

ECHOES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CHAMPION HILLS

AUGUST 2023

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FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER'S DESK



What a wonderful Fourth of July we had here at Champion Hills! All who played enjoyed a great golf tournament with a cookout on the event lawn. We hope to see everyone at the Men's Member-Member Dinner & Dance on Sunday, August 6. There are many golf and club events going on this month, so check the calendar on chmember.com to stay up to date. Keep an eye out for information about our 35th Anniversary party in September!

I want to personally thank everyone who participated in having a successful Employee Scholarship Fundraising Event for the 2023/2024 year. The scholarship committee did a thorough job reviewing all our applicants and they awarded a record number of 19 total scholarships worth \$91K. We had 9 repeat students and 10 new applicants. We are so proud of all our recipients and look forward to following their success.

Finally, it's great to have the full use of the clubhouse back in operation. All the new kitchen equipment is installed and the food from Chef Sean and the Food & Beverage team has been outstanding. The completed fire suppression system is fully functional and we have just a few final items remaining to wrap the project up. We appreciate all of your support and kind words that have been shared with the entire team throughout these past few months.

As always, please let me know if you have any suggestions for improvement or concerns about what is happening at Champion Hills.

See you around the Club!

Alan Deck, CCM, PGA
General Manager

MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

In our mission to keep the Member/Owners of Champion Hills up to date, here is an update on the activities and progress of the Membership Committee so far this year. Before I do that, I would like to remind you of the Vision and Mission for Champion Hills Club that were set by the Board of Governors. These are the driving force behind everything that the Board focuses on when setting the direction for the Club, and what Alan Deck and his team focus on when delivering the day-to-day experience for the Member/Owners.

Vision: Champion Hills Club provides the best year-round private golf club experience in Western North Carolina, because Member/Owners...

- feel instantly welcome in our exclusive, yet welcoming community.
- are delighted by our superior course, excellent dining and social activities and engaging wellness amenities.

Mission: Champion Hills Club's mission is to exceed the expectations of our Member/Owners and guests each and every day.

So, what has the Membership Committee been up to so far this year? As part of our Strategic Planning process, we have been conducting a competitive benchmarking exercise to assess our standing compared to other golf communities in WNC. We are proud to report that we are doing exceptionally well in terms of our golf experience and amenities at Champion Hills. In fact, we were ranked #54 in the nation by Golfweek and #1 year-round residential course in NC, which is a testament to the quality of our community. And, our Wellness Center ranked #22 in the nation from Club + Resort Business. We are also receiving positive coverage in various publications throughout the country including American Golfer, eSouthernGolf, Golf Daily, Golf Digest, Golf Guide, Links Nation, Golfweek, Golf Wire, Business NC, and NCGolf.com

Heather and her team have had a busy and productive first half of the year in terms of new membership activity at Champion Hills. As of June, we have attracted 15 new members to our community. The tour activity has also been high with 172 membership tours through June, which is a record number. These numbers exceed 2021 at the peak of the market and reinforce the demand for Champion Hills is strong. Heather, Mary Kay and Amber have a waiting list of potential buyers excited to become members and residents. So, if you might be considering a move, please don't hesitate to reach out to them to discuss your options. They are here to help you.

As we continue to grow our club and community, let's remember what makes us so special: the amazing individuals who call Champion Hills home. With that in mind, I encourage you to extend a warm welcome to any new members, neighbors or prospects you might come across. Thirsty Thursdays are a great opportunity to do just that. So why not stop by this week and introduce yourself to someone new? It could be the start of a beautiful friendship!

Thank you,

Todd Roadman | Club Board & Membership Committee Chair



CHAMPION HILLS EMPLOYEE SCHOLARSHIP

The Champion Hills membership definitely showed their support for the Employee Scholarship Program. The gross proceeds of the event were over \$120,000! The silent and live auctions generated over \$56,000. Sponsorships (Doctorate, Master and Gourmet) plus the participation fees for the dinner, golf and tennis produced just over \$47,000. Cash donations totaled over \$15,000.

The highlight of the evening were the speeches by a few of our scholarship recipients. Mia McCall and Will Lance shared with us their appreciation for the financial support they have received and how much they enjoyed being a part of the Champion Hills family. Remi Shook, four-year scholarship recipient was unable to attend the event, however her letter was read expressing her gratitude. The sincere words of these fine young people make it clear why this program is worthy of our membership's support.

The upcoming academic year will be the eleventh year of the scholarship program. Eighty-four employees and dependents of employees have received awards since the program's inception in 2013. A record number of recipients (19) will receive scholarships in the upcoming academic year, the total grants have reached \$600,000.

The scholarship recipients, club management and the scholarship committee sincerely thank the numerous club members who have generously participated in the fundraising events and/or donated valuable items for the auction.

