



Tree Talk



Pride and Professionalism

By Mike Kelly



[In the business world, the rearview mirror is always clearer than the windshield. Warren Buffett \(1930 - \)](#)

Sitting in my office at the end of the pro shop one can hear all kinds of interesting things. The amazing scores that some shoot, the stories of past experiences, and the sad stories of some bad things that are going on in one's life.

The one thing that I hear the most though is how Lane Tree must be making a bundle since the tee sheet seems to be always full.

My friends, nothing could be further from the truth. In years past, I too would think how could a golf course that is so busy, be asking for more monies.

Agreed, we are about 1500 rounds ahead of last year. However if you remember, last year was an unusual first part of the season dealing with winter kill on the greens. We really did not see play pick up till August and by that time, the season was just about over. We recognized the problem that winter brings on these kinds of greens, and immediately acquired blankets at the cost of \$30,000.00. Not

sure about your budget, but when you get hit with these big expenses, it shoots the budget in the foot.

Other costs that continue to sky rocket for example would be the GPS devises. When this program started, we exchanged rounds of golf as payment. As we move into the third year, the GPS company is now demanding a new deal with extreme monies to be paid.

Most golf courses these days are removing the GPS systems since they have become cost prohibited. Not sure if we can negotiate a deal that will work for us. Stay tuned.

Recently we ask for a dues increase to help offset the rising cost of operations. Yes we had some complaints and yes we had some resignations. Last year alone, expenses for just the golf course almost doubled what we took in from golf play and membership dues.

Without the revenue generated thru the facility and the grill, I am not sure how we would make it. This is why we had to ask for an increase.

This is not just a Lane Tree problem but that of an industry as a whole. One doesn't have to go far to see lots of courses either dying or dead.

With the understanding of our great members and some prudent fiscal management, Lane Tree will be just fine.

Don't forget to thank a veteran on the 11th

Happy Veterans' Day
&
Happy Thanksgiving



Lane Tree Ladies Golf Association

Please congratulate the Lane Tree State Play Day Champion for 2015.....Miss Lou Ellen Flowers.

LT Ladies played competitively with East Carolina League October 8, 2015 at

Falling Creek CC.

The winners were:

First Flight:

Cathy Garris First

Gross

Mary Ann Sutton Second

Net

Second Flight:

Libby Newsome First

Gross

Cathy Sager First Net

Third Flight:

Novella Zambelli First Net

Congratulations Ladies!

Lanetree's Karsyn Wins the State Championship

On October 17th, Karsyn (the Hannant family's 9 year old daughter) won the Tar Heel Youth Golf Association State Championship. She played an excellent round of golf during at the Long Leaf Country Club tournament in Pinehurst and beat out multiple contenders.

The next day she competed at the US Kids Golf Parent-Child Tournament with her Grandfather and Lanetree Member Phil Hannant. The twosome won first place in their division and shot the best score overall in the tournament, 34 (2 under par) on the 9 holes.

Lanetree's Ella June, age 6, and her father Steven Hannant also won the Parent-child tournament in their division.



Mulligan

An American went to Scotland and played golf with a newly acquainted Scottish golfer.

After a bad tee shot, he played a "Mulligan" which was an extremely good shot. He then asked the Scottish, "What do you call a Mulligan in Scotland?" "We call it 3." he replied tersely.