



www.mercedgolfandcountryclub.com

Merced Golf & Country Club  
6333 North Golf Road  
Merced, CA 95340

# Chip Shots

Clubhouse 722-6268  
Golf Shop 722-3357

1926

Volume 16, Issue 12

NEWS LETTER

DECEMBER 2018

## MERCED GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Rick Wallace**  
President

**Gerald Corman**  
Vice President  
Membership

**John Curry**  
Finance

**Frankie Spiva**  
Golf Operations

**Aaron Castleton**  
Long Range Planning  
Bylaws & Procedures

**Richard Buchner**  
House Committee

**Ed Benes**  
Human Resources

**Todd Giardina**  
Social

**Mohan Reddy**  
Green

### OFFICERS

**Wendell Hammon**  
Secretary

**Scott Lucas**  
Finance Liaison

### DIVISION PRESIDENT/ CAPTAIN

Wes Barkwill . . . Senior President  
Nancy Slater . . . . . 18-Hole Capt.  
Suzanne Zopolos . . . 9-Hole Capt.

### CLUB STAFF

Berna Lucas . . . . . Club Manager  
David Whitby . . . . . Club PRO  
Dave Samano . . . . . Club Chef

# NOTES from the President



As the year 2018 comes to an end, our Club is well positioned to continue its positive progress into the future. While there have been challenges along the way, our members have joined together to strengthen our Club and its facilities. While challenges continue to exist, we are in a much better position than we were at the beginning of the year and our course is in fantastic condition (bunkers on the list for work in early Spring).

The Club is continuing to benefit from the member donations which resulted in the replacement of our Club House carpet. Not only is the worn and torn carpet gone, the new carpet is better looking and requires less maintenance. The cost of cleaning and stitching the old carpet has dropped dramatically and those savings have helped our bottom line. Last month's income exceeded our expenditures due to the support of the members for our functions and budget cuts in all departments.

The Gala New Year's Eve Event and our annual Christmas Dinner are setting up to be events not to be missed. There is nothing in the County of Merced which can match our New Year's Eve dinner and party. There will be two (2) seating times for the New Year's Eve Event to accommodate those wanting an early dinner and those ready to dance until the clock strikes mid-night. Please call and make your reservations as soon as possible.

Our Friday Night Wine Tasting, which was combined with Berna's Birthday bash, was a rousing success. Attendance was beyond my expectations and Berna's party extended into the early morning hours with the band playing on. This should become an annual event.

This month the Board addressed the issue of the Club's cart lease program by creating a two-tier lease system. One plan for members who only use the program as a single player and a separate program to allow for a member and his/her spouse/significant other to each have independent cart usage. Starting in January 2019 there will be a single user lease program for \$70.00 per month and a member/spouse/significant other program for \$85.00 per month. Those on the current lease program will remain on the spouse/significant other plan unless they request to be moved to the single user plan. Please check with the Pro Shop of with the Club Manager to confirm which plan you wish to be on.

If you are playing the course in a cart, PLEASE make note of any postings requiring carts to remain on the cart paths during wet conditions. We are being blessed with rain this month. Our course is built on soil which contains a significant amount of clay which does not drain. The reason that we have very little damage to our fairways and areas of rough is that carts do not drive on those surfaces when soggy. We must continue to take care of our property. Those who persist in driving carts off the paths when asked not to do so will be warned and then have privileges suspended if they ignore the warning. If you see someone driving a cart off the path when the course is posted for cart paths only, remind the offender as they may not have paid attention to the postings on the first hole.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas!

Rickey D. Wallace



## PRO'S CORNER

**David Whitby**  
PGA Club PRO

Happy Holidays!! Just a reminder to you, your family and close friends ... Saturday, December 15th is the club's annual Demo Day and Pro Shop sale. Come out, hit some clubs and spend your credit!

Stag Day will be Wednesday, December 12th, 12:30pm SG. The format will be, Partner/True Alternate Shot. Pick your partner wisely. As usual, dinner and a small raffle will follow golf.