Thank you,

Curt Marker
Employee Scholarship Committee Chair

Kicks For Kids



The 2023 Kicks for Kids project was a success! Members personally purchased 95 pairs of shoes and monetary donations were combined to purchase an additional 44 pairs. A huge thank you to everyone as we collected a total of 139 pairs of shoes!

Cindy Schafer, Kicks for Kids Volunteer Chair



TRIVIA NIGHT | WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2
 COCKTAILS 5:30 PM
 DINNER 6 PM | GAME 7 PM

Want to show off your knowledge? Reserve your team a table today! RSVP to Shelly Metcalf at shellym@championhills.com.

CHAMPION HILLS DINNER & DANCE
 SUNDAY, AUGUST 6 | COCKTAILS 5:30 PM
 DINNER 6:30 PM | DANCING 7:30 PM

All CH Members are invited to attend and celebrate our Men's Member-Memberer Tournament. The ALR Trio will be with us so bring your dancing shoes!

Note: If you are playing in the event you are pre-registered for the dinner and dance.



AGUDAS ISRAEL SISTERHOOD
 FASHION SHOW & LUNCHEON
 TUESDAY, AUGUST 15 | 11 AM - 2 PM

Presenting The Sanctuary Boutique's latest collections modeled by Agudas Sisterhood members. Shop our boutique and let our unique vendors fulfill your shopping desires. Registration deadline is August 1!

LADIES' NIGHT OUT
 WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23

Join the ladies' of Champion Hills for a delightful evening in the Clubhouse filled with laughter and friendship!



CH BOOK CLUB
 MONDAY, AUGUST 28 | 10:30 AM

Join the Champion Hills Book Club as they discuss "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt, a beautiful book about loneliness, friendship and hope.

ARE YOU TAKING ADVANTAGE OF EVERYTHING THE WELLNESS CENTER HAS TO OFFER?

Weekly Group Fitness Classes

Cardio Tabata | Tuesday 10:30 AM & Friday 8:15 AM | Instructor: Elijah Askew

A 45-minute class with both HiIT (high impact interval training) or LiIT (low impact interval training) options. This class is sure to challenge you.

Rip Trainer Tabata | Wednesday 8:15 AM | Instructor: Elijah Askew

Cross-train for your best golf or tennis game! This is a 45-minute isometric strength training class using the rip station.

Golf Core | Thursday 8:15 AM | Instructor: Elijah Askew

A 45-minute class that will target core muscle strength. This class will focus on core articulation, flexibility, and strength cross-training to enhance your golf game.

Yoga Basics: Tuesday 8 AM & Gentle Flow Yoga: Friday 9:15 AM

Instructor: Julia Haman

A well-rounded and accessible yoga class with an emphasis on healthy posture and physical alignment. Increase flexibility, improve balance, build core strength, relieve back and neck pain, and destress. A great way to start the day. Beginners welcome!

Slow Flow + Core Yoga | Monday 10:30 AM & Wednesday 10:30 AM

Instructor: Julia Haman

This yoga class was designed with strength and fitness in mind. This class offers core focus movement helping in posture, balance, flexibility, and articulation. This class ends with Slow Flow to focus on mindfully moving and breathing while holding poses longer. This class is suitable for all levels.

Jazzercise Dance Fitness | Tuesday 9:15 AM & Wednesday 9:15 AM

Instructor: Mackenzie Jones

A high-intensity low-impact dance workout that mixes modern moves with strength training. Set to Top 40 music, Jazzercise targets the three major muscle groups for a full-body workout. This class is both fun and effective and can be modified for all fitness levels.

Strength 45 Class: Monday 9:15 AM | Strength 60 Class: Thursday 9:15 AM

Instructor: Mackenzie Jones

Both resistance training classes use hand weights and mats. Each class will alternate between three different muscle groups. The class consists of abdominal routines, upper torso/arm routines, and glute/leg routines. Each workout is choreographed to upbeat music of all genres to drive the class forward and keep your mind on the beat instead of the burn. Strength 60 is an advanced class, Strength 45 is a moderate level class.

Simply Strength | Thursday 10:30 AM | Instructor: Mackenzie Jones

This is a gentle 45-minute functional strength training class. Using light weights and small balls for resistance. This class is designed for those new to strength training.

Strength 45 Resistance Ball Optional | 8:15 AM | Instructor: Mackenzie Jones

This is a gentle 45-minute intermediate to advanced class that will target alternating muscle groups while using resistance balls.

Spin | Sunday 9:15 AM | Instructor: Ashleigh Holland

Saddle up for this 45-minute traditional spin class. Set to heart pumping music this class is designed to raise your heart rate at your own pace.

