



Chip Shots

Clubhouse 722-6268
Golf Shop 722-3357

Volume 15, Issue 11

NEWS LETTER

NOVEMBER 2017

1926

MERCED GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gerald Corman
President

Rick Wallace
Vice President, Treasurer & Finance

Frankie Spiva
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Dan Smith
Membership

Aaron Castleton
Long Range Planning
Bylaws & Procedures

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Ed Benes
Human Resources

David Rogina
Social

Tom Palumbo
Greens

OFFICERS

Wendell Hammon
Secretary

Scott Lucas
Finance Liaison

DIVISION PRESIDENT/ CAPTAIN

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

November is upon us. Days getting shorter; sweaters and jackets to stave off the chill of the early morning tee times... It is also time to look forward toward a new year, which means new board members coming in. The board has approved a nominating committee headed by Sam Shue. He has asked that anyone interested to run for the board to contact him or Berna, who will pass the information on to the committee. Proprietary members and their spouses are eligible.

I remember my first stint on the board back in the late 1990's. We had over 400 proprietary members with a waiting list to get in. Board meetings were accompanied by a steak dinner with all the trimmings... We would debate which greens to replace, and how to spend all the revenue the club had. The good old days.

Flash forward to the middle of the second decade of the new millennium... The steak dinners are long gone, the proprietary membership has dropped to 160 -- the meetings involve survival and what deferred maintenance is most critical. Tough decisions have to be made. It is not easy. We need board members willing to spend hours reviewing finances, and working to bring in new members. They need to be willing to work with the house staff and pro-shop staff to keep the budgets tight, but maintain a country club quality. Decisions need to be made on improvements and repairs to maintain the quality of our golf course and club facilities.

This is a critical time for our club. While we have come a long way this year -- going from a monthly deficit of \$8500 per month (resulting in assessments to make up the difference), to a balanced budget for our normal operating expenses -- we still have much to do. We must continue to work on keeping our budget balanced, and increasing our membership. We need good men and women to step forward to serve on our board... people willing to spend the time necessary to do the job right, and to listen to the membership on the needs of the club.

Time for a jump/shift... I am going to make a confession: The Oktoberfest dinner was scheduled on Friday, Oct 27. We had a social obligation for Friday night clear on Wednesday night, and decided to see if we could get a reservation. I called Berna Thursday morning, and she accommodated us. She was concerned that Chef David would be unhappy about it. I later talked to Berna, and learned that as of Tuesday, when the food is ordered, she had reservations for 40. By the time I called, the number had increased to 80, and when we arrived Friday night she had over 100.

I understand the problems this creates. Berna finds herself understaffed, and has to scramble to add servers to help. Chef David finds himself with insufficient food and staff. Runs have to be made to local stores to obtain enough ingredients to feed the additional guests. At the same time, Berna is hesitant to turn away members that are supporting the club. My penitence for this transgression of mine is to ask you, our members, to please make your reservations for our events in time for planning. I know that occasionally, last minute plans are made, but please try to make this a rarity. It will save Berna, Chef David and the staff a great deal of stress, and make your experience at the event better. I will write 10 times: "I shall make my reservations on time..."

That being said, the Oktoberfest came off smoothly, and a good time was had by all. Chef David did a great job in preparing and presenting the wonderful food choices: I really enjoyed the short ribs and potatoes, while Christine loved the St. Louis ribs. The girls dove into the Bratwurst and sauerkraut, as well as the Brussel sprouts and noodles. Kudos to Berna and Chef David for putting on a great event despite the challenges. Thank you, our members for supporting the club events.

Upcoming events in November include the Nutcracker Tournament on Nov 4, always a challenge; Stag Day on November 8; and a glow-ball tournament and dinner on November 10, always a lot of fun; and of course our Friday night dinner November 17, with Chef Dave's fabulous Prime Rib Night. Check your calendar for other events, and be sure to make your reservations **early** (and often).

Wishing everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving!





Notes from:
David Whitby
PGA Club PRO

Happy Thanksgiving!

This year we are going to be completely closed for Thanksgiving. No clubhouse or golf course use we have a lot to be thankful for and spending time with family and friends is one of them.

I would like to share a few things with you that you can look forward to in November... First we should have new score cards with all new ratings available for use in the first part of the month.

Also, we are having our annual Glow Ball event on the 10th, with a lasagna dinner starting at 5:00pm and glow ball kicking off at 6:00pm, on the back nine. Also, on November 11th, we are hosting the Merced Blue Devil Baseball Tournament. The golf course will be closed that day. This will be a full field with well above 140 players, it is a great moneymaker for the club. Please contact the golf shop and we will make arrangements at other courses for you on your behalf.

