



The National Cooperative Observer

The National Cooperative Observer is an online newsletter.

http://www.weather.gov/os/coop/coop_newsletter.htm

Summer 2007

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Coop Observers Play Important Role in Turn Around Don't Drown Campaign™

By Larry Wenzel, National Hydrologic Outreach Program Leader

June 2007, Sherman, TX: A rescue team rescued a man after his car was swept away by swift water.

August 2007, Carnegie, MN: Fast moving waters forced a dive team to suspend rescue efforts for a motorist whose vehicle was swept off the road by raging water.

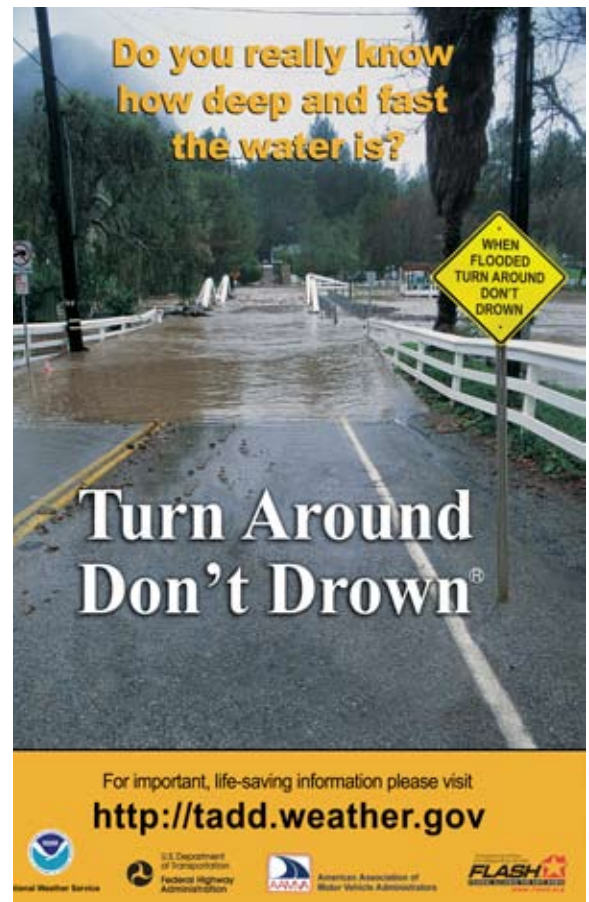
These scenes are repeated all too often across America's roads and highways. But the National Weather Service (NWS) is fighting back in an attempt to save lives and property.

By tapping into the observations taken by Coop Observers like you, NWS forecasters gather crucial information needed to warn motorists about flooded roads.

"Coop observers play a huge roll in our Turn Around Don't Drown™ campaign," stated Hector Guerrero, the Warning Coordination Meteorologist at the San Angelos, TX, NWS office. "When heavy rain is falling at observer locations, we'll call them to get ground truth information. Then, we compare their reports to the radar data. This comparison has enabled us to issue timely flash flood warnings to save lives and warn people about flooded roadways."

Turn Around Don't Drown™ is a NWS campaign to warn people of the hazards of driving a vehicle through flood waters. Most years, more deaths occur due to flooding than from any other weather-related hazard. More than half of all flood-related drownings occur when a vehicle is driven into hazardous flood water.

Why? One major reason is drivers underestimating the power of water.



Most motorists will lose control of their vehicle in just 6 inches of water, an amount most people think they can drive through.

It takes only 2 feet of rushing water to carry away most vehicles, including pickup trucks and SUVs.

Our thanks again to all of the observers out there protecting the lives of their fellow Americans. ❄

The Wohlebs Blaze 55 Years of Weather Trails in the Nebraska Plains

It takes 50 years of continuous weather records to establish a climate database. The Naponee climate database will be one of Lawrence and Viola's legacies for years to come.

NWS Hastings, NE, is proud to have presented [Lawrence and Viola Wohleb](#) with the Benjamin Franklin Award for 55 years of Coop service. The award was presented at a dinner held in their honor.

Benjamin Franklin is the inventor of the lightning rod and an early weather observer. As the first Postmaster General, Franklin received weather reports from a network of observers along the Atlantic coast. This network was the first known group to track hurricanes.

Lawrence Wohleb and Ben Franklin share both a deep interest in weather and a career as postmasters.

Way Back When

Lawrence and Viola started their tenure as weather observers in early 1952 when the town of Naponee, NE, needed someone to assume the duties from the Townsend family, the previous observers, who were moving out of town.

