



The National Cooperative Observer

The National Cooperative Observer is an online newsletter.
http://www.weather.gov/os/coop/coop_newsletter.htm

Winter 2006/2007

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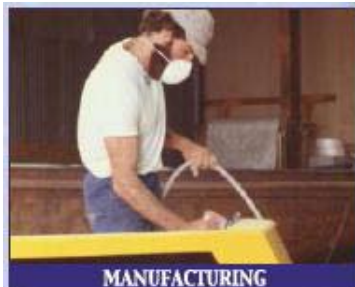
How Coop Data and Observations Are Used

Your observations don't collect dust when you send them to the NWS. They are used in real-time forecasts and warnings. Published station data go to NOAA's National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) for processing, quality control, archiving and publication. Much of the data are available to users via publications, special orders, and the Internet. In fact, your data are one of the most requested products in our national climate archives.

Coop data is used by economists in key decision-making. Engineers use your data to determine the depth needed to ensure stable home foundations, the slope of highways to ensure adequate runoff, the size of storm drains and the requirements for dams. Businesses use the data to decide where to site recreational facilities, when and where to hold conferences and many other applications. The posters at right give just a sample of the many uses of Coop data.

Your data also form the basis for studies of climate variability and change in the United States. Your Coop data influences billions of dollars related to socio-economic decisions.

Don't forget, this data gets more valuable with time. The longer the record, the more informed we become. Keep up the great work! Our entire country will continue to reap the benefits for generations to come. ❄



MANUFACTURING

Determine impact of weather/climate on product sales, develop optimum marketing strategies, and determine locations and climate conditions for product testing.



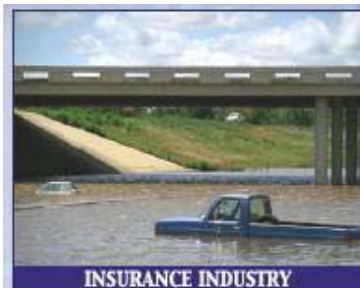
CONSULTANTS & ENGINEERS

Provide guidance to engineering, marine, and architectural firms in the design and construction of airports, port facilities, highway and dam projects, and electrical power plants.



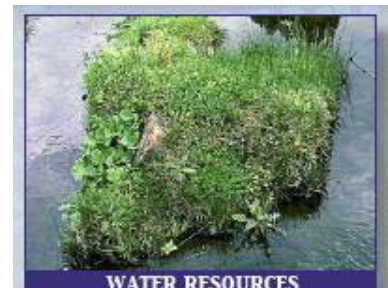
MEDICAL

Conduct research for possible correlations between climate and disease/physical disorders.



INSURANCE INDUSTRY

Settles weather related disaster claims and provides casualty coverage for entertainment/sports events.



WATER RESOURCES

Hydrologists monitor precipitation runoff rates and forecast environmental effects on the watershed. Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation scientists manage flood control projects.

The graphics above, part of an NCDC poster, show just a few of the uses for Coop data. The full poster is online at www.weather.gov/os/coop/images/climate_data_poster.pdf

The Sister Act at Holy Family Convent: Faith, Food and Weather

"We will have to replace the floor since so many of us are beating a path to the laundry room to check the temperature on the digital display installed there. It is a great conversation piece, too! May we be faithful and efficient in reporting the weather."

After being Cooperative Weather Observers for more than 70 years, the Manitowoc City, WI, Fire Department decided to get out of the observation business. Since this Cooperative Weather Station has records dating back to 1862 and is part of the Historical Climate Network (HCN), it was a high priority to keep it active.

The HCN is made up of stations having at least 80 years of high quality data in a stable environment. The Network is the data source of choice for climate change research. NWS compiled it in response to the need for an accurate, unbiased, and historical climate record.

Finding quality Cooperative Weather Stations to continue the record for HCN Stations can be challenging. Sometimes you just have to have faith in your new site.

After Pat Hein and Scott Cultice, from NWS Green Bay, removed the equipment from the Manitowoc City Fire Station and installed it at the mother house of the Holy Family Convent in Manitowoc, their confidence in their new observers steadily grew.

Sister (Sr.) Xaveria Wittman, a retired teacher at Silver Lake College with a M.S. in Biochemistry, was up to the challenge. She is part of "The Sister Act," which also includes Sr. Caritas Marie Le Claire and Sr. Veronica Schad. Sr. Xaveria takes the temperatures from the Maximum-Minimum Temperature System (MMTS) and sends the entire observation daily using WxCoder, the Internet based program used by many Coop Observers to send their observations to NWS.

Sr. Caritas Marie and Sr. Veronica are responsible for taking the readings from the

rain gage and for snowfall measurements. They work in the housekeeping unit at the convent and are known as "Trouble" and "Double Trouble" amongst their fellow Sisters.

The Sisters have promised to take the observations faithfully at 6 pm every evening. During the installation of the equipment, the



"Faithful Observers" at Holy Family Convent, Manitowoc, Wi. From left, Sister Xaveria Wittman, Sister Caritas Marie Le Claire, and Sister Veronica Schad. Back Row, NWS Green Bay OPL Pat Hein and HMT Scott Cultice.

Sisters invited Pat and Scott to have dinner with them in the convent's dining room. They were treated to fish, potatoes, vegetables, homemade bread and homemade dessert. They will plan future Coop Station visits around dinner time!

