

Gadsden County Times

and continues
THE CHATTAHOOCHEE TRIBUNE

Quincy, Florida, Thursday, April 25, 1968

Grand Opening Gadsden Country Club Set For Thursday; Big Dance On Tap



Careful Plans Paid Off; Facilities Among the Best

Three years of careful planning has produced the Gadsden Country Club — one of the nicest country clubs with the largest golf course in acreage in the State of Florida.

The new 246-acre country club located three miles from Quincy on the Solomon Road — consists of a spacious ballroom-dining room combination, an attractive ladies lounge, a teen room complete with a snack bar and juke box, a paneled gathering place for the grown-ups with a circular snack bar, a well-stocked pro shop, a beautiful L-shaped Olympic size swimming pool with a high diving board and a separate circular pool for the young fry. Another popular feature is the tennis courts which can be used day or night. The main attraction is the 18-hole championship golf course which is made even more accessible by 24 new Harley-Davidson golf carts. The carts are housed in a building near the clubhouse.

Total expenditure amounted to \$400,000.

Idea First Formed

The first idea for forming the Gadsden Country Club began in June, 1965, when a steering com-

mittee met which was composed of Ben Duncan, Arthur Corry, William Hugh Malone, Carl Fowler, R. G. Smith, W. S. Dodson, Ernest Eietenholz, John Allen Smith and W. D. Lines.

The committee was successful in securing a loan of \$190,000 approved by the Federal Housing Authority.

Two Clubs Work Together

In June 1966 the Sawano Country Club voted to work with the steering committee in forming the Gadsden Country Club and the first organizational meeting was called June 18, 1966. An authorized capital program of \$320,000 was approved. The first elected president of the newly-formed organization was Arthur Corry.

Howard Fletcher was elected vice president; George Bates, treasurer; and Carl Fowler, secretary. Named to the board of directors were Richard D. Aimberte, John Clark, Ben Duncan, Jack Harnett, Pat Higdon

Sr., George E. Johnson, Ralph Perkins, Joe Spitz, Pat Suber, Dr. Forrest Taylor and Earl Williams. The new board decided to have a board of directors meeting on the third Thursday in September of every year and agreed to meet every Tuesday at 5:30.

Committee Appointed

At a meeting on November 17, 1966, Mr. Corry appointed the chairman of the various committees for the new club, Bob Smith

was named chairman of the building committee; Ben Duncan, golf course; Pat Suber, swimming pool; Lamar Munroe Jr., tennis courts; and John Clark, timber and grounds.

Robert Maybin, Tallahassee architect, was selected to draw plans for the newly planned club. Charles Kinard submitted the low bid for the construction of the golf course and building. Jim Lee, architect with the Lee Golf Course Architectural Co. of Boca Raton, was engaged to design the golf course.

Plans Proceed

A commitment loan of \$197,565 was received from the Tallahassee Federal Savings & Loan Association and the committee proceeded with all planned projects.

A new board of directors was elected September 21, 1967 with Howard Fletcher as president; Arthur Corry, vice president; George Bates, treasurer; and Carl Fowler, secretary.

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Many Minds and Bodies Used In Building Club

Bringing the various facilities to the present stage of completion at Gadsden Country Club was the labor of many members with fervent desire to provide Gadsden Country with a club that could be looked upon with pride.

It took long committee meetings during the planning stage and for some it meant unmet and unnoticed labor and devotion. Among those so involved were: Arthur Corry, president in the formative stage who used such good judgement in his selection of committees and committee chairmen.

Howard Fletcher, vice president under Mr. Corry and now president for his direction and leadership after the facilities began to take shape.

George Bates, treasurer, who has worked untold hours keeping accurate records of accounts receivable as well as bills to be paid. Plus his financial judgement in securing the initial loan and formulating additional fund raising projects without which the club would not have reached its present stage of completion.

Carl Fowler, secretary, who

Buddy Morrow and His Band will supply the music tonight (Thursday) for the Grand Opening Ball at Gadsden Country Club, according to Bobby Carnes, entertainment chairman.

