



DEAR VETERANS – THANK YOU!

November 11th, Veterans Day celebrates and honors the service, sacrifice, and enduring achievements of the nearly 22 million living Americans who served our nation in uniform, at home and abroad, during times of both war and peace. Due to the location of Bear Trail Golf Club and how close we are to Camp Lejeune, we have numerous members of our club that are active military and veterans, so I wanted to take an opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your service.

When the world is threatened, it calls on America, and we call on our service members who serve without question and without delay. You served as protectors and defenders, warfighters, peacemakers, and peacekeepers. You were the guardians of the greatest social and political experiment the world has ever known – representational democracy in a constitutional republic.

We are privileged to live in the United States where the cost of freedom, as you all especially know, is not free; it has been paid for by the sacrifices of the men and women like yourselves who have served and fought for the flag of our nation and all that it represents. On this special day, those of us who have not served, want to give a special thanks to you and to your families for your service and sacrifice in defending the freedom and liberty that we all enjoy.

To all of you who have volunteered to serve and protect the numerous freedoms that we ordinary citizens have enjoyed every single day of our lives in America, we are forever grateful to you. It is so easy to take your sacrifice for granted and it is a shame that we only take one day out of the year to celebrate and appreciate your sacrifice. You serve and fight for the greatest Nation in the history of civilization. There has never been a grievous wrong that good Americans have not sought to rectify. There has never been a just cause on which America has turned her back for long. You, our soldiers, have been and continue to be, the greatest force for freedom and human rights ever gathered. You have raised our flag around the world, not for domination, but to bring greater



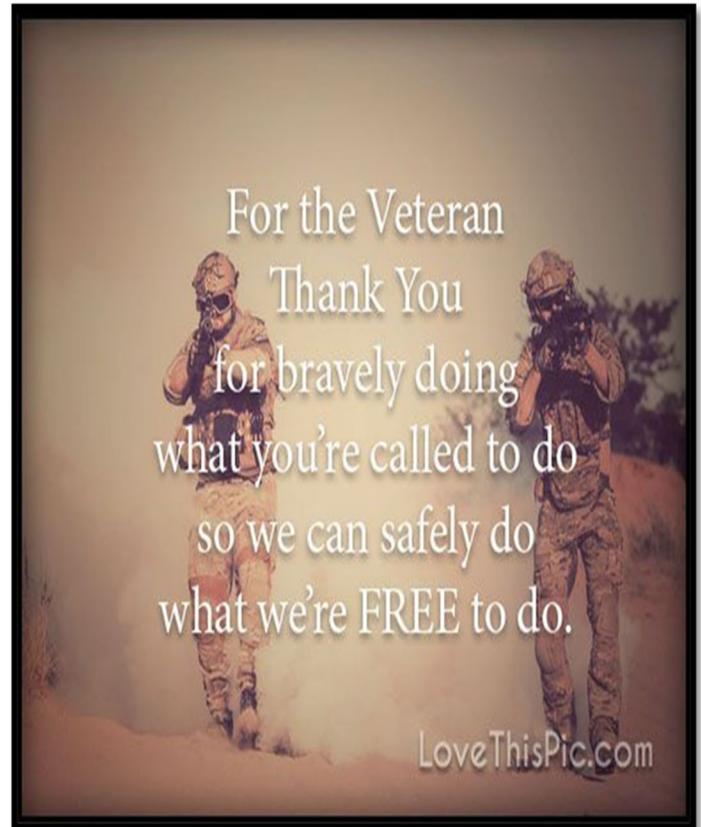
liberty and a better way of life. You are the reason America remains a beacon of hope to the entire world.

To those of us who have not served, remember not just to thank a veteran on Veterans Day but to thank them whenever you can. The next time you see a stranger in uniform, extend a hand and thank them for their service. The next time you see that relative who served but doesn't like to talk about it, extend a hand and thank them for their service. With all that said, I think I speak for all of us who have not served when I say to all of the veterans and active military who will be reading this newsletter,

THANK YOU!

OUR DEBT TO THE
HEROIC MEN AND VALIANT
WOMEN IN THE SERVICE
OF OUR COUNTRY CAN
NEVER BE REPAID. THEY
HAVE EARNED OUR
UNDYING GRATITUDE.
AMERICA WILL NEVER
FORGET THEIR SACRIFICES.

