

The Scorecard



A Newsletter from The First Tee of Roanoke Valley

Volume 1, Issue 24 - Fall 2017



Alisa-Marie Caraballo on #7.



From left: Mary Meeker, Larry Mize, John Hatcher Ferguson and Condoleezza Rice.

Opportunities Abound

On The First Tee's national website, there is a link titled "Youth Opportunities," and among a long list of events is the Pure Insurance Championship Impacting the First Tee. For the 81 participants who have the honor of being selected, it is a memory to last a lifetime. We were fortunate to have three participants selected from our chapter to attend this year's event: Alisa-Marie Caraballo, John Hatcher Ferguson, and Grace Huffman.

There are many words that describe this experience at the Pure Insurance Championship at Pebble Beach (Beautiful, Awesome, Once in a lifetime, Life Altering, Amazing, Busy, Memorable), but the most fitting is **Opportunity**. The opportunity to play meant the **opportunity** to visit the west coast for the first time for many attendees. The **opportunity** to play and actually see firsthand one of the most iconic golf courses on Earth. The unforgettable **opportunity** to play with Champions Tour Professionals

throughout the weekend.

Our participants were treated like VIPs - just like the Champions Tour Pros - while in Pebble Beach. The participants, their parents/guardians, Tour Professionals and the Pro-Am amateur golfers all enjoyed meals together and a fantastic concert by country music star Chris Young at the Champions Dinner. The First Tee Participants were treated to the "Legends and Leaders Dinner," where special guests spoke on each of the nine Core Values including: Condoleezza Rice on Perseverance, Leon Panetta on Respect and others.

A unique and invaluable **opportunity** was playing with amateurs in the Pro-Am comprised of powerful leaders in business, education, and government - all of whom believe in The First Tee mission. What an amazing experience each young person had to gain insight from those who have made their mark in this world!

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Lots of Fun at The Parent Child Tournament

The sixth annual First Tee of Roanoke Valley Parent-Child Golf Tournament on September 23rd and 24th was again a huge success! It was a beautiful weekend at Roanoke Country Club, perfect for golf. We've heard from many parents and children about what a wonderful time they had together on the golf course. There were a total of 81 teams and 162 golfers participating in our variety of divisions: Adult-Youth "Fun" 5-Hole and 9-Hole,

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The First Tee of Roanoke Valley is a project of The Scott Robertson Memorial Junior Golf Academy, a 501c3 not-for-profit organization. Our federal tax identification number is 20-1237999.

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To request a schedule, volunteer or make a donation, please call 563.1TEE (1833).

Stay Informed!

Sign up for the monthly email newsletter from The First Tee of Roanoke Valley by either visiting our website www.thefirstteeroanokevalley.org or send an email to jblackwood@thefirstteeroanokevalley.org



Making the Turn

— Bill Rader, PGA



For a great afternoon on the course, Try Family golf!

Technology is an important part of our daily lives. Life was simpler for me as a child a generation ago; and to watch the reaction of my sons listening to their grandparents relive moments of their childhood is amazing. My children are downright frightened to hear tales of rotary phones and only 3 channels on the black & white television. Despite the use of Facebook, Instagram, email, text, and other modern forms of communication, families can feel more disconnected now than ever.

In September, we hosted our 6th annual Parent-Child Golf Tournament and it was a pleasure to watch the teams as they made their way around Roanoke Country Club. There was definitely more going on than hitting shots and recording scores. I saw generations of people, all different ages and golfing abilities, thoroughly enjoying their time with each other. No one was noticeably checking emails, glancing at their watch, streaming the football game, or texting their friends because phones were all put away. There were smiles on faces and laughter in the air.

Family golf offers so much to us all. Playing golf with your family allows you to escape the chaos and stress of today's world and enjoy quality time with one another. The golf course is a great place to encourage your children to communicate with you without any interruptions. It's a place that can offer a feeling of seclusion, bringing you and yours closer together. Playing golf allows you to be outdoors and closer to nature. The course is an ideal place to teach and demonstrate the values of the game while making memories along the way. And... you can play golf with your kids for a lifetime...what's better than that?