Golf, tennis, swimming in the beautiful pool and sun bathing will be enjoyed by members and their out of town guests during the day Thursday.

Morrow and his orchestra is one of the few band attractions to become a big drawing card in hotels, supper clubs, radio, television, and records in the last few years. Organized in 1951, the Morrow orchestra is also in greater demand for college dances and proms than any other band in the land. Their recordings of "Night Train," "One Mint Julep," and "I Don't Know," and their albums, "Golden Trombone," "Tribute To A Sentimental Gentleman," and "Night Train Goes to Hollywood" have been high on the best seller lists. They have had great success with their own coast-to-coast radio shows and in engagements at leading spots like the Hotel Statler's Cafe Rouge in New York.

The man who is in front of an orchestra is generally the man who is behind its success, and Buddy Morrow, one of the all-time great trombone players, is largely responsible for the success of his aggregation.

No reservations are necessary for the dance and admission will be \$10 per couple.

PRIVILEGES OFFERED NON-RESIDENTS

The board of directors of Gadsden Country Club recently passed a motion to offer out of county people the privileges of the club.

When applications are presented to the board and properly living in counties other than Gadsden all privileges of the club with the exception of voting membership. An initial fee of \$100 will be charged plus \$12.50 per month. Of course all club facilities that normally carry a charge, such as greens fees, will also be in order, according to Carl Fowler, club secretary.

Congratulations

Officers, Members and All of Gadsden County
Upon Completion of the

GADSDEN COUNTRY CLUB

KING EDWARD TOBACCO COMPANY

Packers and Growers of Florida Shade Tobacco

Many Minds

(Continued from Page One)

has been keeping minutes of all official meetings since the club was first thought of. Plus his generosity in the securing as well as donation of many of the major conveniences now being enjoyed.

R. G. "Bob" Smith, board member and chairman of the building committee, who has spent endless hours with the architect and the builder before, during and after construction. And for his aid in securing the club site for such a nominal cost.

John Clark, board member, for his aid and council in clearing the grounds during construction of the golf course and the planting of additional trees as well as saving many of those already existing on the site.

Joe Spitz, board member, chairman of the cart house committee and active on many other projects, for his construction on the golf cart shed and other minor buildings.

George Lamar Munroe and Joe Dux, who get the lions share of credit for four well lighted tennis courts that are as nice and modern as any to be found in this section of the state.

Pat Suber, board member, who has practically lived with the swimming pool during the planning and construction stages and who still keeps an eye on its operation.

Ben Duncan, board member and chairman of the golf course committee, who has spent more time

on the course during the construction than he did at his place of business.

Willie Lines and Jack Harnett, Willie for his legal efforts in getting the club formed and chartered and Jack for his advice as an ex-officio member of the board of directors.

John Allen Smith and Don Eisenhart for their efforts in projecting plans for a skeet range at the club.

Mrs. Elbert Sheifer for her efforts in forming a strong ladies golf association.

Mrs. Helen Taylor, Mrs. Clarice Munroe, Mrs. Beryl Higdon, John Allen Blitch and Bob Young for a splendid job on the house furnishings committee.

Mrs. Jimmie Mahaffey for her work and interest in a tennis association.

Bobby Carnes as chairman of the entertainment committee for his work toward making the grand opening an enjoyable affair.

Doyle Pope for his experience and advice in paving projects about the club.

There are as many others such as Pat Higdon, Al Baretich, Lamar Massey, Tom Cumbie, Dr. Charlie Gray, Dr. Forrest Taylor, Manning Taylor, the numerous persons who have donated money and other things of value, the professional help, and others, who are due a great deal of the credit for a much needed facility.

MAKES 1ST ACE AT COUNTRY CLUB

Alex McMillan of Quincy made the first hole-in-one at the Gadsden Country Club.