Finally, a reminder to please repair your ball marks plus one more when you are out enjoying your golf game. Our greens team works hard to provide our amazing conditions and we ask that everyone do their part to help maintain it.

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas!

Dave Whitby, PGA



Dec 15th-16th  
**PRO SHOP**  
**SALE**

Think Christmas for that special golfer in your life!  
A good time to redeem these pro shop credits too!



Dec 6th

# Ladies' Christmas Luncheon

11:30p Social  
12:30p Luncheon



*Please remember*



**DEC 16TH**  
**9:00am-1:00pm**

## PANCAKE BREAKFAST

BACON,  
MUFFINS, DANISH  
COOKIES AND MILK

\$9.95++

Dec 15th  
10:00am - 2:00pm  
**GOLF DEMO DAY**

Callaway, Titleist  
Taylor Made,  
Odyssey Putters





# 18-Hole Ladies Division

**Captain's Table**  
**Nancy Slater**  
CAPTAIN

Thursday, October 25 was the annual of spooky Halloween fun for the 18 Hole Division Ladies. The costumes were extra great this year and our Pro, David, had a tough time judging! Costume winners are: Clue – Carol Hamm, Caren Brendel, Sandi Kemps and Sue Conley.



The golf winners for the day: Foursome - Carla Freel, Suzanne Carpenter, Iantha Thompson, and Barbara Flores and the threesome - Caren Bendel, Sandi Kemps and Carol Hamm.

The annual Stagette Tournament was held on November 1 followed by a Guest Day and the Stagette Dinner on November 8.

The tournament winners: Ramona Stanford, Carla Freel and Sharon Sanchez. The dinner and gaming evening followed with lots of laughs. Thanks so much to Kara Parle and her helpers for a wonderful evening of black jack and bridge.



Thanks too to our volunteer dealers.

We ended our season with the Turkey Shoot. Due to the talent and organization of Sharon Terry and Linda Smith. It was a terrific day.



Winners of turkey gift cards: Carla Freel, Suzanne Carpenter, Iantha Thomson, Lydia Southwick, Sally Tomlinson, Linda Smith and Sharon Sanchez.



Golf winners: Denise Davis, Laurel Mancebo, Pat Jones and Jill Macha.



Award winners for 2018 were announced:

Captain's Trophy – Jill Macha  
Low Putts – Denise Davis,  
Most Improved – Sharon Sanchez,  
Northern Medal – 1<sup>st</sup> Flight Pat Jones and  
2<sup>nd</sup> Flight Carla Freel,  
Transnational Pin – Jill Macha.

Personally, I would like to thank you all for a great year as Captain. We has some challenges that we worked out together and many more successes that we celebrated together. You are the best.

Coming in December

Ladies Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 6.



**9t9ers**  
ARTICLE BY:  
**Susan Benes**

At the end of October, the 9ers played in their annual Halloween costume event.

The well-deserved costume winners for this year were:

The three Witches of Wickedness!  
Carole Whitehill,  
Patty Beach  
and Jan Collins



And then there were the runner ups. They tried hard, but couldn't compete with the winners and their costumes.



Winners of the November Turkey Shoot were Long-hitter, Patty Grossman, and runner-up, Maureen Reid. Congratulations, ladies!

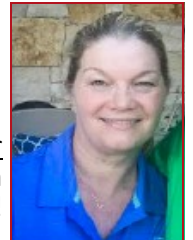


Low Net Winners for the month:

1st place Anne Willis;  
2nd Patty Beach  
3rd Jan Collins.

Low Putt Winner: Anne Willis

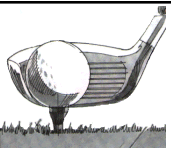
Most Improved Player  
for the month was once again  
Wendy Willis!