Lawrence was recommended as a replacement by the Townsends based on the old adage, "When looking for someone to do the job, pick the busiest person around." Lawrence seemed to fit the bill. In addition to serving as postmaster, he was also farming and raising a family.

On February 2, 1952, Lawrence became the official "Weather Bureau" Cooperative Observer for Naponee. With his wife, Viola, the official backup observer, over the next 55 years, the Wohleb team steadily built a climatic database for the Naponee area.

Every morning at 7 am, the Wohlebs would record the precipitation for the previous 24 hours. If it was snow, they would melt it and record the water equivalent along with the total snowfall accumulation and total snow depth. Over the span of 55 years, they have



Marla K. Doxey, Data Acquisition Program Manager (DAPM) for the NWS Hastings, NE, presented Lawrence and Viola with the Benjamin Franklin Award and a congratulatory letter from D.L. Johnson, former NWS Director. A large gathering of family and friends joined in the festivities and congratulated the Wohlebs for their many years of service to their town and country.

taken more than 20,000 observations and have measured over 1,300 inches of precipitation.

Floods and Droughts

On average, Naponee receives 23.99 inches of rain a year, but some years Lawrence and Viola have had to slog through mud to the rain gauge, such as in 1965 when 40.09 inches of precipitation fell. Other years the ground turned pretty dry.

In 2002, the Wohlebs measured only 14.49 inches of precipitation. Lawrence and Viola probably had to shovel their way to the rain gauge a couple of times in 1960 when they measured 54.1 inches of snow for the year.

Officially, it takes 50 years of continuous weather records to establish a climate database. The Naponee climate database will

be one of Lawrence and Viola's legacies for years to come.

In December of 1953, Lawrence was also "volunteered" to read the wire-weight river gage on the Turkey Creek whenever the river was forecast to rise higher than 5 feet. In addition to sending this information to his NWS office, he also relays it to the Harlan County Dam staff.

In 1982, a chain river gauge was installed on the Republican River and Lawrence again "volunteered" to read and report the river stages at that location.

Yes, indeed, Lawrence has been a busy Cooperative Observer and an extremely dependable one. Because of his excellent service, Lawrence was selected to receive

the prestigious John Campanius Holm Award in 1989.

In addition to being a Cooperative Weather Observer for 55 years, Lawrence was a postmaster for 40 years, from 1946 until 1986. Along with Viola, they farmed north of town and raised four children.

Their son, Jerome, and his family live in Draper, UT. Their daughters all reside in Nebraska. Mary Ann and family live in Lincoln; Rita and family live in Waverly; Sheila and family live in Naponee.

The Wohleb's have nine grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Lawrence and Viola have been married for 61 wonderful years. In their spare time, Lawrence still helps out on the farm and Viola raises beautiful flowers. ❄

Monk, Engineer, Fire Chief and Weather Observer

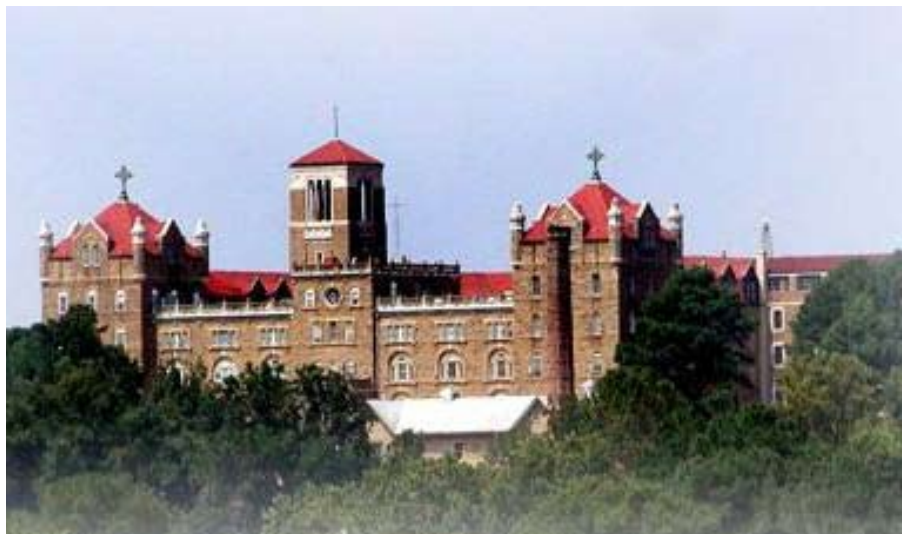
Brother Anselm Allen has been an NWS Cooperative Observer since 1965 at the Subiaco Abbey in Logan County, AR. Br. Anselm has the longest tenure as an observer since Benedictine Monks began taking weather observations at the Abbey 110 years ago on October 1, 1897. During the past 42 years, NWS Little Rock, AR, has come to rely heavily on his observations, which are characterized by their accuracy and timeliness.