The Sisters sent a card to Pat and Scott. It said, "May God Bless you for all of your help in setting us up and being patient with us as we start our many years of being a Cooperative Observer. It is so good to work with you. Sister Xaveria had a few laughs and frustrating moments when she failed on her first attempt at

taking a weather observation! Well, then she can only get better! We will have to replace the floor since so many of us are beating a path to the laundry room to check the temperature on the digital display installed there. It is a great conversation piece, too! May we be faithful and efficient in reporting the weather.” ❄

Being "Stern" with Observations

By Steve Doty, Climate Station Chronicles

Excerpted from The Climate Station Chronicles newsletter.

In 1857, Jacob T. Stern bought a set of weather instruments to support his new hobby of taking weather observations. This simple action set in motion a family tradition of weather observing that would span 100 years and cross four generations.

Jacob Stern was born in Pennsylvania in 1814. He was trained as a house-plasterer but soon turned to farming. In 1857 he moved west to Harrison County, IA. There he bought a farm and by 1860 had become a Smithsonian Institution volunteer observer. It is said of him that “this man has been not only a scientific but practical agriculturist, one sees the necessity of coupling intelligence with manual labor in order to become a successful farmer.”

As Jacob advanced in years he moved into the town of Logan some 5 miles north of his farm in Harris Grove. There he continued to observe until 1888 when his wife Millicent assumed the duties as observer. In August 1891 she became a Weather Bureau cooperative observer. Millicent Stern died in November 1904 while still serving as the official observer.

The couple's son Willis and his three children next assumed the observing duties. Glenn H. Stern, who was then only 12 years old, was the first to enter his name on the observational forms in November 1904. His efforts continued for 10 years until his brother, Andrew "Teddy" Stern, picked up the effort in 1914. Teddy's tenure lasted only 4 years,



Amy Ann Stern of Logan, Iowa, in 1949. From Des Moines Sunday Register, January 23, 1949.

after which he left to attend college. Mary Jean Stern, age 15, was the next sibling to take observations. She continued until April 1927.

The weather observing duties then were passed to Amy Ann Stern, a great-granddaughter of Jacob T. Stern. At just 11 years old, Amy Ann was the youngest Weather Bureau Coop observer to that point in history. Her uncle, Willis Stern, taught her the rudiments of taking observations. Amy Ann served some 33 years until October 1960. Well, actually, her mother completed the last two months of observations when Amy Ann married in August 1960, moving out of town with her new husband. An article in the Des Moines Register on December 4, 1938, said of Amy Ann, “Now she has the high regard of the entire community. And her sparkling personality is as much of an asset to her as her weather readings, residents say. If Harrison county can't have sunshine the year 'round, it's just because Amy Ann can't be everywhere at once, they say.”

Thus 100 years of weather observing by one family came to an end. What began as a hobby became a life changing experience for four generations. ❄

In 1857, Jacob T. Stern bought a set of weather instruments to support his new hobby of taking weather observations. This simple action set in motion a family tradition of weather observing that would span 100 years and cross four generations.

Thomas Jefferson Award Winners

By Donald E. Morin, DAPM, NWS Sioux Falls, SD

Dr. Morris and Margarett Schuurmans were the honored guests at the second Cooperative Observer Appreciation Day held at the Weather Forecast Office (WFO) in Sioux Falls, SD. The event was attended by more than 20 fellow observers, friends and family, as well as South Dakota State Climatologist Dennis Tody, PhD.

The Schuurmans have served as the Wagner, SD, observers since 1956. Among their many interesting days was Labor Day 1970 when Morris put his knowledge of weather phenomena to work and “read the sky.” He noted rapidly changing weather conditions and knew a dangerous wind event/tornado was imminent. Morris sounded the alarm, which cleared the city streets of residents gathered for a Labor Day celebration.

There was significant property damage in the city.

A Ferris wheel was knocked from its axis; however, due to Morris' quick action, injuries were few and minor. In addition to a nicely framed and matted rendition of the Jefferson Award, NWS Sioux Falls Meteorologist-in-Charge (MIC) Greg Harmon presented the Schuurmans with the Edward Stoll Award to commemorate their 50 years of service.

The Wagner site was established in 1915 near its current location. Five observers preceded the Schuurmans; however, the length of service the Schuurmans provided outpaced all of the prior observers combined.

Joining Greg Harmon at the presentation ceremony was NWS Central Region Cooperative Program



Margarett Schuurmans, MIC Greg Harmon, Central Region Coop Program Manager Bob Bonack, and Dr. Morris Schuurmans. Photo by DAPM Donald E. Morin and SOO Phil Schumacher.

Manager Bob Bonack and Data Acquisition Program Manager (DAPM) Donald Morin.

Greg also presented the Schuurmans with a congratulatory letter from NWS Director, retired Brigadier General D. L. Johnson and a copy of the first observation form the couple submitted in 1956 along with a form submitted 50 years later in April 2006.

Dennis Tody added his praise and appreciation not only for the contributions of the Schuurmans, but also for all the Coop Observers and the work they do to make our climate data available for a variety of uses.

The celebration concluded with a special cake and refreshments. ❄

John Campanius Holm Award Winners



Marvin Anderson receives the John Campanius Holm Award from Steve Schurr, MIC, NWS Omaha, NE.

