

# GCSANC Announces Award Winners

By Emmy Moore Minister

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California (GCSANC) is pleased to announce its 2003 award winners. These individuals were recently honored for their contributions and accomplishments at the GCSANC Annual Meeting held at The Course at Wente Vineyards in Livermore. Nearly 100 Association Members attended the awards ceremony.



Award recipients from Left to right: Lou Tonelli, Brad Langley, Andy Slack, Jim Ross and Ken Williams

The **Superintendent of the Year Award** was presented to **Ken Williams**, Superintendent at Stanford University Golf Course. A Certified Golf Course Superintendent since 1993, Williams' contributions include previous service on the GCSANC Board of Directors, as well as his continuous promotion of the profession and his peers throughout the industry and in local communities. Since 1999, Williams has served as editor of *Thru the Green*, the official monthly publication for the GCSANC. He has written numerous articles and profiles for the *California Fairways Magazine*. Supporting these efforts, Williams has also been the lead photographer for the chapter, attending nearly every event and seminar hosted by the GCSANC.

"This is the highest honor bestowed on a golf course superintendent and we are pleased to have Ken Williams as the recipient of this award," states GCSANC Awards Chairman Bob Costa. "His contributions to the Association and to the game of golf are admired by many of us in the profession." When Williams was asked about the honor, he responded, "I am thrilled, yet taken back to receive such a special award. There are so many qualified candidates within our chapter, and to have been the one chosen by my peers, is by far, the highest honor of all."

The **George Santana Distinguished Service Award** was given to GCSANC Member **Jim Ross** of Santa Teresa Golf for his long time commitment and service to the Association. Ross served as president of the GCSANC in 1973 and 1981. In 1982, he was the recipient of the prestigious Superintendent of the Year Award. Ross, whose tenure at Santa Teresa Golf Club spans twenty-two years, spent nineteen years as Golf Course Superintendent. Prior to that, Ross served fourteen years at the Villages Golf & Country Club and four years at La Rinconada Country Club. He began his career at Fort Washington Golf Course in Fresno, CA. Ross is known by his peers for his passion toward the business. He prides himself in setting high standards, and has helped instill the same positive qualities in others that have worked with him or for him, over the past four decades.

## Ken Williams Superintendent of the Year

*"I am thrilled, yet taken back to receive such a special award. There are so many qualified candidates within our chapter, and to have been the one chosen by my peers, is by far, the highest honor of all."*



## Lou Tonelli Turf Grass Excellence

*Tonelli's overall expertise is evidenced by the fact that he is a two-time winner of the GCSANC Turfgrass Excellence Award.*



## Brad Langley Turf Grass Excellence

*Langley has consistently maintained his course to the highest standard.*



## Jim Ross George Santana Distinguished Service Award

*Ross, whose tenure at Santa Teresa Golf Club spans twenty-two years, spent nineteen years as Golf Course Superintendent.*

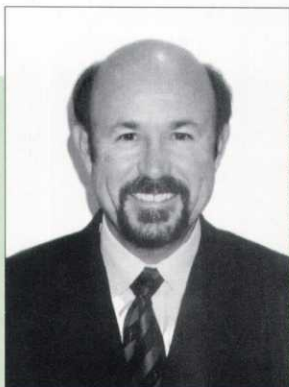


## Andy Slack Affiliate Merit Award

*Slack received this award for his numerous contributions to the Association.*





**Don Naumann**

Sierra Pacific Turf Supply

NAUMANN'S NORCAL NEWS

**Roger Robarge**, CGCS is leaving the California Golf Club of San Francisco to become the Superintendent at the Valley Club of Montecito near Santa Barbara.....**Joel Ahern** has left San Jose Country Club. He is being replaced by former SJCC employee **Jason Green**. Jason was most recently at Los Altos Golf & CC.....

**Gary Skolnik** has left his position as Director of Golf Maintenance at Fountaingrove CC. **Andrew Trinkino** is remaining as the Superintendent.

**Mike Garvale**, CGCS at Palo Alto Hills CC is finally enjoying life in his new maintenance facility. The old shop has been destroyed and in its place lies a new state-of-the-art building.....**Nick Checklenis** has recently completed rebuilding the majority of the golf course, including irrigation at Silver Creek Valley CC in San Jose.

**Manny Sousa** of Poppy Hills GC suffered a major heart attack on Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>, just prior to the AT&T tournament. At last report he was going to be OK but was at home resting. *We wish him all the best including a speedy and full recovery.....*

**MIKE CLARK & KODI**

GCSANC Member Mike Clark, at Oakmont Golf Club (Santa Rosa, CA) does not start his day at work without his companion "Kodi" close by.

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The **GCSANC Turfgrass Excellence Award** was presented to two individuals exceptional in their field. In the Private category the Turfgrass Excellence Award was bestowed upon **Lou Tonelli** of Lake Merced Golf & Country Club. During Tonelli's 37-year tenure at his club, he has established a premier venue, one that adds to the positive golf experience of club members and their guests. Tonelli's overall expertise is evidenced by the fact that he is a two-time winner of the GCSANC Turfgrass Excellence Award. The first time was in 1991. Tonelli has utilized current technology to efficiently enhance the condition of his course. He has also developed a strong and loyal staff, and has served as a mentor to many in the profession.

Receiving the **Turfgrass Excellence Award** in the Public category, is **Brad Langley**, Golf Course Superintendent at San Juan Oaks Golf Club. According to the GCSANC Awards Committee, Langley has consistently maintained his course to the highest standard. He has instituted a successful Poa annua eradication program, while maintaining the facility in an environmental friendly manner. Prior to his eight-year tenure at San Juan Oaks GC, Langley was an Assistant Superintendent at the California Club. Langley enjoys giving back to the Association through serving as host superintendent for GCSANC tournaments.

The **GCSANC Affiliate Merit Award** was bestowed on **Andy Slack** of Spot Water Management. Slack is President of Spot Water Management, a company that provides service to central irrigation systems and specializes in water management and irrigation efficiency for golf courses. Slack received this award for his numerous contributions to the Association. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Association, has chaired the Scholarship & Research Tournament, served on the Superintendent's Institute Committee and chairs the GCSANC Sponsorship Committee.



## The Golf Course Superintendents Association of Northern California

# Membership

**UPGRADES**

<b>Chris Dubas</b>	<i>Santa Teresa Golf Club</i>	Class B to A
<b>Robert Rafferty</b>	<i>The Olympic Club</i>	B to A
<b>Donald Paul</b>	<i>Los Lagos G.C.</i>	C to B
<b>James Mannion</b>	<i>Lincoln G.C.</i>	A to A Retired
<b>Thomas Nowak</b>	<i>City of Stockton</i>	A to A Retired
<b>Frank Hicks</b>	<i>Associates Tagline</i>	Affiliate-to-Affiliate Retired

**NEW MEMBERS**

<b>Thomas Neadeau</b>	<i>Northstar at Tahoe</i>	A
<b>Matthew Schwartz</b>	<i>Peninsula Golf &amp; C.C.</i>	NCGA Intern Assoc.
<b>Terry Brown</b>	<i>Sportsturf Irrigation</i>	Affiliate
<b>Gary Luiz</b>	<i>Bark &amp; Stone World, Inc.</i>	Affiliate