We Are Proud OF THIS FINE NEW FACILITY IN OUR COUNTY CONGRATULATIONS! GADSDEN COUNTRY CLUB



Citizens Bank & Trust Company

QUINCY, FLORIDA

QUINCY'S ONLY INSURED BANK

SUNSTATE TENNIS COURTS, Inc.

congratulates Gadsden County

and the Officers and Members of the NEW

GADSDEN COUNTRY CLUB

ON A JOB WELL DONE

Sunstate Tennis Courts, Inc.

WINTER HAVEN, FLORIDA



Superintendent House's First Love: Greens

Greens and trees at the golf course of the new Gadsden Country Club get ever-loving and expert attention from Lee M. House, golf course superintendent.

Mr. House was engaged by the golf course committee in the early stages of construction and he has spent most of his time to see that members will enjoy the best in facilities out there.

He came to the country club with many years experience, having been employed by the City of Birmingham for 27 years as the overseer of the municipal golf courses there. After his retirement from his Birmingham post, he was for a number of years superintendent at the Thomasville and the Tallahassee golf courses.

Of course, other sections of the course receive Mr. House's watchful eye as equally important are the fairways, bunkers, sand traps and even the rough have to be attended to.

Mr. House, who recently retired from the United States Naval Reserve after 28 years is a native of Sycamore, Ala. He is married to the former Miss Hazel Ellison, of Sylacauga, Ala., and they have three sons and one daughter. The daughter,



RETIREES AFTER 27 YEARS — Chief Engineman Lee M. House of Quincy retires after over 27 years in the U. S. Naval Reserve in ceremonies held recently in Tallahassee. Pictured from left to right are Lt. D. W. Shontz, Cmr. W. L. Maloy and Chief House. House is the golf course supervisor at the Gadsden Country Club.

Now Mrs. Mike Church, lives in Tallahassee.

One son, Raymond, now a captain on the Fire Department in Birmingham, was listed as missing in action in the Philippines during World War Two, on a flight from Guam to Pearl Harbor and Manila. Another son, Code House, is a golf professional at the Monticello Country Club and the third son, Bill, lives in Birmingham. All of the boys are

ardent golf players.

During World War Two while on active duty with the U. S. Navy, Chief Engineman House won the distinction of being sunk three times during hostilities in the Pacific.

He also received three commendations from the Navy: One for making a major change in a diesel engine; one for assist-

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THERE IT IS! Mrs. Everett Morrow points to her lost golf ball that Mrs. W. B. McNeill has been trying to find in the woods at the Gadsden Country Club. Patiently waiting for the game to continue are Mrs. Thomas Smith (left), Mrs. Carl Rudio and Mrs. Robert Gardner (right). The golfers, who are beginners, are enjoying the spring weather.



FINALLY ON THE GREEN — Some beginner golfers — Mrs. Robert Gardner (left), Mrs. Thomas Smith, Mrs. W. B. McNeill, Mrs. Everett Morrow and Mrs. Carl Rudio — have been enjoying a morning game.

More Power To The....

GADSDEN COUNTRY CLUB

A GREAT INVESTMENT
IN A GREAT COUNTY

TALQUIN ELECTRIC

COOPERATIVE, Inc.

Quincy, Florida





John "Johnnie" Milam, a native of McKenzie, Tenn., is the assistant golf professional at Gadsden Country Club. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Milam and at one time lived at Greensboro where his father was a coach and teacher.

Johnnie attended public schools in Bay County and graduated from Bay High at Panama City. He also attended Gulf Coast Junior College at Panama City.

He is married to the former Miss Bonnie Hamilton of Lynn Haven.



Carl Rudio, an old time golf professional, who is assistant pro at GCC, lines up a putt on No. 7 green. Carl was professional at Sawano way back in the early 20s.



