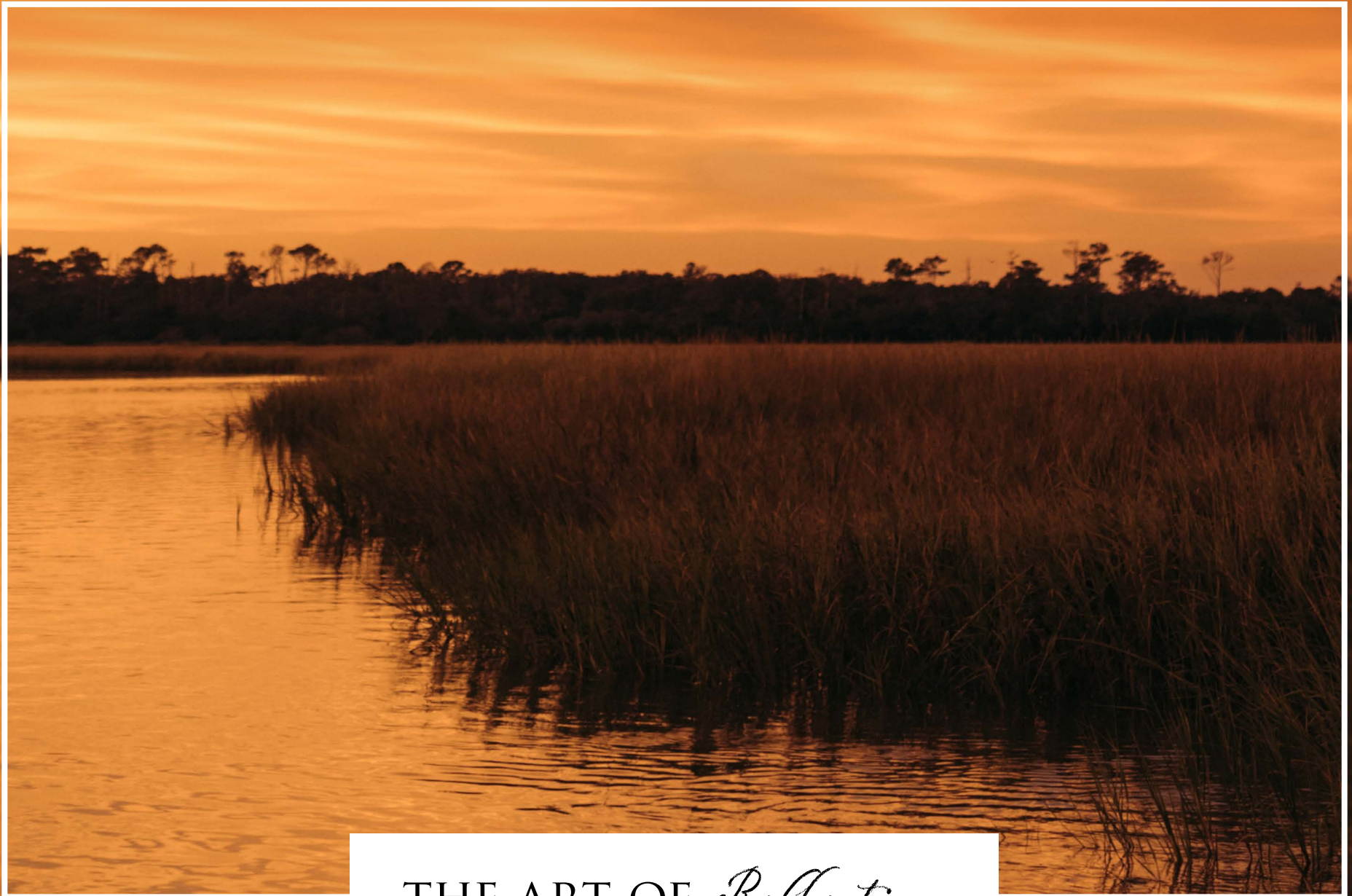


KIAWAH TRADITIONS

FALL | WINTER 2024



THE ART OF *Reflection*



Occasionally in the midst of our busy lives we are provided the opportunity to pause and reflect. Here at Kiawah Island Golf Resort, we were recently afforded that luxury when we celebrated The Sanctuary's twentieth anniversary of providing unparalleled service.

We took that time to hear from some of the remarkable people who worked tirelessly together in the days leading up to the grand opening and who, twenty years later, still dedicate themselves to making The Sanctuary one of the most remarkable hotel experiences available anywhere. I'm happy to share with you their recollection of opening day, as well as their excitement for the future of the hotel and resort, in this short [video](#).