Br. Anselm's weather reporting is exceptional. He rarely misses an observation.

On the rare occasions he is unable to take the observations, he always ensures someone else records and reports them. In addition to his outstanding support of the NWS, he is active in the HAM radio net. HAM radio

operators provide a valuable service to the NWS by reporting severe weather.

Br. Anselm was the recipient of the John



The Abbey at Subiaco in Logan County, AR, is a 100 plus year supporter of the NWS Cooperative Observer Program

Campanius Holm Award in November 2003. The award presentation received widespread local and international news coverage. His story was reported in France and Germany via the Associated Press. During the award

The award presentation received widespread local and international news coverage. His story was reported in France and Germany via the Associated Press.

The three monks/missionaries arrived in Logan County, AR, on March 15, 1878. Though the land was rough and overgrown, the monks were inspired by the breathtaking view from their new home in the Ouachita Mountains.

ceremonies, the Abbey was acknowledged for its more than 100 years of service to the NWS with a Special Service Award.

Br. Anselm is also Chief of the Abbey's Volunteer Fire Department. The fire department not only supports Subiaco Abbey, but they also assist the local community of Subiaco's Fire



Brother Anselm Allen of the Abbey at Subiaco checks his observing equipment, a task he has done "faithfully" since 1965.

Department. His role in town extends even further: Br. Anselm is a member of the Subiaco town council.

And if all that isn't enough, Br. Anselm is the engineer for the Abbey's water treatment plant and maintains the Abbey's boilers.

Railroad Ties

The Abbey at Subiaco's history goes back 140 years. While traveling back to St. Meinrad from missionary activities in the Dakotas, Abbot Martin Marty, OSB, struck a deal with the agent of LR&FS Railroad Company, and in November 1877, he was granted 640 acres for a Benedictine monastery for men and 100 acres for a women's monastery. This

agreement met with the blessing of Bishop Edward Fitzgerald of Little Rock, who needed German speaking priests in his diocese.

On Ash Wednesday, March 6, 1878, three monks—Fr. Wolfgang Schlumpf, Br. Casper Hildesheim and Br. Hilarin Benetz—departed St. Meinrad for Arkansas in a mule-drawn wagon. The three monks/missionaries arrived in Logan County, AR, on March 15, 1878. Though the land was rough and overgrown, the monks were inspired by the breathtaking view from their new home in the Ouachita Mountains.

Swiss Connection

The early years of St. Benedict's Priory—renamed Subiaco Abbey in 1891—were indeed difficult ones due to limited funds and personnel from St. Meinrad, but Fr. Wolfgang never gave up on the project or lost sight of his pastoral duties. In cooperation with the abbot of St. Meinrad, Fr. Wolfgang wrote to the Abbey Maria-Einsiedeln in Switzerland for help.

The only way that St. Benedict's Priory could survive was to have Einsiedeln's support. The Abbey Maria-Einsiedeln wanted the Arkansas mission to continue, therefore, throughout the years Swiss monks arrived to assist Fr. Wolfgang.

The success of the mission in Arkansas was assured in the fall of 1887 when Fr. Gall D'Aujourd'hui and eight novices from Einsiedeln—called the "Eight Beatitudes"—arrived on the scene. The dream was now realized with Fr. Gall's arrival; he is considered the co-founder of Subiaco Abbey.

After the successful establishment of a monastery and several German speaking Catholic Churches in the Logan County area, the monks opened a school for young men, which has evolved over the last 100 years into the present Subiaco Academy, a college-prep boarding school. The abbey also developed a strong retreat ministry with the opening of Coury House Retreat Center in April of 1963, which continues to flourish with visitors and wayfarers from across the nation. And of course, it continues its tradition of supporting the nation's climatic database through Br. Anselm! ✨

Special Service Award

Chuck and Debbie Cisney,

observers for the Hidalgo, IL, Coop station, were presented with a Special Service Award by NWS Central Illinois. The award was given for outstanding forecast and climate support to the Lincoln, IL, NWS office. A public award ceremony was conducted at the Newton Strawberry Festival.

Pictured from left are NWS Central Illinois Hydrometeorological Technician (HMT) Chris Geelhart; Chuck Cisney; Alyssa Halm, student volunteer; Debbie Cisney; Megan Mulford, student volunteer; and DAPM Billy Ousley. Photo by Paula Lidy of the Newton, IL, Times.