Time has always been a precious thing, but in the world we live in, it feels more valuable than ever. Those who play golf know how beneficial it is in strengthening bonds. Golf slows us all down and that makes us stronger. If you've not played with your children, give it a try.





The Greenbrier Classic Youth Day Scramble was extra special this year for John Hatcher Ferguson and Andrew Withers, as their dads served as their caddies for the event.



Joe Philips (right) with new friends at Lifeskills and Leadership Academy.



Congratulations Ross Funderburke on completion the ACE level of The First Tee program.

On the Move

Roanoke represented around the country this summer:

This was a milestone year for The First Tee Roanoke Valley in so many ways. Participation increased in all of our outreach programs at YMCA Summer Camp, Boys & Girls Club, W.E. Skelton 4H Camps, as well as at schools in Roanoke City, Roanoke County, Salem, Rockbridge County and Franklin County. Our classes at the Scott Robertson Academy on Densmore Road included over 300 students, with more participants than ever attending multiple sessions. Spring and Summer programming continued at Vista Links in Lexington, and with much excitement and anticipation, we offered seasonal classes at The Westlake in Hardy, Virginia.

Our chapter provided golf and life skills lessons to more than 7,500 students in the Roanoke Valley this year.

Several high school players were selected to attend The First Tee national events, which are held around the country. Additionally, two participants were awarded college scholarships from The First Tee network. For the first time in our chapter's history, all three of our nominees were selected to compete in The Pure Insurance Championship at Pebble Beach. These unique educational opportunities offer kids once in a lifetime experiences at no expense to the players.

Awards this year include:

- » The First Tee Scholars Program awards: Vince Wheeler (\$1000) and Callie Montgomery (\$5000)
- » Golf To Paradise – The First Tee Champions Challenge in Naples, FL: Alisa-Marie Caraballo and John Hatcher Ferguson
- » John Deere Drive Your Future Academy (Girls Only) in Atlanta, GA :
- » National Par 3 Championship in Richmond, VA: Alisa-Marie Caraballo and Grace Huffman
- » The Golf Academy @ The Wintergreen Summer Camp: Zoey Nichols & Avery Sutherland
- » Life Skills & Leadership Academy in East Lansing, MI: Joe Philips and Alisa-Marie Caraballo

- » Greenbrier Classic Youth Day: John Hatcher Ferguson and Andrew Withers
- » College Golf Prep Academy in West Palm Beach, FL: John Hatcher Ferguson
- » Pure Insurance Championship Impacting The First Tee @ Pebble Beach: Grace Huffman, Alisa-Marie Caraballo, & John Hatcher Ferguson
- » Ross Funderburke completed the capstone ACE level of The First Tee Program

The success of our chapter takes a lot of hard work from a lot of wonderful people. We are truly grateful to all the donors, parents, volunteers, local golf professionals, schools, our staff, and our participants. We could not be successful without all those involved. Thank you!

Make Your Gift Today



Make an impact on the kids in our region! Your support of The First Tee of Roanoke Valley helps us deliver important character education lessons, introduces thousands of children to golf each year, and provides a safe place for kids to play. Make your gift today! Using the enclosed envelope or online at www.juniorgolffoundationva.org.

The First Tee Roanoke Valley - Winter Schedule 2018

Class	Day	Date	Time	Cost
PLAYer / PAR (Girls ONLY!)	Tuesday	January 9 - February 13	3 - 4:30 p.m.	\$100
Middle & High School (Girls ONLY!)	Tuesday	January 9 - February 13	4:30 - 6 p.m.	\$100
PLAYer / PAR	Wednesday	January 10 - February 14	3 - 4:30 p.m.	\$100
Eagle & High School	Wednesday	January 10 - February 14	4:30 - 6 p.m.	\$100
PLAYer / PAR	Thursday	January 11 - February 15	3 - 4:30 p.m.	\$100
Birdie & Middle School	Thursday	January 11 - February 15	4:30 - 6 p.m.	\$100

