

PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Point Clear, Alabama area has a rich and colorful history. Over the years, much has been written about the Grand Hotel and the Eastern Shore region; but, little has been documented regarding the historical importance of Lakewood Golf Club. I served as manager of the Club from its inception in 1948 through 1985; consequently, the history presented here includes many of my own personal insights as well as more formal records from the Club. Volumes could have been written of the daily events, including personnel, guests, conventions, golf tournaments, banquets, private parties and the numerous celebrities who played at the Club. However, my intent is to preserve a little piece of Lakewood's heritage for anyone who wants to know just how special the Club has been to the lives of so many.

I want to express my sincere gratitude to David Clark, Director of Golf at Lakewood, for his encouragement throughout this effort and for the use of the photographs included in this history. I also want to acknowledge the assistance of my nephew, Reggie Caudill, and niece, Brenda Perry, for their help in transforming my handwritten pages into this final manuscript using all that computer magic! And, finally, I want to thank Mr. J. W. Bethea not only for his input, but also for his continual support and words of encouragement.