Marvin has been the observer at Virginia, NE, since February 1971. He reports temperature and precipitation daily on IV-ROCS.

He is also one of the first volunteer observers from southeast Nebraska recruited to the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources mesonet precipitation reporting network.

From left, Steve Schurr, MIC, NWS Omaha, NE, and Marvin Anderson, observer at Virginia, NE. Photo by Terry Landsvork, OAX Observing Program Leader (OPL).

Wilmer Ray Bailey receives a John Campanius Holm Award. From left, Armando Garza, MIC at NWS Shreveport, LA; Holm Award winner Wilmer Ray Bailey of Jena, LA; NWS DAPM Marion Kuykendall; Malcolm Moreau, LSU State Climatology from Baton Rouge; and Tom Konvicka, TV Meteorologist, from Alexandria, LA.



John Campanius Holm Award Winners



Robert D. Baker of Cades, SC, center, receives the John Campanius Holm Award from MIC Michael Caropolo, NWS Wilmington, NC, right, and South Carolina Senator Yancey McGill, left. Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM) Tom Matheson and OPL Gene Funderburk also attended the presentation. Many of Robert's family and friends met at Hebron United Methodist Church for the presentation. Photo by Gene Funderburk, NWS OPL.

From left, NWS Shreveport, LA, DAPM Marion Kuykendall, presents **Jessie Fay Barnes** of Henderson, TX, with a John Campanius Holm Award with help from MIC Armando Garza.



John Campanius Holm Award Winners



The Holm Award was presented to **John Caskey** at the Wisconsin Valley Improvement Award Banquet. John has provided more than 58 years of service as a cooperative observer. John established the Lac Vieux Desert observing station on May 1, 1948, as part of his job at the Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company. Providing daily snowfall, snow depth and water equivalent reports, John has measured nearly 1,960 inches of precipitation and more than 6,664 inches of snowfall in his many years of service.

From left are Gary Austin, MIC, NWS Green Bay, WI; Observer John Caskey; Robert Bonack, Regional CPM; and OPL Pat Hein.



The John Campanius Holm Award was presented to **Stephen** and **Lois Fenster** of Healy, KS, by John Orgler, right, DAPM at NWS Dodge City, KS. Photo by MIC Larry Ruthi.

John Campanius Holm Award Winners

From left, **Randall V. Hennigh**, Cooperative Observer at Englewood, KS, holds up his John Campanius Holm Award with help from Larry Ruthi, MIC, at the NWS office in Dodge City, KS.



Dale and Donna Meyer recently received the John Campanius Holm Award during a ceremony held in their hometown of Pollock, SD. The ceremony was held in a local cafe. Several of the Meyer's friends, family and NWS Aberdeen staff members were in attendance. Dale and Donna have shared the observing duties for more than 25 years.

Pictured from left are Glenn Nielsen, NWS Aberdeen, SD, HMT; Donna and Dale Meyer; and Jim Scarlett, MIC. Photo by Lisa Johnsen, Administrative Assistant.

John Campanius Holm Award Winners

Molly Morgan from Blantyre, NC, received the prestigious Holm Award for 36 years of outstanding service in the Coop program. Local officials and radio station personnel stated that, "Molly is a real life saver, providing river reports that we have used to evacuate people along the French Broad River."

Molly's friends and family gathered at the Pisgah Fish Camp restaurant to join in the presentation and good food.

NWS Greenville/Spartanburg, SC, DAPM Terry Benthall presented the Holm Award to Molly.



From left are NWS Northern Indiana HMT Aaron Stevens, MIC Michael Sabones, Edward Nagle, and DAPM Terry Click.
Photo by Administrative Assistant Maggie Taylor.

Edward Nagle was honored with a Holm Award for his 29 years of exceptional service at Angola, IN. Edward's wife and children have all helped keep track of the weather. Edward volunteered to be an observer as a way to involve his children in science and teach them responsibility and the value of volunteering.

A professor by profession, Edward loves teaching. He also has a passion to teach others about what he does for the Weather Service. He has provided the local newspaper, television and radio stations with weather data for years. He is also a director and volunteer with the 4-H club, a judge at the Indiana State fair and a Council Member for Angola City.

John Campanius Holm Award Winners



Marvin Seyer received the Holm Award during a ceremony held at the NWS Office in Aberdeen, SD. The ceremony was attended by friends, family, NWS Aberdeen staff members, and a representative from U.S. Senator Tim Johnson's office.

Marvin has been the Coop Observer for Ipswich, SD, for more than 30 years. Pictured from left are Jim Scarlett, MIC; Sharon Stroschein, rep. from Senator Johnson's office; Judy and Marvin Seyer; and Kenny Gillespie, HMT. Photo by Tim Kearns, DAPM.

Holm Award winner **Herb Teichman** became the observer in Eau Claire, WI, on August 1, 1968, taking over from his father, William, who founded the site in 1923. The Teichman family has provided a continuous 83-year climate record. Herb has a passion for weather and is active in his community.

The Teichman family owns and operates the Tree-Mendus Fruit farm and hosts many neighborhood activities at the farm, including the International Cherry Pit Spit contest. Herb also provides his data to numerous sources including the media, local government and the University of Michigan.



