

51st annual California Golf Writers Association (CGWA) awards banquet slated for February 9, 2010 at The Inn at Spanish Bay (Pebble Beach, CA), held in conjunction with the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

The **GCSANC Turfgrass Excellence Award** is presented to two individuals for their high level of achievement as they uphold quality standards in turf grass management. (Award criteria includes: overall course condition, environmental factors, course activity and maintenance budget). The recipient of the **Turfgrass Excellence Award** in the Public Category is former GCSANC President **Brian Netz, CGCS**, who receives this honor for his dedicated efforts in all aspects of course maintenance at the **Presidio Golf Course** (San Francisco, CA). In the Private Category, the **Turfgrass Excellence Award** will be presented to golf course superintendent **Michael Simpson, CGCS**, at **Los Altos Golf & Country Club** (Los Altos, CA) where he carefully oversees the day-to-day maintenance at this well-established course. Both Netz and Simpson are certified golf course superintendents, a revered designation, recognizing high standards of professionalism through education, testing and work experience.

Robert "Bob" Costa, CGCS, will receive the **George Santana Distinguished Service Award** for his long-standing commitment to the association. Costa is vice president and director of golf course management overseeing Laguna Seca Golf Course (Monterey, CA) and Rancho Canada Golf Club-East & West Courses (Carmel, CA), and is founder of Pacific Water Management, a consulting firm which services the landscape and golf course industry. He is certified as a golf course superintendent, landscape irrigation auditor and golf irrigation auditor. Costa has given back to the association in numerous ways over the years: through his service on the board of directors, as chair of the GCSAA Water Use Task Force, and as an advocate for GCSANC media relations and education. For many years he taught a Turfgrass Management class at the nearby Monterey Peninsula Community College.

Don Naumann, Founder and CEO of Sierra Pacific Turf Supply Inc. is the worthy recipient of the **Bert Graves Affiliate Merit Award**, an honor presented to an individual who has contributed in an extraordinary way to the GCSANC and its members. This will be a "trifecta" year for Naumann, since he's already claimed this coveted honor in 1979 and 1990. His ongoing support to the GCSANC spans education, scholarship & research programs, tournaments and community outreach efforts. Naumann has served as an affiliate director for both the GCSANC and the California GCSA. Besides his responsibilities as president of Sierra Pacific Turf Supply, a growing company with three locations and 35 employees, Naumann is the golf course superintendent at Blackberry Farms Golf Course, a 9-hole public facility owned by the City of Cupertino.

After the Annual Meeting & Awards Ceremony guests will enjoy a luncheon buffet in the grille followed by golf on the Spring Valley Golf Course, an enjoyable tract located in the eastern foothills above Silicon Valley. We hope you'll join us and we encourage you to sign up now by visiting www.GCSANC.com. If you have any questions regarding the annual meeting or golf component, please call the GCSANC Chapter Headquarters at (877) 942-7262.



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BYLAWS CHANGE PROPOSAL

Bylaws Change for Membership Proposed by GCSANC Board of Directors

A point of explanation of the proposed bylaws change this year at the GCSANC Annual Meeting held at Spring Valley Golf Course on January 11, 2010:

The GCSANC Board of Directors is seeking to eliminate the 2-signature need that we have had in as a requisite for membership in the past so that we can do online memberships through the website. This new membership application process is aimed purely at streamlining the process, reducing use of resources, lowering administrative burden and to be consistent with membership application methods used by GCSAA. All new members are screened at both a committee and board level currently, so by eliminating this requirement we can get people from other states to join easier and timelier.

We understand that there may be some concern about losing the integrity of our association's membership; however, we feel that this new process will simplify things for the current membership and the future as well. The golf superintendent community is very small and very close. It would be problematic for anyone who seeks to abuse, or has abused here or somewhere else, his or her membership to join our association. We can say with great confidence that all membership candidates are reviewed and facts verified by the membership committee. All candidates then are screened at Board level when presented by the membership committee, moved and voted on before officially becoming a member. Any issues concerning a particular candidate are and may still be brought forth appropriately. There are no specific instances where anyone has been refused membership.

We feel this new bylaws change will be advantageous to the association.

—Your GCSANC Board of Directors

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

FROM

Section 1. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Application for membership in this Association shall be made by completing an official GCSANC application form, which requires the applicant's signature and the signature of two GCSANC Class A members. The completed application must be accompanied by the remittance of one (1) year's dues. Any false or untrue statement contained in the application shall be considered grounds for rejection, or expulsion of the Member subsequent to the applicant's acceptance by the Association.

TO

Section 1. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Application for membership in this Association shall be made by completing an official GCSANC application form. Applications are subject to review by the Membership Committee chairperson and Board of Director's approval. The completed application must be accompanied by the remittance of one (1) year's dues. Any false or untrue statement contained in the application shall be considered grounds for rejection, or expulsion of the Member subsequent to the applicant's acceptance by the Association.

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ELECTION CANDIDATE STATEMENTS



Jon Christenson, CGCS

Candidate for Director

Although I am new to California and the Bay area, I have enjoyed those of you I have gotten to know, along with those I have known before my move here from Iowa. I have been involved on a national level with the GCSAA through both the Education and Membership Committees for 5 years, along with two years as the Iowa Chapter Delegate to the GCSAA. I have also served the Iowa GCSA as Past President and Director and am a 16-year member of the GCSAA. Through these experiences on both the Chapter and GCSAA level, I have gained valuable knowledge of how a Chapter can benefit its members and their needs. As a Golf Course Superintendent for 16 years and a General Manager/Superintendent for 5 years, I have seen many of the challenges we face everyday on both a public and private level. On a personal note, I take great pride in being able to give back to the profession that has given so much to me. The opportunities I have had for volunteer service have been met with nothing but professionalism and dedication. I would appreciate the opportunity for continued service to my profession with the Northern California GCSA. I am sure you will find my knowledge and experience to be very beneficial for the Chapter and GCSAA. For those of you that I have not been able to meet yet, please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.



Tim Powers, CGCS

Candidate for Director

I got a summer job on a golf course in 1979 and haven't left yet. I worked all around the country in CT, NY, NC, SC, KY, and now 8 years in California. I had the great pleasure of doing construction for 6 years and it was a super learning experience. I have worked at public and private facilities. I work in an environmentally sensitive site and have learned how to be a good steward.

My love of the outdoors goes back to my days in the Boy Scouts. I know the passion that it takes to be good in this business. I know the value of networking and going to meetings and the GIS. You never know enough people. The golf world is very big but can be very small at the same time.

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