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!



Nov 4

Nutcracker

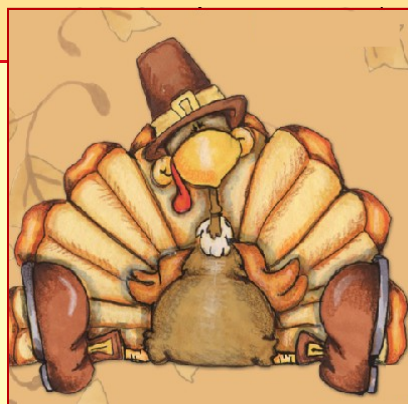
9:00am Shotgun



Nov. 10

Glow Ball Tournament and Dinner

5:00pm



Turkey Shoot

Nov. 10 **Seniors** Turkey Shoot

Nov. 16 **18-Hole Division** Turkey Shoot
9:00am Shotgun

Nov. 21 **Nine-Tee-Niners** Turkey Shoot
9:00am T-times (Front 9)



18-Hole Ladies Division Captain's Table

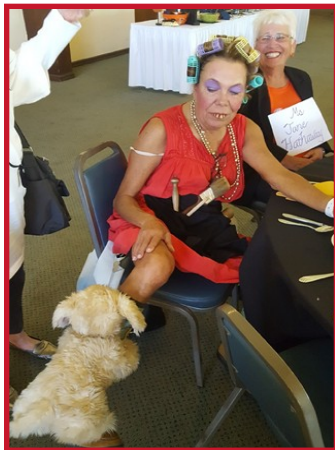
Linda Lucas

CAPTAIN

We had lots of fun in October. The A-team took second place low net. Some of the players are pictured here:



Also, dress up is always great time to laugh for Halloween:



Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving to remember!



CONGRATULATIONS ANNE WILLIS AND SUSAN HAMMON!!
Anne won second place with a gross 45 (just 2 strokes behind first place winner) in the Championship flight at the Tournament of Champions at Valley High Country Club in Elk Grove. Susan won third place with a net 49 in first flight at the Tournament of Champions. Way to go ladies!

At our September meeting Lexy announced the Eclectic winners for June, July and August:

- First Flight: Low gross, Anne Willis;
low net, Anne Willis;
2nd place low net, Sandy Souza
- Second Flight: Low gross, Jerry Lou Davis;
low net, Cindy Souders;
2nd place low net, Susan Benes
- Third Flight: Low gross, Lexy; low net, Lexy;
2nd place low net, Mary Rojas



Sandy Souza was most improved player for the month of September.

We had our Fall Couples Social at Susan and Ed Benes' beautiful home on Sunday October 22nd. Suzanne Zopolos and Carole Whitehill did a wonderful job running the tournament. We had a delicious catered Mexican dinner. Sandy Souza made a yummy pumpkin dessert. So much fun was had by all we forgot to take photos! Thank you to all who participated.

Nine-Tee-Niners 2018 Officers

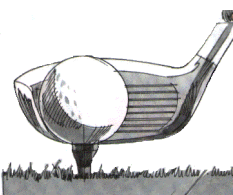
- Captain: Suzanne Zopolos; Co-Captain: Chris Long;
 - Secretary: Jeanne McAuley; Treasurer: Carole Whitehill;
 - Special Tournaments: Susan Hammon; Team Play: Anne Willis;
 - Membership: Patty Beach/Jan Lorenzi; Handicapper: Sandy Souza;
 - Pairings/Low Net-Low Putts: Wendy Willis;
 - Eclectic: Lexy Shankland; Hospitality/Trophie: Barbara Adams;
 - Junior Golf: Sue Thompson; Showcase Board/Photographer: Wendy Willis; and Chip Shots: Susan Benes
- Congratulations to everyone and Happy Thanksgiving !

Jeanne



Nov. 20

Decorate for Christmas



Senior Division

President Notes by :

Wes Barkwill

The Seniors hosted the SVSGA (Southern Valley Senior Golf Association) championship on October 6th. Almost 80 golfers participated, including 13 from MGCC. Our winners included Ben Sanchez with low gross in the first flight, winning \$26, Wes Barkwill with low net in flight #2, winning \$26, Dan Holmes winning 2nd low net in flight #3 and John Laughlin, 2nd low net in flight #4 and Roger Wood 3rd low net in flight #4, winning \$20 and \$14, respectively. Great job guys.

