



# Tree Talk



## Pride and Professionalism

By Mike Kelly



[Price is what you pay. Value is what you get.](#)

[Warren Buffett](#) (1930 - )

1995- Bill Clinton was President of the United States. OJ Simpson was on trial for the murder of his ex wife and a friend. Timothy McVeigh had bombed the Federal Building in Oklahoma City. Pope John Paul II was visiting the US on a world tour. Interest Rates for a new home were about 8.5%. The cost of a gallon of gas was \$1.09. A dozen eggs \$.88, and the Dow Jones was at 5117 points. Can you believe it's been that long ago?

One other thing happened in 1995. I am told Lane Tree, after 3 years in business, raised their rates across the board. Fast forward 19 years and we still enjoy those same rates that had been set then.

This year we took delivery of a new fleet of Club Car golf carts. We also have had state of the art GPS systems installed in every cart which has helped with pace of play and knowing exactly how far you next shot needs to travel. We have also

made a huge move in hiring, what I believe is, the best Pro in North Carolina. All fitting for what I still feel is the best golf course around.

Now to get to the point I am sure you all know is coming. We need to raise the price of a few things. **NO** we are not raising your membership dues. We are however raising the price of the cart fee. Effective February 1, we will be raising the cart fee \$1.00. The price of the cart has been 11 dollars since 1995. We are now going to charge \$12.00. We will also be raising the price of golf to the general public which will not affect any member.

I think you all know that I have made it my mission as General Manager to keep the cost at Lane Tree to a minimum and I hope to continue that practice. I also believe that the most of you can understand the need for such a minimal increase.



## PRO SHOP NEWS

By Joe Bailey



(Yea, yea, yea)

Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and got all they were asking for. I was told I got all I deserved, enough said. Also hope everyone took time to remember what the true meaning of Christmas is and gave thanks for it.

Weather has been pretty good sometimes this month, could you believe how beautiful it was the weekend before Christmas.

Don't forget to stop by and meet our Pro Rick Green, he wants to meet and talk to each one of you; he is in the Pro shop most every day.

I want to apologize to all of you that have experienced problems with your golf carts shutting down. This problem is a recall issue that Club Car is addressing as fast as they can. Club car advised if cart shuts down need to follow this procedure. Turn off key, slowly count to 5, turn, key on, place cart in reverse and back up 2 to 3 feet, place cart back in forward and go. If this process doesn't work after 3 attempts contact Pro shop for a different cart.

I hope everyone has a Happy and prosperous New Year. See you on the Tee Box.

Please review our calendar for upcoming outings/events.

### **Brag Box:**

We have 1 Brags for this month. Dec. 6. **Alan Stubbs** posted a 68. He had 6 birdies that day. Great round Alan. Stop by Pro shop and get your sleeve of ball's **Alan.**

## Professional's News

By Rick Green



I already knew some Lane Tree members and customers before I started here four weeks ago. I have met many more since then and I am slowly but surely getting the right names with the right faces. I could have not asked for people to be any friendlier or more accommodating and I am very pleased to be here and part of the Lane Tree staff.

### **Introduction**

For those of you that might not know, I am originally from Zebulon in Wake County and grew up working at Zebulon CC. I played college golf at Louisburg College. I was head golf professional at Hidden Valley in Angier for nearly 6 years, Duplin Country Club in Kenansville for 23 years, and then at Timberlake Golf Club in Clinton for the past 10 years.

My wife Lisa is a school teacher at North Duplin and we have two children. Allie is an 18 year old senior at Clinton HS and my son Sim is a 13 year old seventh grader at North Duplin. We currently live at Timberlake and I am commuting each day. You will see more and more of them here, especially Sim who still tolerates me and spends some of his spare time in the golf shop with me.

### **Transition**

You've probably noticed that the golf shop is "evolving" because I have lots of prints, memorabilia, and a few antiques that I enjoy using with golf shop merchandise and displays. I hope to

offer a comfortable, friendly, upscale golf shop stocked with some of the most popular brands (Ashworth, Bridgestone, Callaway, Cutter & Buck, FootJoy, Greg Norman, TaylorMade, Titleist, Ping, etc.) available for members and guests. As I gradually learn more about Lane Tree, I see how fortunate we are to have such a beautiful golf course and fine facility available at an affordable price. We have some really good people on staff and a lot of friendly members that are dedicated to helping enhance what we do. I hope that I can contribute by offering additional activities that will be fun for you and your entire family.

### **Golf Notes**

**Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>.** The **Southeastern Seniors Golf League** will be playing at Lane Tree during 2014, typically on the first Tuesday of each month. They will be here on Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> for a 10:00 shotgun start. Some of our golfers are already members but if you are over 55 and interested in joining contact me in the golf shop for an application. They play 15-18 different courses for \$18 per outing throughout the year.

**Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup>. Polar Bear Golf Tournament.** Format is two person teams playing holes 1-9 Superball and holes 10-18 Best Ball. Teams will be pre flighted by combined handicap and handicap will also be used to determine net score in each flight. Ham biscuits, sausage biscuits, coffee, juice available at check in from 9:00am until 10:00am shotgun start. Member entry fee, \$26 includes cart, breakfast and gift certificates for winners. Non member guest entry fee, \$46. Optional buy in for cash prizes.

### **Contact Information**

You can contact me by email at [headpro@lanetree.com](mailto:headpro@lanetree.com) I would like to gradually create a data base of member emails so that I can periodically send you info on tournaments, gangsores, sales, lessons, etc. Please send your email addresses to [headpro@lanetree.com](mailto:headpro@lanetree.com) and I will try to keep you updated on any events at the club.

### **Just a reminder:**

I would advise you to get a tee time any time you wish to play, that way you are assured to play at the time you want without a long wait, especially on Fridays, since that has become one of our busiest days.

Don't forget when we have Tournaments on the schedule, please call for availability of play. Also if we are closed for a tournament you can go to the following courses and play on our reciprocal, but will need someone from Pro Shop to call for you. Courses and prices are as follows: Goldsboro Municipal, Southern Wayne, Falling Creek, Cardinal, Timberlake, Three Eagles Golf Course, (\$15 weekdays \$20 weekends); Johnston County Country Club, (\$20 weekdays \$25 weekends); Wilson Country Club (\$31 weekdays and weekends); Kinston Country Club (\$25 week days and weekends), Cotton Valley (\$25 weekdays and \$30 on Weekends) Cutter Creek (\$35 weekdays and weekends). Iron Wood (\$25 weekdays and \$35 weekends), Cypress Landing (\$30 weekdays and weekends). If you have any questions or concerns please let us know. Don't forget our Steak Night on Thursday, you will not find a better steak for the money in this town. Please remember there may be times when the course is full of golfers some experienced and some inexperienced. Let's not forget we all had to start playing and were not real fast when we started, so there may be times when we will have to wait for the slower inexperienced players. If you are one of the slower players please allow the faster players to play through. Handicap flags are only given out when you can ride on the fairways. A handicap flag allows you to go past the blue exit post, but no closer than 20 feet from the green. We ask you to share the flag if there are 2 people in your group that need a handicap flag. Please repair ball marks, rake sand traps, and fill divots with sand. Also be sure to always be courteous to other players by practicing proper golf etiquette.