



PGA

North Florida Section

East Central Chapter

2017 East Central Chapter Award Winners



Stan Cooke; *Stone Creek Golf Club*

Chapter PGA Professional of the Year Award

The PGA Golf Professional of the Year Award is one of the highest honors the Association can bestow on a working club professional whose total contributions to the game best exemplify the complete PGA Professional. This award embraces a wide range of services executed by the club professional. Well-regarded as a model PGA Golf Professional.

Brendon Elliott; *Little Linksters & Golf Academy of America*

Chapter Horton Smith Award

The PGA Horton Smith Award recognizes the PGA Professional who is the model educator of PGA Golf Professionals. This award is designed to give special recognition to an individual PGA Professional for outstanding and continuing contributions to professional education.

Alan Flashner; *Golf Academy of America*
Chapter Bill Strausbaugh Award

The Bill Strausbaugh Award is designed to recognize PGA Professionals who by their day-to-day efforts have distinguished themselves by mentoring their fellow PGA Professionals in improving their employment situations and through service to the community.

Cheryl Anderson; *Mike Bender Golf Academy*
Player Development Award

The President's Plaque is designed to recognize a PGA Professional for extraordinary and exemplary contributions and achievements in the area of player development.
This award considers the PGA Professional's growth of the game leadership commitment and the impact made at the facility.

Kevin Baker; *Reunion Resort*
Patriot Golf Leader Award

The Patriot Award is presented to a PGA Professional who personifies patriotism through the game of golf and demonstrates unwavering commitment and dedication to the men and women who have valiantly served and protected the United States of America.

No Winner

Chapter Merchandiser of the Year Award (Private)

The Merchandiser of the Year Award is designed to recognize those PGA Professionals who have excelled as business persons / merchandisers in the promotion of golf. The PGA honors PGA Professionals in three categories: Private, Public and Resort facilities.

Kerry Olinger; *Hawks Landing Golf Club*
Chapter Merchandiser of the Year Award (Resort)

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Mark Verkey; *Villages Palmer Legends*
Chapter Merchandiser of the Year Award (Public)

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Tom Garner; *Arnold Palmer's Bay Hill Club & Lodge*
Chapter Teacher of the Year Award

The Teacher of the Year Award is designed to recognize a PGA Professional who is an outstanding teacher of golf among the ranks of PGA membership. This award is based on a professional's overall performance in teaching; unusual, innovative and special teaching programs initiated or implemented; articles published; as well as outstanding golfers the professional has instructed.

Brian Lombard; *Grand Cypress Academy of Golf*
Youth Player Development Award

The PGA Junior Golf Leader Award recognizes the PGA Professional who is a leader in junior golf and who reflects the ideals of those who work with youth.

Ryan Gray; *Country Club of Orlando*
Chapter Assistant of the Year Award

The Assistant of the Year Award is designed to recognize the Assistant PGA Professional whose enthusiasm, growth and leadership to the facility and involvement in the Chapter reflect the potential to lead and contribute to the future of the game and industry.

Pete Leveille; *Ahead*
Chapter Sales Representative of the Year Award

The Sales Representative of the Year Award is designed to recognize the Sales Representative whose support and contributions enhance relations with the facilities and the company. This sales representative goes above and beyond to help support initiatives and tournaments.

John Konicek; *Orlando*
Chapter Amateur of the Year Award

The Amateur of the Year Award is designed to recognize the amateur whose contributions to the game show exceptional commitment of passion, time and resources to grow the game and contribute to a better future.

Joshua Kelley; *Hawks Landing*
Chapter Superintendent of the Year Award

The Superintendent of the Year Award is designed to recognize the superintendent whose contributions to the facility show exceptional commitment of passion, time and resources to provide the best playing conditions and conservation practices.