Special Act Award



Joe Jarecki, retiring manager of the Pigeon River Country State Forest, shows his Special Act Award presented in honor of his 17 years of exemplary, letter-perfect data from Coop site Vanderbilt, MI.

For many years, NWS Gaylord staff have used Joe's forms as examples for new northern Michigan observers who needed to learn how to handle winter weather entries in heavy snow country.

The award was presented by Dennis R. Fruehauf, Cooperative Program Manager (CPM), NWS Gaylord, MI.

100 Year Family Heritage Award

The **Family Heritage Award** is presented to a family with 100 years or more of continuous cooperative observations. The award is presented every 25 years thereafter.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Weather Service

Family Heritage Award

Presented to

For serving 100 or more years as Cooperative Weather Observers

Presented in honor of Thomas Jefferson's 1797 vision of a nationwide network of weather observers, with deep appreciation to your family members past and present for their priceless gift of temperature and precipitation observations. Your family's exceptionally faithful record of more than 100 years from one location, is truly an irreplaceable national resource, one that is a vital element to our nation's climate program.

Regional Director

Director, National Weather Service



100 Year Family Heritage Award



From left, **Mike Faris**, a cousin, shows the Family Heritage Award certificate; **Craig Faris**, another cousin, displays a picture of his grandfather, **Joe Faris, Sr.**, who was the first Faris family member to take weather observations. Joe kept records from 1907 to 1934; **Joe Faris, Jr.**, the current observer, holds a picture of his uncle **James**, who was the observer from 1934 to 1994. Also pictured are cousin **Trent** and Joe's son **Daniel**.

Joe Faris, the Catawba, SC, Coop Observer since 1994, and nine other family members traveled to the NWS Greenville-Spartanburg, SC, Office, to receive the Cooperative Observer Family Heritage Award for the Faris family's extraordinary efforts and 100+ years of service. Members of the Faris family have served as Cooperative Observers and provided daily weather reports since 1907 at Catawba, SC.

During the award presentation at NWS Greenville-Spartanburg, Meteorologist-in-Charge (MIC) Larry Gabric, Science Operations Officer (SOO) Larry Lee, and DAPM Terry Benthall presented the Heritage Award and several gifts to Joe Faris and his family. Sergio Marsh from Eastern Region Headquarters presented a letter of appreciation from Eastern Region Director Dean Gulezian. Sharon LeDuc, Deputy Director of National Climatic Data Center, accompanied by Steve DelGreco, Chief of the Data Branch, presented a certificate of appreciation along with a copy of the earliest observation form from the NCDC archive. Mark Malsick represented the South Carolina State Climate Office.

After the presentations and pictures, members of the Faris family were given a tour of the NWS office. The celebration concluded with a South Carolina barbecue at a local restaurant.

55 Year Benjamin Franklin Award

Dave Reynolds, MIC,
NWS San Francisco,
presents a Benjamin
Franklin Award to
[Clorene Akers](#) for
55 years of dedicated
service maintaining
a Coop
Weather station
at Hernandez, CA.



50 Year Edward H. Stoll Award



NWS Spokane, WA, MIC
[John Livingston](#), left, presents
Richard Slagle of Republic,
WA, with the NWS Edward
H. Stoll Award for 50 years
of service as a Cooperative
Observer. In addition to being
a weather enthusiast, Richard
is a retired pharmacist.

Honored Institution Award

The Honored Institution Award is presented to an institution or industrial organization in which several people have taken observations for at least 25 years. Honored Institution awards are presented every 25 years thereafter in recognition of this outstanding commitment. The National Weather Service representative presents the award to the institution, often with a ceremony to express deep appreciation for this volunteer service.

United States Department of Commerce

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

HONORED INSTITUTION AWARD

This certificate is awarded to

*in grateful recognition of 25 years of Weather
Observations in cooperation with the
National Weather Service*



*Laura K. Ferguson, Director
National Weather Service, Alaska Region*


*Brigadier General David L. Johnson, USAF (Ret.)
Assistant Administrator for Weather Services*



50 Year Honored Institution Awards



From left, Kansas State University President Jon Wefald; Head of the Agronomy Department Gary Pierzynski; NWS Topeka, KS, DAPM Bill Newman; and State Climatologist Mary Knapp.

Photo by NWS Meteorologist Kyle Poage.

NWS Topeka, KS, DAPM Bill Newman presented an Honored Institution Award to [Kansas State University](#). The award commended the university staff for collecting and submitting quality observations for Manhattan, KS, during the past 50 years.

