



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 1

NEWS LETTER

JANUARY 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

Social

**Mohan Reddy**  
Greens

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

One year ago, after weeks of heavy rain, strong winds from the south toppled almost thirty mature trees across our course. The winds ripped gaping holes in the netting around our driving range and many parts of the course found itself under water. For many months the course remained too wet and soggy to get the proper equipment onto the course to effect cleanup and make necessary repairs. BrightView, our course maintenance company, jumped in and its crew, chain saws in hand, did what could be done to put the course back into semi-playable condition. Members responded with their own efforts and everyone showed complete understanding as the months passed and progress slowly was made. The Board, under President Jerry Corman, worked diligently with our insurance company, the installers of our driving range protective netting, BrightView and with Anderson Tree Service to restore our course.

This month the driving range nets are up and better than ever, uprooted cement cart paths have been repaired and the last of the replacement trees have now been put into the ground. During this time our membership displayed a cooperative effort that should make us all proud to be associated with one another.

However, our Club is more than simply a place to hit a small round ball. All ladies find that they can be surrounded with friends and special events whether they want to play 18 holes or just 9. Senior men find companionship, tournaments and opportunities to play many other private clubs at a remarkably low cost as members of our "Seniors" organization. Our Club sponsors the "First Tee", an organization, open to children of members and non-members alike that teaches lessons in sportsmanship, general behavior and (last in importance) golf skills. We truly have a Club that benefits its members and the community in general. Under the guidance of our Pro and Board Member Arron Castleton, we are moving aggressively to become the home course for the University of California – Merced Golf team. With our membership continuing to grow, and with the tradition of our membership, the coming year should be one of our best in many, many years. This will remain true as long as we have members that step forward and continue to offer to help in whatever way they can. Your help is always appreciated and you are always invited to our Board meetings.



Rickey D. Wallace



**PRO'S CORNER**  
**David Whitby**  
 PGA Club PRO

On Sunday, January 21st, seven of our juniors, Christopher Giardina, Lauren Gudgel, Jake Leonardo, Caitlin Garcia, Ricky Sullivan, Issac and Esther Sheu, participated in a junior golf event at Turlock CC. The kids competed with other juniors from the following clubs, Oakdale, Del Rio, and Spring Creek. Our kids had a good showing...

- Christopher Giardina: 1st in his flight
- Lauren Gudgel: 2nd in her flight
- Caitlin Garcia: 3rd in her flight
- Isaac Sheu: 3rd in his flight
- Esther Sheu: 1st in her flight

The kids travel to Del Rio next... we will be hosting March 17!! We will have over 40 kids out to play golf we will be starting at 12 o'clock please come out and support our kids as they compete in this great game of golf.

David Whitby



Christopher Giardina  
1st in his flight



Lauren Gudgel  
2nd in her flight



Caitlin Garcia:  
3rd in her flight



Isaac Sheu  
3rd in his flight



Esther Sheu  
1st in her flight

Danny Moak  
 Golf Course Superintendent  
**BrightView**

Good News: the replacement trees from last year's storms have been planted. We did have a few issues with irrigation pipes, but those have been fixed. We will be cleaning up the remaining soil next week.

We have also begun the pruning of the low hanging branches. Holes #1-5 and holes #8 and #9 have been completed. Once the front 9 is complete we will move to the back.

The spraying of the weeds in the fairways has also begun. This spraying must be limited to Mondays only so that the spray is not moved to the rough or other areas. We will have this done in the next two weeks.

Please note  
 Stag Day  
 is moved to Feb 7th  
 Bring your sweetie out  
 for a Valentine Dinner on  
 Wednesday Feb 14th  
 Make your reservations  
 today



## 18-Hole Ladies Division

Captain's Table  
Nancy Slater  
CAPTAIN

Here we go ladies! Today is the Kick-Off of our 2018 golf season. By the time you all read this, we will have had a lovely breakfast together, we will have our new yearbooks in our hands, we will have made some future foursomes, and we will have played our first Thursday tournament of the year.

