

# Houndslake Country Club

WHERE RELATIONSHIPS ARE BUILT AND STRENGTHENED



The funny side of love and the sweet truth of forgiveness in:

## COME DOWN FROM UP RIVER

by  
Norm Foster

Directed by  
Robert Franklin

featuring

Dana  
**Cheshire**

Larisa  
**Washington**

David  
**Skeen**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH**

**DINNER AT 5:30PM      SHOW AT 7PM**

**CALL 803-648-6805 FOR RESERVATIONS**

**SEE PAGE 6 FOR MENU DETAILS**

*Members*

**\$44.95**

*Guests*

**\$49.95**

## The Founders of Houndslake – The Early Beginnings



The founders of Houndslake were Robert E. “Bob” Penland and Dorsey K. Lybrand. Bob was born and reared in Columbia, South Carolina and graduated from “Carolina” Law School in 1940. He went to work for J. Edgar Hoover as a Special Agent in the FBI.

After serving 11 years in “The Bureau” in our nation’s capital, New York City, Cleveland, and back to DC, Bob picked up the Washington Post one morning and read the headlines, “AEC (now DOE) Announces the Largest Peace Time Plant in the History of the US near Aiken South Carolina”. Bob was familiar with Aiken as a “sleepy, little, winter town”, and he knew this area was certainly not ready for what was about to happen. As a result of this news (and because he missed South Carolina) Bob resigned from the FBI and moved to Aiken in 1951. He checked into the Henderson Hotel (now Aiken’s new Municipal Building). He focused his energy on providing much needed residential development. Because of the construction of the Savannah River Plant there were 35,000 people coming to Aiken and housing was not available.

He began by purchasing 5 acres of land and the end of Berrie Road, now Fermata Place. After that his developments included Dunbarton Oaks and Elmwood Park.

Dorsey Lybrand served our country in the US Navy during World War II. His ship was torpedoed in the Atlantic and he spent 32 days in a life raft. He then became a prominent attorney in Aiken whose partners included Sen. Strom Thurmond, Charles Simons Jr., Arthur Rich and Marshall Cain. Dorsey also served in the state senate for 2 terms.

In 1956, Bob married Amelia Knoedler, a journalist, who was recruited to Aiken to open the first Aiken office of the Augusta Chronicle. Their daughter, “Peggy”, was born in 1957. One Saturday in 1961, the activities this energetic three-year-old caused Bob to escape to Palmetto Golf Club for some peace and quiet. Dorsey Lybrand found him on the driving range and insisted they “take a ride”. He shared with Bob his “inside information” that 1900 acres on the southwest side of Hitchcock Woods were coming available for purchase.

E. F. Conger was a respected business man with Norfolk Creosoting Company. His land had been forested and donated to his alma mater, N.C. State University Department of Forestry. The university was more interested in the proceeds from a sale than owning the land. After Bob & Dorsey drove down the logging trails to take a look at the property, they met with a local banker who agreed to give them a loan to buy the land. The sale of 2 separate tracts closed in 1961.

Some people said Bob and Dorsey were “crazy fools to buy that worthless pulp wood land”, but they had vision. At that time, the City of Aiken was limited to the historic district.

The separate 600+ acre tract between Kalmia Hill and Dibble Road was developed into residential lots, most of which became Westcliff. The Penlands built their family home there on Burgundy Road in 1962. By this time, they had a son, “Robbie”. Peggy & Robbie had a wonderful childhood growing up in this neighborhood on a one-acre lot overlooking Hitchcock Woods.

Between 1961 & 1974 a lot of planning took place for development of the other larger tract of land - 1200+ acres. In the early 70's, Foxchase was developed (prior to the construction of the Hitchcock Parkway). Then came the development of 18 holes of golf, the annexation of land and subdivision of first sections of residential lots.

How did Houndslake get its name? Bob consulted with his wife, Amelia, and told her it needed to include the word, “lake” since there were 2 naturally, spring-fed lakes constructed on the golf course. Since Foxchase came first, Amelia said, “Well, wherever there’s a fox, there’s a hound, so how about “Houndslake”?

In search of a golf course architect, Bob Penland met with Mark McCormick, who represented Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus. Penland’s choice was Palmer, but Arnie was not available due to the construction of his own course at Bay Hill. McCormick recommended Joe Lee who designed La Costa, Doral & Disneyworld, and Penland agreed.

Due to the high cost of land, most developers plan the residential development first and the golf course has to fit in afterwards. Here, Joe Lee had the freedom to locate the golf course where it needed to go and the lots were planned after the course was designed. It was the only time he was given a blank canvas for his creation. Joe later told Bob’s son, Rob Penland, that Houndslake was his very favorite project! There were rave reviews from the press who played here first before the official opening in October of 1974.

