



Follow Through

By: Mike McCullough

If you think this article is going to be about the finer points of the follow through of the golf swing, then you are sadly mistaken. The real reason for writing this column is to remember one of our own, Pete Bibber, and thank him for following through on his word and deeds.

In one of my many informal visits to area golf courses, I struck up a conversation with Pete and found out he was a huge outdoorsman. Since I am a pseudo-outdoorsman myself, I found a common bond with Pete. We continued our talks at subsequent visits and decided to get together and go hunting. I

can honestly admit that Pete was the one who said, "meet me at the Park and Ride at 5 AM on Saturday and we'll go hunting." If it were not for his persistence, I would have never followed up with the lip service of getting together and going hunting.

During that morning, Pete and I talked about a variety of issues. Some of them were turf-related and many of them were not. I learned a lot about Pete that day, including some of his health problems. Now that he is no longer with us, I look back at that morning with fond memories and sadness. The special thoughts were that I got to spend a small amount of time with

Pete and get to know him on a deeper level. The sad part is that I will not be able to do that again with him.

That story brings me to my point. We all have done it a million times. At a meeting or social event we talk to our contemporaries or acquaintances about how we ought to get together for a quick round of golf, lunch or perhaps take in a sporting event. Honestly, how many of us have followed through with the actions? There is a saying that, "the smallest good deed is better than the grandest good intention." Instead of talking about doing this or doing that, we just need

to Follow Through and do this or do that.

Pete did not have to take the time to hunt with me. He had plenty of friends he could have done that with. I was honored he chose me to spend time with him doing something we both love - hunting and the outdoors. That is why I have an even greater resolve to Follow Through on my casual off-the-cuff remarks to colleagues, friends and family.

So Pete, I promise to take something you taught me and pass it on. The lesson is to Follow Through. /

The History of the Larry Lloyd Trophy

By Gary K. Carls CGCS

Last year I was playing golf at Rancho Canada with a guest during the Annual Larry Lloyd Tournament and he asked me, who was Larry Lloyd? In response to that question I decided to undertake a series of articles to help educate some of the younger members about who many early leaders of GCSANC were and help preserve some of the history of our association. Few of us really know who many of the past leaders of our association were or how they had created the chapter to which we now belong, the GCSANC. I want to give special thanks to Mr. Nick Lombardo for all his help with this article, all of his great contributions to GCSANC over the years in allowing his staff to be involved with our organization, and for providing GCSANC access to his facilities over the years.

A California native, born in Napa in 1938, Larry Lloyd

began his career in golf at Silverado Country Club in 1953 as a greenskeeper working for former GCSANC President Walter Collins. At the tender age of 17 Larry married his high school sweetheart Barbara and they had three children. In 1961 Larry got his first superintendent job at Pajaro Valley Golf Course working for Elias Leider. The job at Pajaro Valley Golf Course allowed Larry the opportunity to incorporate many of his own innovative maintenance practices on the golf course and further develop his skills.

In January of 1965 Larry was hired by Mr. Nick Lombardo to be the superintendent at Del Monte Golf Course in what was to be the start of their 20-year plus association both as working partners and great friends. Larry became the Manager/Superintendent of not only Del Monte Golf Course, but also Pajaro Valley and Fig Garden golf courses. In December of 1968

Larry took on the challenge of being the Construction Superintendent for the Rancho Canada Golf Courses in the Carmel Valley. He worked very hard the next year and a half to prepare the golf courses for their opening in April of 1970. He would remain as Superintendent and Golf Course Manager for the Lombardo Group Golf Courses for the remainder of his career.

Away from work Larry enjoyed his family life with Barbara and the children. He also had a great love of working on automobiles. He could build an entire car out of parts he found at local junkyards. Unlike most superintendents, Larry's vehicle of choice was either his Corvette or his Lamborghini, not a company pickup. Eventually his mechanical ability and desire to produce better turf conditions led Larry to develop the Turf Groomer that the Jacobsen Company started producing in 1986 and continues to produce today. He was honored posthumously by the

Jacobsen Company with a special reception at the 1987 GCSAA Conference and Show for this great contribution to the maintenance industry.

Throughout his career Larry had a great passion for what he was doing and was willing to work whatever hours were necessary to make sure the job was done correctly. Larry continued to enjoy his family and golf courses until his untimely death in July of 1985. Since 1985 the GCSANC has honored Larry by playing its annual holiday golf tournament in his memory and presenting the Larry Lloyd Memorial Trophy to the low net superintendent. It was only fitting that in its first year the tournament was won by Larry's brother Paul. Between 1970 and 1991 Rancho Canada hosted this annual event every year but 1972. Since 1991 the tournament has rotated to various courses in the Monterey area but the spirit of Larry Lloyd continues to live on. /