Weather observations in Manhattan, KS, date back to 1855. The first observations recorded were taken by Isaac Goodnow on the Bluemont Central College Campus. Bluemont Central became Kansas State Agricultural College in 1863, then Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science in 1931, and finally Kansas State University in 1975. Most recently, the "KSU Weather Data Library Staff," in particular, State Climatologist [Mary Knapp](#), assumed observing duties for Manhattan.



NWS Salt Lake City, UT, staff presented a 50 year Honored Institution Award to the [Strawberry Water Users Association](#) for their service at the Spanish Fork Powerhouse in Utah. Accepting the award for the plant is [Robert Wall](#), who stands in front of the framed certificate of appreciation.



The Charlotte, MI, [Waste Water Treatment Plant](#) received its 50 Year Honored Institution Award for continued participation in the NWS Coop program. Superintendent of Utilities [Keith Moss](#) holds up the certificate presented by NWS Grand Rapids, MI, OPL George Wetzel.

45 Year Dick Hagemeyer Award

At a ceremony at his home in Montezuma, GA, **George Fowler**, left, is shown accepting the Dick Hagemeyer Award for 45 years of service as a Cooperative Observer. Helping George show the award is Frank Taylor, OPL, NWS Atlanta, GA. Photo by NWS Coop Focal Point Nathan Mayes.



James Stewart received his 40 Year Length of Service Award for his service at Snowflake, AZ. The award was presented to James and his wife, Sheila, by NWS Flagstaff, AZ, DAPM, Byron Peterson. We thank James for his long and valuable service.

40 Year Length of Service Awards



NWS Hastings, NE, DAPM Marla K. Doxey presented a 40 Year Length of Service Award to [Bob Levin](#) and a 10 Year Length of Service Award to Linda Levin, his backup observer. The Levins report the daily precipitation and temperatures for the Smith Center, KS, area. In the past 40 years they have tallied up more than 43,000 temperature observations because they report temperatures twice a day and send a current temperature reading around the noon hour. They also sent more than 14,000 precipitation reports. Bob previously was a recipient of the Thomas Jefferson Award.

Bob is also an amateur paleontologist who can be found digging around the country side in search of fossils. He has one of the best collections in central Kansas and has worked with National Geographic Magazine.

Bill and Marlene Murphy of Covert, KS, proudly show their 40 Year Length of Service Award presented by NWS Hasting, NE. As precipitation reporters, they have measured more than 1,000 inches of rain and just over 900 inches of snow in the past 40 years. The Murphys remember a drought year with only 5 inches of rain as well as the Great Flood, which drowned the area with more than 45 inches of precipitation.

Marla K. Doxey, NWS Hastings, NE, DAPM, presented the award along with a congratulatory letter from D.L. Johnson, former NWS Director.



40 Year Length of Service Awards



Coop Observer [Ken Tanouye](#) accepts the 40 Year Award for the Mount Kaala FAA Facility in Hawaii.

Pictured from left are [Shanon Lee](#), [Glen Wong](#) and [Sharon Haruguchi](#), Mount Kaala co-workers; Ken Tanouye, Primary Observer; and NWS Honolulu OPL Mark Farnsworth. At 4,025 feet, Mount Kaala is the tallest peak on the island of Oahu. The Fisher/Porter gage is often in clouds. Photo by HMT Mike Watkins.

35 Year Length of Service Awards

[Dick Clothier](#) of Pocatello, ID, has contributed to the NWS Cooperative Weather program for 35 years. His generous service in weather observing and weather record keeping for the community of Pocatello provides valuable climatic information to the state and the nation.

Dick received a certificate and lapel pin to commemorate the occasion. In 2001, Dick was a recipient of the prestigious John Campanius Holm award presented to just 25 volunteer observers each year.



From left, SOO Dean Hazen, NWS Pocatello, ID, presents a 35 Year Length of Service Award to Dick Clothier. Holding Dick's pin is NWS CPM David Phelps. Photo by NWS Staff Member Gary Wicklund.

35 Year Length of Service Awards



Ronald Spencer received his 35 Year Length of Service Award from Paducah MIC, Beverly Poole. Ronald has been faithfully taking rainfall observations at the cooperative weather site in Pinckneyville, IL, since 1972.



Michael Caropolo, MIC, NWS Wilmington, NC, presented a 35 Year Length of Service Award to **Elizabeth Foley** of McColl, SC. Also at the ceremony were Gene Funderburk, NWS OPL; and Hope Mizzell, State Climatologist, Columbia, SC.

George Jacobs, Coop Observer from Tok, AK, accepts a 35 Year Length of Service Award presented by Ron Stuvek, OPL, NWS Fairbanks, AK. In addition to his longtime voluntary observing commitment, George is also very active in Tok, the first major community encountered along the Alaskan Highway after entering the state. George is editor of the local newspaper, *The Mukluk News*.



