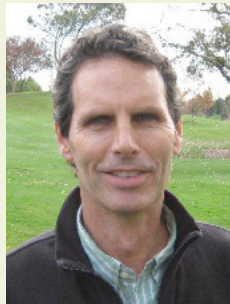


ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Turfgrass Excellence Award, Private Category



Michael Simpson, CGCS
Los Altos Golf & County Club
Los Altos, CA

Career Highlights: Mike started in the turf care business with a summer job at Pasatiempo Golf Club (Santa Cruz, CA). It was followed by a couple of intern opportunities, one at Del Rio CC (Modesto, CA) and another at Los Altos G&CC. After graduating from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo he returned to Los Altos

and accepted an assignment on the maintenance crew. He was later promoted to assistant and eventually to golf course superintendent. During Mike's 25-year tenure at Los Altos he's mentored several superintendents who have also advanced well in their careers.

The Course: Originally designed in 1923 by Tom Nicoll, Los Altos is an 18-hole, par-71 tract. In 2004, the course was temporarily closed for a major renovation, an assignment Mike thoroughly enjoyed. While still retaining its old charm and challenges (and with the addition of new rye grass fairways and bent grass greens) the course was greatly enhanced from design and playability standards.

Education: Mike has a degree in Ornamental Horticulture from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, with an emphasis in Turf. He also holds the distinction as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent. Known for his scientific style, Mike has shared his knowledge and success on the practice of fertigation with his peers which has also been featured in Golf Course Management Magazine and online at GCSAA.org.

What others are saying about Mike's work: "Mike's been a fertigation pioneer for the last 25 years. He probably uses less fertilizer and has better, more consistent color on his golf course than most in the area," shared former award recipient and colleague Scott Lewis, CGCS, from Menlo CC. "He never allows himself to be happy with the condition of his course regardless of the fact that it's probably the gold standard in the area, which is all the more reason why, he's a worthy recipient of this award."

Mike's thoughts about receiving this award: Mike humbly shared, "I am honored to have been chosen to receive this award, yet there are so many others who are far more deserving of this distinction."

While we appreciate Mike's humbleness, we believe he is mighty well-deserving of this honor.



Turfgrass Excellence, Public Category



Brian Netz, CGCS
Presidio Golf Course
San Francisco, CA

Career Highlights: Prior to serving as golf course superintendent at the Presidio GC, Netz was course superintendent at the 36-hole Bayonet/Blackhorse GC (Seaside, CA). His turf care experience also includes assistant superintendent positions at Richmond Country Club (Richmond, CA), Somerset Country Club (St. Paul, MN) and Wakonda Club (Des Moines, IA).

The Course: With its tight fairways and strategically placed bunkers the Presidio GC was originally designed by Robert Wood Johnstone. It was expanded in 1910 by Johnstone in collaboration with William McEwan and redesigned and lengthened in 1921 by the British firm of Fowler & Simpson. Uniquely located in a National Park, this former military course was opened for public play in 1995, and in 2003 received certification from Audubon International as a partner in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program.

Brian's Course Maintenance Philosophy: It's pretty simple, he develops a clear vision in his mind of what he wants, and he strategically chases after it with the support of a loyal crew. Brian's motto: "There's no job too small to be done right."

Management Style: Brian tries not to micromanage his staff, and believes in hiring well and empowers others so they too, can make good decisions. Because the course is part of the Presidio Trust, Brian works closely with a variety of departments: Roads & Grounds, Forestry, IPM, Planning, Utilities and Real Estate.

Educational Background: Through the assistance of a Trans-Mississippi Golf Association Scholarship, Brian earned a degree in Turfgrass Management from the University of Minnesota. He also holds the distinction as a Certified Golf Course Superintendent.

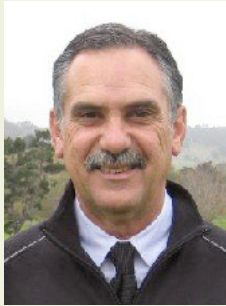
Chapter Involvement: Brian has served on the GCSANC Board of Directors and is a past president of the chapter. He's served on the chapter's Strategic Planning Committee, Media Relations Committee and Education Committee and was instrumental in securing quality speakers for chapter events. Previous Honors: Brian also holds the coveted distinction as 2006 GCSANC Superintendent of the Year.

Brian's thoughts about receiving this award: When you ask Brian about this honor, he is quick to lend credit to his staff, employer Century Golf, and the leadership team of the Presidio Trust. Brian shared, "I wouldn't be receiving this special award if it weren't for others...it has definitely been a team effort."



ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

George Santana Distinguished Service



Robert "Bob" Costa, CGCS
Rancho Canada & Laguna Seca Golf Courses
Carmel & Monterey, CA

Career Highlights: Bob is founder and owner of Pacific Water Management and Pacific Golf Consultants. He is also vice president/director of golf course management at Rancho Canada GC and Laguna Seca GC, a former executive superintendent for Laguna Seca and Pajaro Valley GC (Royal Oaks, CA) and earlier in his career served as a greenskeeper at Morro Bay Golf Club.

Chapter Involvement: Bob has served on the board of directors and was president in 2000. He's chaired the Education, Institute, Awards, and Public Relations Committees, and served on the Budget Committee and the 65th and 75th Anniversary Committees. He is a former editor for Thru The Green newsletter, and his written work has appeared in Golf Course Management magazine, and in other respected publications like NCGA News, effectively communicating about the vital role of golf course superintendents.

National Involvement: Bob has served on GCSAA's Communications, Publications, Research, & Environmental Programs Committee, and chaired the Water Use Task Group.