Pictured from left are Northern Indiana HMT Earl Breon, MIC Michael Sabones, Herb Teichman, and DAPM Terry Click. Photo by Administrative Assistant Maggie Taylor.

John Campanius Holm Award Winners

Gordon Wold, the Coop observer for Santiago, MN, was honored with the Holm Award. Gordon was nominated by NWS Chanhassen, MN, MIC Craig Edwards, who commented, "I like the way he does his records. They are extremely accurate. He hardly ever misses a reading and always sends everything in on time." Gordon, now 80 years old, has been an NWS observer for more than 45 years. "Other than the time my report was accidentally dumped in the trash and burned before I could mail it, I've never missed a month," Gordon said.

The first observer in Santiago was an owner of a local gas station. He recorded weather observations for about a year and a half. When he passed away, the residents of Santiago searched for a replacement. Local residents knew that Gordon's mother kept a diary of weather observations at their family farm just east of town. Neighbors came to Wold's doorstep asking if the family would be willing to take over weather observations and Gordon accepted the position.

On September 1, 1960, Gordon received thermometers in a wooden shelter and a rain gauge. The precipitation gage is still the original, but now Gordon has an electronic temperature sensor in his yard that relays the high, low and current temperature to a readout box inside his house. The ability to read temperature data from inside his home is especially nice to have in the frigid winters of central Minnesota. One of Gordon's most memorable moments over 45 years of observing was a reading of 45 degrees below zero on February 2, 1996.



Holm Award Presentation, from left: NWS Chanhassen, MN, Hydrology Program Manager Steve Buan; Observing Program Leader Michelle Margraf; Santiago, MN, Observer Gordon Wold; and NWS MIC Craig Edwards.

Gordon hopes to continue taking observations for at least another 5 years. "How much longer I can do this is something I cannot predict, but I'd like for my grandson to take over and do it for another 50 years," says Wold. "Then, we'd have records in the family for over 100 years."

Michelle Margraf, in charge of the volunteer observing program for the forecast office in Chanhassen, MN, was excited to hear this plan. "It's not often we can get such accurate records from the exact same place for nearly 50 years. If your grandson could take over some day, that would be great," said Michelle. ❄

100 Year Family Heritage Awards



Malcolm Gregory and members of his family were presented the Family Heritage Award for 113 years of dedication to the Cooperative Program.

The Jeter-Gregory family has provided weather observers at Santuck, SC, since 1893. Malcolm has maintained the family tradition, serving as the primary observer since 1972. He was presented the Holm Award in 2004 for his individual achievements and consistent accurate reports. The Heritage Award presentation was made in Asheville, NC, in partnership with the Earth Day celebration.

Scott Rayder from NOAA Headquarters presented the award. An interview with Malcolm was filmed as part of NOAA's 200 Year Celebration event for 2007.

Malcolm Gregory tells his family story for a videographer as part of NOAA's 200th Anniversary celebration.

75 Year Honored Institution Length of Service Award

The **Walters Hydro Plant** in western North Carolina has a 75 year history of recording the weather for the NWS Coop Program. DAPM Terry Benthall of NWS Greenville/Spartanburg, SC, presented the 75 Year Service Award to **Bruce Medford** who accepted on behalf of the plant staff.



60 Year Helmut E. Landsberg Award



From left, Brian Hirsch, MIC, NWS North Platte, NE, presents the Landsberg Award to Gerry Osborn.

NWS North Platte NE, presented the Landsberg Award for 60 years of service to **Mr. and Mrs. Gerry Osborn**, Coop Observers at Ainsworth, NE. The ceremony was followed by a luncheon at the Senior Citizen's Center.

Gerry Osborn began his weather observing at the age of 12 as his father's assistant and the secondary observer for Ainsworth. Over the next 20 years, his father instructed and mentored him on how to use the mercury- and alcohol-filled thermometers and to measure snowfall. For the next 5 years, Postmaster R. E. Skillman took over the observations for Ainsworth. In September 1966, Gerry and his wife became the official observers. They have watched the technology change from the liquid thermometers to digital thermometers and are now able to watch the temperature rise and fall from inside their house.

Gerry also received the Jefferson Award in 1999, the highest Cooperative Observer Award.

50 Year Edward H. Stoll Award



William R. Butler, center, received the Edward H. Stoll Award recognizing his 50 years of service as the Cooperative Observer for Pontotoc, MS.

The award was presented by Jim Belles, left, MIC; and Zwemer Ingram, DAPM, NWS Memphis, TN. Photo by Doug Vogelsang, NWS Memphis.

50 Year Honored Institution Award



The Camp 84 **Del Monte Plant** observers in Hawaii accepts their 50 Year Honored Institution Award. Pictured from left are observers **Artemio Guillermo**; **Marilou Cabello**; **Christine Pettipas**, Agriculture Supervisor; **Adelaida Hoof**; **Cesar Lorenzo**; **Eduardo Littleton**, General Manager; Kevin Kodama, Hydrologist, NWS Honolulu; **Florencio Villafior**, Lead Observer; and Mark Farnsworth, OPL.

Camp 84 observers help during the semi-annual review and inspection of the Fischer & Porter rain gage in the Kunia pineapple fields. This is one of the many rain gages monitored by Del Monte on more than 5,000 acres of leased land.