H2O Fitness | Monday 11:45 AM | Instructor: Wendy Schuchart

Join our instructor in our heated pool for a no-impact workout. This workout is a blend of cardio and resistance training and will incorporate resistance tools such as buoyant water weights and noodles. Great for all fitness levels.

Group Fitness Class Cards

1 Class - \$18 | 10 Classes - \$160 | 25 Classes - \$350 | 50 Classes - \$500

Class cards do not expire and are non-refundable

TENNIS CLINICS

Monday

Men's Clinic (8 - 9 AM)

USTA Intermediate Clinic (9 - 10 AM)

3.0/3.5 Level Players

Tennis 101 (10 - 11 AM) - Suitable for beginners or those returning to the game & USTA 2.5 team players

Tuesday

Drill & Play (6 - 7:30 PM)

30-minute drill followed by 1 hour of round robin match play suitable for advanced players

Saturday

Morning Clinic (9:30 - 11 AM)

To book a private or semi-private tennis lesson contact Nicole Bumgarner at 828.507.6062

USTA Tri-Level Team Update

Our ladies' summer USTA tri-level team has been working (and playing) hard this year. We are currently in 3rd place with the final match on Monday, August 7 at 5pm at Champion Hills. Come cheer us on at our home courts!

EMPLOYEE SCHOLARSHIP TENNIS EVENT

Congrats to our winners:
Michal Baird & Gary Rodberg



GRANITA

By Chef Sean Thomas

Granita is a gorgeous Italian frozen iced dessert. You can make it anytime of the year, but it is best enjoyed during the summer months. Not only is it delicious, but it is delightful to make. Mixing the granita four to five times while it is freezing not only ensures the results are perfect icy crystals, but also cools your face.

INGREDIENTS

- 2 lbs. Ripe Strawberries, hulled and halved
- 1 cup Water
- 1/3 cup White Sugar, or to taste
- 1/2 tsp. Lemon Juice (optional)
- 1/2 tsp. Balsamic Vinegar (optional)
- 1 Tiny Pinch of Salt



INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1

Place your berries into a blender with water, sugar, lemon juice, balsamic vinegar and salt. Pulse several times to get the mixture moving, then blend until smooth, about 1 minute.

Step 2

Pour the mixture into a large baking dish; the mixture should only be about 3/8 inch deep in the dish. Place the uncovered dish into the freezer until the mixture barely begins to freeze around the edges (about 45 minutes) it will still be slushy in the center.

Step 3

Keeping the mixture in the freezer, use a fork to lightly stir the frozen crystals from the edges in towards the center; mix thoroughly. Close the freezer and continue to chill until granita is nearly frozen, 30 to 40 more minutes.

Step 4

Mix lightly again with a fork as before, scraping the crystals loose. Repeat freezing and stirring with the fork three to four more times until the crystals are separate and the granita looks dry and fluffy.

Portion granita into small serving bowls to serve!

Tournament Results

LADIES' MEMBER-GUEST



Mary Kwolek, Lynn Hermann,
Michelle Carpenter, Chris Rafferty

4 CLUBS ON THE 4TH

Overall Champions

Linda Dzagan & Hyler Stanavage
Ken & Katie Wolbeck

EMPLOYEE SCHOLARSHIP TOURNAMENT

TIE FOR



David Doudna, Jack McWhirter
Rick Wrabel, Glenn Strow
Pat & Alison Keenan
Hank Ellis, Chuck Darnell

QUEEN BEE



9-Hole Division

Overall Champion - Valerie Fitzgerald

18-Hole Division

Overall Champion - Lisa Landis

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP



Men's Champion - Mark Brown
Senior Champion - Alan Skelton
Ladies' Champion - Lisa Gray
Men's Net Champion - Dung Phan
Ladies' Net Champion - Debbie Smith

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Men's Day ABCD | Wednesday, August 2
- Men's Member-Member | August 3 - August 6
- Ladies' 9-Hole Club Championship | August 10 - 11
- Nine & Dine | Sunday, August 13
- Champion Guest Day | Friday, August 18
- Husband & Wife Championship | Sunday, August 20
- Labor Day Mixed Event | Monday, September 4

If you have any questions regarding any of the upcoming events please contact the golf professional staff or visit ForeTees.

LISTING OF THE MONTH

CHAMPION HILLS REAL ESTATE

67 Poplar Forest Trace

\$2,000,000



Details of the Property

- Built in 2008
- 4,209 Square Feet
- 3 Bedroom/3.5 Bath/Elevator
- Panoramic Western Mountain Views
- Stunning Three Season Room
- Wine Cellar/Tasting Room

Interested in learning more?

Call our Real Estate Team for more details:

Mary Kay Buhrke: (828) 243-3346 | Amber Saxon: (828) 699-0171



TODAY'S HOUSING INVENTORY IS A SELLERS' SWEET SPOT

One of the biggest challenges in the housing market right now is how few homes there are for sale compared to the number of people who want to buy them. To help emphasize just how limited housing inventory still is, let's take a look at the latest information on active listings, or homes for sale in a given month, as it compares to more normal levels.