We're all looking forward to the ladies' luncheon on Thursday, December 6th. A special thanks to all the 9ers who decorated the lounge, and to Linda Smith and ladies who decorated the dining room. It all looks fabulous!

As we end this year, a special thanks to our captain, Suzanne Zopolos, for her leadership and friendship. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all!





# Senior Division

President Notes by :  
Wes Barkwill

The 2018 year of senior events is rapidly drawing to a close. The November event at Sunnyside had Gary Southerland's team winning first place and Gary receiving a dozen golf balls. Gary also won a closest to the pin prize of another sleeve or two of balls. By my count Gary will soon be opening his own golf ball shop. We also had nine players for our annual turkey shoot. Everyone received a SaveMart \$10 gift card and Ben Sanchez's team won the \$30 first prize shared by him, Gary Southerland and Joe Collins. Each of the other six players also won some money in the event.

There are no events scheduled for December, but we return in January for our kickoff local event on January 4<sup>th</sup>, followed by our annual senior awards dinner and election of officers on January 5<sup>th</sup>. More information will be sent to our members about each event.

As I close out my two-year tenure as Senior President, I would like to thank Gary Southerland who joined the officer rank as Treasurer this last year. His assistance has been a blessing. I also want to thank our most recent prior President, Randy Lane for all of his help and support over the last two years. Thanks Randy. Our senior group has grown over the last two years and we had 36 members in 2018. I hope we can attract more members in the years to come. One disappointment was the loss of the Senior Invitational. Hopefully, we can get a large enough group of senior members to hold this event again in the future.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays  
to you all - See you!



## Members Christmas Dinner

Dec 13th 6:00pm - 8:00pm

INTERNATIONAL CHEESE TRAY  
ASSORTED CHIPS AND DIPS,  
BREADS AND FONDUE  
SEAFOOD BAR AND VEGETABLES

FIELD GREEN SALAD WITH  
POACHED PEARS AND GORGONZOLA  
DRIZZLED WITH POMEGRANATE DRESSING

ENTREES  
GRILLED FILLET MIGNON BORDELAISE  
OR  
PAN BRAISED SEA BASS  
IN WHITE WINE TOMATO HERB SAUCE  
ANNA POTATOES AND ROASTED VEGETABLES

DESSERT  
TUXEDO TRUFFLE MOUSSE CAKE

\$40.00++

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS BY DEC 11TH

On behalf of the Chef Dave, Tina  
and the whole MGCC Staff  
We would like to wish everyone  
**A WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS SEASON**  
*And I want to thank everyone for all the gifts  
and warm greetings making  
my special day very memorable indeed!*  
Berna



# December

2018

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

						1
2	3 Club Closed	4	5 PRIVATE PARTY	6 Ladies' Christmas Luncheon 11:30p - Social 12:30p - Luncheon PRIVATE PARTY	7 PRIVATE PARTY	8 PRIVATE PARTY
9	10 Club Closed	11 PRIVATE PARTY	12 Men's Stag Day 12:30p Shotgun PRIVATE PARTY	13 Member's Christmas Dinner 6:00p - 8:00p	14 PRIVATE PARTY	15 Pro Shop SALE Demo Day 10-2 PRIVATE PARTY
16 Pro Shop SALE Breakfast WITH SANTA	17 Club Closed	18 6:00pm MGCC Board Meeting	19	20 PRIVATE PARTY	21 PRIVATE PARTY	22
23	24 Christmas Eve Gates Closed at 3PM	25 Merry Christmas Club Closed	26	27	28	29
30	31 New Year's Eve Dinner CLUB OPEN	Jan 1 Happy New Year 2019 Club Closed				

Notes:

