



*Mr. Roberts and some of the Club's Greatest Staff*

From its inception, Lakewood enjoyed great success and popularity. Lakewood was "the place to be" on weekends. It was an enjoyable place to meet friends, eat, drink and play golf. Doug Roberts, who was the assistant manager of the Grand Hotel, moved over to take charge of the clubhouse and remained there for thirty-eight years. It was quite common in those days to serve two-hundred-and-fifty guests on weekends.

Every weekend was like a large family reunion with the members and their families. Serving all of these people was accomplished through hard work and the savvy of the likes of Georgia and Forest McConico, and the "greatest waiter of all time," Chester Hunt, who remains an employee of the Grand Hotel today.

In 1947 golf was a luxury that drew only those of considerable means who could afford to spend a leisurely day playing golf. In those days the course was walked with caddies, and it was customary to play the front nine, break for a leisurely lunch and finish up another nine holes. In 1947 green fees were only seven dollars and caddie fees were a dollar and fifty cents plus the customary tip. You could play nine holes for three dollars. Dress was a little different in those days, too. Male golfers wore slacks and golf shirts while the ladies wore skirts and blouses. This was prior to the fifties when wearing brightly colored shorts and slacks became popular.

Caddies were also part of Lakewood's heritage. The caddies were dressed in white coveralls with "Lakewood Golf Club" lettered in green on the backs. Many caddies were available from the local community. The caddie shack was located where the number 9 green of Dogwood now stands. To cool off on those hot summer days, many of the caddies would go for a swim in the creek. A hook up