

2016 in Review



1. Cherry Hill continues as a strong community asset. We hosted many events in 2016, including Richwood High School reunion events for the classes of 1966 and 1986. Tournament sponsors included the Summersville Rotary, and Webster County Woodchoppers. Charitable tournaments, benefiting the local community, included the Ed Buck Memorial Tournament sponsored by the Richwood Fire Department, Richwood Athletics Lumberjacks, and the M. Tyler Gainer memorial.
2. 2016 was a tough year. Frequent rains in May meant a significant loss of clubhouse income. However, the real devastation came in the June floods that took a heavy toll on the citizens of Richwood. Many members and patrons experienced personal loss, of both property and income, when the floodwaters tore through Richwood and throughout the area. Individuals had no time for golf, as they dealt with their own calamity, while the main road to the clubhouse was washed out, further curtailing visitors to the club. Cherry Hill did receive a grant from the state as part of the state's flood recovery program that was a great help, but even that was not enough to offset our losses for the year.
3. We gratefully recognize the contributions of time and labor by many of our members in 2016, including: Scott Bailey, Alice Bailey, Bob Butcher, Steve Deitz, Jimmy and Nancy Fraley, Mary Fraley, Ricky and Donna Green, Kevin Green, Kip Hall, Donna Henderson, Linda Lindsey, Eric Moose, Kevin O'Dell, Cynthia Olson, Sarah Rexroad, Eddie Sims, Dave and Barb Taylor, Peggy Tenant, Derrick Workman and Larry and Janet Zirilli. The club could not get by without the contributions of these individuals, who ensure that our events are successful and profitable for the club. If we had to pay for their contributions, our course would suffer and our events would be money losers rather than moneymakers.
4. The club also owes a debt of appreciation to **Redi-Care Ambulance**, who annually purchase a corporate membership that benefits Redi-Care, and greatly benefits the club.
5. Cherry Hill continues its reputation as the best 9-hole golf course in the state, with impeccable greens maintained by Randy Amick. Tim Scott came on board, mowing fairways, helping Randy, and doing everything to make the outside look great. The end of the year saw Tony Mazzella, Butch Smith and Steve Deitz covered in white as they limed the fairways. We are changing our chemical strategy for 2017 in an effort to reduce costs, while still keeping the fairways in proper condition.
6. Steve Deitz, Butch Smith and Derrick Workman did a great job replacing the railings on the steps leading up to the clubhouse. They greatly increased the accessibility and safety of the approaches to both the front and side entrances of the clubhouse.
7. Our renowned chili maker, Mary Fraley, continued our reputation as providers of the best Chili Dog in Nicholas County. The club recognized the life-long contributions of the Fraley family by the addition of new landscaping in the clubhouse frontage, the "Fraley Garden". The flower garden, landscaped by Bruce Donaldson, provides a warm and welcoming entrance to members and visitors alike.
8. Geneva Bailey took it upon herself to host two ladies golf outings at Cherry Hill and both were a great success. Scott Bailey prepared the food and cruised the course, ensuring that Geneva's visitors were well cared for. Events like this are great for the reputation of the course and bring in needed revenue.
9. Volunteers Larry and Janet Zirilli manage the club "Pro Shop", ensuring a wide selection of apparel and golf accessories. Items can also be purchased on-line via our web site at <http://www.golfcherryhill.com>. Check out the variety of apparel with our very own Cherry Hill logo. Great Christmas gifts!

10. The fifth "M. Tyler Gainer Memorial Tournament", sponsored and financially supported by Walt and Kris Gainer, was another success, with the weather fully cooperating and resulting in an excellent turnout, with proceeds going to the scholarship fund at Richwood High School.
11. Unfortunately, the plan to repair the carhouses behind the #9 tee box is stalled, primarily limited by available funds.
12. Mark Sims won the 2016 Cherry Hill Club Championship, besting Tony Mazzella III ("little Tony"), shutting Tony out in match-play on the 17th hole
13. The club lost a long-time board member, and a real supporter of Cherry Hill, with the passing of Paul Given. He will be remembered as someone who loved Cherry Hill and was always there to help, even as his age caught up with him.
14. The club also lost long-time member "Bato" Carpenter, an elder statesman and a cheerful and pleasant presence on the course.
15. Jim Gilbert and Larry Pelfry, once frequent players at Cherry Hill, will also be missed.
16. The club's all-volunteer Board of Directors saw many changes in 2016, with Bob Butcher and Kristen DeRito named to the board, while Jay Smith resigned due to work conflict. 2015 club champion Joe Evans served briefly on the board, ended by a change of employment that took him far away from Cherry Hill. Dave Cox has also resigned and Kip Hall is his anticipated replacement. As of November 2016, the board consists of Scott Bailey, Bobby Butcher, Steve Deitz, Kissy Derito, Jimmy Gladwell, Ricky Green, John Greer, and Dave Taylor. Corporation officers are President Ricky Green, Vice President John Greer, Treasurer Bob Butcher, and Steve Olson, returning as acting Secretary.
17. In November 2016, the board decided that an increase in club membership fees was unavoidable, and voted for the first increase in five years. The pre-tax green-fee family membership for 2017 was set at \$390. This still represents a highly favorable comparison to 2016 membership fees in Summersville (\$585) and Pocahontas County (\$545).
18. Can you donate to Cherry Hill to help us keep our reputation as the best 9-hole golf course in West Virginia? If not you, who?
19. Is Cherry Hill in your will? Since 1946, the club has relied on members who donate their time and money to keep Cherry Hill as a splendid gathering place for citizens of Nicholas and Webster Counties. A bequest from your estate would help us fund a variety of projects, most prominently clubhouse maintenance and improvements, replacement of obsolescent equipment and a tree replacement program for our fairways.
20. The club website, maintained by Richwood resident Nancy Leffingwell, is the best place to learn about what is going on at Cherry Hill. Check out <http://www.golfcherryhill.com/>.
21. The clubhouse is closed and the phone is unattended during the winter months. If you would like to reserve a date for a reunion, party, or golf outing, or if you would like more information about Cherry Hill Country Club, send an e-mail to Secretary@GolfCherryHill.com, or write to the Secretary, Cherry Hill Country Club, PO Box 108, Richwood WV 26261.

With Best Regards and wishing you a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year.

Steve Olson, acting Secretary, on behalf of your Cherry Hill Country Club Board of Directors