



Chip Shots

Clubhouse 722-6268
Golf Shop 722-3357

Volume 15, Issue 12

NEWS LETTER

DECEMBER 2017

1926

MERCED GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Bylaws & Procedures

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Wes Barkwill Senior President
Linda Lucas 18-Hole Capt.
Jeanne McAuley 9-Hole Capt.

CLUB STAFF

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

NOTES from the President

My second-to-the-last Chip Shots Note... not that I'm counting. One of the more unpleasant tasks I have as a board member, and President, is to approach members that are abusing the intent of our by-laws and policies. I try to be tactful in doing so, but this is not always easy. Case in point:

To give you the background, an item of discussion at the last several board meetings is the fact that we have some groups of players that are riding single in golf carts. We have posted notices of limits on the number of carts per group on the bulletin board, the pro shop and in the restrooms. Unfortunately, the current by-laws only cover the limits on groups up to 6-somes. Now it seems to me that the obvious intent is that riders should share carts, unless there is an odd number of players, but this apparently is not clear to some of our members. Our cart lease program, and cart rentals are for a rider, not a cart (i.e.: If you have a cart lease, you cannot rent a cart, and have a member or guest who is not a member of the cart lease program ride with you). But I digress.

I was finishing my rather pitiful round of golf Saturday, and noticed five carts lined up by the tenth tee, at least three of which had single riders. I approached one of the members in the group (who will remain unnamed), and quietly mentioned that this was inappropriate, and that they should pair up. He angrily retorted that this was "ok," that they were not hurting anything, and that "this is how it's been for 40 years." He then drove off in a huff, with what looked like a train behind him.

First, it is **not** ok. As we go to print, the board is redrafting the cart policy in light of the fact that we do allow 6-somes and even 8-somes play as long as they do not hold up play, and allow other groups waiting behind them to play through. Even though the current policies do not contemplate groups this large the intent is clear... it's sad that the board needs to re-draft the policies, and consider sanctions for their violation.

Secondly, the unnecessary use of more carts **does** hurt the club. The club pays for the electricity to charge the carts, and the maintenance to keep them in good running order. Batteries have to be replaced, and our staff has to bring them up and return them to the cart shed. Moreover, overuse of carts limit the ability of the club to extend their lease-life, which would save our club money. Finally, cart use damages our course. Our Superintendent, Danny would tell you that a significant part of our maintenance costs are due to cart usage. How many times do we see tire ruts in our fairways and rough?

Forty years? I don't think so. I've been a member for well more than 40 years, and do not recall this being a problem until recently. The fact is, we have only been allowing groups greater than 4-somes (with the exception of the Sunday morning gaggle), for the past 12 years.

It is unfair pressure on the club's staff to have to approach members on issues such as this one, which is why I spoke up in the first place.

Meanwhile, the Finance Committee is busy working up a budget that will hopefully continue to avoid assessments, and maintain the quality of our club, course and services. This budget requires us to continue our efforts to increase our membership. The budget



will be addressed at our December Board meeting (December 19). We will have copies of the budget and our financials on each table at our annual meeting January 10, but I want to remind each of you, especially if you want to address it at our membership meeting, that they will be available to review prior to the meeting at the bar and office.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and Holiday!

Jerry Corman



Notes from:
David Whitby
 PGA Club PRO

I trust that you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving with your family and friends and you had a whole Lotta food!!!

It's getting cold...

There are four fitness components which a golfer can develop to prove his/her golf: 1. strength, 2. flexibility, 3. muscular endurance, 4. cardiovascular endurance. As we enter the holiday season and the weather is getting cold it's still good that we work out, run, and stretch as much as possible.

Just a few exciting events in December to look forward to...

We have our annual Demo Day on December 16! Come check out these brands:

Titleist! Callaway! Taylor Made!

Don't forget our Pro Shop sale will be the same weekend.

I want to wish you all a happy holiday season to you and your family!!!

Dave Whitby

Danny Moak
 Golf Course Superintendent
BrightView

I would like to start by thanking the members for the wonderful lunch that was provided to me and my staff for Thanksgiving. Also for the turkeys, it was greatly appreciated.

As most of you know we have received a load of sand that we are going to try in the practice bunker by the driving range. This will give us a good look at the sand, as well as, letting the members try it out. We will also be removing the brush from around the pump at the driving range and replacing it with fencing to make it easier to pick up the range balls in that area.