NO. 7 AT THE NEWLY OPENED GADSDEN COUNTRY CLUB
Looking much like "Mexico Beach," the 510-yard No. 7 hole at the new Gadsden Country Club presents a real challenge. The well-trapped green and fairway provides plenty of sand-blasting practice. The 18-hole championship course, designed by world-wide golf course designer, Joe Lee, is a par 72 layout with a total yardage of 6,475 yards. (Havana Herald photo)

Careful Plans

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Named to the board of directors were Ben Duncan, Pat Suher, Joe Spitz, Earl Willis, John Clark, Bob Smith, Lamar Massey, Tom Cumbie, J. Love Hutchinson, Pat Higdon Sr., George Bates and John Clark.

Since more money was being spent than authorized a fund raising drive was originated in April of 1967 with 12 teams formed. Various business firms were contacted and asked to contribute toward the construction of golf tees and the tennis courts as an advertising campaign. As a result of the drive \$600,000 was raised which enabled the club to complete all proposed projects.

Golf Course Accepted

The golf course was accepted February 9 of this year and the clubhouse was accepted February 21.

Ronnie Lafloon, a young golf professional from Panama City, was employed January 1 and is assisted by Carl Rudio, former professional at the Sawano Club, Wylie Mitchell, former greenskeeper at the Sawano Club, is also an assistant.

The swimming pool and tennis courts were accepted and an open house attended by some 300 persons was held March 2. The lounge was opened and the first meal was served in the ballroom on March 31 with dinner and dancing every Saturday evening.

The Gadsden Country Club which now numbers over 300 members from all over the county proves just what can be accomplished by careful planning, foresight, great cooperation and just plain hard work.

Superintendent

(Continued from Page Four)

ing in writing a damage control and current ship's maintenance book, and another for giving golf lessons on the hanger deck of an aircraft carrier.

During the year 1948 as commander of the Honor Guard of the American Legion he conducted 119 military funerals. On February 13, 1967, by request of the family, Mr. House conducted the military funeral for Robert McDonald, USN, retired, at Sylacauga, Ala. McDonald was in the boarding party that captured the German Submarine U-505 during WW II.

Congratulations

TO THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

GADSDEN COUNTRY CLUB

FOR PROVIDING A MUCH
NEEDED FACILITY FOR
OUR COUNTY

WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE HAD
PART IN THE FURNISHINGS
OF THIS BEAUTIFUL CLUB

SHELFER-BLITCH

INC.
furniture of character
QUINCY FLORIDA

Wide Variety of Items On Sale In Country Club Pro Shop

A varied selection of items for golfers and tennis players is carried in the pro shop at Gadsden Country Club by Ronnie Laffoon, manager.

Although the small size of his shop limits his stock to a degree, Ronnie has quick access to a much larger stock at Panama City Country Club where his father, Woody Laffoon is the pro.

He has a modest supply of PGA irons and woods for ladies, men and children as well as golf balls, tees, shoes and socks for both sexes. He also has a supply of sweaters, wind breakers and hats and caps for the golfer.

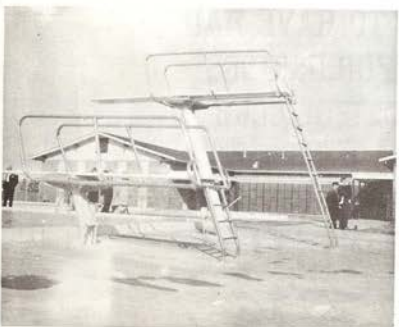
Tennis rackets and balls and other tennis supplies are available.



CONGRATULATING WINNERS — Ronnie Laffoon, club golf professional, is surrounded by tournament players following the contest. He congratulates the winners and gives encouragement to those that lost on this occasion. Photo by Dan Martin.



Club President Howard Fletcher makes his putt while Dr. Charles (Linus) Gray appears to be getting the green's break (some say he was merely hunting his towel in the grass) as Pat Higdon, Sr., awaits his turn.



DIVING BOARDS of the very latest design are popular with those that love the water. The two at Gadsden Country Club were made by National and are all metal with adjustable springs on each board. The high board is approximately 10 feet above the water while the low board for the faint-hearted is four feet high.

Tennis Matches Are Scheduled For May 11

An exhibition tennis match is planned for Saturday, May 11, at the courts at Gadsden Country Club, according to Joe Duys.