Before the Club was built, Robert E. “Bob” Jones of Denver, Colorado came to Aiken for The Masters and the tournament was rained out. Bob Penland got a call from a local Realtor stating that Jones might want to make an investment. The two men formed a fast friendship and Bob Jones wanted to become a partner in the Houndslake venture. Dorsey Lybrand decided to sell his stock in the corporation to Bob Jones, who flew back and forth from Denver to check on the progress. He put his trust and confidence in Penland to make the day-to-day decisions and to handle the development. Houndslake Country Club opened in style the following year on April 4th of 1975.

The Seawell Family has exciting plans to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Houndslake to include the Founders’ Golf Ball and many other wonderful events throughout the year, so stay tuned!

Peggy Penland

# SUPER BOWL SCRAMBLE 2024



Sunday, February 11th

Member/Member or Member/Guest

12:00 SHOTGUN START

2-Person Captain's Choice



per player + cart fee

Includes boxed  
lunch & prize

## 2024 HMGA TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

February 11: Superbowl Scramble

April 4-5: Master's Splash

May 1: Match Play Begins (field of 32) (\$15 entry fee for 2024)

June 22: Summer 3-Club Scramble (2-man teams, 3 clubs per player, no sharing clubs)

August 24-25: Club Championship

September 20-22: Member/Member or Member Guest

November 9: Fall Finale (6's 2-man tournament)

\*\*Sign up for 2024 HMGA by February 11th 2024 for \$30/year. Otherwise, \$35/year.

\*\*Inclement Weather - 18 holes must be played to count towards HMGA Cup Points total.





## Book Club

Thank you to all the ladies who came out for January Book Club! We had a great time and a great start to our year with 10 attendees! Book Club is open to all members and we hope to keep growing this year and seeing new faces!

Our next meeting is Thursday, February 29th at 11:30!

Email: [christinab@houndslakecc.com](mailto:christinab@houndslakecc.com)  
Phone: 803-648-6805

## Pickleball

**Pickleball Fever - New Player Clinic**

Join Coach Ben Lacy for a 90-minute Pickleball 101 clinic Saturdays at noon during January and February. Call Coach Lacy at 803-221-8869 to secure your spot (12-player limit).

## Garden Club

The Houndslake Garden Club met January 19 and welcomed a new member, Carol Leindecker. Lizanne Melton, owner of the Dancing Bee, gave an interesting program about honeybees and bee keeping.

Our February program will be drought tolerant plants, presented by Gloria Wade, on February 16 at 10:30.

New members and visitors are always welcome.

# Masters 2024

Members, you may start to see social advertisements for Houndslake's Masters 2024 packages. We want to inform you that as members, you will not be affected by these prices during that week.

This is a wonderful opportunity for the club to gain additional income for the purpose of those funds being dedicated to improvements of Houndslake Country Club.



## Come Down From Up River

*Paladin Production Presents*

**BUFFET DINNER: 5:30**

**SHOW STARTS: 7:00**

**Catfish Two Ways (1/2 Fried & 1/2 Grilled)**

**River Chicken**

**Pimento Cheese Hushpuppies**

**Cajun Rice**

**Crispy Brussels**

**Seasoned Rutabagas**

**Simple Salad Bar**

**Beignets with Bourbon Caramel Sauce**

**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED**

**Call 803-648-6805 or Email [www.houndslakeecc.com](http://www.houndslakeecc.com)**

# February Ladies' Night Menus



## Fiesta Time

**Wednesday, February 7th**

**Creamy Chicken Tortilla Soup**  
**Fajita Chicken**  
**Fajita Beef**  
**Warm Soft Tortilla Shells**  
**Refried Beans**  
**Mexican Rice**  
**Grilled Squash & Zucchini**  
**Onion & Pepper Sautée**

**Lemon Pound Cake \$5**

## Valentine's

**Wednesday, February 14th**

**Tomato Basil Soup**  
**Beet Salad**  
**Stuffed Pork Tenderloin**  
**Marry Me Chicken**  
**Honey Glazed Baby Carrots**  
**Broccolini**  
**Rice Pilaf**  
**Cheesy Au Gratin Potatoes**  
**Soft Fresh Yeast Rolls**  
**Fresh Baked Cheesecake**  
**Lady Members \$15.95 | Male Members \$18.95**  
**Guests \$19.95**

## Taste of Italy

**Wednesday, February 21st**

**Minestrone Soup**  
**Caprese Salad**  
**Creamy Fettuccini Alfredo**  
**Grilled Shrimp**  
**Chicken Parmesan**  
**Baked Ziti**  
**Italian Green Beans**  
**Fresh Garlic Bread**

**Tiramisu \$5**

## Southern Nights

**Wednesday, February 28th**

**Cheeseburger Soup**  
**Broccoli Salad**  
**Crispy Fried Chicken**  
**Pot Roast with Carrots & Potatoes**  
**Collard Greens**  
**Macaroni and Cheese**  
**Seasoned Rutabagas**  
**Corn Bread**

**Cobbler \$5**

**DINE IN OR TAKE OUT 5:30-8PM**

**LADY MEMBERS \$12.95**

**MALE MEMBERS \$14.95**

**GUESTS \$16.95**

**803-648-6805**

**WWW.HOUNDSLAKECC.COM**





**WE NEED YOUR PHOTOS,  
MEMORABILIA & STORIES!!**

We have created an email for folks to share digital photos, memories, interesting stories or anything you would like to offer for display to help us honor the past 50 years.