* Limit to 12 participants per class

The First Tee Roanoke Valley - Spring Schedule 2018

Class	Day	Date	Time	Cost
PLAYer	Monday	March 12 - May 7	3:15 - 4:30 p.m.	\$100
PLAYer	Monday	March 12 - May 7	4:45 - 6 p.m.	\$100
Par	Tuesday	March 13 - May 8	3 - 4:30 p.m.	\$125
Eagle & High School	Wednesday	March 14 - May 9	4:30 - 6 p.m.	\$125
Birdie & Middle School	Thursday	March 15 - May 10	4 - 5:30 p.m.	\$125
Tiger Paws	Friday	March 23 - May 4	3:15 - 4:15 p.m.	\$50
Tiger Paws	Friday	March 23 - May 4	4:30 - 5:30 p.m.	\$50

The First Tee Roanoke Valley - Summer Schedule 2018

Camp	Day	Date	Time	Cost
Summer Golf Camp (ages 7 - 16)	Mon - Fri	June 4 - 8	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.	\$125
Summer Golf Camp (ages 7 - 16)	Mon - Fri	June 11 - 15	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.	\$125
Girls Golf Camp (ages 7 and up)	Tues - Thurs	June 5 - 7	4 - 6 p.m.	\$75
STEM Golf Camp (ages 7 - 16)	Mon. - Wed.	August 13 - 15	9 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.	\$75
Class	Day	Date	Time	Cost
PLAYer	Monday	June 18 - July 30	9:30 - 11 a.m.	\$100
PLAYer	Tuesday	June 19 - August 7 (no class July 3)	5:30 - 7 p.m.	\$100
Par	Tuesday	June 19 - August 8 (no class July 3)	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	\$125
All Levels High School	Wednesday	June 20 - August 9 (no class July 4)	9:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.	\$125
All Levels Middle School	Friday	June 8 - August 2	9:30 - 11:30 a.m.	\$125
Tiger Paws (session 1)	Friday	June 8 - July 6	9 - 10 a.m.	\$50
Tiger Paws (session 1)	Friday	June 8 - July 6	10:15 - 11:15 a.m.	\$50
Tiger Paws (session 2)	Friday	July 13 - August 10	9 - 10 a.m.	\$50
Tiger Paws (session 2)	Friday	July 13 - August 10	10:15 - 11:15 a.m.	\$50

The First Tee Roanoke Valley - Fall Schedule 2018

Class	Day	Date	Time	Cost
PLAYer	Monday	September 10 - October 29	3:15 - 4:30 p.m.	\$100
PLAYer	Monday	September 10 - October 29	4:45 - 6 p.m.	\$100
Par	Tuesday	September 4 - October 23	3 - 4:30 p.m.	\$125
Eagle & High School	Wednesday	September 5 - October 24	4:30 - 6 p.m.	\$125
Birdie & Middle School	Thursday	August 31 - October 26 (no class on September 20)	4 - 5:30 p.m.	\$125
Tiger Paws	Friday	August 31 - October 12 (no class on September 21)	3:15 - 4:15 p.m.	\$50
Tiger Paws	Friday	August 31 - October 12 (no class on September 21)	4:30 - 5:30 p.m.	\$50

For more information or to download registration forms, visit:
<http://www.thefirstteeroanokevalley.org> or call: 563-1TEE (1833).





We love Roanoke College Golf Team! The whole team volunteered throughout the weekend at The First Tee Parent Child Tournament. We couldn't have done it without you!

Which Class is Right For Your Child?

Not sure which class to choose? Following is a guideline to help you with registration. As always, please feel free to email or phone Coach Bill if you have any questions.

