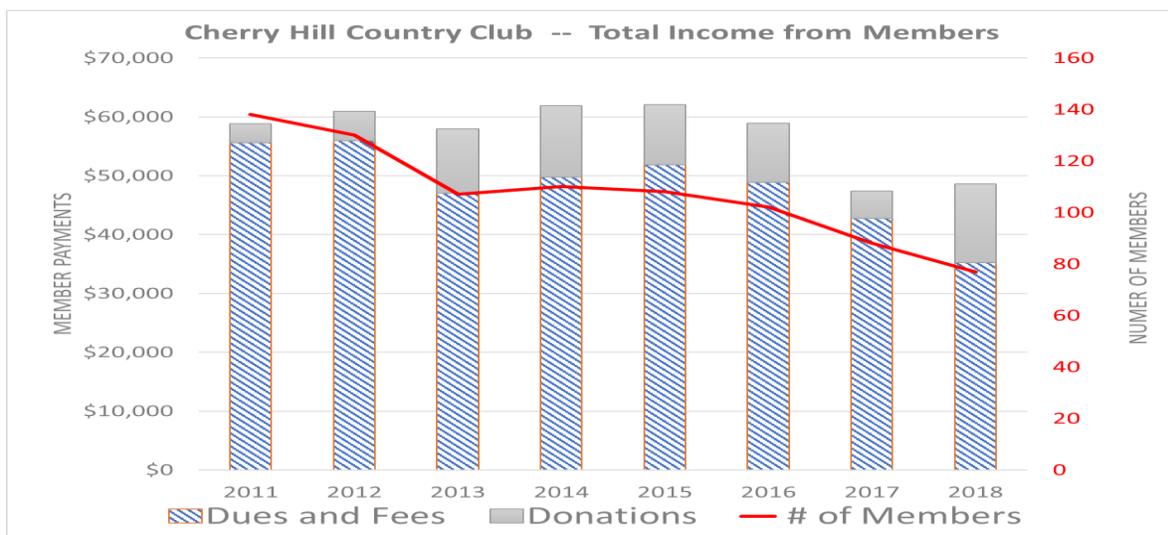


# 2018 in Review



The club is planning a **NEW YEARS EVE** party on 31 December.  
Check our Facebook page for details @CherryHillCC

1. 2018 was the toughest year I have experienced in my 10 years as Secretary, with the club's net income of **-\$1,733, after donations**. This was brought on mostly by the very poor weather we experienced in 2018, with several events cancelled or never scheduled. Missed events included the Nicholas County Bar Association Golf Tournament, the Woodchoppers Golf Outing, the Doug Comstock Tournament, and the Ed Snyder Golf Outing. Those events we did host turned out to be major events for the club, as they normally are. Top of the list were the Summersville Rotary Club and the M. Tyler Gainer Memorial Tournament, which always help the club pay its bills during the year.
2. As illustrated in the chart below, the club is also experiencing a steady decline in membership, as older players give up the sport, and younger players leave Richwood for better employment prospects.
3. **SPECIAL DEAL: Anyone who purchases a carhouse lease has their dues and trail fee waived for 2019. This applies to current members and new members!**
4. When we have a rough spot like we did in 2018, it seems appropriate to review the club's history and objectives. Cherry Hill Country Club was founded in 1946, by veterans returning from World War II, during a prosperous and booming time for Richwood and Nicholas County. The Club's founding members wanted a place to have fun and enjoy the camaraderie of their brothers in arms. They chose to establish the club as a corporation, and 143 shares of stock were issued to community leaders of Nicholas County. It was their vision to make enough money to operate the course and continually reinvest any excess to improve the course and maintain a social gathering place for the community. This business model has been followed for 72 years. The corporation has never paid a stockholder dividend. Unfortunately, as the Richwood economy has declined, so has the revenue for the club, making it harder to afford the chemicals, equipment and labor to keep Cherry Hill regarded as the best 9-hole golf course in West Virginia. None the less, we are determined to weather the storm and do everything possible to stay open and offer a superior golfing and relaxation experience.
5. Because of the lost revenue, the club found it necessary to liquidate our \$5,000 rainy day fund to pay bills. We should also recognize the 2018 donations of members beyond the call of duty. Members Jimmy Fraley, Steve Deitz, Steve Olson and out-of-state supporters Walt Gainer and Dave Green donated a combined \$10,500 in cash to the club. This does not count their further donations of time, material, and support. Total donations for the year were \$13,397. All members, and supporters are asked to consider a substantial donation.