It always energizes me to be reminded that at the heart of what we do at Kiawah Island Golf Resort—the thing that continues to draw guests here—are our people. We are blessed to have great facilities and world-class amenities and programs, all situated in this incredible setting. But all that would be nothing more than a fine collection of buildings, golf courses, and pools without the people who thrive on making every interaction and encounter special and memorable for you, our guests.

Our people embody what we at the resort mean when we think of the word *hospitality*. Yes, it is impeccable service, but, more importantly, it is genuine and heartfelt. So, whether you join one of our golf or tennis weekends, dine in one of our restaurants, or embark on one of our nature excursions, you will receive from one of our team members that same level of authentic hospitality that remains a defining characteristic of the South Carolina Lowcountry. We've taken that regional spirit, refined it, and made it our own. And we're delighted to offer it to you.

We look forward to seeing you back soon. I can assure you, when you return, you will be met with a warm smile and a genuine welcome.

Roger M. Warren, PGA
President, Kiawah Island Golf Resort



RESORT GOLF PRO ELECTED PGA SECTION PRESIDENT

Josh Wagaman, Head Professional at [Cougar Point Golf Course](#), has been elected to serve a two-year term as the president of the Carolinas PGA Section.

The CPGA, which celebrated its centenary in 2023, is the largest of the PGA of America's 41 sections, serving more than 2,300 golf professionals at more than 700 golf facilities throughout both Carolinas and part of Virginia.

"We are honored to welcome Josh to this well-earned position," said Carolinas PGA CEO/Executive Director Jeff Abbott. "With more than ten years of board experience with the Carolinas PGA, Josh will take us to new heights."

"Throughout his 16 years of service at the resort, Josh has demonstrated the highest level of professionalism and character, earning the respect of everyone whose job he impacts on a daily basis," said Kiawah Island Golf Resort President Roger Warren.

Wagaman joined Kiawah Island Golf Resort in 2008. He served as First Assistant at The Ocean Course and Turtle Point before joining Cougar Point. Wagaman is one of only 64 PGA Professionals to have earned certification in all six areas of the PGA certification program.

WOMEN'S GOLF WORKSHOPS

If you are a female golfer who wishes to elevate your game and meet new golfers, you won't want to miss joining one of our [Kiawah Women's Golf Workshops](#). The bootcamp-style weekends aim to bring fast improvement, whether you are a beginner or intermediate player. Each two-day session is capped at 12 players, ensuring each golfer gets maximum attention from the resort's teaching instructors.

The weekend mixes a blend of driving range work and on-course tutorial so that golfers apply what they have just learned to real situations. The highly social weekend culminates in a celebratory dinner at The Ocean Room, South Carolina's only Forbes Five-Star rated restaurant. Accommodations are not included in the weekend, but discounted accommodation rates are available when booking through the resort.

To secure your spot or learn more about the weekends, please contact Golf Learning Center Director of Instruction Abby Welch at abby_welch@kiawahresort.com.



HOLD COURT

If you're looking to up your tennis or pickleball game, consider joining one of our special events focused on quickly improving each sport.

There is still space available for several Fall or Winter Instructional Tennis Weekends. These dedicated three-day gatherings provide seven hours of enjoyable, but intensive instruction that also incorporates round robin and regular play. Snacks at the court are included, and participants can take advantage of a 10% discount on accommodations in The Sanctuary or eligible resort Villas and Homes.

Fall Pickleball Weekends—including one reserved for women only—are capped at 24 players to ensure everyone receives plentiful court and skill-reinforcement time. The experience offers up to nine hours of focused training along with rotational format and point play. Attendees will receive 10% off the best available rate in The Sanctuary or in eligible resort Villas and Homes.

While both tennis and pickleball programs aim to refine your game, they are designed to be fun and casual with built-in free time to allow for

exploration of everything else the island has to offer. Furthermore, while you are sure to meet new like-minded enthusiasts, we encourage interested parties to join as a group with their court-friends from home.

Ample space remains for both events, but there is limited availability for Winter Tennis Weekends.

To learn more about these or other special sport clinics, or to book online, please click [here](#).



MEET NEW RESORT BANQUET CHEF

The resort is thrilled to announce the promotion of Alex Ojeda to Executive Chef of Resort Banquets.

Chef Ojeda's professional journey began in Guanajuato, Mexico before he found himself immersed in Charleston's vibrant culinary scene. Ojeda's dedication to mastering his craft led him through a path of hands-on experience, extensive reading, and relentless experimentation. His passion for cooking ignited at the age of 15 while working in a local restaurant kitchen, and his upbringing on the family farm on neighboring Johns Island instilled in him a deep appreciation for the transformative power of ingredients.

