



The Surrounds

By Wayne G. Horman



I hope everyone who attended the GCSAA conference in Las Vegas had a good time. Superintendents usually come home with some good information. Year after year, something is considered the big hit at the show or a new trend for the upcoming season. Heritage, the new fungicide from Zeneca, was registered just before the start of the show and could be one of the big hits for this year.

There have been a few position changes since the end of last season that haven't previously been mentioned. Brown Deer County Golf Course, home of the Greater Milwaukee Open the last few years, has selected Steve Bailey as the new superintendent.

Pleasant View Golf Course in Middleton has promoted Kevin Hurd as the new golf course superintendent. Hurd, who has worked at Pleasant View for 19 years, is replacing Joe Kessenich. Kessenich, who has left the industry, worked at Pleasant View for 23 years.

Phil Bailey was hired by KSL Fairways as the new superintendent at Willow Run Golf Course in Pewaukee. Bailey worked for Wayne Otto at Ozaukee Country Club.

John Gallus has moved from Baraboo Country Club to the Sun Prairie Country Club as the golf course superintendent. Gallus had been the superintendent at Baraboo for almost 13 years, and has hosted monthly WGCSA meetings over the last few years.

Baraboo Country Club has hired Al Jansen as the new golf

course superintendent. Jansen has been the superintendent for the last two years at Prairie du Chien CC, and previous to that he worked for Bob Erdahl at North Shore CC in Mequon.

Speaking of Erdahl, he is now the president of the Wisconsin Turfgrass Association. Other newly elected board positions are Chris Wendorf (vice president) and Paul Huggett (treasurer). Monroe S. Miller retired from the board as an elected member and Tom Harrison was elected to replace him. Miller accepted an appointed position from Erdahl.

In December, Greensmix (Waupaca Sand) sponsored a seminar at Waupaca CC. The featured speaker was Norm Hummel, formerly a professor at Cornell University. He is now doing soil testing and evaluation on his own. Hummel spoke to over 50 golf course superintendents from Wisconsin on subjects from topdressing material to greens mix. Not surprising was his recommendation on straight sand as a topdressing material.

Speaking of Cornell, there was a Rossi spotting here in Madison in early February. Dr. Rossi was in town working with his graduate student, Emily Buelow, on her thesis and other matters related to her M.S. degree.

The talk around the state again involves ice conditions. It sounds like a number of golf courses were busy removing ice from greens in January. The freeze and thaw conditions that were experienced this winter

are not good conditions for golf turf, either. Only time will tell if there was any significant injury.

I am a little behind on birth announcements, so some of these date back to last fall.

Brian Ferrie, the assistant golf course superintendent at Green Bay CC, is a proud first time father. Ferrie's wife, Kris, gave birth to Alexa Ann on November 1st.

Annika Hanson Lee was born on November 12th. She is the second child of Nancy and Mike Lee. Mike is the superintendent for all of the Kohler golf courses.

Gary Tanko, superintendent at SentryWorld, is a father for the third time. Tyler was born on December 27th to Cheryl Tanko.

After the holidays, I seem to get hundreds of horticulturally related mail order catalogs. One daylily catalog from Woodside Nursery was one that I selected to page through. Woodside Nursery is owned by Darrel Apps, my wife's uncle. He is a well know hybridizer. While paging through, I saw two new introductions for 1997 — Little Josh and Little Ben. They were named after our two sons. The daylilies are just beautiful! The only things that could top this is a bentgrass or bluegrass named after each of them. Too bad I don't have any other relatives who are plant breeders.

Like everyone else, I am anxious for the arrival of spring. May that season be a great one for you and your staff. 