



The Lake Arrowhead Country Club's beautiful clubhouse was opened on July 6, 1964, and has been the center of club activities and many community charity events ever since.

# Lake Arrowhead Country Club

## *A Hidden Jewel in the Mountain*

Living and playing in and around Lake Arrowhead creates a lifestyle like no other. A roughly two-hour drive from Los Angeles, Lake Arrowhead offers four seasons, a casual resort setting woven into the San Bernardino National Forest with a feeling of being able to just get away from it all.

Set into all that beauty is one of Lake Arrowhead's real hidden jewels—the Lake Arrowhead

Country Club, a unique place rich in history, offering fun and relaxation for its members.

The club is an oasis for those looking for their own slice of the Lake Arrowhead lifestyle. Here, avid golfers find a challenging 18-hole golf course set into the forest, seven tennis courts for those who love the game, large swimming pool and aquatic deck, fine dining and a variety of social activities designed for the entire

family. There are junior golf and tennis programs for children and a variety of themed events and play areas.

"This is a very special place," said Mike Stevens, general manager for the Lake Arrowhead Country Club. "Our golf course is set up for all golfers, we have excellent tennis courts, one of them clay and two lighted for evening play, and a range of family events and social activities, such as the Haunted Hay Ride and Monster Mash we have for kids at Halloween."

Golf, however, is at the heart of the club. Its roots reach back to the 1930s when Los Angeles investors carved out a unique

year-round resort that included three hotels and a nine-hole golf course. The golf course fell into disuse, however, and it wasn't until the early 1960s when a development company breathed new life into it.

In 1963 a back nine was added, created out of the surrounding forest and rugged mountain stone. Construction also started on a new clubhouse incorporating a dramatic A-frame design. The old clubhouse now serves as the club's golf cart barn.

Hollywood notables have always been a part of the Lake Arrowhead Country Club, so it was only natural that for the official opening of the new



clubhouse, celebrities should be on hand. Honored guests for the June 6, 1964, festivities included Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Dean Martin and Tony Bennett.

Even today, Hollywood favorites have enjoyed the club's 18-hole course, along with several touring golf pros, such as John Daly, winner of the British Open and the PGA Championship.

"John Daly played here on Oct. 16, 2005, and set a course record of 62," Stevens said. "And I'm happy to say that last year, one of our own members, Josh Anderson, also shot a 62, tying that course record."

Men's par for the club's 18-hole course is 71. That means both golfers had to do well on the club's signature 15th hole, a 489-yard par five known simply as The Monster.

The front nine is relatively flat, with a savannah-like open grassy landscape for golfers, and accented with oaks, sequoias and pines. But it's on the back nine where golfers actually play into the forest, an uphill-then-back-down setting that adds unique challenges.

The Monster is the signature hole. Its fairway is narrow,



MIKE HARRIS

**Lake Arrowhead Country Club's general manager, Mike Stevens, stands next to some of the golf mementos found in the club's Pub Restaurant and Bar.**

downhill and tightly lined with soaring pine trees. Golfers must hit their drive off the tee straight and true. Oh, one other small detail. At the end of the fairway, an almost 90-degree dogleg to

the left means you can't see the green, which is uphill and guarded on both sides by bunkers with one more sand trap at the back of the hole.

The Monster actually was

built up from where the old river bed used to run. In some areas as much as 60 feet of fill was brought in to bring the fairway up more level for play.

Looking from the clubhouse,



**Lake Arrowhead Country Club offers seven excellent tennis courts, one of them clay and two lighted for evening play.**



one of the first impressions many visitors have is how beautiful the golf course setting is, with greenery all around. The fairways and greens are maintained to golf's highest standards. The U.S. Golf Association inspects the golf course annually.

With California's ongoing drought and increasing calls for water conservation, Lake Arrowhead Country Club members won't have to worry about keeping the grass green.

In 2010, the club completed a \$1 million irrigation system that uses only reclaimed water provided by the Lake Arrowhead Community Services District. The reclaimed water project was completed without an assessment to members.

"We are not taking any water out of Grass Valley Lake or Lake Arrowhead," said Stevens. "All of what we use for irrigation is reclaimed water. We've also taken steps to naturalize a lot of the course."

The club also is deeply involved in the Lake Arrowhead community, helping several of the mountain's charities. LACC regularly donates rounds of golf and one-year memberships for charities to auction, and provides a beautiful location for charities to hold their special events.

One of those charities is Rebuilding Together Mountain Communities. The club is a major supporter of the annual benefit dinner auction, donating not only the use of the clubhouse but also a complete dinner with all the trimmings for attendees.

The Ted Roy Foundation has held its annual Mile High Golf Tournament at LACC for more than 35 years. The foundation has donated more than \$1 million to the mountain community.

The club also is a major supporter of Rim of the World High School's golf team, providing team members with the use of the course for practice and events.

In September of 1978, the members of the Lake Arrowhead Country Club purchased the course, clubhouse and tennis facilities from the then owners, California Golf, and turned it into the private, member-owned, equity country club.

Lake Arrowhead Country Club offers equity golf membership, equity tennis membership, associate golf and tennis membership, and a social membership.

"We invite folks to contact our membership director, Tracey Moore, for membership information, then come by for a tour to see why Lake Arrowhead Country Club is the place for you and your family to enjoy a wonderful mountain lifestyle," Stevens said. ■

—By Mike Harris



MIKE HARRIS

Lake Arrowhead Country Club's signature golf hole has to be the 15th, known as The Monster by both club members and guests for its narrow fairway lined with soaring pine trees and dogleg approach to the green which can't be seen from the fairway.