



www.mercedgolfandcountryclub.com

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

# Chip Shots

1926

Volume 17, Issue 10

NEWS LETTER

OCTOBER 2019

Clubhouse 722-6268  
Golf Shop 722-3357

## MERCED GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**John Curry**  
President

**Dick Buchner**  
Vice President, House

**Larry Thompson**  
Finance

**Frankie Spiva**  
Golf Operations

**Gerald Corman**  
Membership

**Jack Morehouse**  
Long Range Planning-House  
Bylaws & Procedures

**Phil Hamm**  
Human Resources

**Todd Giardina**  
Social

**Mohan Reddy**  
Greens

### OFFICERS

**Jeff Kaufman**  
Secretary

**Scott Lucas**  
Finance Liaison

### DIVISION PRESIDENT/ CAPTAIN

Gary Southerland . . . . . Senior President  
Sharon Sanchez . . . 18-Hole Capt.  
Suzanne Zopolos . . . 9-Hole Capt.

### CLUB STAFF

Berna Lucas . . . . . Club Manager  
David Whitby . . . . . Club PRO  
Martin Soliz . . . . . Club Chef

# NOTES from the President



We are pleased to announce the successful launch of our new website! This site is a major improvement from the previous. Thanks to Ed Benes for providing most of the photos for the new site. Visit [www.mercedgolfandcountryclub.com](http://www.mercedgolfandcountryclub.com) to check it out. We look forward to your feedback as well as continued improvement to this site.

We also want to let you all know that we have agreed upon a new cart lease which will mean new carts for our members! The new carts will have lithium batteries which are higher performance and will cost less to re-charge. We are changing the look as well to embrace change. They also come with USB ports, coolers and better quality seats. Our new lease program will also require a few changes in our practices as we want to ensure that the new carts stay in new condition. It may seem like an inconvenience for members to sign out for carts and return keys after use, but please understand that this is a proven best practice in order to maintain the condition of the carts. Thanks in advance for your support and understanding. We hope to have them on site by Nov 1<sup>st</sup>. Fingers crossed ...

We are hosting a Round Table Discussion Meeting for all members on Tuesday, Oct 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm to sit together and discuss thoughts, ideas and solutions to our current financial challenges as well as any other challenges that members feel are important to address. Please join us to discuss how we can make improve the Club experience for our members.

Swing Easy!

John Curry





Notes from:  
**David Whitby**  
**PGA Club PRO**

Fall is upon us!!! Overall we had a very busy month of September. In a two week period we had a Stag Day with more than 80 players and over a 100 for dinner! Thank you to Ed Benes and all the sponsors for making the Doug Choquette Stag Day a memorable one.

Once again, we had a very successful Men's Member/Member. 34 teams battled it out over two days with Teddy Dietz and Mike Willis coming out on top.

And finally, the Ladies Invitational went off without a hitch. Frankie Spiva did a fantastic job with organizing the event! Thank you to all the ladies that participated.

Don't forget to plan your golf in October.

10/5-Tournament of Champions 8:30am T-times.

10/9-Stag Day. Sponsored by the Merced Attorneys  
12:30pm Shotgun.

10/14-10/15: NCGA Super Senior Championship.

10/26-Callaway Demo Day. 10:00am-2:00pm.

10/26-Scratch League. 10:00am T-times.

See you at Club!

David Whitby, *PGA Head Golf Professional*



Oct 26th

**Callaway**  
Demo DAY

10:00am to 2:00pm



Oct 5th

**Tournament  
of Champions**

8:30am  
T-times



Oct 13th

**COUPLES  
FALL SOCIAL**

3:00pm Shotgun







# 18-Hole Ladies Division

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

August 29 found the 18 Hole Ladies hosting Team Play at our club. The event went smoothly thanks to our Team Play Captain Linda Lucas, David Whitby, Berna Lucas, Danny Moak and their staffs. We are currently in third place Net.



September 5 the ladies played a format called Lone Wolf. Linda Smith, Carol Llamas and Anita Goza took first place with a score of 61. Denise Davis, Jill Macha and Eileen Partlow took second with a score of 65.

The format of one best ball was held on Thursday Sept 12th. Maureen Buckner, Carol Llamas and Anita Goza took first place honors. Sue Conley and Eileen Partlow took second place.