If your child is ages 5-7, then Tiger Paws is the right introductory class. Seven-year olds can start in PLAYer. We generally follow the national First Tee age standards where 7 is the minimum age for PLAYer; age 9 for PAR; age 11 for BIRDIE; age

13 for EAGLE; and age 14 for ACE. Each level has skill/playing requirements as well as written assessments related to Life Skills & Golf Knowledge. The PAR class requires one 9-hole round of golf with a score of 72 or under; BIRDIE requires five 9-hole rounds with a score of 63 or lower; and EAGLE requires ten 18-hole rounds with scores under 106.



Have a Birthday Party Here!

Want to host a unique birthday party for your child? Have a putting contest, compete on the golf simulator, use the bouncy house or just plain run around...plan a birthday party that's sure to include tons of engaging activities, a safe space for kids, and extra help if you want it – all at The First Tee of Roanoke Valley.

Our facility is available for rent (when classes are not in session) for the low rate of \$200 for a two-hour party. Contact Bill Rader for details. 540.563.1835

2018 Save the dates

The  *Greenbrier*
CLASSIC
Youth Day
July 3, 2018



March 14,
2018



*Scott Robertson
Memorial*
May 18 - 20, 2018



July 19 - 21, 2018



September
22 - 23, 2018

Sixth Annual Parent Child Tournament

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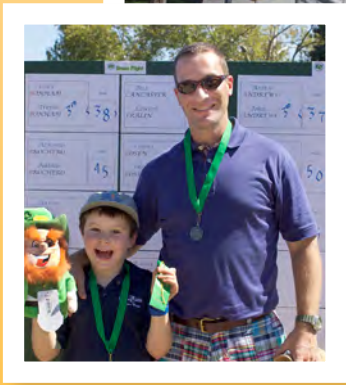
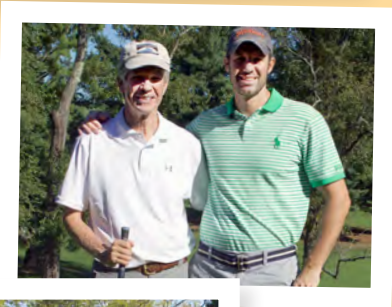
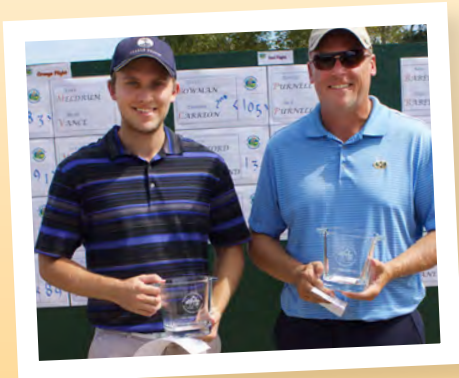
Adult-Youth 18-Hole and Adult-Adult 18-Hole. We were so pleased to see golfers ranging in age from 5 to 80...all playing a sport together they can enjoy for a lifetime!

Our tournament was such a success in part because of our dedicated sponsors. Thank you to Carilion Clinic for being our Ace Tournament

Sponsor, as well as our Eagle Sponsors: BB&T, Brown Edwards, Corned Beef & Company, and Delta Dental. These companies, along with many others, helped us raise over \$20,000 for The First Tee of Roanoke Valley. That money goes directly towards helping young people in the Roanoke Valley learn about golf and the valuable life

skills that accompany the game.

Our goal is to make this a tournament that families put on their calendars and look forward to playing in year after year. We hope that you will do the same...please save the week-end of September 22, 2018, for our 7th annual event! Look for registration information to come out in Spring 2018.





Thank you to **Delta Dental of Virginia, Ballyhack Golf Club, the VSGA and the Middle Atlantic PGA** for naming The First Tee of Roanoke Valley as the beneficiary of the 2017 Delta Dental Virginia State Open. Thank you! For supporting our kids! And programs!



Welcome Back Coach Drew! UVa '17 grad Drew Board is serving as an assistant coach at The First Tee of Roanoke Valley during his gap year before starting law school. We're so glad to have Drew at The First Tee again!