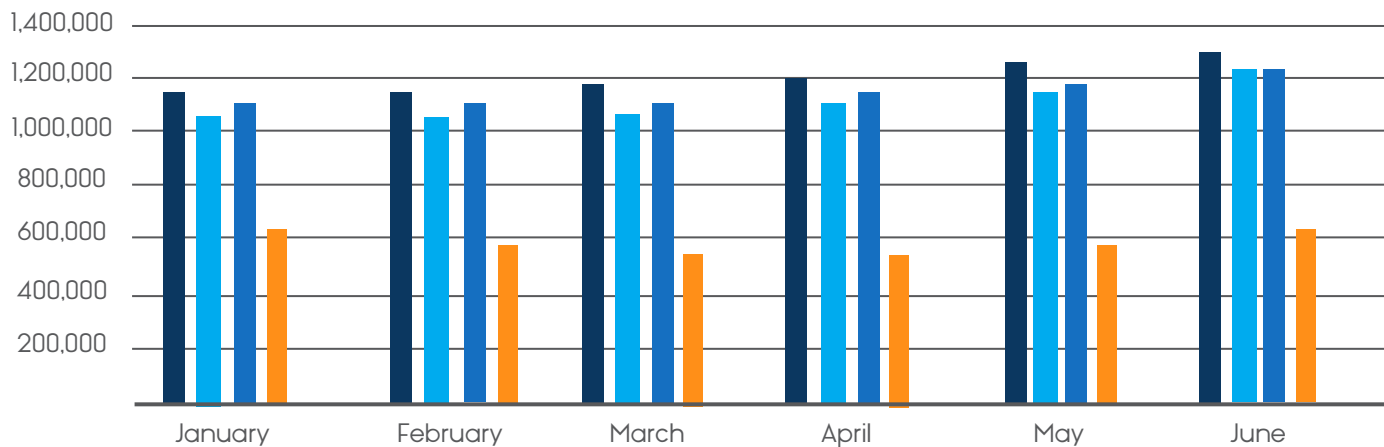
According to a recent report from Realtor.com:

"On average, active inventory in June was 50.6% below pre-pandemic 2017 - 2019 levels."

The graph below helps illustrate this point. It uses historical data to provide a more concrete look at how much the numbers are still lagging behind the level of inventory typical of a more normal market (see graph below):

The Supply of Homes for Sale is Still Low

Active Listings Count



It's worth noting that 2020 - 2022 are not included in this graph. That's because they were truly abnormal years for the housing market. To make the comparison fair, those have been omitted so they don't distort the data.

When you compare the orange bars for 2023 with the last normal years for the housing market (2017 - 2019), you can see the count of active listings is still far below the norm.

What Does This Mean for You?

If you're thinking about selling your house, that low inventory is why this is a great time to do so. Buyers have fewer choices now than they did in more normal years, and that's continuing to impact some key statistics in the housing market. For example, sellers will be happy to see the following data from the latest Confidence Index from the National Association of Realtors (NAR):

- The percent of homes that sold in less than a month ticked up slightly to 74%.
- The median days on market went down to 18 days, showing homes are still selling fast when priced right.
- The average number of offers on recently sold homes went up to 3.3 offers.

Bottom Line

When supply is so low, your house is going to be in the spotlight. That's why sellers are seeing their homes sell a little faster and get more offers right now. If you've thought about selling, now's the time to make a move. We do have a waiting list of golfing prospects excited to buy and join our club. Let's connect to get the process started.

August

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

1
Ladies' ABCD

2
Trivia Night
Men's ABCD

3
Thirsty
Thursday
Men's
Member-Member

4
Men's
Member-Member

5
Men's
Member-Member

6
Men's
Member-Member
Dinner & Dance

7
Clubhouse
Closed
Club Board
Meeting
Last USTA
Season Match

8

9

10
Thirsty
Thursday
Ladies' Nine
Hole Club
Championship

11
Ladies' Nine
Hole Club
Championship

12
Hagen/Hickory
Event

13

14
Clubhouse
Closed

15
Agudas Israel
Fashion Show
& Luncheon

16

17
Third
Thursday

18
Champion
Guest Day

19
Prime Rib
Night

20
Husband & Wife
Championship

21
Clubhouse
Closed

22

23
Ladies'
Night Out

24
Thirsty
Thursday

25

26
Meadow Ridge
Event

27
Nine & Dine

28
Clubhouse
Closed
Advent Health
Foundation
Book Club

29
Ladies' ABCD

30
Men's ABCD

31
Thirsty
Thursday