An eight-man tennis team from

Florida State University which is coached by Lex Wood, will engage in singles and doubles matches at 4 p.m.

Beginning at 1 p.m. members of the FSU team will be paired with local talent in a doubles tournament.

Mr. Duys stated that all club members are invited to see the exhibition.

The coach and his team have been invited to stay for dinner at the club Saturday evening.

Mrs. Jimmie Mahaffey reports that two classes for children and

one class for ladies has been going on each Saturday morning on the four courts and a lot of tennis knowledge, adeptness and fun has been realized by those taking part. The classes are held between 9 and 12 each Saturday morning, she said.

11 YEAR VETERAN

Wiley Mitchell, caddy master at GCC, was with the Sawano Country Club for 11 years. He helps the pro and takes care of the golf carts, among other things.

Congratulations GADSDEN COUNTRY CLUB

We are proud to have had a part in this new recreational facility - a sure sign of progress for Gadsden County

**QUINCY VAULT
COMPANY**
QUINCY, FLORIDA

We Commend THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE GADSDEN COUNTRY CLUB

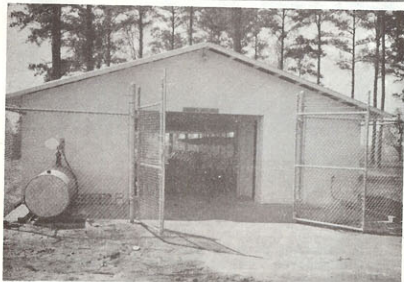
For Their Progressive Step Forward
In Our Growing Community



PAT SUBER, INC.



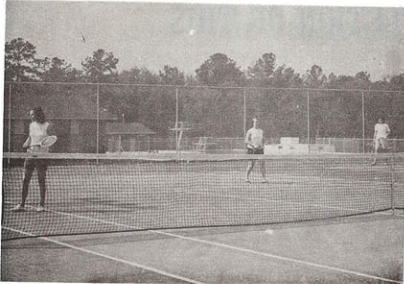
LINING UP A PUTT — Carl Rudio, assistant pro at Gadsden Country Club, is shown lining up a putt on No. 7. Mr. Rudio first came to Quincy from his native New York way back in the early 20's. He is married to the former Miss Valeda Jernigan of Quincy and is a retired insurance executive. Times photo.



"SPITZ'S HOG PEN" — a modern and attractive building which was designed by never-tiring Joe Spitz to house the 25 Harley-Davidson gasoline powered golf carts. One of Joe's friends placed a small sign which can be vaguely seen just above the door, bearing the legend "Spitz's Hog Pen" as a practical joke. Times photo



GOLF LESSON — Ronnie Laffoon, left, Gadsden Country Club's golf professional, giving Ben Duncan a lesson in long irons. Times photo



TENNIS, ANYONE? — Mrs. Jimmie Mahaffey, left and Mrs. Norman McMillan on the southeast tennis court at Gadsden Country Club. Tennis is enjoyed by the membership on four regulation courts which are lighted for night play. A small spectator stand is provided as well as a practice wall on the north end of the courts. George Lamar Munroe and Joe Duys worked long and hard as head of the tennis committee to see that the desires of local tennis fans would be met. Times photo.

Food Is Being Served By Tara

Members, their families and guests of Gadsden Country Club are now enjoying the food catering service of John Willis, proprietor of Tara Restaurant at Bainbridge, Ga.

Mr. Willis and his staff are serving a variety of foods on Thursday and Saturday evenings and a Sunday buffet for the fam-

ily is a regular and popular event.

On Thursday and Saturday evenings he offers steaks, chops, roasts and seafoods with a variety of salads and other side dishes. A specialty for after meal enjoyment is homemade ice cream in several different flavors.

On Sundays he specializes in roast beef with a wide selection of vegetables and salads.

At least on one occasion so far a combo has furnished music for after dinner dancing by club members. Others are planned.