A three person scramble was held on September 19. The field was larger due to Team Play Ladies having a bye for the week. Winners of the first flight were Denise Davis, Pat Jones and Kelly Holmes with a net 68. Flight 2 winners with a net 74 were Betsy Williams, Maureen Buchner and Laurel Mancebo.



On September 21 was another major event for the 18 Hole Ladies this month. It was our yearly Invitational held for the first time on a Saturday. The event was well attended. The food was excellent, the format challenging and the camaraderie amazing. Thank you to Frankie Spiva for being Chairwoman, Berna Lucas and staff for the food and drinks, David Whitby and Danny Moak and staffs for making the golf exceptional.




# the 9t9ers

ARTICLE BY:  
**Susan Benes**



The 9-T-9ers enjoyed a fun month in September. The Most Improved Player for the month is Diane Fuentes. All those hours of practicing are paying off! Congratulations, Diane.

These ladies: Susan Benes, Anne Willis, Sandy Souza and Wendy Willis, participated in and won the ladies' division of Stag/Stageette Day which was played



in honor of a dear friend and great golfer, Doug Choquette. Thanks to the 12:30pm group for including the ladies in this golf and dinner event.



Joanie Tinetti, Susan Benes, Maureen Reid, and Susan Hammon were among 104 ladies who qualified to participate in the Northern California TOC (Tournament of Champions)

at Castlewood Golf and Country Club in Pleasanton. The course was beautiful but everyone agreed it was difficult to play. Nonetheless, Maureen managed to be the only 9er to walk away with a trophy in her flight.

A special thanks to the ladies of the 9-Tee-9ers for their generous contributions on Charity Day. This year Hinds Hospice was selected as the recipient.

Low Net winners for the month are: 3rd place - Susan Hammon, 2nd place Sandy Souza, 1st Mia Quaglia and Low Putt winner is Susan Hammon.



## Friday, Nov 15th

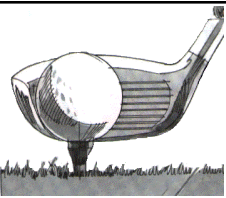
# Save the Date

As everyone may have heard that our team mate and good friend Terri Sawyer had a massive stroke in August, 2019

## We are having a Dinner, Raffle and Silent Auction Fund Raiser FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15th

Contact: Frankie Spiva (209) 723-9436 or email at: [fspiva@comcast.net](mailto:fspiva@comcast.net)

Look for more details in November Chipshots Seating will be limited to first 250



# Senior Division

President

Gary Southerland

The Seniors had twelve golfers travel to Turlock Country Club on August 30<sup>th</sup>. The following players finished in the money; Dan Holmes, Randy Lane, R.J. Lorenzi, Roger Wood, Jerry Corman, Gary Southerland, and Don Bragonier.

Two Merced Seniors traveled to Tracy Country Club on September 12<sup>th</sup> and Randy Lane's team came in first place.

### Upcoming Events

October 8<sup>th</sup> Merced at Visalia County Club

October 18<sup>th</sup> Seniors host the Ladies and the Senior Club

October 23<sup>rd</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> Seniors Club Championship

Remember, to be eligible you must be a **currently paid member of the Senior Association**. The outcome will have one low net for ages 50-59, one low net for ages 60-69, one low net for ages 70 plus, and one low gross overall. The winners will play with the club pro at the Pro-Am next year.

November 5<sup>th</sup> Merced travels to Sunnyside Country Club

Please come down to the club and signup for these great events.

See you on the course.

Oct 14-15

## NCGA Super Seniors Tournament

7:30am T-times



Oct 18

## Seniors Host Ladies

9:00 Shotgun



## Chef Martin's Famous Portuguese Sopas

Oct 31st 11:00am - 2:00pm  
Lunch Special

Choice Chuck Roast  
*simmered for several hours  
with traditional spices in a bouquet garni*

