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## **Lookout Mountain Club Approves Restoration Plans with Super Majority**

December 6, 2021 -- Lookout Mountain, GA- The Lookout Mountain Club recently announced plans for the restoration of its historic Fairyland Clubhouse and Seth Raynor-designed Golf Course, based on an overwhelming majority vote by the membership. In October 2021, the Master Plan Phase 1 improvements passed with a supermajority for both Proposal 1 – Facilities renovation at 80.5% approval; and Proposal 2 – Golf course renovation at 89.4% approval.

"We are unbelievably fortunate to have a solid foundation of unique assets and services here at the club that the Master Plan can build upon to enhance the member experience," said Board President Caroline Williams. "Our members have clearly embraced the importance of investing in this special place that has provided so many wonderful memories and experiences for our members, our community, and for the next generations to come."

Originally founded as a resort property in 1925, the Lookout Mountain Club has been and continues to be a popular dining, social, and recreational retreat for its members and their friends, establishing it as an integral part of the Lookout Mountain community. The club includes two unique mountaintop properties located less than two miles apart, atop picturesque Lookout Mountain, Ga. In addition to the stately Tudor Fairyland Clubhouse perched on the brow of Lookout Mountain, the club boasts a spectacular golf course designed by renowned golf course architect Seth Raynor. A favorite among top raters and classical golf course enthusiasts, the course was one of Raynor's final designs before his untimely death and is one of the few remaining Raynor courses in America.

When the club began considering restorations to its facilities and golf course, the Board of Directors started by canvassing and identifying firms capable of implementing the needed improvements. The Atlanta-based architectural firm Kuo Diedrich Chi (KDC) was selected for its depth of experience and breadth of expertise, specializing in award-winning master planning and designs for private clubs worldwide. Mark Diedrich and his team at KDC developed a design for the club amenities at both campuses, which addressed expectations from membership outlined in the Strategic Plan.

"The renovations to the historic Fairyland Clubhouse are designed to respect the tradition while creating a more casual and elegant atmosphere for member gathering and dining," said Diedrich.

"The new member bar will become a centerpiece of the new experience, with 180-degree views of the Tennessee River Valley from the Mountain, while covered outdoor dining will be added to allow members a place to enjoy the view outdoors with the comforts of ceiling fans and radiant heaters for a year-round experience," he said. "Bars and dining are trademarks of private club capital improvement needs today, to respond to the demands of a multi-generational membership."

World-renowned golf architects Kyle Franz, Tyler Rae, and Jim Ryan were selected to implement the restoration plans of the club's course, according to Gil Hanse's 2009 design plans to complete the restoration work Seth Raynor's original design begun by architect Brian Silva over 20 years ago.

"The land, views, and unique setting of the Lookout Mountain Club give us a wonderful opportunity to revive the golf course and show off its true potential," said Tyler Rae. "Seth Raynor was very bold in his vision for the property, and we cannot wait to expose and highlight all the inspiring features found at Lookout Mountain."

"Both Kyle and I are humbled and grateful for the rare opportunity to restore a historic 1925 Seth Raynor masterpiece. We have spent countless hours studying the golf courses he left behind and feel we're at the right stage in our career to provide the club with a thoughtful, hands-on approach that will lend a timeless, enduring product," said Rae.

"The restoration and improvement of our current facilities will provide members with an environment that blends historic charm with modern amenities that will enhance the overall dining, social and recreational experience," said Williams. "The Board and Management are excited to move into this promising new phase for the club, as we transition to new heights and lay the groundwork to create an exceptional club experience, exceeding member expectations and genuinely becoming one of the premier clubs in the region."

Williams added, "While a lot of groundwork has been done, we are really just beginning." The next step will be to finalize the financing with potential banking partners. Once that is solidified, the club will engage KDC to start the full design phase for the facilities and solidify contract negotiations for the restoration of the golf course.

"Change is never easy, but to progress is to change," said Williams. "We are thankful for the strong support of our members and are confident these improvements will significantly increase the value of membership for years to come."

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The Lookout Mountain Club is a private club formed by the union of two historical institutions: the Lookout Mountain Golf Club and the Lookout Mountain Fairyland Club. Between the two properties located in close proximity to scenic Lookout Mountain, Ga, the club offers full-scale country club amenities including Golf, Swimming, Tennis, Pickle Ball, Fitness, Dining, and Special Events.

### **The Golf Course & Clubhouse**

Built in 1925 and named by *Golfweek* magazine as one of the "Top 125 Classical Golf Courses," the 18-hole course was designed by renowned American golf course architect Seth Raynor. It is one of around 30 remaining courses in America designed by Raynor and the only one he designed on a mountain top, making it unique in that it feels like an island in the sky. With its challenging holes and breathtaking mountain views, it is a favorite course among professional and amateur golfers. It is home to several prestigious tournaments throughout the year, including the ever-popular member/guest tournament called "The Swing Ding." Professional golf instruction is available through the Pro Shop, which is stocked with various golf apparel, equipment, and accessory items. Regular lunch and weekend brunch at the Lookout Mountain Club is served at the golf clubhouse, which boasts a large living room, main dining room, and covered patio overlooking the golf course.

### **The Fairyland Clubhouse**

What originally opened as an inn in 1926, the Fairyland Clubhouse stands today as the main office of the Lookout Mountain Club. Perched on the scenic Eastern brow of Lookout Mountain and nestled among giant rock formations, the stately Tudor clubhouse is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It exudes all the charm and elegance of a bygone era. Special care has been taken through the years to maintain its historical integrity while updating the spaces with modern conveniences and amenities for members. In addition to exceptional dining, the Fairyland clubhouse offers a variety of event venues and banquet facilities, certain to make any occasion special. The recreational offerings at the Fairyland Clubhouse include swimming, tennis, Pickle Ball, and a state-of-the-art Fitness Center with a variety of fitness classes, personal training, and even childcare.

The Lookout Mountain Club proudly builds on a foundation of tradition and excellence to create an upscale yet relaxed environment where our members and their guests feel welcome and comfortable. We accomplish that by delivering impeccable service, quality facilities and amenities, and member-focused programs that foster a sense of family and community. The Lookout Mountain Club serves as an ideal venue to meet new people, entertain friends, and enjoy recreation together as a family.

For more information about the Lookout Mountain Club and membership opportunities, please visit [www.lookoutmountain.club](http://www.lookoutmountain.club) or call 706-820-1551.