6. Cherry Hill continued its reputation as the best 9-hole golf course in the state, with impeccable greens maintained by Randy Amick. Tim Scott returned to mow fairways in 2018 but was sidelined by family and health issues in the summer. The job of mowing fairways fell to Steve Deitz. And then, as if he were superman, Chuck Hanna stepped up, volunteered and took charge of the fairways, doing a magnificent job in getting the equipment back in order and doing the mowing job like a real professional, demonstrating as much interest and passion for the course as Randy himself.
7. Several members volunteered for other outside work during the year, repairing cart paths, mowing tee boxes, plugging the greens and myriad other small jobs. Thanks to Steve Deitz, Mike Hanna, Steve Olson, Derrick Workman, Kevon Green, Ricky Green, Dave Taylor, Melanie Taylor and, of course, Chuck Hanna.
8. Perhaps the most prominent event of the year was the club's fundraiser for hometown favorite and Richwood High School 2018 alumnus Caleb Hanna, running for the West Virginia House of Delegates (District 44). Governor Jim Justice came to Cherry Hill and gave a rousing speech in support of Caleb, who went on win his race with 60% of the vote.

9. The seventh "M. Tyler Gainer Memorial Tournament", sponsored and financially supported by Walt and Kris Gainer, was an enormous success, with proceeds going to the scholarship fund at Richwood High School.
10. Charmin Smallman did a fantastic job in 2018 keeping the clubhouse open and doing her best to host unique events to bring in extra revenue. Hosting the Richwood High School reunions is always fun and good for the club. This year we welcomed the classes of 1958 and 1998. Our renowned chili maker, Mary Fraley, continued our reputation as providers of the best Chili Dog in Nicholas County.
11. The clubhouse hosted two Monday night dinners, meals prepared by Charmin, concurrent with our Trivia night, run by Chuck Cornell, a good friend from Marlinton. The club has decided to make Monday Trivia/Dinner night a weekly event, beginning in April 2019, predicated on the high level of interest expressed in 2018. Chuck is a very experienced and entertaining Trivia master of ceremonies, a very good golfer, has expressed fondness for Cherry Hill and will be working for "tips only". The winning team/table will receive bragging rights, and a \$25 gift certificate good at the clubhouse. Facebook will be the primary communication method for these events, @CherryHillCC.
12. The club's all-volunteer Board of Directors, experienced change in 2018, welcoming new board members Charmin Smallman and Melanie Taylor. Ricky Green remains on the board but stepped down as President and that post is to be filled by Steve Deitz beginning in 2019. The board anticipates that Jimmy Gladwell will be replaced by his son, Ian Gladwell in early 2019. Corporation officers are President Steve Deitz, Vice President John Greer, Treasurer Bob Butcher, and Steve Olson as Secretary. Melanie Taylor stepped up and gained Certification as a Chemical Applicator, a state requirement. She will be training volunteer applicator technicians in the early Spring. The "Youngsters" on the board, Charmin Smallman, Kissy Derito, Melanie Taylor and Ian Gladwell have been tasked with coming up with innovative ideas to attract participation and attendance at the club's events.
13. It should be noted that the club started out the year with controversy, voiced by a few members, regarding the edges (collars) of the greens. Disagreement over this subject is not new, but became inexplicably elevated in 2018, resulting in the resignation of at least one board member. Existing board members spent considerable time considering this issue, talking to Randy, talking to greens experts and other courses, and concluded that our collars are well within reasonable acceptability and are the best for our greens and fairways, our style of play, and our budget. We hope members will consider the amount of effort that everyone is making to make Cherry Hill an exceptional golf experience, particularly considering our location and our finances.
14. The club plans to host a fundraising auction in March 2019, managed by Jason Miller, with Steve Deitz coordinating for the club. Everyone will be asked to bring their items to the club for the auction, with all proceeds benefitting the club. Details will be posted on Facebook.
15. The club is soliciting volunteers to work in the clubhouse to cover a standard 4-5 hour shift one or more times a week. If you know someone who would like to help the club, get out of the house and meet people, ask them to consider helping the club. Our only job requirement is a solid recommendation of trustworthiness. Willingness to get a food handlers license and cook a hamburger is a plus but may not be necessary. Those interested can contact me or Cynthia at our home: 304-653-8874. *(We note that the Pocahontas County Country Club relies significantly on Marlinton volunteers, who are neither golfers nor members, but appreciate the special value of their club to Marlinton and Pocahontas County.)*
16. Members are reminded to buy their West Virginia Golf Association VIP card from the club. The price if purchased from the WVGA is \$45, but club members can buy it from Cherry Hill for \$37 and it helps the club pay for its WVGA membership. The VIP card lets you keep track of your handicap and lets you play for discounted prices at courses all over the state of West Virginia.
17. 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!
18. The club is evolving to the use of our Facebook page @CherryHillCC, as the primary way of announcing and communicating the status of club events. We will continue to maintain our website to post the golf tournament schedule and the major event calendar. Check out <http://www.golfcherryhill.com/>.
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 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](mailto: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, Secretary, on behalf of your Cherry Hill Country Club Board of Directors