The city of **Statesville, NC**, has provided weather observations to the NWS for 50 years. On behalf of Statesville, **Jerry Byerly** accepted the 50 Year Honored Institution Length of Service Award from DAPM Terry Benthall, NWS Greenville/Spartansburg, SC.



50 Year Honored Institution Award



Larry Ruthi, left, MIC NWS Dodge City, KS, presents a 50 Year Honored Institution Award to **Jeff Elliott** of the **Kansas State University Southwest Research Extension Center** in Garden City, KS. Photo by OPL Jesse Lee.

NWS Atlanta, GA, presented a 50 Year Honored Institution Award to the staff of the **Georgia Forestry Commission** in Eastman, GA.

Pictured from left are **Terry Sowell**, **Jim Cravey**, Frank Taylor, of NWS Atlanta, **Michael Henderson** and **Lowery Noles**. Photo taken by Nathan Mayes, NWS Atlanta.



50 Year Honored Institution Award

From left, Michael Caropolo, MIC at NWS Wilmington, NC, presents a 50 Year Honored Institution Award to **Carol Banaitis**, and **Phil Edge** of the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at William O. Huske Lock and Dam**.



Ken Woody, left, manager of the **Plum Creek Timber Company, Jesup Orchard and Seed Nursery**, accepts the 50 Year Honored Institution Award from **Mike McAllister, OPL, NWS Jacksonville, FL**.

The Plum Creek Jesup Nursery is one of the South's oldest bareroot nurseries in continuous production. The nursery was opened on 20 acres in 1956 by Brunswick Pulp and today, under Plum Creek ownership, covers 75 acres. In its 50 year history, the Jesup Nursery has produced enough seedlings to regenerate 1.2 billion acres.

50 Year Honored Institution Award



Doris Messmer, left, of the **Arrowwood National Wildlife Refuge** near Edmunds, ND, accepted a 50 Year Honored Institution Award from Sandra Wiche, CPM at NWS Bismarck, ND. The refuge began taking cooperative weather observations in 1956.

From left, **Molokai Island Petro** employees **Socho Nishihira**, backup observer; and **Tony Lopez**, primary observer; accept a 50 Year Honored Institution Award from NWS Honolulu OPL Mark Farnsworth.



50 Year Honored Institution Award



Nancy Bishop of New Franklin, MO, accepts a 50 Year Honored Institution Award for the **University of Missouri Horticulture Research Center**, from Central Region DAPM Bob Bonack. Photo by Ken Bronis, NWS Pleasant Hill, MO.

NWS Atlanta, GA, presented a 50 Year Honored Institution Award to the staff of **Radio Station WSNT** in Sandersville, GA. WSNT also was honored with proclamations by the city of Sandersville and the Washington County Commissioners.

Pictured from left are Gary Beeley, Science and Operations Officer, NWS Atlanta, GA, and station owner "**Cowboy Capers**" Brazzell.



45 Year Dick Hagemeyer Award



Bobbie Foster, left, the Cornelia, GA, observer, was presented the Dick Hagemeyer Award for her 45 years of dedicated service in the Cooperative Observer Program. MIC Larry Gabric from WFO Greenville-Spartanburg, SC, presented the award. Photo by DAPM Terry Benthall.

Joseph and Velma Hannigan, observers in Norwood, CO, received a 45 Year Length of Service Award in front of their unique wooden entry way.

The Hagemeyer Award was presented by John Kyle, DAPM at NWS Grand Junction, CO.



45 Year Dick Hagemeyer Award

A crowd gathered in Cheyenne Wells, CO, as NWS Goodland, KS, paid tribute to three of its volunteer weather observers in Cheyenne County, CO.

Goodland MIC Scott Mentzer and OPL Leader Larry Boyd presented the awards to **Archie Cloud**, of Kit Carson, for 10 years of service; **Clement Mitchell**, of Cheyenne Wells, for 35 years of service; and **Carl Lovell**, of Arapaho, for 45 years of dedication. Each observer received a certificate and a pin. Carl also received a letter from NWS Director D.L. Johnson thanking him for his many years of public service and loyalty.



From left are Archie Cloud, Carl Lovell and Clement Mitchell showing their Service Awards. Picture by Larry Boyd, OPL, NWS Goodland, KS



From left, Steve Schurr, MIC NWS Valley, NE, presented a 45 Year Dick Hagemeyer Award to **Lloyd Vrtiska**, with help from OPL Terry Landsvork. Photo by Lloyd's wife, Betty Vrtiska.

Lloyd is no stranger to national awards. In 1990, he received the John Campanius Holm award. Thirteen years later he received NOAA's most prestigious Coop honor, the Thomas Jefferson Award. In addition to serving as a Coop volunteer, Lloyd donates many hours as a Shrine Clown, entertaining at hospitals, nursing homes, parades and many other events.

40 Year Length of Service Awards



NWS Shreveport, LA, presented a 40 Year Length of Service Award to **Robert R. Gentry**, left, of Many, LA. Helping to show the award is NWS Shreveport DAPM Marion Kuykendall.

J. C. Nance, right, receives his award for 40 years of service as the Cooperative Observer for Ripley, MS. The presentation was made by Doug Vogelsang, HMT, NWS Memphis, TN. Photo by Buzz Merchlewitz, NWS Memphis.