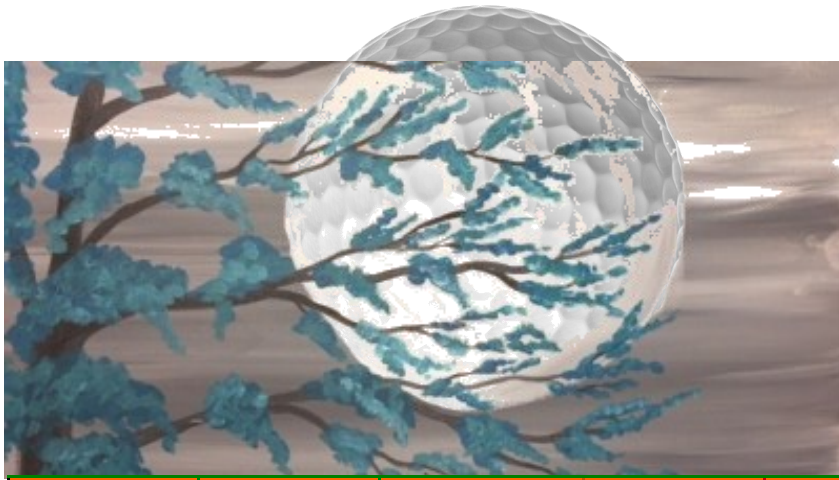
*Renders a rich Beef Broth  
along with Soft Tender Meat*

*Served in a bowl  
with gently Cooked Fresh Cabbage,  
2 slices of French Bread  
and garnished with a Sprig of Fresh Mint*

\$ 10.95++







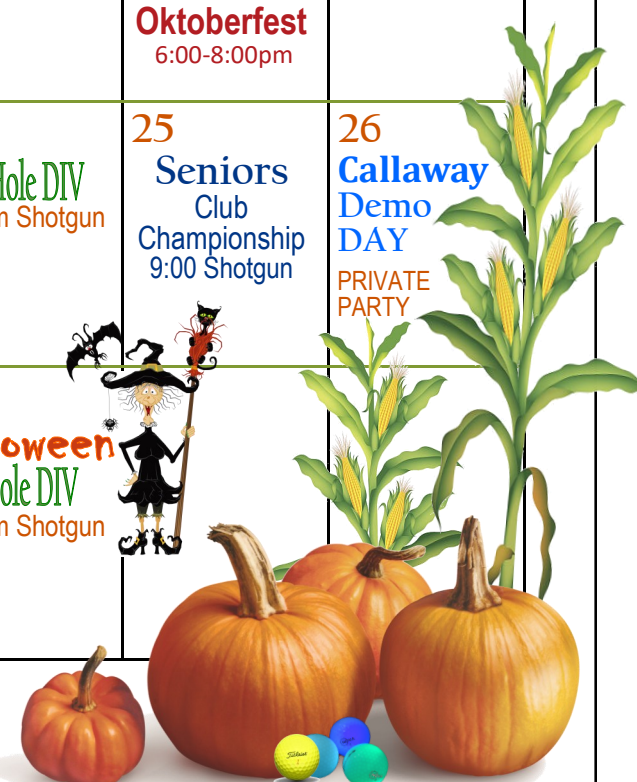
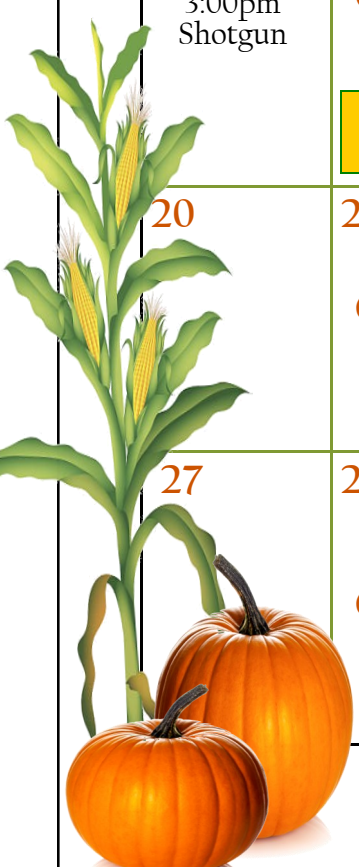
# October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <b>9t9ers</b> Back 9 9:00am Shotgun  PRIVATE PARTY	2	3 <b>18-Hole DIV</b> 9:00am Shotgun	4	5 <b>Tournament of Champions</b> 7:30 T-times
6	7 <b>Club Closed</b>	8 <b>9t9ers</b> Front 9 9:00am Shotgun	9	10 <b>18-Hole DIV</b> 9:00am Shotgun	11	12  PRIVATE PARTY
13 <b>9t9ers</b> Couples Fall Social 3:00pm Shotgun	14 <b>Club Closed</b>	15  <b>NCGA Super Seniors Tournament</b>	16  <b>Shark Shoot-out Stag Day</b> 12:30p Shotgun	17 <b>18-Hole DIV</b> 9:00am Shotgun	18 <b>9t9ers</b> Back 9 9:00am Shotgun <b>Seniors</b> Host Ladies 9:00am Shotgun  <b>Oktoberfest</b> 6:00-8:00pm	19
20	21 <b>Club Closed</b>  PRIVATE PARTY	22 <b>9t9ers</b> Front 9 9:00am Shotgun  6:00pm MGCC Board Meeting	23 <b>Seniors</b> Club Championship 9:00 Shotgun	24 <b>18-Hole DIV</b> 9:00am Shotgun	25 <b>Seniors</b> Club Championship 9:00 Shotgun	26 <b>Callaway Demo DAY</b>  PRIVATE PARTY
27	28 <b>Club Closed</b>	29 <b>9t9ers</b> Back 9 9:00am Shotgun	30	31 <b>Halloween</b> <b>18-Hole DIV</b> 9:00am Shotgun 		

