

The Laguna Woods Men's Golf Club Memorial Tournament History

The Memorial Tournament started in 2007. The first year it was called the "Curt Teal Memorial Tournament" after one of our Club Champions who had died the year before. The choice of the Foundation to be the beneficiary was at Curt's widow's request since it had been his favorite charity. The arrangement was always for the event to use his name for only one year, thereafter to be just the Memorial Tournament. The event was held for four years (2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010). Primarily it was run by Jerry Ryman and Don Fleming. Of course there was plenty of help. The Men's Club's involvement in these initial events was limited to the extent of reserving the day for the event planners. Major contributors to the day were Tony Marcoly who provided all drinks and bartenders, Jerry Kobin who helped Tony, Diane Plummer who did all the printing of scorecards, signs applications etc. The tournament was meant to be a fun day and not in any way serious golf. The tournament was played as a scramble format with most players forming their own foursomes. Prizes for the golf were minimal, with the winning team only getting \$200 between them. There were raffle prizes given out and in some years special items were auctioned off. The big award was a 50/50 raffle which tickets were sold for all day. Before the awards festivities began Joe Rainey (Men's Club member and American Legion member) coordinated the presentation of the colors and the playing of TAPS. Joe also gave a short memorial prayer. This was followed by Jerry Ryman leading the attendees in the singing of "God Bless America." Each of the events went well, and there was usually a representative from the Foundation who gave a presentation about their efforts. In each of the years the tournament organizers were able to donate \$5000 to the Foundation.

2013 Annual Memorial Tournament

LWMGC Supports Foundation of Laguna Woods Village With \$13,369.51 Donation

Saturday May 11th 2013 was a great day for golf and a great day for the community. After a two year hiatus, the Memorial Tournament has returned to the annual rotation of special events sponsored by the Laguna Woods Men's Golf Club. This 5th annual Memorial Golf Tournament which honors the Club's departed members and benefits the Foundation of Laguna Woods Village was a record setting success. The results were in a word ... "overwhelming." The tournament was open to the entire community as well as any friends or relatives. After the 168 competitors completed their rounds, and when the proceeds from the day's raffles and silent auctions were all tallied, the event raised \$13,369.51 for the Foundation!! At the end of the evening the check was presented to Foundation representatives Marvin Walts, Pat Wilkinson and Eliot Brody by Tournament Directors George DeBlois & Don Fleming and LWMGC President Bill Blaine.

The day also had another special event. On the 8th Hole of Course #1 ... a 170 yard Par 3 ... Jerry Kobin scored a hole-in-one hitting a driver and won a brand new Buick from Fladeboe Automotive Group. Major congratulations go out to Jerry!!

The awards dinner and presentation ceremonies provided some heartwarming moments when many of the flight winners turned around and donated their tournament winnings back to the Foundation of Laguna Woods Village. The ceremonies were also attended by the Board of Directors of the Golden Rain Foundation who followed suit when one of the Directors, Larry Souza, won the \$500 grand prize drawing and immediately donated it back to the local charity.

The LWMGC sees the results of this effort as a benchmark for continued success of this annual tournament and as testimony that the golfing community can be counted on to help our Village neighbors.

Flight Winners:

Flight "A"		Flight "B"
Team 3 – Score 53 Net - Doug Stodgel, Jon Buchman, Roger Teel, Jim Harada	1 st Place	Team 27 – Score 51 Net – Albert Tirre, Ralph Farr, Jerry Kobin, Chris Kassebaum
Team 37 – Score 53 Net - Don Walton, Edward Walton, Chuck Williams Sr., Charles Williams Jr.	2 nd Place	If You Have Information Who Finished in 2 nd Place Please Contact Mike Walo – mwalo1122@gmail.com
Team 2 – Score 53 Net - George DeBlois, Robert Off, Sam Murad, Frank Irving	3 rd Place	If You Have Information Who Finished in 3 rd Place Please Contact Mike Walo – mwalo1122@gmail.com