

In those years Lakewood served as a getaway for many. Some of the most memorable guests were from St. Louis, Missouri who for several years affectionately referred to Point Clear as a suburb of their city. During those days the G. M. & O Railway was tremendously supportive of the Club. Not only were their corporate executives active members, but the railroad also provided the means of transportation for guests from St. Louis to the Grand Hotel. This train ride ran through the night with the people of St. Louis never skimping on fun and frivolity. The Grand Hotel provided limousine service from the station and the golf course was their primary destination. To coin a familiar line, "There was never a dull moment!" when these fun lovers were in Point Clear. These people from St. Louis knew how to have a good time.

Chicago residents also traveled via the G. M. & O. to the Eastern Shore. One such resident was Rock Moran, an avid golfer and frequent guest at the Grand Hotel. He and his family were particularly cordial and on occasion they would invite employees to New Orleans on his private railway car.

Lakewood also attracted corporate groups and provided a fertile venue for exploring new business strategies. Two companies, in particular, the Mercantile Corporation and Vanity Fair, met often and had numerous tournaments at Lakewood. This was an annual affair for Mercantile stores, but was more frequent for Vanity Fair due to its close proximity as it was located in Monroeville, Alabama.

From 1963 until 1966, Southern Industries, a holding company subsidized by Waterman Steamship, with R. H. Radcliff as CEO, took over the management of Grand Hotel and Lakewood. They continued to manage the facilities until 1966 when entrepreneur, Malcolm McLean, owner of McLean trucking based in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, purchased the Grand Hotel and Lakewood in July of that year. Later, J. K. McLean purchased the hotel and club from his brother. Mr. McLean made some noteworthy changes to upgrade the facilities and completely redecorate both the Grand Hotel and Lakewood. Wade Lott of Mobile and Daphne was employed to refurbish both interiors. During this time, condominiums were added on the Magnolia course along the fairway of the eighth hole.