LOOKING AHEAD  
Jan 5th Senior Dinner



# MGCC New Year's Eve Dinner

DEC 31 ST

MENU

*HORS'DOEURVES*

INTERNATIONAL CHEESE TRAY  
ARTICHOKE SPINACH DIP IN A BREAD BOWL  
CHIPS AND DIPS, HUMMUS AND PITA  
SEAFOOD BAR

*SALAD*

FIELD GREENS  
APPLE, WALNUT AND CRANBERRY  
DRIZZLED WITH WALDORF DRESSING

*ENTRÉE*

ROAST TENDERLOIN OF BEEF, BRANDY SAUCE,  
MUSHROOM MÉLANGE AND VEGETABLE  
WILD RICE

*DESSERT*

BANANA TOFFEE BOURBON CAKE  
WITH CINNAMON COFFEE SAUCE

*PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS AND INDICATE*

EARLY SEATING 6:00 - 7:30PM OR LATE SEATING 7:30 - 8:30PM  
*BY DEC 27TH (209) 722-6268*

9:00PM - THRU THE NIGHT DANCING  
FEATURING

*Donnie & the Wayzads*



Happy  
New  
Year



\$40.00++



# Men's Stag Day

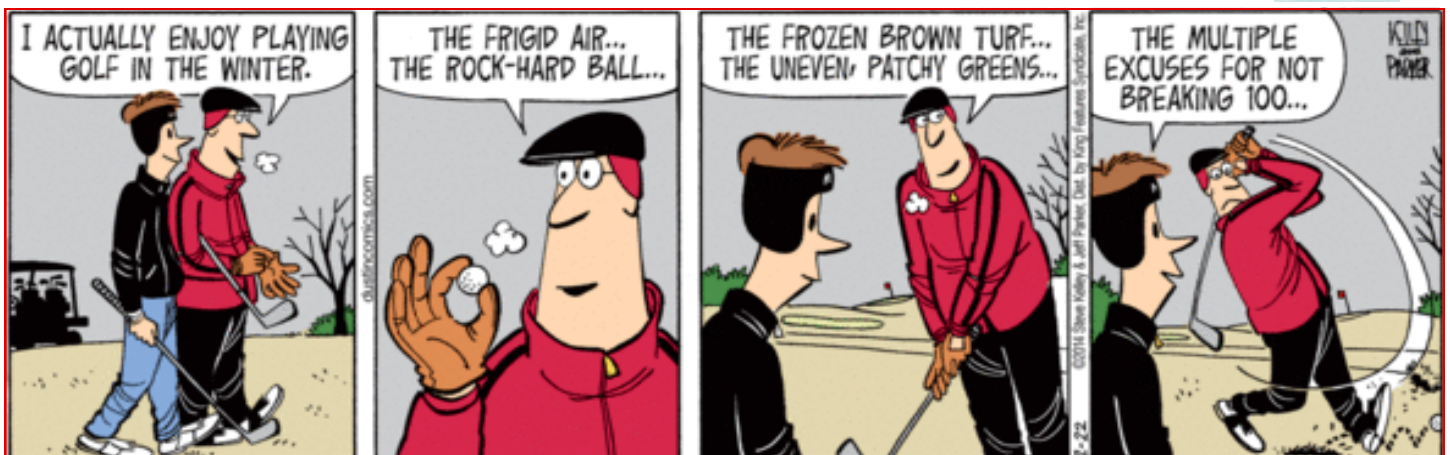
**DEC. 12, 2018**  
**12:00p.m. Shotgun**

*Dinner served after golf.  
All Players automatically included for dinner.  
Sign-ups in the Pro-Shop.*

## MENU

New York Steak Dinner  
Au gratin Potatoes  
Chef's Vegetables  
Chocolate Mousse

**\$17.95++**



# Looking Ahead...



## 2019



- Jan 1 Happy New Year
- Jan 5 **Senior** Dinner
- Jan 9 Men's Stag  
12:00pm Shotgun

