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Fred D. Opperman, CGCS receiving the "Ray Gerber Editorial Award Plaques" from President Jim Evans

Fred D. Opperman, CGCS Winner of the 1986 Ray Gerber Editorial Award

Fred won this year's award with his article, "Survey of Sand Bunkers", which was published in the February 1986 issue of *The Bull Sheet*. The judges were Dave Behrman, CGCS, President of MAGCS; Dr. Tom Fermanian, University of Illinois; Dr. Fred Grau; Warren Bidwell, retired Superintendent and presently a turfgrass consultant; and Len Ziehm, columnist for the *Chicago Sun Times*. They chose "Survey of Sand Bunkers" over five other articles that qualified for this annual award.

This award was started to give recognition and lasting remembrance to Ray Gerber for his many years of devoted service to the Superintendents through his leadership, knowledge, and participation in association activities. After Ray's retirement in 1970, after being a Superintendent for 34 years at Glen Oak Country Club, he again became active in association affairs by becoming the Editor of *The Bull Sheet*, a position he held until he passed away in July of 1983.

Fred Opperman was Ray Gerber's replacement at Glen Oak Country Club when Ray retired in 1970, and Fred has served the club since that time. Before coming to Glen Oak Country Club, Fred was the Superintendent at Elmhurst Country Club for four years and before that the Superintendent at Riverside Golf Club for one year. He served his assistantship at Elmhurst Country Club for a three-year period and had previously served under Bob William's schooling at Bob O'Link Golf Club for two seasons. Fred is a graduate of Penn State's Turf School. He has been married to Judy for 21 years and has a son, Todd, who is a senior at Glenbard West. Fred's leisure activities are mostly outdoors, where he loves to hunt, canoe, camp, and hike. Recently, he has been bitten by the whitewater rafting bug and loves it. In January and February of 1987, he and an old friend from his Penn State days are going "down under" to visit the countries of New Zealand and Australia, where they plan to spend five weeks on a "walkabout" in a camper van.