In 2013, Ojeda embarked on his career at Kiawah Island Golf Resort, enticed by the diverse culinary landscape and breathtaking surroundings. Starting at Jasmine Porch, he honed his skills in every facet of restaurant operations, culminating in his promotion to Executive Banquet Chef for the Villa Resort this spring. Ojeda's journey is a testament to his unwavering commitment to excellence and his innate ability to elevate every dish he touches.

Learn more about Kiawah Island Golf Resort's banquet dining services [here](#).



FIVE-STAR WINE DINNER SERIES

[The Ocean Room](#) at The Sanctuary, South Carolina's only Forbes Five-Star rated restaurant, presents a series of wine-paired Chef's Tasting Dinners every month through October. For these exclusive events held in the private Wine Room of The Ocean Room, the culinary team, led by Chef Steven Brooks, curates an exquisite multicourse dinner featuring seasonal flavors and the finest ingredients. To reserve or for more information, click [here](#).



EXCITING UPDATES TO NIGHT HERON PARK

If you've recently visited Night Heron Park, you have doubtlessly noticed some changes and activity. Perhaps most noticeable is that the beloved nature center is now housed in a temporary facility. You may also have noticed construction activity occurring around the area of the pool complex.

Continuing the improvements to the park that began with the opening of The Nest Market | Café, the resort is now undergoing the next phase of expansion.

The resort has begun construction on a stunning new activities center that will encompass a number of offerings—some existing and some new.

First, the space will include a new and enhanced Nature Center that will house many live and preserved native specimens, serving as a great introduction to the island's wonderful wildlife. Just as in the old nature center, resort naturalists and staff will be on hand to answer questions, and also arrange expeditions to observe Kiawah Island's wildlife ... well, in the wild.

The center will also welcome some exciting new amenities, including a bowling alley, golf simulators, an arcade and a family-friendly pub. These new activities will greatly enhance the resort's existing offerings by providing indoor family fun for after dark, during the occasional rainy weather, or when guests just want a change of pace from outdoor activities.

Construction is underway, and the resort plans to open this new facility in 2025.

To learn more about Kiawah Island Golf Resort's ongoing multiyear expansions, click [here](#).





SHELL GAINS

If you've had the pleasure of joining the resort's longest running tradition, Mingo Point Oyster Roast & BBQ, and wondered what happens to those truckloads of left-over shucked shells, you'll be excited to learn they are being put to very good use. This spring, Kiawah Island Golf Resort began partnering with the Kiawah Conservancy and South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) to install a living shoreline at Mingo Point.

The foundation for this new shoreline is comprised of manmade reefs enclosed in eco-friendly wire cages. Volunteers from the resort, conservancy, other island entities, and SCDNR stuffed the cages with recycled shells, and then strategically installed them on the shore of the Kiawah River to reestablish oyster beds right at Mingo Point where the roasts are held.

Over time, the reefs will develop into healthy, thriving oyster beds that help prevent erosion, filter water, and provide structure that attracts food for numerous vital species. These naturally hard structures also provide a first line of defense against the negative effects of severe weather.

On your next visit, be sure to join a guided excursion, either on a motorboat, SUP or kayak, and have your resort naturalist point out the reefs so you can check on their growth. To learn about our water-based nature excursions, click [here](#).

RING IN THE FESTIVE SEASON

Celebrating the festive season on Kiawah Island has become a treasured tradition filled with magical memories. In fact, many guests choose to escape every year to the resort, leaving all the heavy lifting of the holidays to us.

The week of Thanksgiving kicks off the festivities, which continue through New Year's Day. For Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's, the resort offers a dazzling array of dining options, both in our numerous restaurants and as gourmet to-go options for guests staying in our Villas or Homes who prefer a more private family experience.

Thanksgiving week is jam-packed with family-friendly activities. Along with a Thanksgiving Festival, special events include a Turkey Scavenger Hunt, Bonfire & S'mores, the annual Turkey Trot and a Sand Sculpting Contest. By the time Thanksgiving weekend rolls around, the fanfare heralds the Christmas season with the grand tree-lighting ceremony featuring carolers, a parade, Santa's Lowcountry Grand Arrival, and the unveiling of a magnificent chocolate sculpture in The Sanctuary lobby.

This year, treasured resort celebratory traditions will mingle with some new ones. Ongoing activities during the last week of November and throughout December will mark the special season, including ornament-making workshops and craft activities (an excellent opportunity to create one-of-a-kind gifts at Turtles' Nest Art Studio at Night Heron Park.

To begin planning a memorable holiday getaway, click [here](#), or call Reservations at 800.654.2924 to book your holiday escape.



TREASURED EXPERIENCES


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