

James Ward, Golf Manager, Rec and Parks.

## Ward Is Golf Manager

## ■ James Ward named head of golf services for Rec and Parks.

Story by Liz Montes, Club Counselor Photo by Angel Gomez, Member Services Manager

REC AND PARKS DEPT. — James Ward, a 29-year veteran of the golf industry, was appointed Golf Manager for Rec and Parks by General Manager Ion Kirk Mukri.

James Ward had been serving as Acting Golf Manager since April 2005, overseeing a division that encompasses 13 courses. He is also responsible for the junior, men's and women's clubs that are affiliated with the Municipal Golf Association, along with tournaments, on-site restaurants, pro shops, other concessions and an automated reservation system that together generate more than \$30 million in annual revenue.

Ward's credentials include being a certified member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, and a past president and member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of Southern California.

He said his primary goals as Golf Manager are to strengthen youth and adult clubs, improve the quality of City courses, and maintain reasonable fees.

A graduate of Cal Poly Pomona with a Bachelor's degree in park administration, Ward also finds time to be president of the City of Glendale



Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission, a state of California Agricultural Pest Control Adviser, and a member of the California Park and Recreation Society.

### Newsbriefs |

#### LAPD WINS NATIONAL AWARD

The LAPD was one of 15 American businesses and organizations that received this year's Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award for exceptional support of their employees in the National Guard or Reserve. The award ceremony was held Oct. 15 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel here

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, a U.S. Department of Defense agency, manages the award process. The award recognizes U.S. employers that rise above the requirements of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act. USSERA helps Guard and Reserve members understand employee eligibility and job entitlements, employer obligations, benefits and remedies under the act. Employees nominated employers for the award.

Employers who receive the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award "represent the best of the best," Thomas F. Hall, assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs, said. The recognized companies "care for their employees (and) they're patriots, just as much as the people fighting in the global war on terrorism," Hall said.

The LAPD held a summer picnic for the families of its police officers in the Guard or Reserve, Sharon Papa, Assistant Chief, said. The LAPD also created a military liaison officer position to ensure that police officers in the Guard and Reserve continue to receive their benefits when they're called up for active duty, she said.

The Los Angeles police serve both their home community and the nation, Papa said. That's why "we felt that we owned them to take care of their families" while they are deployed, she said.

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