35 and 30 Year Length of Service Awards



John and Beth Sundberg, observers in Hayden, CO, received a 35 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented by John Kyle, DAPM, Grand Junction, CO.

Rex Kelley of Davis City, IA, shows his 30 Year Length of Service Award presented by Marian Baker, Service Hydrologist, NWS, Des Moines,



From left, NWS Little Rock, AR, OPL, Jimmy Russell presents a 30 Year Length of Service Award to Observer **Russell Carter** of Evening Shade, AR. Little Rock HMT Michael Reid helps hold the award. Photo by MIC Renee Fair.

25 Year Length of Service Awards



From left, [Max Dorris](#), observer for Bruce, MS, receives his 25 Year Award from [Zwemer Ingram](#), DAPM, NWS Memphis, TN. In his spare time, Max takes care of cattle in and around Bruce.



NWS Memphis, TN, staff presented [Sue Bruckner](#), Cooperative Observer for Sarah, MS, with a 25 Year Length of Service Award. From left, showing off the award, are her granddaughters and future observers, [Claire](#), [Paige](#) and [Jill Gautier](#).



From left, Jimmy Russell, OPL, NWS Little Rock, AR, and WCM John Robinson present [Gerald and Christina Emerson](#) of Chimes, AR, with a 25 Year Length of Service Award. Photo by HMT Michael Reid.



Observer [Ferdinand Burmeister](#) was presented a 25 Year Length of Service Award for his service at Galatia, KS. Presenting the award was NWS Wichita, KS, DAPM Joe Rosner.

25 Year Length of Service and Honored Institution Awards



Nancy Johnson shows her 25 Year Length of Service Award presented in her classroom at White Station Middle School in Memphis, TN, by Jim Belles, MIC, NWS Memphis. In addition to teaching, coaching and taking care of weather observations and records, Nancy is also the Mayor of Moscow, TN. Moscow is about 25 miles east of Memphis.

Maryllis Heyborn, Observer in Orderville, UT, received a 25 Year Length of Service award from Steve Summy, OPL, NWS Salt Lake City. No photo available.



Donald Waterworth, right, Observer for Pocahontas, AR, receives his 25 Year Award from Zwemer Ingram, NWS Memphis, TN. Donald received a similar award for his 30 plus years of service in the U.S. Air Force. The Coop Award was presented at Donald's well attended 80th birthday party. Arkansas Congressman Marion Berry presented a plaque recognizing Donald's numerous contributions to his community and country. Rep. Berry also read the commendations into the Congressional Record. This record, like the climate archive Donald has maintained for more than 25 years, has become a permanent part of our nation's history.



Byron Peterson, NWS Flagstaff, AZ, presented a 25 Year Length of Service Award to **Gary and Mary Garland** of Oak Creek, AZ. They are the owners of Garlands Lodge in beautiful Oak Creek Canyon, near Sedona.



The **Augusta, KS, Department of Safety** was presented a 25 Year Honored Institution Award. Presenting the award was Leon Wasinger, CPM, NWS, Wichita, KS. The Department of Safety provides precipitation and river readings for the Augusta area.

25 Year Honored Institution Service Awards



David James accepted a 25 Year Honored Institution Award for the **Provo-Brigham Young University** cooperative observing station he heads. In addition to ensuring the data collected is accurate and complete, David also maintains a weather station at his Utah home and calls his daily temperature and precipitation information to NWS Salt Lake City. Photo and award presented by Steve Summy, NWS OPL.



From left, **Stacy D. Allen**, Chief Ranger, **Shiloh National Military Park**, accepts a 25 Year Honored Institution Award from **Jim Belles**, MIC, NWS, Memphis, TN. Ranger Allen, noted historian and author of several books about the Civil War, extends a warm invitation to all to come visit Shiloh's historic, hallowed grounds.



Ronnie Duncan, left, accepts a 25 Year Honored Institution Award for the city of **Oneida, TN**, from **Derek Eisentrout**, HMT, NWS Morristown, TN. Photo by Craig Carpenter, OPL.



Deputy Chief **Jim Wenzel**, center, shows the 25 Year Honored Institution Award presented to the **Chula Vista, CA, Fire Department**. The award was presented by NWS San Diego, CA, WCM **Ed Clark**, left and MIC **Jim Purpura**.