The 18 Hole Ladies Division members have so much to look forward to in 2018. Coming in February we will play a 2 Best Ball format on the 8<sup>th</sup>, Queen of Hearts on the 15<sup>th</sup> and our first Captain's Trophy on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Tournament Chair Eileen Partlow will keep you informed of upcoming events and any changes due to weather through email messages, so please remember to check your email often. Sign up for upcoming tournaments either in the ladies locker room or by emailing Eileen at [departlow@sbcglobal.net](mailto:departlow@sbcglobal.net) To share in the announcements and results of Thursday tournaments, please "Like" our Face Book page – MGCC 18 Hole Ladies Division. I will continue to post photos and results on Face Book. If you are not a member of Face Book and you wish to be, I am happy to help you get started.

Many thanks to the ladies from the 9-T-9ers and the 18 Hole Division who helped to "undecorate" the dining room, entry, bar, locker room and lounge. It was a big messy job that was made much easier by the many smiling faces and busy hands who worked together. You are the best!



9t9ers  
Susan Benes  
Captain

The 9t9ers enjoyed a kick-off brunch, golf, and great friendship on Tuesday, January 30th. It was good to see all our golfing buddies again after a 2-month hiatus! Looking forward to a great February.

The following ladies have been elected as our 2018 officers:

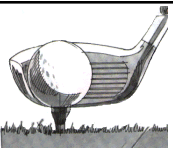
Captain: Suzanne Zopolos  
Secretary: Jeanne McAuley  
Co-Captain: Patty Beach  
Special Tournaments: Susan Hammon  
Eclectic: Cindy Souders  
Chip Shots: Susan Benes  
Treasurer: Carole Whitehill  
Junior Golf: Sue Thompson  
Showcase Board: Anne and Wendy Willis  
Team Play: Anne Willis  
Membership: Jan Lorenzi & Patty Beach  
Pairings/Low Net Low Putts: Wendy Willis  
Handicapper: Sandy Souza  
Hospitality/Trophies: Barb Adams

Most Improved  
Player for 2017:  
Anne Willis



## 18-hole DIV

GOLF Kick-off  
Thursday, FEB 1st, 2018  
8:00 Breakfast  
9:00 Shotgun



## Senior Division

President Notes by :  
Wes Barkwill

January marked the end of the 2017 season with a local event and our great Senior Association awards dinner. Everyone raved about the filet mignon and salmon dinners. Sign-ups for this season have been very positive, we already have more people signed up for this year than we did in 2017.

The Merced Senior Golf Association was founded in 1969. Over the ensuing 49 years our intrepid group of golfers, 50 and over, have traveled far and wide around the San Joaquin Valley.

Our members pay an annual membership fee of \$40 which entitles them to a free annual dinner in January to celebrate our past season of golf and comradery. That annual fee also gives our members the opportunity to participate in four local golf events here at the club, and starting in April, seven away events at other clubs in the Southern Valley Senior Association (SVS) and 10 events at other clubs in the San Joaquin Valley Travel League (SJVTL). We also host events at our club with each of the other 18 clubs in these two leagues. The other four events our members play include an exchange with our MGCC women's golf groups, the annual Senior Invitational and a two-day Senior Championship. Winners of the Championship travel the next year to play in the San Joaquin Travel League Pro-Am. That adds up to almost 30 events from January thru November.

Sign up today and see you on the course!

### February Senior Events

Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> -Local – Senior Local Event  
Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> -Local – Senior Local Event

### March Senior Events

March 16<sup>th</sup>, Local – Senior Local Event  
March 20<sup>th</sup>, Away – David and four of our senior champions travel to Visalia to compete in the annual SJTL Pro-Am



The First Tee Central Valley Merced will be starting classes for our sixth year on Tuesday, March 20. Classes will be held on Tuesdays at 5:30pm and Sundays at 1:00pm. All children ages 5 to 17 years of age are welcome. The kids will learn golf skills as well as life skills. No equipment is needed and scholarships are available.

### New TFT Site

Classes will also be offered at Rancho Del Rey Golf Course in Atwater on Mondays and Thursdays beginning March 19.

Online registration is now open at [www.thefirstteecentralvalley.org](http://www.thefirstteecentralvalley.org) or sign up at the first session.



### Volunteer Coaches needed.

Do you know someone who golfs and wants to give back? Do you know someone who loves working with kids and cares about character education? Do you know any retired educators who would love to continue teaching and mentoring? If so, send them our way. Please contact Coach John Campbell for more information 209-261-8839.