Education: Bob has an A.S. Degree in Ornamental Horticulture from Foothill Community College and a B.S. Degree in Ornamental Horticulture from Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo. He also holds the distinction as Certified Golf Course Superintendent, is a Certified Landscape Irrigation Auditor, a Certified Golf Course Auditor, Water Conservation Manager, and a Pest Control Advisor.

Bob's Management Style: Bob believes effective management begins with respecting, trusting and praising employees for a job well done. "I believe in communicating to my staff realistic expectations for performance," Costa shared, "allowing them freedom of choice yet with a level of accountability."

Community Involvement: Monterey Peninsula College instructor (1992-97), instructor, Green Gardener Program; instructor, PAPA; chair/instructor, Landscape Water Use Symposium; instructor, Landscape Irrigation Workshop Series; director, Seaside Basin Watermaster; board member, Water Awareness Committee of Monterey County; and was a founding member of the California Golf Economic Task Force.

Previous Honors: Bob holds repeat distinctions as GCSANC Superintendent of the Year, (1992 and 2001).

Bob's Thoughts on receiving this Award: "It is an honor to be recognized by my peers," shared Bob. "Without question, some of the best years in my professional career were those during my tenure on our chapter's board of directors."

Bert Graves Memorial Affiliate



Don Naumann
Sierra Pacific Turf Supply, Inc.
Campbell/Rocklin, CA & Sparks, NV

Career Highlights: Don Naumann is President and CEO of Sierra Pacific Turf Supply, Inc., a family-owned business he started in the early '80s, after his tenure with T&T Distributors. He is also the golf course superintendent at Blackberry Farm GC, a 9-hole municipal course in Cupertino, CA.

As for Don's company Sierra Pacific Turf Supply, it's customer service-oriented, with 35 employees and spanning 3 locations, providing turf maintenance products and services to golf courses and clubs, range facilities, school districts, municipalities, nurseries, landscapers, and vineyards, too. (In his "spare time" Don maintains a vineyard and bottles wine under his own private label, Naumann Vineyards).

Education: Don holds a degree in Ornamental Horticulture from Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo where he graduated with highest honors.

Chapter & Community Involvement: Don has served as an affiliate director for the GCSANC and State Chapter board. Over the years Don has dedicated his time on a variety of GCSANC committees including Scholarship & Research, Education, and The Institute. For more than a decade he's hosted "Last Chance" seminars which provide pesticide educational opportunities for others. He's served on the chapter's Tournament Committee and holds a long tenure on the GCSAA Tournament Committee.

Don is past president of the Independent Turf & Ornamental Distributors Association (ITODA), formed in 1990 to foster the trade and marketing of products for the turf and ornamental landscaping industries. And for more than twenty years, Don has been a contributing writer for the chapter's Thru The Green newsletter, with his ever-popular column Naumann's Nor Cal News.

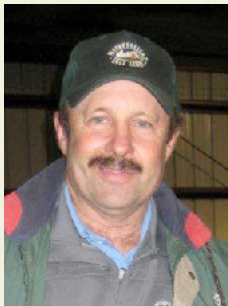
You Can Count on Him: Whether its sponsorship donations for a worthy chapter program, an advertisement in the newsletter, underwriting lunch or providing windbreakers for the maintenance crew during Presidents Cup week, Don is always willing to help. His company continues to support scholarship and research efforts and he is also a supporter of The Environmental Institute for Golf. Each year Don, his wife Becky, and staff, make a point to donate holiday packages to families in need.

Previous honors: This affiliate merit honor is a "trifecta" for Don, having received it twice prior (1979 & 1990). He's been named Man of the Year by DFL International Seeds and has received more than one service award from ITODA, plus numerous community service awards from the Harvest Food Bank.



ANNUAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Golf Course Superintendent of the Year



Gary Ingram, CGCS
Metropolitan Golf Links
Oakland, CA

Career Highlights: Gary's career in the golf business started during high school working at the range, shop and outside services at Tilden Park GC (Berkeley, CA). In 1970 he shifted over to the course maintenance side and in 1975 was named superintendent. The late '70s brought him

to Claremont CC, and from 1980 to 1998 he worked at Moraga CC. Wanting to try something new, Gary even spent a few years as an industry sales rep.

In 2002 Gary joined the CourseCo management team at Metropolitan Golf Links, a public facility (owned by the City of Oakland) where he continues to serve as golf course superintendent for this links-style course which has been certified by Audubon International and is a partner in the Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program.

Education: Gary possesses a degree in Landscape Horticulture from Merritt College, General Engineer and Landscape Contractor Licenses, and is a Certified Irrigation Auditor. For 25 years he's held the coveted distinction as Certified Golf Course Superintendent.

Community Involvement: Gary gives back to his community in numerous ways. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Northern California Turf & Landscape Council. He is on the Board of Directors for Metro's Junior Golf Program and is a very active board member for the Oakland Turfgrass Educational Initiative, (OTEI) a program that introduces inter-city youth to career paths in turf, environmental sciences and golf course management. Gary has been involved with coaching and educational efforts with The First Tee of Oakland, served as golf coach for Castlemont High School and is past president and coach for the El Cerrito soccer and baseball programs.

Chapter Involvement: Gary has served on the GCSANC Education Committee and on the GCSAA Diversity Committee. Earlier in his career he served as an affiliate board member for the GCSANC.

Previous honors: Gary is an ELGA award winner on more than one occasion. He's earned CourseCo's Superintendent of the Year honors and continues to be recognized for his contributions to the Metropolitan Junior Golf Program and The First Tee of Oakland.

Gary's thoughts on receiving Golf Course Superintendent Award: "While we are often known for our work on the course, it is wonderful to receive an award that recognizes one's work within the community too" stated Ingram. "I especially enjoy helping inner-city youth by introducing them to new possibilities within our industry, and in ways that they can have a positive influence on the community and its neighboring environment."



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