



# Poa trivia

By Rob and Steve Wasser

LESCO



Fall is finally here! This is the best time of the year for a golf course superintendent. Shorter days, cooler nights and very little disease pressure bring a sense of relief.

The fall can be a very busy season for all of us with aerifying, fall projects, leaf removal, small crews, irrigation repair and much more. This list could go on forever. Whenever I stop in at a course in the fall, I am usually met with a smiling face.

Now let's move on to more important things. I have a story that I would like to share with you.

On August 10th, Steve Spears, the superintendent at St. Germain Golf Course, and his wife Marci put on a benefit for Ken Velpel at the St. Germain Golf Course in St. Germain, Wisconsin. The benefit was put on for Ken, a fellow superintendent at Lac View Desert Golf Course in Michigan, because of an incurable genetic condition. The benefit was a huge success! With the help from many people and Thrivent Financial, over \$12,000.00 was raised for Ken, his wife and three children. This benefit was a true blessing for the Velpels. Because of this disease Ken is no longer able to work as a golf course superintendent. The fight is

not over for them and God only knows what will happen next. Please keep them in your prayers, and if you want to help, call Steve Spears at his office in St. Germain. Again many thanks to Steve and Marci for all their hard work. Keep fighting, Ken!

Congratulations to Carl Grasl who retired from the green industry a few months ago.

Carl has worked on a golf course his entire life. He started out at North Shore Country Club in Menasha when he was in high school. He then went on to Penn State where he received his degree. He became the superintendent at Park Ridge Country Club in Illinois. He moved to Blue Mound Country Club in Wauwatosa in 1978 where he served until just a few months ago. Carl has assured me that he will not be a stranger. He plans on staying active in GCSAA, WGCSA and WTA.

This also means congratulations go out to Tim Venice, who replaced Carl. Tim has worked at Blue Mound Country Club for the past 14 years as Carl's assistant superintendent. Congratulations, Tim, on your new position.

We would also like to congratulate David Herr and his wife Kathy who were blessed with a baby boy on September 27th. Isaac Frederic weighed in at 6lbs. 4oz. and was 21 inches long. David is the Superintendent at Deer Run Golf Course in Brillion, Wisconsin. Congratulations again, David and Kathy, on the recent addition to your family.

I would also like to apologize to Jeff Townley, superintendent at Hawks View Golf course in Lake Geneva, for misspelling his name in the last volume of *The Grass Roots*. It also needs to be pointed out that Jeff was the superintendent on the Player Course at Geneva National Golf Club and not the Palmer Course. I'm sorry about that, Jeff. After bowling with you for the last four years, you would think that I would have gotten it right the first time. Thanks for having a sense of humor.

If you have any news you would like to share, please feel free to contact Rob Wasser at 262-249-8928 or e-mail [sls156@lesco.com](mailto:sls156@lesco.com). You can contact Steve Wasser at 920-766-2677 or e-mail [sls224@lesco.com](mailto:sls224@lesco.com).