25 Year Honored Institution Service Award



A 25 Year Honored Institution Award was presented to [Red Springs Water Treatment Plant](#). Pictured from left are [Tim Molden](#), Observer; Billy Joe Farmer, Town Manager; Philip Smith, Director of Public Works & Utilities; Ledger Hunt, Supervisor of Water Treatment Plant; and Michael Caropolo, MIC, NWS, Wilmington, NC. Photo by OPL Gene Funderburk.

20 Year Length of Service Awards



[Caroline Dallman](#) of Edgeley, ND, was presented a 20 Year Length of Service Award by CPM Sandra Wiche of NWS Bismarck, ND. Caroline has been the Cooperative Weather Observer for the Edgeley area since 1987.



[Eddie Archer](#), Coop Observer for Newcomb, TN, accepts a 20 Year Length of Service Award from Derek Eisentrout, HMT at NWS Knoxville, TN. Photo by NWS OPL Craig Carpenter.



From left, Steve Teachout, HMT, NWS Des Moines, IA, shows the 20 Year Length of Service Award presented to Observer [Charles Goeken](#) of Audubon, IA. This award was given to Charles early to combine with his 85th birthday, Fly-In breakfast and retirement as the FBO Manager at the Audubon Airport, where he worked for 62 enjoyable years. Photo by Chantel Teachout.

20 Year Length of Service Awards



John Kennedy of Seligman, AZ, received a 20 Year Length of Service Award from NWS CPM Larry Riggs, NWS Flagstaff, AZ. John is standing beside his prized 1953 Chevrolet pickup truck. John has been a teacher, Superintendent of Schools and Fire Fighter. He is an all around good citizen of Seligman.



Richard Lau received his 20 Year Length of Service Award for acting as observer at Verona, ND. The award was presented by CPM Sandra Wiche of the NWS Bismarck, ND.

Coop Observer **Lewis Martin** was presented a 20 Year Length of Service Award for his service near Pretty Prairie, KS. Presenting the award was Joe Rosner, NWS Wichita, KS.



NWS Salt Lake City OPL Steve Summy presented a 20 Year Length of Service Award to **Gary Jorgensen**, Observer at the Ephraim, UT, **U.S. Forest Service** site. No photo available.

Sue and Bill Phillips, Elk City, ID, show their 20 Year Length of Service Awards presented by Stan Krenz, OPL, NWS Missoula, MT.



E. McKay Willis, left, of Laketown, UT, received his 20 Year Award and lapel pin from Gary Wicklund, OPL, NWS Pocatello, ID. Photo by Dave Phelps, NWS Pocatello.

15 Year Length of Service Awards



N. Max Altenbern, Observer at Altenbern Ranch in De Beque, CO, received a 15 Year Length of Service Award. The Altenbern family have been Cooperative Observers in this part of Western Colorado since the fall of 1942. The award was presented by Becky Klenk, CPM, Grand Junction, CO.



Mary Lenardson, of Jackson, MI, shows her 15 Year Service Award. Mary acts as the primary back-up river gage reader for the Grand River, which begins near Jackson and then flows west until it empties in Lake Michigan. She has been available at all hours for this very “flashy” or rapidly changing part of the river. The award was presented by NWS Grand Rapids, MI, OPL, George Wetzel and Intern Brandon Hoving.



Steve Summy, OPL, NWS Salt Lake City presented a 15 Year Length of Service Award to **Bill** (not pictured) and **Laree Dye**, observers at Castle Dale, UT. The Dyes have done an outstanding job reporting the climate in this central Utah community.



John Finnerty, right, of Middletown, IN, was presented with his 15 Year Length of Service Award by Phil Gray, HMT, NWS Indianapolis. John also serves as a severe weather spotter. He became interested in weather during his youth, when as a summer volunteer, he assisted in the Coop Observer program at the St Meinrad Monastery near Louisville, KY.



Juliette and John Guth, dam operators for **Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company**, were recently recognize for 15 years of outstanding service for observations taken at the Eau Pleine Reservoir in Wisconsin.

15 Year Length of Service Awards



Tom and Grace Barter of Kesley, IA, show their 15 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented by Brad Fillbach, HMT, NWS Des Moines, IA.



Jim Koth, right, dam operator for the **Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company**, was recently recognized for 15 years of outstanding service for observations taken at the Rice Reservoir in Wisconsin.



Gail Lawrence, Cooperative Observer for Jerico Springs, MO, holds up his award for 15 years of service. Presenting the award was Larry Dooley, HMT, NWS Springfield, MO.

Lola Spackman of Trenton, UT, accepts a 15 Year Length of Service Award from OPL Gary Wicklund, NWS Pocatello, ID. Photo by David Phelps, NWS Pocatello.