# Friday Night Dining

Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> 6:00-8:00pm

## Mardi Gras

Buffet

Salad Bar

Cajun Fried Chicken

Catfish

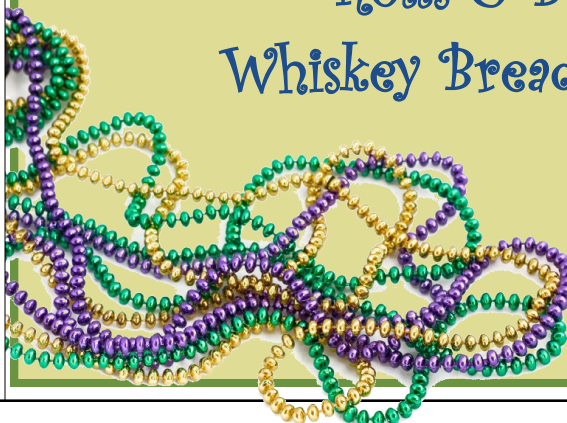
Jambalaya

Red Bean Rice

Rolls & Butter




Whiskey Bread Pudding

\$16.95 ++





# February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 <b>18-hole DIV</b> Kick-off 8:00 Breakfast 9:00 Shotgun	2 <b>Senior</b> Local Tournament	3
4	5 Club Closed	6 <b>9T9ers</b> (Front 9) 9:00am Shotgun	7 <b>Men's</b> Stag Day 12:30p Shotgun	8 <b>18-hole DIV</b> 9:00am Shotgun	9	10 PRIVATE PARTY
11	12 Club Closed	13 <b>9T9ers</b> 9:00am Shotgun (Back 9)	14  <b>Valentines</b> Day Dinner	15 <b>18-hole DIV</b> 9:00am Shotgun 2:pm Gen Mtg. PRIVATE PARTY	16 PRIVATE PARTY	17
18	19  <b>President's</b> Day Club Open	20 Club Closed	21	22 <b>18-hole DIV</b> 9:00am Shotgun	23 <b>Senior</b> Local Tournament <b>9T9ers</b> 9:00am Shotgun (Front 9) <b>Friday Night</b> Dining 6-8pm 	24
25	26 Club Closed	27 <b>9T9ers</b> 9:00am Shotgun (Back 9) 6:00pm MGCC Board Meeting	28			



# Valentines Dinner

Feb 14th 6:00 - 8:00 pm

APPETIZER

Sea Food Gazpacho Cocktail  
with Avocado  
Or Crab & Corn Bisque

House Salad with Creamy Herb Dressing

Filet Steak & Bacon Wrapped Shrimp  
with Blue Cheese Butter  
or

Salmon Wellington  
with Leeks and Wild Mushrooms  
Baked in Puff Pastry

Roasted Red Potatoes  
Fresh Broccoli & Carrots

Tiramisu



\$32.95 ++

# Men's Stag Day

**FEB. 7, 2018**  
**12:00p.m. Shotgun**

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



"I'm not quitting! I may never get  
another chance to break a hundred!"

## MENU

Salad Bar  
Spaghetti and Meat Balls  
Italian Sausage  
Garlic Bread  
Cobbler

**\$12.95++**

# Looking Ahead...

## MARCH



- Mar 1 18-Hole Ladies Division  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 6 9-T-Niners (Front 9)  
President's CUP RND 1  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 8 18-Hole Ladies Division  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 9 9-T-Niners (Back 9)  
9:00 Shotgun  
President's CUP RND 2
- Mar 13 9-T-Niners (Back 9)  
President's CUP RND 3  
9:00 Tee Times
- Mar 14 Men's Stag  
12:30pm Shotgun
- Mar 15 18-Hole Ladies Division  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 16 **Senior Local** Tournament  
Friday Night Dining  
6:00-8:00
- Mar 17 **St Patrick's Day**
- Mar 18-19 Aerate Greens
- Mar 20 March 20<sup>th</sup>, Annual SJTL pro-am Visalia  
9-T-Niners (Front 9)  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 22 18-Hole Ladies Division  
9:00 Shotgun
- Mar 27 9-T-Niners (Back 9)  
Guest Day 9:00 Shotgun  
6:00pm MGCC Board Meeting
- Mar 29 18-Hole Ladies Division  
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 . . . . .	167
Pre-Paid Program . . . . .	5
Associate Firm . . . . .	8
Leave of Absence . . . . .	4
Special Social . . . . .	23
Honorary . . . . .	1
Social . . . . .	1
Social/Proprietary . . . . .	1
Executive Membership. . .	86
Young Executive . . . . .	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>300</b>