*Pro Shop
 Winter Sale*

Dec 16th-17th

Demo Day Dec 16th
10:00am - 2:00pm

Titleist . Callaway .
 Taylor Made

Dec 17th
 9:00 - 11:00am

Breakfast
 with
 Santa

Breakfast Breads
 Danish
 Muffins
 Cookies and Milk

\$5.95 ++



18-Hole Ladies Division Captain's Table

Linda Lucas

CAPTAIN

2017 Competitive Thursday Golf ended with the Turkey Shoot. Everyone who participated is pictured below:



The overall winners for 2017 in these special categories were announced: Captain's Trophy: Ramona Stanford, Low Putts: Lydia Southwick, Most Improved: Laurel Mancebo, Northern Medal Flight 1: Linda Lucas, Northern Medal Flight 2: Nancy Slater, Transnational: Laurel Mancebo! Congratulations to everyone.



A big thank you to everyone who helped make 2017 such a fun year!

A special thank you to Linda Smith and Sharon Terry, they coordinated the Turkey Shoot.



the *9t9ers*

**Jeanne
McAuley**

HOLIDAYS, HOLIDAYS & MORE – We have had one great golf day after another from “BOO” day and then to “Gobble, Gobble” day. Our terrific tournament organizers Carole Whilehill, Suzanne Zopolos and Sue Thompson made fun goodie bags and prizes.

Halloween was a great success with black kitties, beautiful angels, crayons and one hippie. Sandy Souza, Suzanne Zopolos were two cute kitties and Jeanne McAuley old hippies.

Turkey Day winners were Cindy Souders and Kelly Bentz who each won a \$25 gift certificate to Raley's.



Winners of our October Couples Social were as follows:

- 1st place – Wendy & Chris – Susan & Ed
- 2nd place – Sandy & Paul – Jeanne & Barry
- 3rd place – Ralph & Carole – Anne & Mike

Our October meeting winners were as follows:

- 1st Wendy Willis, 2nd Cindy Souders,
- 3rd Jan Lorenzi, 4th Susan Benes

Low putts – Anne Willis

Sandy Souza announced Kelly Bentz the most improved player for August. Sandy was most improved player for September.

Sue Thompson sent a congratulatory card to Lauren Gudel for being recognized as Athlete of the Week by the Merced Sun Star. Way to go Lauren!

Barry and I attended the first tee dinner at Del Rio Country Club with Mark and Kim McAuley, Ed and Nancy Slater, Kay Amesbury, Wayne Hague and first tee participant Jordan Williams. It was wonderful to hear stories of success from first tee participants and how much the program has helped them in life.

Merced has a very strong First Tee program thanks to John Campbell, Eddie and Nancy Slater and others. The volunteer of the year was Charles Shamgoshian. Congratulations and thank you Charles!

We sent our condolences to Patty Grossman and her family for the passing of her mother, Jean Doulat. Jean was a fun Niner to play with and a great golfer who loved small bets (25cents) that she usually won.

We are looking forward to the coming Women's Christmas Luncheon (see 2016 Niner Christmas photo). We send a big thank you to Barbara Flores and her wonderful crew who always make it a beautiful and fun affair. We also wish to thank Berna, her staff for all their hard work and Chef Dave Samano always serves a delicious meal.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,





Senior Division

President Notes by :

Wes Barkwill

Our 2017 season has wrapped up. In November a few of us travelled to Sunnyside in Fresno for the last SJTL event of the year. Mike Brendel continued his hot hand and shot the low gross of 67. Way to go Mike. On November 10th we held our annual Turkey Shoot. Each of the players received a Save Mart gift card to help in their Thanksgiving shopping.

Our next events will be in January as we kick off our 2018 season and celebrate our accomplishments of 2017 with our annual awards dinner. We will hold a local event on Friday, January 5th – a 9:00am shotgun. The awards dinner will be on Saturday, January 6th at 6:00pm. Sign-up sheets for both events will be on the bulletin board in the card room.

The dinner sign-up sheet indicates the cost of each members' guest dinner. We will be handing out our draft schedule for 2018 at the dinner.

The Seniors Association has been going strong for over 40 years. We need the help and participation of our senior members – those 50 years of age and older. Yes, I know, 50 isn't old, it's a state of mind. Anyway, I will be posting a sign-up sheet for the 2018 season. The cost of membership is \$40 and it includes your dinner at the 2018 awards banquet in January 2019. This year our membership was 33 players. Fourteen of us played in enough events so our guests' dinners will also be of no cost to our members.

Have a safe and healthy Christmas and New Years and I will see you on the course.