Tom Tiffany, dam operator for **Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company**, was recently recognized for 15 years of observations taken at the Willow Reservoir in Wisconsin.



Paul Hunt, right, of Pence, IN, received his 15 year Award from Ed Terrell, HMT from Indianapolis. Besides taking weather observations, Paul also keeps a fleet of 31 school buses in top notch shape and is an avid sports car fan. Photo by Mike Shartran, DAPM Indianapolis.

10 Year Length of Service Awards



Shirley Liss, Cooperative Observer from Ester, AK, accepts a 10 Year Length of Service Award presented by photographer Pepper Weimer, HMT at NWS Fairbanks, AK.



Ken Eales, Cooperative Observer for the airport at Manitowish Waters, WI, receives his 10 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Green Bay, WI.



Bob Bishop, observer near Bloomington, IL, accepts a 10 Year Award from HMT Chris Geelhart of NWS Central Illinois in Lincoln.



Ernest Hill, Observer for Pleasant Hope, MO, was presented a 10 Year Length of Service Award by NWS Springfield, MO, HMT Larry Dooley. The "girls" applaud from behind.



Observer **Evert Bengston** was presented a 10 Year Length of Service Award for the Windom, KS, area. Presenting the award was Joe Rosner, DAPM, NWS Wichita, KS



From left, NWS Pocatello, ID, SOO Dean Hazen helps Observer **Kenneth E. Fagnant**, of Lava Hot Springs, ID, show his 10 Year Length of Service Award with help from David Phelps, NWS CPM. Photo by Gary Wicklund, NWS Pocatello.

Observer **David Leroy** was presented a 10 Year Length of Service Award for his service in the Albert, KS, area. Presenting the award was Joe Rosner, DAPM, NWS Wichita, KS.
Photo not available.

The Cooperative Observer

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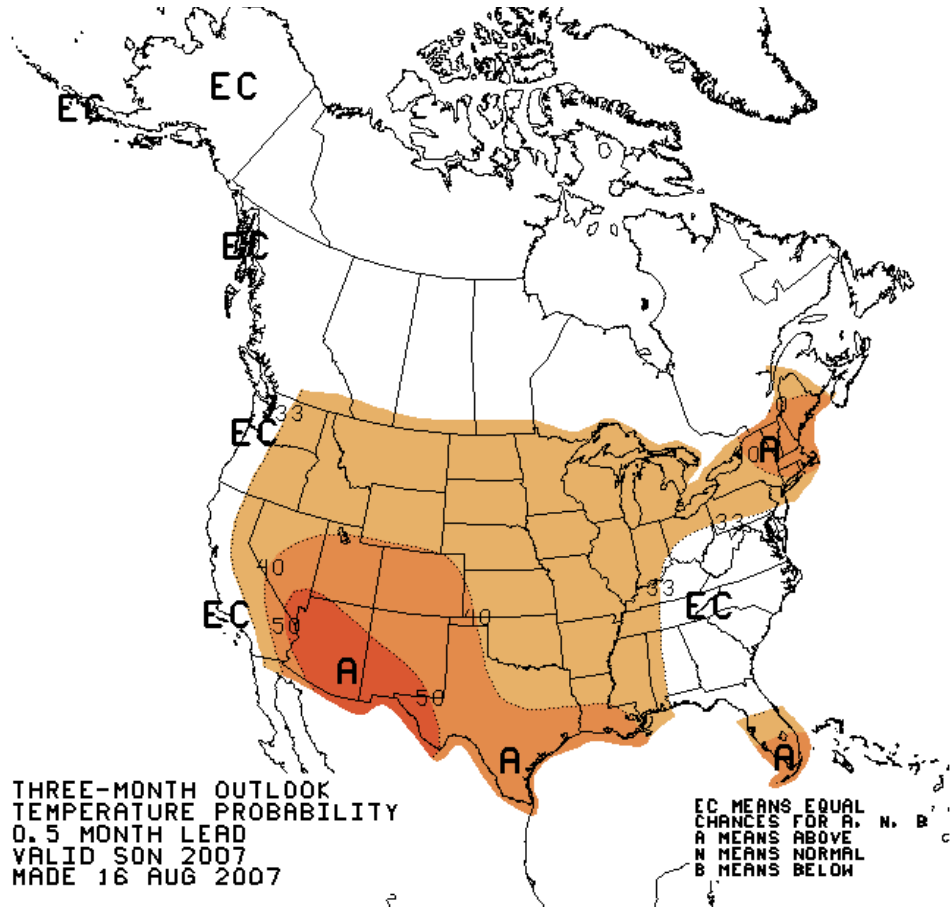
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