expectations.

Whatever you decide to do to improve your game stick with it!! Everything above will improve your game and I look forward to seeing handicaps going down for 2024 I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday and travels safe!

## FOOD & BEVERAGE **STONO FERRY**

### **VIKA BALYASNIKOVA**

We are excited to announce that our monthly newsletter will now feature a dedicated section for food and beverage! As we approach the end of the year, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for contributing to the wonderful year we have shared together. From tournaments, to social events and the successful development of our very first Stono Ferry beer.

This upcoming year we are looking forward to hosting more social events and creating even more memories. Speaking of, please join us for our first social of 2024!

On January 13th, we will be hosting an oyster roast at the clubhouse, catered by Dixieland Delights. The event will be held from 4pm to 7pm and will feature complimentary beer and wine, as well as live musical entertainment. We kindly ask that you sign up through Golf Genius at your earliest convenience. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. We look forward to sharing this delightful evening with you and creating lasting memories.





## REAL ESTATE STONO FERRY

### DAN LORENTZ

Hello Stono Ferry Members,

As we begin the new year we hope you and your family had a happy and safe holiday season!! Situated in the heart of the Stono Ferry Clubhouse, our real estate office remains committed to keeping you informed about the latest developments in the market. Under the leadership of Dan Lorentz, our team is ready to address your real estate queries with a focus on personalized guidance tailored to your specific needs. We invite you to drop by our office at your convenience, our team is here to provide expert guidance on any inquiries pertaining to individual properties or the comprehensive details of the neighborhood. If you miss us, please take a moment to register your details on the iPad located outside our office for efficient communication.

We're pleased to inform you that the Charleston market is currently seeing a modest downtick in interest rates and inventory levels are trending slowly upward. It's important to note that these changes are well within the anticipated range. Despite these fluctuations, the market remains robust, with recent increases in property prices placing homeowners in a favorable position for potential sales. Moreover, the current lower inventory levels present a favorable window for those considering listing their properties before the market potentially expands further. On the buyer's side, the current market conditions provide various options, with potential negotiation opportunities compared to previous years.

Feel free to visit our on-site real estate office within the Stono Ferry Clubhouse. Our experienced team is eager to provide support and assistance, ensuring your real estate goals are achieved professionally. For immediate assistance or to discuss your specific requirements, don't hesitate to contact **Dan** directly via his cell phone at **843-532-4653** or by email at [dan@danlorentz.com](mailto:dan@danlorentz.com). Within the Stono community, we've cultivated a robust network of potential buyers eager to join the esteemed Stono Ferry Community. If you've been contemplating the sale of your property, now is a favorable moment to initiate contact with us.

**Quick Stono Ferry market stats:** There are currently 7 active homes for sale, and only 1 property that is active contingent.

There have been 10 homes to close in the last 6 months, the average sale price for non waterfront homes is \$260 per sq ft (includes the Reserve at Stono Ferry), and the average time on market is 24 days.

If you have any questions about the current market or need to speak with a lender please contact me today!

## PRO SHOP UPDATE PLANTATION COURSE

### HEATHER HENDERSON

Happy New Year from The Plantation Course at Edisto! 2023 was another great year for us at Edisto and we are excited to see what 2024 has in store.

On **March 2nd** The Plantation Course will host a 1 day **Member/Member Tournament**. Mark your calendar now and you will be receiving an email with more information and sign-up details. Remember you must have an established and current handicap with GHIN to participate in this tournament.

Our spring villa packages are filling up quick, but we do have some weekday availability if anyone is looking for a stay and play package with friends.

As always, remember our weekends in the spring will be very busy with large groups Thursday – Saturday so be prepared for slower rounds compared to the weekends in January and February.

#### **New Year SPECIALS:**

You will find some great deals in our Pro Shop as we make room for the new spring inventory we know everyone will love!

All Shoes **25% off** for Members in January and February

Lots of shirts and gift items added to the **SALE** racks started now!

## COURSE UPDATE PLANTATION COURSE

### ZACH RISH

Welcome to the New Year! In the prior newsletter I covered some reasons why we, at the Plantation Course, do not overseed. One reason I mentioned was the time it freed up for us to accomplish projects on our priority list such as adding additional barriers on holes 7 and 14 to combat flooding from King Tides. Also, a big task we will be tackling this winter is the trimming of palm fronds and hanging fruit. It has been several years since we have been able to do this and it will not only look more appealing, but it will also make for much easier clean up from storms and windy day debris for the maintenance staff.

We will continue improvements to the course and we appreciate your patience while certain areas are being worked on. As always, we do ask that you please obey ropes and stakes that are put up in high traffic areas and please repair your ball marks on greens.

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and The Plantation Course Golf Course Maintenance Department looks forward to a successful and hurricane free 2024!!