40 Year Length of Service Awards

Louise Yates, observer at Bismarck, AR, receives her 40 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Little Rock, AR, OPL Jimmy Russell, left, and HMT Michael Reid. Photo by Renee Fair, MIC, NWS Little Rock.



Ron Yurchak, center, received his 40 Year Length of Service Award from DAPM David Foose, left, NWS State College, PA, and CPM Paul Head of State College. Ron is a past recipient of the John Campanius Holm Award.

Among the many interesting observations Ron has sent in during his 40 years was one in June 2006. Ron recorded 20.11 inches of rain in Tamaqua, PA. This measurement is the 3rd highest rainfall total for any month in Pennsylvania.

40 Year Honored Institution Awards

John Rocky, center, accepts a 40 Year Honored Institution Award for the **Hawaii Agricultural Research Center** in Maunawili. Presenting the award are Senior Service Hydrologist Kevin Kodama, left, and OPL Mark Farnsworth, right.



NWS Honolulu HMT Mike Watkins, left, and Kevin Kodama, Senior Service Hydrologist present **Miki Nagatoshi**, an observer at the **Waikiki Zoo**, with a 40 Year Honored Institution Service Award.

40 Year Honored Institution Length of Service Awards

Randy Lite accepts the 40 Year Honored Institution Length of Service Award for the **Molokai Hospital** at the hospital's Fischer & Porter rain gage. The award was presented by NWS Honolulu staff.



35 Year Length of Service Awards



Walt Kaszynski, left, received a 35 Year Length of Service Award from MIC Gary Austin of Green Bay, WI.

In addition to serving as an observer, Walt, the station manager of WOCO Radio in Oconto, WI, held a radio talk show hosting Gary Austin and OPL Pat Hein. The NWS team explained the effects of El Niño and sunspots on the local climatology to the radio audience.

35 Year Length of Service Awards



John (not pictured) and **Helen Lehman** received a 35 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Dodge City, KS, DAPM John F. Orgler. The Lehmans are NWS observers at Coldwater, KS.

Jim Ligon, left, holds up his 35 Year Service Award in front of his home, Rocky Retreat Bed & Breakfast, at Sandy Springs, SC. NWS Greenville-Spartanburg MIC Larry Gabric, helps hold the award. Photo by DAPM Terry Benthall.



Mr. And Mrs. Paul L. McCallister, Cooperative Observers at Houston, MO, hold their 35 Year Length of Service Award presented by NWS Springfield, MO, HMT Larry Dooley.



30 Year Length of Service Awards



Warren Baird, racks up 30 years of service for observations at Tipton, IN. Mike Shartran, left, NWS Indianapolis, presented the award to Warren and his wife, **Judy**. Warren's distinguished Coop career includes the Holm and Jefferson awards. When asked how long an observation takes, Warren replied "About 15 to 30 minutes, depending on conditions, but I can get it done much faster on those cold blustery days."

Photo by Service Hydrologist Al Shipe.



Dan Wilson of Ogden, IA, proudly holds up his 30 Year Length of Service Award presented by Brad Fillbach, CPM, Des Moines, IA.



Steven Sartin of Valley City, MO, received his 30 Year Length of Service Award from Central Region Headquarters DAPM Bob Bonack.

Photo by Ken Bronis, NWS Pleasant Hill, MO.



Rose Hudson, observer at Canyon Dam, TX, received a 30 Year Length of Service Award from Joe Baskin, HMT, San Antonio, TX.

30 and 25 Year Length of Service Awards



Thomas Miller, the Souris River observer in Towner, ND, received a 30 Year Award from Sandra Wiche, CPM, Bismarck, ND. Thomas's father, John, started taking river observations on April 1, 1976, and the volunteer job has been in the family ever since. The Towner observing site has a wire weight gage and a staff gage. Thomas is pictured with his granddaughter **Ashley**.



Mānoa Lyon Arboretum staff members show off their 30 Year Institutional Award. The University of Hawaii Arboretum observers check rainfall, air and soil temperature. From left are Honolulu OPL Mark Farnsworth, Research Associate **Ray Baker**, Arborist **Leon Marcus**, NWS SSH Kevin Kodama and Arboretum staffer **Toki Murakami**.



Observer **Meryl Knapp** was presented a 30 Year Length of Service Award for her service near Rock, KS. Presenting the award is Leon Wasinger, CPM, NWS Wichita, KS.



Kevin Brewster, left, was recognized for 25 years of outstanding service at the **Eagle River, WI, Water Plant**. Presenting the award was HMT Scott Cultice, NWS Green Bay, WI.

25 Year Length of Service Awards



Observer **Randy Grossman**, center, of Denison, IA, shows his 25 year Length of Service Award with help from Des Moines, IA, MIC Brenda Brock and HMT Brad Fillbach.



Aubrey Hargis of Higbee, MO, received his 25 Year Length of Service Award from Met Intern Matthew Dux, NWS Pleasant Hill, MO.



Anton Haner, observer at Tarpley, TX, received a 25 Year Length of Service Award from Dennis Cook, HMT at NWS San Antonio, TX.