Physical items can be dropped off in the banquet office upstairs.

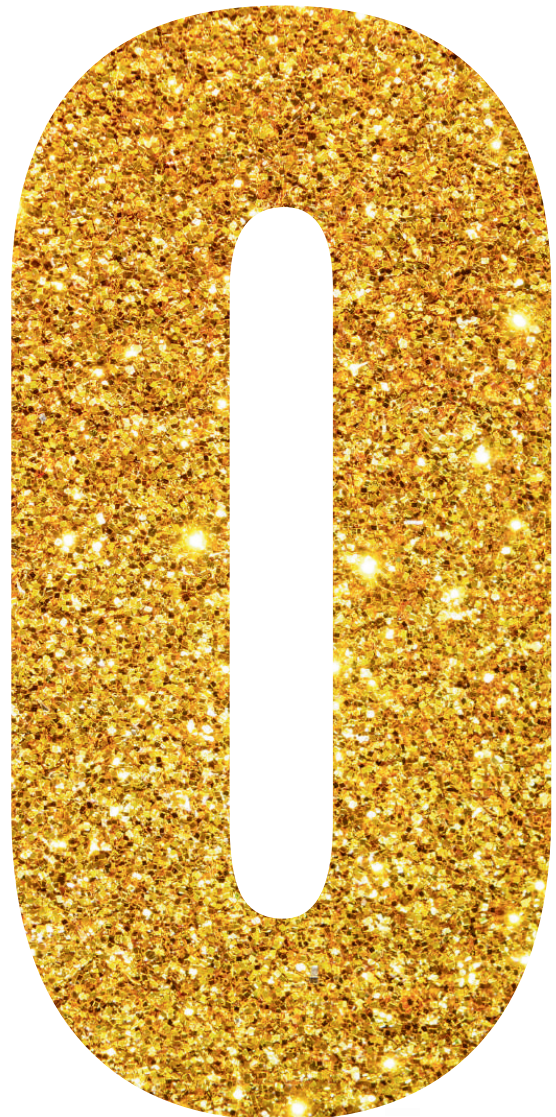
Please share with us!

[rememberwhen@houndslakecc.com](mailto:rememberwhen@houndslakecc.com)

**MEMBER SEARCH!**

If you are a founding/early member, or are related to one, please let us know. We are making plans for Houndslake's 50th year to honor our history and commemorate our founders and members.

Please send this information to [rememberwhen@houndslakecc.com](mailto:rememberwhen@houndslakecc.com)





IN HONOR OF OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY ARE PLANNING NEW EVENTS  
FOR OUR MEMBERS! BELOW ARE A FEW OF THE NEW CLUB ACTIVITIES.  
BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



### BACKGAMMON IS HERE!

Play every 2nd & 4th Thursday in the  
Azalea Room & dinner after in The Pub

For reservations & availability call Billy Benton @ 803-215-6164



*The Founder's Golf Ball  
A Caddyshack Style Night  
of Dinner, Dancing and Fun!!*

KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN FOR MORE DETAILS!



### *Houndslake Lecture Series*

In honor of the 50th Anniversary of Houndslake we are planning  
many special member activities including a Dinner & Lecture Series.  
More details will follow, including menus and pricing.

*Save the Dates!*

Lecture 1: Thursday Evening, March 7th  
Why Aiken is an Equestrian Mecca  
Speaker: Billy Benton

Lecture 2: Thursday Evening, May 2nd  
Aiken's Rich History  
Speaker: Tom Mack

## Employee of the Month

Willie Mae Days has been with Houndslake Country Club for a little over a year. Willie Mae is our day cook and does an exceptional job. Willie Mae is always willing to go over and beyond to take care of our members and guests. Please join us on congratulating Willie Mae on being our employee of the month for February!



## Club Happenings

### Welcome New Members

Jacquelyn Kane

Medwell & Keri Hill

William & Laura McDonnell

Stan & Suzanne Jackson

### Contact Us!

[www.houndslakeecc.com](http://www.houndslakeecc.com)

(dining reservations, tee times, general information)

[rememberwhen@houndslakeecc.com](mailto:rememberwhen@houndslakeecc.com)

(sharing photos & information)

[christinab@houndslakeecc.com](mailto:christinab@houndslakeecc.com)

(banquets, events, membership info)