



# Fall

By **Marc Davison**, Golf Course Superintendent, Green Bay Country Club

It seems like only a few months back that I was writing about how much rain we had been getting all through the spring. The spring of 2004 will be remembered as one of the wettest on record. Now that the summer has come to an end, four months later, we find ourselves very dry and short on rainfall. August and September were both much below average for rainfall amounts. In fact, September was the fourth driest month on record. So just watch, we will end the year and the record book will reflect that we had an average amount of precipitation for 2004. It just goes to show you how careful we must be when looking at averages. Would you consider this year average?

Overall we have had a super golf season in Wisconsin, at least in the N.E. portion of the state. Except for the wet spring, the summer has been unique in that the heat and humidity were never a big factor. September was our warmest month of the entire summer. The dry fall is great for those of us that aerify during September. I don't ever remember having such a great stretch of weather during the three weeks in September when we typically aerify. Absolutely perfect!

As your Board of Directors starts thinking about next year, we begin to wonder where our monthly meeting sites will be. Please consider hosting a meeting next year. If you are interested, but would like to know more about what is involved, please contact Dave Van Auken or any board member. I would like to thank all of our members who have hosted events this year. Your hospitality and generosity is greatly appreciated by our association!

As many of you are aware, Mike Kilpatrick, who was a superintendent with Waukesha Park District, died from a heart attack on Thursday October 7th. Mike, who was a member of our association since 1979, had recently retired from his position and was beginning to enjoy the "good life" retirement brings. Wayne Otto passed away on October 21st after an illness of several months; he is remembered by Dr. Frank Rossi elsewhere in this issue of *The Grass Roots*. Please keep these members' families in your prayers.

Having these three unfortunate situations in our association makes me think about what may lie ahead in my future. We don't know what God's plan is for any of us. I am sure you have seen the emails about enjoying today as if it was your last day. We do need to keep this in mind everyday, don't we? Don't put off today what is important. Spend more time with your family; tell them how much you love them and how much they mean to you.



The Couples Fall Diner Dance was held recently at Lake Arrowhead Golf Course. A big thank you to Eric and Lynn Jasin for being our hosts for the weekend. The weather was not the best but bearable, I was told. I want to thank Steve Wasser for organizing the hospitality room and also thank all the vendors that sponsored the hospitality room Friday evening. The generosity of our vendors helps

make this a great event. We are always looking for more couples to attend. Please consider attending in future years; it's guaranteed you will have a good time.

The 39th Annual Turf Symposium is November 16th and 17th this year at the American Club in Kohler. This is always a special educational event for our association. The speaker line up is outstanding this year with Dr. Kussov, Dr. Carrow, Dr. Murphy, Jim Moore, Bob Vavrek, Phil Brown and others speaking. The topic this year is centered on managing the pressures of soils. We will have our annual fall business meeting prior to the start of the Symposium on Tuesday November 16th at 11:00 a.m. Hope to see many of you there.

Enjoy the fall! The snow, cold and ice cover will soon be here. ♣



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