MGCC Ladies' Christmas Luncheon

11:30am: Social
12:30pm: Luncheon

Please bring unwrapped



News from The First Tee Central Valley Merced

The Volunteer of the Year for the entire Central Valley Region is our wonderful Coach Charles Shamgochian. Charles has been a dedicated coach for the Merced program for 5 years. He works with the kids who have achieved the Par and Birdie levels. Charles, his daughter and son-in-law Cheryl and John Campbell and his grandson Scottie Campbell have all been part of TFCV Merced since the beginning. Charles is a member of Merced Golf and Country Club and plans to join the Senior Men.





Dec 8th **Member's Christmas Dinner**

HORS d' OEUVRES

5:30pm - 6:30pm

ASSORTED CHEESE & CRACKERS
SEAFOOD BAR
COLD FOOD DISPLAY
CHIPS AND DIP

DINNER 6:30pm


CALIFORNIA SPRING MIX SALAD
WITH CHAMPAGNE VINAIGRETTE
ROASTED CHATEAUBRIAND BORDELAISE
ROASTED POTATOES, VEGETABLE MEDLEY
ROLLS AND BUTTER
POMEGRANATE PARFAIT CHEESECAKE

\$ 35.00 ++



New Year's Eve Dinner/Dance

HORS d' OEUVRES in BAR *Cocktails:5:30pm*



CHEESE & CRACKERS
ARTICHOKE DIP IN A BREAD BOWL
SEAFOOD BAR: SHRIMP OYSTERS, SMOKED SALMON
CHIP & SALSA DIP HUMMUS & PITA

DINNER 6:00pm - 8:00pm

CALIFORNIA MIX SALAD
With Creamy Herb Dressing, Grated Gorgonzola & Sun Dried Tomatoes

GRILLED FILET MIGNON
with Roasted Shallot Sauce

PAN ROASTED BLACK SEA BASS
Over Winter Cabbage with Citrus Butter & Pomegranate Garnish

AUGRATIN POTATOES OR WILD RICE PILAF
ROLLS AND BUTTER

TUXEDO TRUFFLE MOUSSE CAKE

\$ 35.00 ++

Men's Stag Day

Dec 13, 2017
12:30 p.m. Shotgun

Last Stag Day of 2017!

Bring a guest
and they play for free!
(Dinner and Golf Cart not included)

FORMAT

Triple 6 Razzle

TWO FLIGHTS
Member/Guest &
Member/Member

This is a two man team format.
If you are unable to bring a guest
then you will be paired
with a member of your choice.



MENU

Salad Bar

New York Steak
Scalloped Potatoes
Chef's Vegetables
Rolls and Butter
Chocolate Mousse

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

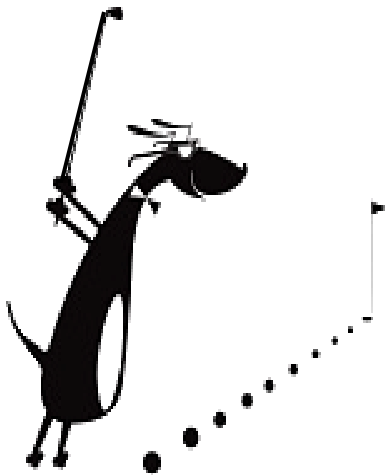
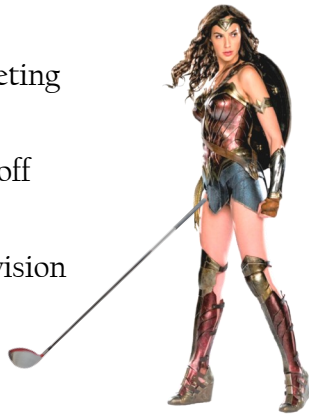
\$16.95++

Looking ahead

JANUARY



- Jan 1 **Happy New Year**
Club open
- Jan 5 **Senior** Tournament
9:00am
- Jan 6 **Senior Dinner**
6:00pm
- Jan 10 Men's Stag 12:30pm
5:00pm Dinner
6:00pm MGCC General Meeting
- Jan 15 Martin Luther King Day
Club open
- Jan 16 Club Closed
- Jan 23 MGCC Board Meeting
6:00pm
- Jan 30 9T9ers Golf Kick-off
9:00 Shotgun
- Feb 1 18 Hole Ladies Division
Golf Kick-off



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 may be 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	168
Pre-Paid Program	5
Associate Firm	8
Leave of Absence	4
Special Social	23
Honorary	1
Social	1
Social/Proprietary	1
Executive Membership. . .	83
Young Executive	5
Total	299