Ted Norcross at Stecoah, NC, was given a 25 Year Service Award by DAPM Terry Benthall NWS Greenville-Spartanburg, SC. Terry thanks Ted for the many years of service and hopes there will be many more to come!

25 Year Honored Institution Length of Service Awards



Jim Costa was presented a 25 Year Service Award for the **Highlands Biological Station**. MIC Larry Gabric, right, and DAPM Terry Benthall from NWS Greenville-Spartanburg, SC, made the presentation.



Mark Walker, left, accepts a 25 Year Honored Institution Award for the city of **Munford, TN**, from Jim Belles, MIC, Memphis, TN.



From left, **Scott Bailey** and **John Abromitis** accepted a 25 Year Honored Institution Length of Service Award on behalf of the **Selinsgrove Regional Sewer Authority**. Scott is such a meticulous record keeper that he still keeps a handwritten B-91 form at the office.



Doug Greer, manager of the **West Branch Wastewater Treatment Plant**, West Branch, MI, shows the plant's 25 Year Honored Institution Award presented by Dennis R. Fruehauf, CPM, NWS Gaylord, MI.

25 Year Length of Service Awards



Glen Oest, observer at Havana, IL, received a 25 Year Length of Service Award from Chris Geelhart, HMT, at NWS Central Illinois in Lincoln. Glen officially took over the Havana station in 1981, although he had been assisting the previous observer, his son, since the late 1970s.



J.C. "Pete" Pennington, left, was recognized by NWS Corpus Christi, TX, for 25 Years of Service as an NWS Coop Observer for Cross, TX. The award was presented by HMT Steve Smart and Forecaster Mark Wiley. Pete was presented with an award, letter of recognition, lapel pin and a NWS cap for his 25 years of service. Photo by Pete's wife, Elta.



Ralph Penrod of Kearney, MO, received his 25 Year Length of Service Award for his dedication and service in a presentation by HMT Harry Morgan, NWS Pleasant Hill, MO.



Observer **Priscilla L. Rivers** was presented a 25 Year Length of Service Award for the Grenola, KS, area. Presenting the award was Leon Wasinger, CPM, NWS Wichita, KS.

25 and 20 Year Length of Service Awards



Coop Observer **Kenneth Stone** was given a 25 Year Award for the Cherryvale, KS, area. The award was presented to Kenneth and his wife, **Ann**, by NWS Wichita, KS, CPM Leon Wasinger, left.



Genevieve Tam, observer at Cuero, TX, received a 25 Year Length of Service Award from Joe Baskin, HMT, San Antonio, TX.



The town of **Crested Butte, CO**, received a 25 Year Honored Institution Award. The award was presented to **Larry Adams** by John Kyle, DAPM, NWS Grand Junction, CO.



Carol Adams of Easton, KS, received her 20 Year Length of Service Award from HMT Harry Morgan, NWS Pleasant Hill, MO.

20 Year Length of Service Awards



John D. Avery, Coop Observer for Mountain Grove, MO, was presented a 20 Year Length of Service Award by Paul A. Murphy, DAPM NWS Springfield, MO.



From left, Grand Junction, CO, MIC Doug Crowley presents a 20 Year Award to **Raymon Bascom** of Maeser, UT. Photo by Lead Forecaster Jeff Colton. Also present was WCM Jim Pringle.



William "Bill" Hatfield was presented with a 20 Year Award by NWS Grand Rapids, MI, OPL George Wetzel. Also attending were Aviation Focal Point John Kowaleski and ASA Kathy Hills. Bill, and his wife, **Nancy**, own a crop spraying business and maintain a fleet of up to five planes. The couple has their own grass airstrip. The business has grown to include aircraft fabrication, hanger door construction and maintenance. On a visit to their observing site, you might see a biplane descending over the tree tops or wild turkeys running across the property.



Martin Dillingham, the Barnardsville, NC, observer, received his 20 Year Award from DAPM Terry Benthall, NWS Greenville/Spartanburg, SC. Martin's hobbies include playing bluegrass music and attending music festivals. You may find him at the local civic center playing his guitar in a bluegrass band or playing songs for students from Mars Hill College.



Patricia Hackert of Palisade, NE, received her 20 Year Length of Service Award from Larry Boyd, OPL, NWS Goodland, KS. Her husband had taken the observations there 30 years previously, so they have 50 years of observations from Palisade.

20 Year Length of Service Awards



From left, **Earl Hawkins** of Roosevelt, UT, accepts a 20 Year Length of Service award from Grand Junction, CO, MIC Doug Crowley. Photo by lead forecaster Jeff Colton.



NWS Dodge City DAPM John F. Orgler, presented a 20 Year Award to **Phyllis** and **Larry** (non pictured) **Scherich** of Wilmore, KS.



John Hoffman, left, of Wessington, SD, accepted his 20 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Sioux Falls DAPM Donald Morin. John says he really enjoys watching and recording the weather and that's why he sticks with the job. Photo by NWS Sioux Falls Lead Meteorologist Richard Ryrholm.



Bill Klein, right, manager of Michigan State University's **Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Station**, is shown receiving his **20 Year Award**. At left, **Myron Anderson**, also of the horticultural research station, shows his **15 Year Service Award**. The presentations were made by Dennis R. Fruehauf, CPM, NWS Gaylord, MI.