Notes:  
Nov 2

**TITLEIST**

**DEMO DAY**



# Oktoberfest

October 18th  
6:00pm-8:00pm

Salad Bar  
Short Ribs  
St Louie Ribs  
Bratwurst  
Sauerkraut  
Butter Noodles  
Brussels Sprouts

\$15.95++

Please make RESERVATIONS by  
Wednesday, October 16th  
\*\*\* (209) 722-6268 \*\*\*



# Shark Shoot-out Stag Day

Sponsored by: **MGCC Attorneys**

**Oct 9, 2019**  
**12:30p.m. Shotgun**



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

## **MENU**

Salad Bar  
New York Steak  
Scalloped Potatoes  
Vegetable Medley  
Rolls & Butter  
Peach Cobbler

**\$18.95++**

# Looking Ahead...



Nov 2 Nutcracker Tournament  
**TITLEIST DEMO DAY 2019**

Nov 5 9-T-Niners (Front 9)  
 9:00 Shotgun

Nov 7 18-Hole Ladies Division  
 9:00 Shotgun


Nov 11 Veterans Day (Club Closed)

Nov 12 9-T-Niners (Back 9)  
 9:00 Shotgun

Nov 13 Men's Stag  
 12:30pm Shotgun

Nov 14 18-Hole Ladies Division  
 9:00 Shotgun

Nov 15 Friday Night Dining

Nov 19 9-T-Niners (Front 9)   
 9:00 Shotgun Turkey Shoot  
 6:00pm MGCC Board Meeting

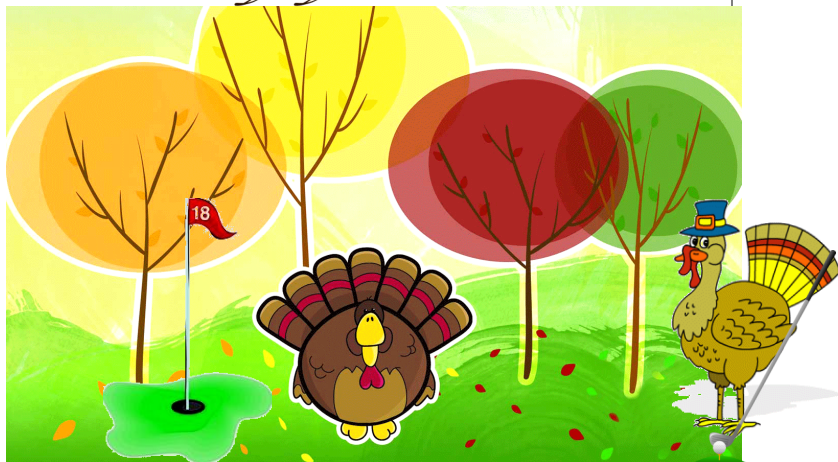
Nov 21 18-Hole Ladies Division   
 9:00 Shotgun Turkey Shoot

Nov 23 9-T-Niners (Front 9)  
 9:00 Shotgun

Nov 25 Decorate For Christmas

Nov 26 9-T-Niners (Back 9)  
 Guest Day  
 9:00 Shotgun

Nov 28 *Happy*  
  
*Thanksgiving*



## 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 . . . . .	154
Pre-Paid Program . . . . .	1
Associate Firm . . . . .	5
Leave of Absence . . . . .	2
Special Social . . . . .	30
Honorary . . . . .	0
Social . . . . .	1
Social/Proprietary . . . . .	1
Executive Membership . . .	101
Young Executive . . . . .	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>303</b>