

# Local Heroes

Because of them, our industry is a better place.

Yamaha and *Golfdom* are partnering to pay tribute to superintendents around the nation who serve their profession as volunteer leaders of local chapter associations. Please join us in thanking these "local heroes."



**YAMAHA**

**TOUGHER THAN GOLF.**



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SOLUTIONS, IDEAS & OPINIONS

## Joseph Traficano, CGCS

Desert Mountain, Outlaw GC, Scottsdale, Ariz.

Board member and past president of Cactus and Pine GCSA

Like an Army veteran who "re-ups" his commission, Joe Traficano re-upped his duty on the board of directors of the Cactus and Pine GCSA. It wasn't enough that he had already served four years and ascended through all the offices to the presidency in 2001-02.

A 1990 graduate of the University of Arizona who has worked at Desert Mountain for eight years and is overseeing construction of its sixth layout, Outlaw GC, Traficano also serves on the board for the Golf Industry Association of Arizona, a legislative watchdog for issues concerning the industry.

He says his drive to volunteer was passed down by his parents, and he simply feels he should carry on a tradition within the profession.

"Joe has a strong dedication to improving the perception of today's superintendent, with the playing public as well as the front office [at his course]," says Gari Scherting, superintendent of Palm Valley GC in Goodyear, Ariz, who was recently elected Cactus and Pine president. "We've made some big strides in a short amount of time."



## James R. Fitzroy, CGCS

Presidents Club in North Quincy, Mass.

President of the GCSA of New England

Working at Presidents GC, in a county that is the birthplace of more U.S. presidents (four) than any other, it seems appropriate that Jim Fitzroy was elected president of the GCSA of New England in 2001. Heck, he even got to break bread with George H.W. Bush at a Francis Ouiment Fund dinner recently



Fitzroy handled a term as secretary of the Mohawk Valley GCSA in upstate New York in the early 1970s. Under his belt are 12 years in various posts with the GCSA of New England and the GCSAA.

"Ultimately, my favorite part of it all is the people I've met," Fitzroy says. "From superintendents in other parts of the country to executives in the golf associations here locally, even to a past president of the country, the people you meet are wonderful."

On a personal level, Fitzroy strongly believes service is important, whether it be for a person's community or their professional association. "Any kind of service is important for society, and it's part of what makes our country as great as it is," he says.

## DO YOU KNOW A LOCAL HERO IN YOUR CHAPTER?

Send us a note at [pjones@advanstar.com](mailto:pjones@advanstar.com), and we may feature your hero in an upcoming tribute.

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