PRESIDENT HARRY S TRUMAN



2025 THURSDAY BLITZ **LEAGUE RESULTS**

As stated in previous Bear Cave editions, Bear Trail has a 9 hole Thursday Blitz League that starts in March and ends in October every year for the last 3 years. The format of the league is essentially a Stableford-like scoring format in which you get 0 points for double bogeys, 1 point for bogeys, 2 points for pars, 4 points for birdies, and 8 points for eagles. At the start of the season everyone is assigned an amount of points that they need to get each week based on their GHIN handicaps. Then after 3 weeks of play in the league your points are adjusted based on how you played in the league on those Thursdays. The goal is to get as many points as possible over your assigned points each week. It is \$25 to join the league at the start of the season and then a \$10 buy in each week to play. Every week we pay out 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place to the individuals that got the most points over their designated points for that week and we also pay out skins.

In total this season after 33 weeks of league play on Thursdays, we have paid out just under **\$6,500** in cash prizes. Out of the 45 members that joined this year, 38 of them won at least one cash prize. At the end of the season, we award the league member that won the most money with a championship belt, we award a cash prize to the league member that was the most points over their assigned points in a week (Sandbagger of the Year) and we have a yearend 18-hole tournament with some food and fellowship. This year's winner of the

Sandbagger of the Year was **Jake Barbara** (top picture below) and the winner of the money title this year was **Kyle Smith** (bottom picture below). Congrats to both of them and THANK YOU to everyone who participated this year. I will start sending emails and putting up flyers for the league, probably at some point late January and early February of next year so if you haven't played in this league and are interested, we will start everything back up in March.



BEAR TRAIL GOLF ASSOCIATION

For the last 3 years, Bear Trail has had a Golf Association that is only for members of the Club. The BTGA (Bear Trail Golf Association) has one event a month that is strictly for members, and there is a total of 8 events from March to October. Members pay either up front or as they go to play in the events and the money that is used for dues and entry fees is used for payouts throughout the year. Every event is flighted and every flight has multiple payouts. Throughout the season every member earns points as well based on participation in all the events at Bear Trail and those points qualify them for the year end King of the Hill. After 8 events this season we have paid out \$8,255 in cash prizes which does not include the additional \$550 dollars up for grabs in the year end King of the Hill. Furthermore, since 2023, when we started the BTGA, we have paid out almost \$21,000 in cash prizes in those 3 years.



If you are interested in joining the BTGA next year please feel free to contact me, B.J. Seifrit at 717-424-6438 or by email at btleagues@beartrailgolf.com, and I'd be happy to speak with you about the BTGA.

We will start things back up next March but be on the lookout come late January or early February for next year's schedule.

2025 KING OF THE HILL RESULTS

On Saturday November 1, we held the 3rd annual King of the Hill tournament. This tournament is for the top 19 BTGA members on the points leaderboard at the end of the tournament season. BTGA members get points for participating and placing in BTGA events, Bear Trail sponsored tournaments, and the Thursday Blitz League throughout the year and after the last event, the top 19 people on the points leaderboard get to participate in the year end King of the Hill. The 19 BTGA members that qualified and were able to participate on Saturday were as follows in order of the amount of points they received throughout the year:

1. Chris Bartosz
2. Justin Leonard
3. Trevor Horne
4. Yalmar Guzman
5. B.J. Seifrit
6. Chris Robertson
7. Chris "Crybaby" Young
8. Martin Baker
9. Cindy Robertson
10. Terry Knight
11. Tim Prevatte
12. James Simpson
13. Ryan Scott
14. Matt Swedberg
15. William Levier
16. Daryl Baysden
17. Daytona Baysden
18. Brad Neumann
19. Charles English

The King of the Hill format is unique in the fact that all 19 people that qualify tee off

at the same time on hole 1. Golfers also get strokes on specific holes based on their handicaps. On the front 9, if there is a tie on a hole, all players that are tied go into a closest to the pin chip off to move on. Whoever wins the chip off moves on and the rest of the players are eliminated. Based on the number of players that are eliminated we skip that number of holes and continue that format until we get to the back 9. Once on the back 9, we do the same format but when there is a tie the loser of the closest to the pin is eliminated so only one person is eliminated per hole until we get to 2 people left on hole 18.



We had an interesting start to this year's event. After the first hole we had 8 people go into a chip off with a score of bogey. Since there was still public play on the front 9 while we were playing, we decided to only eliminate 4 of the 8 golfers after the closest to the pin chip off. The first 4 players eliminated on hole 1 were William Levier, Daryl Baysden, James Simpson and Yalmar Guzman. So, after the first cut we jumped to hole 5.

On hole 5 we had yet another interesting and fun thing happen. 2 players finished the hole with a triple bogey and they just so

happened to be married. Chris Robertson and Cindy Robertson went into a chip off to move on. Now if that were me, I would have forfeited and allowed my wife to move on but apparently Chris doesn't mind risking sleeping on the couch for the night. Luckily for him, Cindy hit a great chip to win the hole and move on to hole 6.



