



# Tree Talk



## Keep it Simple, Use Common Sense

By Bill Lane



With the start of a new year comes a sense of rejuvenation and a desire to be better. The first thing most people do as they ring in the New Year is set goals for the next 12 months, and here at Lane Tree we are doing the same. In order to accomplish our goals for 2018 we have to appreciate the past, manage the present, and look toward the future.

An area this past year that's easy to appreciate is our event facilities and catering. For over 20 years club manager Jeff Cannon has worked to fill up the calendar with special occasions such as weddings, birthday parties, reunions, baby showers, etc. You name it, Jeff has booked it! According to Jeff, the busiest time is definitely the holiday season and 2017 was no exception. There were parties almost every day of the entire month, and often there were two or more going on simultaneously. Handling this kind of business takes preparation, teamwork, hustle, and lots of caffeine. Another event Jeff heads up weekly is Thursday night's "Steak Nite". It has grown in popularity over the years and now, in addition to it, the grill will be hosting a "Burger Nite"

every Tuesday starting in late January or early February. I got an inside scoop of the menu when I spoke with Jeff: "it's called "Burger Nite" but other items will be on the menu such as fried shrimp and a ribeye steak sandwich. I have a feeling the number one item will be a mouthwatering burger with your choice of cheese and a self-serve bar filled to the brim with different toppings to dress your bun. I'm truly looking forward to it!" Looks like everyone is going to have to free up two nights a week now to spend here with us at Lane Tree!



(A beautiful fruit display from one of our parties)

Presently, we are feeling the effects of Old Man Winter! A few brave souls will venture out to play a round or two during these cold months, but this is definitely a slow time for the course. Winter's dear friend Jack Frost can be extremely damaging to the beautiful grounds the maintenance crew works tirelessly on year round. A few years ago, we purchased covers for our greens and they have been a

huge help. Superintendent Chad Matthews pitched the idea to us and he really knows his stuff: “there are several factors to take into consideration before we cover. As a rule of thumb, if the temperature drops into the low 20’s and the daytime temperature for the next couple of days is at or below freezing, we will usually cover. Putting the covers on the greens will help keep the soil temperatures warmer. During the daytime even if the temperature stays below freezing, the radiant heat from the sun will warm the black colored covers and actually thaw the greens. Most of the winterkill comes from extreme cold consecutive days without thawing. Using precaution should minimize the chance of any damage that will be evident in the spring during green-up.”



For any business to succeed it must be set up for continued success. The changes we make are to ensure that Lane Tree stays around for many years to come. One of those changes was mentioned in a previous newsletter and has now been delivered: brand new greens mowers. We have leased these necessary machines and every few years they will be replaced with new ones. This keeps unsightly hydraulic leaks from occurring and keeps the grass properly maintained so your putt can roll

just right.



The lovely outside must match the inside and it is time for a makeover. You have probably noticed small changes in the clubhouse like some fresh paint and different window treatments, but in 2018 there are even bigger things happening to our interior. Color schemes, walls, carpet, and even the ceiling will be going through a major renovation. Lane Tree will be putting this task into the trusted hands of Greg and Phyllis Johnson of Johnson Carpet. They will be using their knowledge and good taste to update our clubhouse. Jeff said: “I can remember years ago when brides would walk in and you could see them already picturing having their wedding receptions here. That has started to diminish as age and other parties started taking a toll on the building. I’m positive we will have that back come spring of 2018, weather permitting.”

We are more than looking forward to this new year at Lane Tree Golf Club, and are happy to have you all here experiencing it with us!