On October 20th the Seniors hosted the MGCC ladies. Ben Sanchez and Larry Thompson were on the winning four-some each receiving \$15. Wes Barkwill and Pope Lawrence were on the 2nd place team, winning \$8 each. On October 24th four seniors traveled to Visalia. Gary Southerland was on the second place team and won 7 sleeves of balls.

On October 25th and 27th the Seniors held their annual Senior Championship. Mike Brendel shot a smooth 69 – 67 gross for the two days to take low gross honors. Joining him and our Pro David Whitby next spring to play in the annual SJTL Pro-Am will be low net winners Dan Holmes (60 -69 flight), John Laughlin (70 – 79 flight) and Joe Calzadillas (80+ flight). Great golf from each of these Champions.

November Calendar

- 11/07 – Seniors travel to Sunnyside for final 2017 SJTL Event
- 11/10 – Senior Local Event – Annual Turkey Shoot



Attention all ladies Affiliated with Merced Golf and Country Club
Let's have a fun night just for ladies
at a

Stagette Dinner

Thursday, November 9th

5:30pm No Host Cocktail 6:30pm Dinner
7:15pm - 10:00pm Blackjack or Bridge

\$20.00 per person inclusive for /Dinner
Bring a guest or two

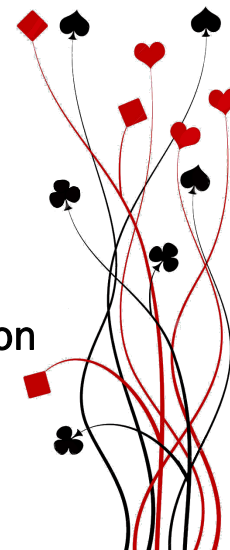
Please call the Club office to reserve by
Friday, November 3rd

All reservations will be on your monthly billing

Designate Blackjack or Bridge with your reservation

Blackjack \$1.00 per chip

Bridge \$5.00 per person





November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 18-hole DIV 9:00a Shotgun 2:00 General Meeting PRIVATE PARTY	3	4  Nutcracker 9:00am Shotgun
5	6 Club Closed	7 9t9ers 9:00a Shotgun (Front 9)	8  Men's Stag Day 12:30p Shotgun	9 18-hole DIV 9:00a Shotgun Stagette Dinner 5:30pm-10:00pm	10  Seniors Turkey Shoot Glow Ball and Dinner	11 Veterans Day PRIVATE PARTY
12	13 Club Closed	14 9t9ers 9:00a Shotgun (Back 9)	15	16  18-hole DIV 9:00a Shotgun Turkey Shoot	17 Friday Night Dining 6:00pm-8:00pm	18 PRIVATE PARTY
19 	20 Decorate for Christmas Club Closed	21  9t9ers Front 9 9:00a Shotgun Turkey Shoot  6:00p BOD Mtg.	22	23  Happy Thanksgiving Club Closed	24	25
26	27 Club Closed	28 9t9ers 9:00am T-times (Back 9)	29	30		

Friday Night Dining

NOVEMBER 17TH 6:00PM-8:00PM

Prime Rib Buffet

Salad Bar

with assorted dressings and condiments

Carved Prime Rib Au Jus

Salmon Piccata

Baked Potato

with all the fixins

Chef's Vegetable Medley

Rice Pilaf

Rolls & Butter

Pecan Pie *ala mode*

\$ 22.95 ++

PLEASE Make RESERVATIONS by noon NOV 15th



Men's Stag Day

NOV 8, 2017
12:00 p.m. Shotgun

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



MENU

Salad Bar
Carved *bone-in*
Honey Baked Ham
Mac and Cheese
Baked Beans
Chef's Vegetables
Rolls & Butter
Chocolate Cake



\$15.95++

Looking Ahead...



Dec 7 Ladies Division
 Christmas Luncheon
 11:30am: Social 12:30pm: Luncheon



Dec 8 **Members Christmas Dinner**
 6:30pm Shotgun
 Dec 16-17 Pro Shop Sale
 Dec 17 Breakfast with Santa
 Dec 19 6:00pm MGCC Board Meeting
 Dec 24 Christmas Eve
 3:00pm Gates Close
 Dec 25 **Christmas Day**
 Dec 31 New Years Eve
 3:00pm Gates Close



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	175
Pre-Paid Program	5
Associate Firm	8
Leave of Absence	3
Special Social	22
Honorary	1
Social	1
Social/Proprietary	1
Executive Membership. . .	81
Young Executive	5
Total	302