After 2 holes and 5 eliminations we moved on to hole 6 where multiple people went right and had to take a penalty stroke. We ended up with just 2 people in a chip-off, Cindy Robertson and Crybaby. After hitting from the left woods, off the bridge, then the right woods, in regulation, there wasn't anywhere Cindy would be afraid to hit from. However, Crybaby hit one close and moved on eliminating Cindy from competition. Since only 1 person was eliminated again, we moved on to hole 7.

On hole 7 we had yet another crazy situation as both Tim Prevatte and Daytona Baysden ended up with bogeys and went into a chip-off. Kyle picked a difficult chip from behind the green and both Tim and Daytona hit decent chips. We didn't bring a tape measure but after multiple measurements with a flag stick we determined that it was too close to call so we went into another chip off between Tim and Daytona. After both chips in the second chip off, it was a little easier this time around to determine who was closest and Tim Prevatte moved on. Since only 1 person was eliminated AGAIN, we moved on to hole 8.



On hole 9, we had another big group of people in the chip off but only 1 person would be eliminated since we were going to the back 9 on the next hole. After multiple good chips from a difficult location, Matt Swedberg was eliminated from the competition. Everyone that made it to the back 9 was eligible for a cash prize and the last man standing would win a cash prize and the King of the Hill Championship Belt. Moving on to the back 9 we still had:



Chris Bartosz
Justin Leonard
Trevor Horne
Chris "Crybaby" Young
Martin Baker
Terry Knight
Tim Prevatte
Ryan Scott
Brad Neumann
Charles English

On Hole 8 we again only had 2 people go into the playoff with a score of bogey, Martin Baker and me. Both Martin and I hit below average chips in the chip-off and mine was just a little more below average than his, so I was eliminated and Martin moved on. 1 person eliminated AGAIN, so we moved on to hole 9.



On hole 10, we had 2 people go into the water on their tee shots, Charles English and Brad Neumann, so it made sense that those 2 guys would end up in the chip off to move on. Brad ended up hitting a really good chip from a difficult location to move on and Charles was eliminated, and we were on to hole 11.

On hole 11, our defending champion, Ryan Scott, made a bit of a mess of his first 2 shots, by topping his tee shot and then hitting his second shot right into the right hazard. But if there was anyone that could have made par from that spot it was Ryan Scott. However, he failed to do so and ended up being the only bogey on the hole, eliminating him from the competition.



On hole 12, we had yet another crazy thing happen. Trevor Horne makes the only birdie and the rest make par, sending everyone into a chip off. After multiple great chips, Tim Prevatte ended up being the furthest from the pin and was eliminated from the competition. On to hole 13.

On hole 13, Martin Baker decided he didn't like the ball that he beat me in a chip off with anymore and decided to hit it a mile right into the woods. Ultimately, this would end up being Martin's demise as he was the only person to make a double bogey and was eliminated from competition. On to hole 14.

On hole 14, we had a few people make bogey and end up in a chip off, Brad Neumann, Crybaby, Justin Leonard, and Chris Bartosz. After playing great for most of the day, Chris Bartosz was unable to muster up another clutch shot and ended up

being the furthest away after the chip off and was eliminated from competition. On to hole 15.

On hole 15, Crybaby hit a drive right which was in the general direction of where the Robertson's cart was and they both said that they heard the ball land but didn't see it. After a few minutes of looking we were unable to find the ball and Cry had to take a drop but still wasn't out of the hole since he was getting a stroke on that hole. Unfortunately, he was unable to take advantage of the stroke and ended up making a triple bogey and was eliminated from the competition. On to hole 16.



After 6 holes on the back 9 we are now down to 4 players remaining going into hole 16; Brad Neumann, Terry Knight, Trevor Horne, and Justin Leonard. At the end of hole 16, Trevor Horne figured out after having to recount that he made a double bogey and was eliminated from the competition. On to hole 17.



On hole 17, Justin Leonard was the only player playing with a stroke on the hole. Terry Knight hit his tee shot short of the green, Brad Neumann hit his tee shot on the green to about 35 feet, and Justin Leonard hit his tee shot short in the bunker. Terry Knight hit his chip to about 5 feet, Brad hit his first putt to about 5 feet and Justin hit his bunker shot to about 8 feet. Justin missed his putt but made bogey net par. Brad made his par putt. Then surprisingly, Terry Knight, who was unflappable all day, missed his par putt and was eliminated from the competition. On to hole 18.

