



Lawton Country Club

November Newsletter

Clubhouse 353-2076

Pro Shop 353-2073

STAFF

Johnny Wilson
General Manager

Lisa Marion
Food & Beverage Director

Bo Baize
Golf Course Superintendent

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Duncan, President

Blake Dutcher, Vice President

Jerry Pippin, Secretary/Treasurer

Danna Bross

John Fitz

Clay Hillis

Chris Meyers

Linda Neal

Gary Rasmussen

HOURS OF OPERATION

Dining Room

Tues. Wed. Thur. & Sat. 11:00 - 2:00
and 5:00 - 8:00

Friday 11:00 - 2:00
and 5:00 - 9:00

Sunday 11:00 - 2:00

19th Hole and Lounge

(Limited Menu from 2:00 to 5:00)

Tues. Wed. Thur. & Sat 11:00 - 8:00

Friday 11:00 - 9:00

Sunday 11:00 - 6:00

Office

Mon. & Sat. 9:00 - 1:00

Tue. - Fri. 9:00 - 5:00

Pro Shop

Tue. - Sun. 8:00 - 6:00

Range

Tue. - Sun. 8:00 - 5:00

from the general manager

Johnny Wilson

Golf season is winding down with the time change on Sunday morning, November 5. Please notice time changes as far as the Pro Shop and Driving Range. We finished the month with some very successful club events and outside events.

In the MGA event, the Blue team won the Ryder Cup. We are looking forward to a successful golf season next year. If you have been on the course in the past few weeks, you might have noticed that the greens have been getting "softer". Bo attributes this to several factors.

The new irrigation system allows us greater control in the amount of water we put on each green. Tweaking the run times and gaining the experience over the course of several months of adjustments has proven very beneficial. Bo has learned that our greens need more water than what is recommended by the growers of Mini-Verde Bermuda. It could be because of the quality of our water, the composition of our greens, or our southwest Oklahoma climate (or a combination of all three).

Additional equipment also helps. We have purchased brushes and groomers for the greens mowers, and our own aerifier.

We are also attempting to adhere to a proper fertility program. Funds don't yet allow for 100% compliance, but we were more successful this year than in years past.

The end result of all of this is that our greens are becoming more receptive to approach shots. You will also notice, though, that we are getting ball marks on the greens. **PLEASE** start repairing your ball marks. Because of the stronger root system of bermuda as compared to bent grass, you will probably need a repair tool instead of a tee to fix the ball mark. We have several available in the pro shop. Also, sand your divots, rake the bunkers, stay on the cart paths as much as possible, avoid wet areas on the course, and keep your carts away from the greens. We have a golf course that we can be proud of. Let's show that pride by helping to maintain it.

November brings us the beginning of the holiday season with Thanksgiving. As in past years, Lisa's staff will be preparing Thanksgiving meals that are ready to be cooked. You need to place your order no later than Wednesday, November 15, and pick it up by 5:00 Wednesday, November 22. See the insert in this mailing for all of the details. Also, this month we will be having a Wine and Pallet on Wednesday, November 29 at 6:00 p.m. The cost will be \$35 per member.

With the holiday season approaching, please think about the Country Club when booking your party and book it early. [#360]

golf course news

Bo Baize

Fall is certainly here now. The maintenance department will attest as a daily battle with the fallen leaves has now become a morning ritual. Talk about an aggravating chore, just as soon as you think a green or a tee box is fairly cleaned up, the Oklahoma winds prove otherwise. We have been utilizing a high-powered turbine blower that we purchased at auction last winter in conjunction with the core harvester to blow the leaves into windrows and then collect them for disposal, as well as using mowers to mulch the leaves. This is a process that will be ongoing on low wind days. I take solace in knowing that currently this is every golf course's problem and eventually the last of the leaves will hit the ground and cleanup will be made easier.

We are in the process of aerifying fairways, with over half being completed at time of this writing. Tee boxes will follow after the fairways are completed. I feel fairways take precedence and would like to finish them first in case of mechanical failure or other variables that are out of our control. We have also purchased our fall pre-emergent herbicides to combat winter annuals and this application will be made as soon as a low wind window is realized. Our fall granular fertility has been ordered and will also be applied wall to wall as soon as delivery is made. These three practices (aerification, pre-emergence and granular fertility) are crucial and should set us up very well going into winter and especially for spring green up next year.

The month of October brought with it some severe thunderstorms that wreaked havoc on the course with additional flooding and the loss of the bridge crossing from #2 to #3. A special thank you goes out to J.C. Grayson and his crew from T&G Construction for the outstanding job they did building us a new bridge. The end result is fantastic and the new bridge looks like it will last for decades to come.

The extended forecast looks favorable with mild temperatures so come on out and enjoy your club and course before old man winter sets in. As always, I'll see you on the course.

board minutes

The board held their monthly meeting Tuesday, October 17. All committee reports were presented. The board discussed the ongoing problem of late payment by some members. Oftentimes the club is unable to pay our bills on a timely basis because our members have failed to pay their account balances on time. Board members agreed to study the problem further, with action anticipated at next month's meeting.

Welcome New Members

Sean & Jennifer Fortenbaugh

Christopher Saltus

Fran Furtado

Lisa's Cooking Class

Thursday, November 16

6:00 - In The Lounge

\$40.00 per person for non-members
10% off for members

Includes meal and two glasses of wine
(reservations requested)