Thank you to the **Foundation for Roanoke Valley's Community Catalyst Grant** for supporting golf programs for YMCA Magic Place and BGC this summer.



THANK YOU Andrew Butts for playing 100 holes of golf to raise money for The First Tee of Roanoke Valley and Roanoke College Golf Team!



Kids at The First Tee have the most amazing opportunities! 2017 PGA Tour Player of the Year **Justin Thomas**, shown here left, with Jonathan Byrd and our own Vince Wheeler and Katherine Bowles at the 2015 Greenbrier Classic Youth Day Scramble.



Thanks to a grant from **Shell Oil**, we offered a STEM golf clinic this summer where kids learned science concepts related to golf, including how our elbows create hinges, the impact of a balls on gravity and more.



Over 100 girls at our chapter participated in the **LPGA Girls Golf** program this year.



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Pebble Beach

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Here are some thoughts from each of our participants and their families:

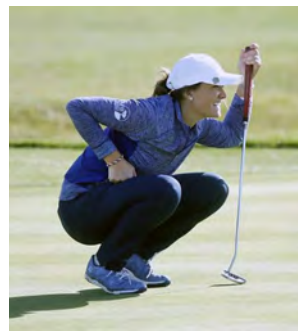
"John Hatcher had the awesome opportunity to play with former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. She is currently a professor at Stanford University, so this opened the door to conversation about his college plans. She was genuinely interested in his future; she even gave him her e-mail address and asked that he contact her with his final decision on college. The biggest thrill of his experience was to be paired with 1987 Masters Champion Larry Mize, and making the cut to play in the final round of the Pure Insurance Championship. Larry Mize is a true gentleman, a mentor, and holds dearly all the 9 core values of The First Tee. John Hatcher made the comment, "I would have rather played with Larry Mize, and finished dead last than to have played with any other Pro and won." As for his parents, "it was great quality time with our oldest son before he leaves for college next fall." -Debbie Ferguson

"Being involved in the First Tee for the last ten years, the one opportunity that stood out to me the most was Pebble Beach. Coach Mary Beth McGirr encouraged me to fulfill this dream. I was paired up with pro, Carlos Franco. He is from Paraguay and we spoke to one another in Spanish. He was always encouraging me and helped me with my yardage and green reading. I was

blessed to share this experience with my parents as well. My mother ran into Bernard Langer (who eventually won the event) in the parking lot right before the first round of the tournament. She attempted to take a picture with him, but her cell was not working for some reason. Bernard Langer told her not to worry and he would look for her on the putting green to take some photos...and that is exactly what he did. My father even got to practice speaking some German with him. Lastly, we had an opportunity to meet some incredible people from other First Tee Chapters and listen to some advice from strong leaders. This will be an experience that I will always cherish. It would not have been possible if it were not for the First Tee." – Alisa-Marie Caraballo

"I have been honored to be selected for several First Tee programs in the past few years, but none as fabulous as the Pure Insurance Championship. Pebble Beach is one of the most beautiful places

I have ever been! From the mountains to the ocean, my dad said it was one of the few places that you see on TV that does not disappoint in person. My pro, Phillip Price, is from Wales and is a newcomer to the Champions Tour. He is just what I picture someone from Wales to be – very proper. Pete, his caddy, was also from England, and he was really funny. Both went out of their way to help me and make me feel confident in a somewhat intimidating place. We played well together and as a team we



Grace Huffman putting.

pulled ourselves up from 21st to finish tied for 6th place. Pretty good for a guy from Wales and a girl from Rockbridge County, Virginia! Most importantly, just like all the other First Tee events I have gone to, I met wonderful people from all over the country. I cannot thank The First Tee of Roanoke Valley enough for giving me these incredible opportunities. I hope that someday I will be able to give back just a little of all that has been given to me." - Grace Huffman

Please send us your email address today to help us keep you informed as well as use our resources wisely.

info@thefirstteeroanokevalley.org

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