And then there were 2, Brad Neumann and Justin Leonard, with Justin receiving a stroke on hole 18. Both players hit the fairway with their drives. Brad hit his 2nd shot from the fairway to the green and had a medium length birdie putt. Justin missed the green left and hit a chip to about 8 feet and had a putt for par net birdie. Brad got really aggressive with his birdie putt and hit it about 4 feet past the hole leaving himself a downhill tester for par. Justin then had about 8 feet for par to win the King of the Hill. He put a good stroke on it but missed the par putt low side making a bogey net par for the hole. Brad still had his downhill tester for par to send it into a playoff. He hit a great putt center cup, 6 inches down, for his par. With so much on the line and



darkness quickly approaching, Kyle and I made the executive decision not to do a chip off from the green and to do a closest to the pin from 100 yards to determine the winner. Brad was selected to hit the first shot from 100 yards. Brad blocked his wedge shot to the right but still managed to be on the green pin high right and was about 25 feet. Justin hit what looked like was going to be the winning shot because it was going right at the stick, but then it came down well short on the front of the green. After a quick measurement, it was determined that Brad Neumann was the 2025 King of the Hill.



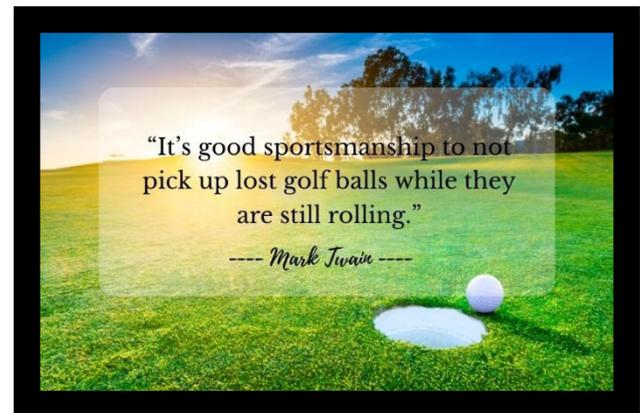
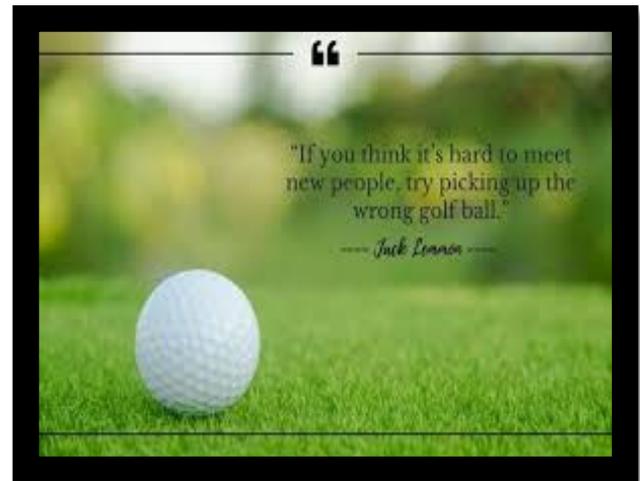




THANK YOU!

To all the members that have participated in the Thursday Blitz League and the BTGA this year I just wanted to say THANK YOU one more time for such an awesome year. Running the BTGA and the Thursday League are 2 things that I really enjoy and the top reason I enjoy it so much is that I have gotten to know all of you. As we all grow older, we realize it becomes LESS important to have more friends and MORE important to have REAL friends and I have truly found some REAL friends in this group and I hope you all can say the same thing. I want to send out a special thank you to some specific individuals who have helped me throughout the year with tournaments; Kyle Simpson, Chris and Carrie Bartosz, Cindy Robertson, Brad Neumann, Kevin Mininni, Brian Smith, and the entire pro shop staff at Bear Trail. All of them helped me throughout the season in one way or another and I didn't want to end the season without thanking all of them for their time. I'm not sure if they read this newsletter but I would also like to thank Grant and his team for their hard work throughout the season because as we all know, Bear Trail consistently stays in fantastic condition for all of our events and it continues to be the best place to play golf in the area. Last but certainly not least, I want to thank all the members that have played in the Thursday League and BTGA from the beginning and have consistently showed up, participated in my events, and have spread the word to other members to join the group. Thank you for your support and all I ask is that you continue to show up and continue to spread the word so 2026 is bigger and better than ever. THANK YOU!

B.J. Seifrit



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Any questions or suggestions about current or future editions of the Bear Cave can be sent to btleague@beartrailgolf.com or contact me @ 717-424-6438



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