YOUNG PEOPLE ENJOY FACILITIES

Teen-agers have a ball at Gadsden Country Club.

Golf, with free clinics conducted by Pro. Ronnie Laffoon; tennis at all hours; ping pong, dancing, swimming and eating.

The teen-room is a popular spot these warm days. A juke box is there for their enjoyment, and cold drinks, sandwiches and knick-knacks are available at the drink-bar.

Congratulations and BEST WISHES TO THE OFFICERS and MEMBERS OF THE FINE NEW GADSDEN COUNTRY CLUB OAKLAND

CONCRETE PRODUCTS, Inc.
Quincy, Florida

Congratulations OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE GADSDEN COUNTRY CLUB

QUINCY

Coca-Cola
TRADE-MARK ©

BOTTLING COMPANY

Quincy, Florida

Credit Due To Ben Duncan Sr. For Fine Course

Ben Duncan, Quincy tobacco packer, who is also an avid golfer with a family devoted to the game, has spent untold hours on the course at Gadsden Country Club in an effort to see that Club members have not only one of the best but a most challenging course.

Mr. Duncan was named to the board of directors when the corporation was formed two years ago and was appointed by President Arthur Corry to serve as the golf course chairman. He worked with the architect and Kinard Contractors during the early stages of construction and has been most active since the 18 holes were opened to play February 1.

Ben, as he is known to his friends, says that much work remains to be done on the fairways and the adjacent rough. "We need a good growing season so that the grass will cover the fairways and then the small gulches and irregularities will fill in. A good deal of work has already been done on the rough and a lot remains to be done," he stated. "During the wet spring we will have a battle keeping weeds and vines from taking over in the wooded areas next to the fairways. With patience and determination we'll get it in shape."



TROPHY WINNERS — Following several weekend golfing clinics conducted by Pro Ronnie Laffoon for junior golfers, an age group tournament was conducted for both boys and girls. Those winning trophies were: Front row: Tom Cumbie, Tom Peacock, Forrest

Duncan, Timmie Dodson, Billie Dodson, Rommie Young, Dick Reddick and Bill Cumbie; Standing, left to right: Lynn Richardson, Gloria Franklin, Chip Gray, Sam Anderson, Bobo Edwards, Sabrina Gholson, Margo Riddlehoover, Patricia Drew, Lisa Riddlehoover and Tom Duncan. Photo by Dan Martin.

QUINCY TELEPHONE COMPANY

A GROWING AREA BUSINESS

Proud to Be A Part of A

Growing Community

CONGRATULATES THE NEW COUNTRY CLUB,

ITS OFFICERS, MEMBERS AND ALL IN

GADSDEN COUNTY ON THE COMPLETION OF THIS

Splendid New Recreational Facility



QUINCY TELEPHONE COMPANY

Mitchell N. Drew, President



WOMEN'S GOLF ASSOCIATION — A few of the officers and committee chairmen of the Women's Golf Association at the Gadsden Country Club have just enjoyed the monthly covered dish luncheon and are planning a game of golf. Pictured from left to right are Lucille Shelter, president; Marcelle Johnson, secretary; Martha Carol Smith, social chairman; Terry Baretich, membership; Miti Duncan, junior golf; Kathryn Fletcher, treasurer; and Irene Ramsey, vice president. Not shown are Helen Taylor, Ladies Day; Jean Taylor, special events; Jeanne Cantey, publicity; Ann Drew and Pat Sherwood, telephone; and Doty Dodson, junior golf.



A POPULAR SPOT on a sunny day is the Olympic size swimming pool. The young fry especially like the high diving board.

We Are Proud TO HAVE HAD A PART IN GADSDEN COUNTY'S NEW **GADSDEN COUNTRY CLUB**

HYDRO GAS COMPANY

QUINCY, FLORIDA

A Credit To Gadsden County

Is This

ALL NEW AND MODERN

GADSDEN COUNTRY CLUB

We Congratulate the Club Members and Officers

ON A FINE JOB OF ORGANIZATION

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