### GENERAL MEETING

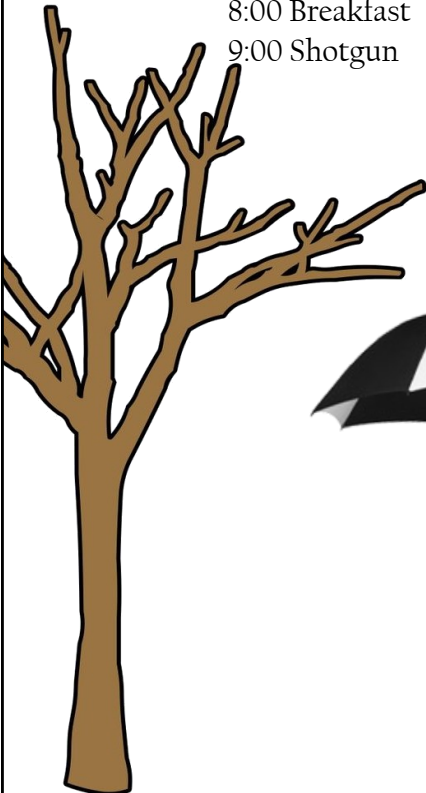


5:00p General Membership Meeting

- Jan 18 Friday Night Dining  
6:00-8:00pm
- Jan 22 6:00pm MGCC Board Meeting
- Jan 29 9-T-Niners **GOLF KICK-OFF**  
9:00 Shotgun (Back 9)  
\*\*\*\*\*



- Feb 7 18-Hole Ladies Division  
**GOLF KICK-OFF**  
8:00 Breakfast  
9:00 Shotgun



## MERCED GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB DRESS CODE

### CLUBHOUSE & DINING ROOM

All members and guests are required to adhere to Merced Country Club's Dress Code when in the club. These general guidelines apply for adults and children above the age of five. The dress code is listed below:

Jackets maybe required for more formal events. Women are requested to dress in a fashion compatible with the dress required of men, which may include dresses, skirts, slacks or pantsuits.

Typical golf attire; and clean, comfortable attire are encouraged at all times. Ladies may wear sleeveless shirts that have a collar; or a non collared shirt with sleeves. Men's Golf attire, blue denim clothing and blue denim jeans in good, clean condition are acceptable attire in the Bar, Dining Room, Patio, Pool, Parking Lot, Pro Shop, Locker Rooms and Club Offices .

**NO BLUE DENIM JEANS** are allowed on the Golf Course, Putting Green, Driving Range, and Practice Facility.

The following attire is **NOT allowed** in the **Clubhouse** (Including the Dining Room, Bar and Banquet Room), on the **Golf Course or Driving Range**

- Shorts, skorts or skirts higher than 4" above the knee
- T-Shirts or Tank Tops; Gym Shorts or any other Gym attire.
- Overalls; cut-offs; clothes with frayed edges or holes
- Swimsuits or Swimwear of any kind; wet or soiled clothing
- Trousers, or other types of clothing that clearly are extreme in size and that cause the clothing item to hang loosely from the body, or that may expose areas of the body or visible undergarments, are prohibited.
- Tops exposing the mid-sections or other areas of the body are not acceptable.

Exceptions to the dress code will be: Attire worn for Theme Parties and other designated events which the general Manager must approve prior to the events.

Wearing appropriate blue denim will be permitted on the golf course although not encouraged, from November 1 through March 31.

### Other Restrictions to: Bar, Dining Room, and Banquet Rooms

- Hats/caps for gentlemen are not permitted in the dining room except as traditional religious, ethnic, or medical head covering. Hats/caps must be worn facing forward. It is appropriate etiquette for gentlemen to remove hats while indoors.
- Shoes and/or sandals must be worn at all times.
- Soft spikes are not permitted in the Dining Room.

Thank you for your compliance.

### MEMBERSHIP COUNT

Playing . . . . .	159
Pre-Paid Program . . . . .	1
Associate Firm . . . . .	7
Leave of Absence . . . . .	2
Special Social . . . . .	26
Honorary . . . . .	1
Social . . . . .	1
Social/Proprietary . . . . .	1
Executive Membership. . .	103
Young Executive . . . . .	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>308</b>