Helen Mayberry of Washita, AR, receives her 20 year Length of Service Award. Helen took over the observations from her mother, Nora Mayberry, who was the cooperative observer at Washita from 1951 through 1986. Photo by Jimmy Russell, OPL, Little Rock, AR.

20 and 15 Year Length of Service Awards



Sue Steinhaus, of Crivitz, WI, shows her 20 Year Length of Service Award. **Mark**, our youngest Coop Observer in Northeast Wisconsin, helps Sue obtain the daily readings. **Dick Steinhaus**, left, helps take snow core samples.



Brenda and **David Van Meter** hold up their 20 Year Length of Service Award for their dedicated service at Sanford, KS. The award was presented by Jesse Lee, OPL at NWS Dodge City, KS.



Andy Weir, right, of Chester, SC, was presented a 20 Year Length of Service Award by Terry Benthall, DAPM, NWS Greenville/Spartanburg, SC. Photo by Met Intern Greg Schoor.



Marian Baker, Service Hydrologist in the Des Moines, IA, NWS office, presents a 20 Year Award to **Steve Watts** of Sac City, IA.



Richard and **Ann Abel**, left, of Kokomo, IN, received a 15 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Indianapolis HMT Ed Terrell. Photo by DAPM Mike Shartran.

15 Year Length of Service Awards



Allan Brown of Progresso, NM, holds up his 15 year pin presented by Joseph A. Alfieri, OPL, NWS Albuquerque, NM.



Herbert Brockhaus of Kingsville, MO, received his 15 Year Length of Service Award from HMT Ken Bronis, NWS Pleasant Hill, MO.



Robert (not pictured) and **Marian Easley** of Placitas, NM, received their 15 Year Length of Service Award, presented by Joseph A. Alfieri, OPL, NWS Albuquerque, NM.



Observer **Carol Desutter** of Attica, IN, received a 15 Year Award from Phil Gray of NWS Indianapolis. Carol is also an avid gardener. Photo by Service Hydrologist Al Shipe.



Jimmy Gore of Whiteville, NC, holds up his 15 Year Length of Service Award presented by Gene Funderburk of NWS Wilmington, NC.

15 Year Length of Service Awards



Juliette and **John Guth** are both dam operators for the **Wisconsin Valley Improvement Co.** and were recently recognized for 15 years of outstanding service for observations taken at the Eau Pleine, WI, Reservoir.



Gary Hibbs, Coop Observer from Rexford, KS, received his 15 Year Length of Service Award from Larry Boyd, OPL, NWS Goodland, KS.



Zelda Jones, Coop Observer for Garrison, MO, holds her 15 Year Length of Service Award presented by HMT Larry Dooley and DAPM Paul A Murphy, NWS Springfield, MO.



William Jones, left, shows his 15 Year Award for acting as dam tender for the **Wisconsin Valley Improvement Co.** and taking observations at St. Germain, WI. Presenting the award is HMT Scott Cultice of NWS Green Bay, WI.

Ben Ledford, left, the Marshall, NC, Coop Observer, was presented a 15 Year Length of Service Award by DAPM Terry Benthall NWS Greenville/Spartanburg, SC. Thanks Ben!



15 and 10 Year Length of Service Awards



Robert Ripley of Oregon, MO, received his 15 Year Length of Service Award from OPL George Amis, NWS Pleasant Hill, MO. Photo by **Mrs. Ripley**.



NWS Grand Rapids OPL George Wetzell presented a 15 Year Award to **Jane Sawtell**, of Ionia, MI. Jane is a library assistant in Ionia. Jane and her husband, **Joe**, also provide back-up river observations for the Grand River. Ionia has a history of flooding, making the Sawtells' service invaluable.



Williams, IA, observer **Steve Mark**, right, shows his 15 Year Length of Service Award with help from Jeff Johnson, WCM, NWS Des Moines IA.



Linda Casper of Lewistown, IL, accepted a 10 Year Length of Service Award from MIT Dan Kelly of NWS Lincoln, IL. Weather observing runs in the family. Linda's father, **Jim Mitchell**, has been the observer for nearby Avon, IL, since April 1963.

Jeffrey Markovitz of Pen Argyl, PA, shows his 10 Year Award presented by Bill Christ, CPM, NWS Philadelphia, PA. Photo by Valerie Meola, Meteorologist Intern.



10 Year Length of Service Awards



Ross Denslow, left, at Lake Toxaway, NC, was presented a 10 Year Service Award by MIC Larry Gabric from NWS Greenville-Spartanburg, SC.



Larry Dennis, Cooperative Observer at Mansfield, MO, holds his 10 Year Length of Service Award presented by HMT Larry Dooley.



Phillip Frank, left, of Athens, IL, accepted a 10 Year Length of Service Award from MIT Dan Kelly, of NWS Lincoln, IL. Photo by **Mrs. Phillip Frank**.



Frank Haight, Jr. of Independence, MO, received his 10 Year Award from HMT Ken Bronis, NWS Pleasant Hill, MO.



A 10 Year Length of Service Award was presented by Jesse Lee, NWS Dodge City, KS, to **Mrs. Martin R. Johns** of Richfield, KS.



Curtis Jeffers of Odessa, MO, received his 10 Year Length of Service Award from OPL George Amis, NWS Pleasant Hill, MO.

10 Year Length of Service Awards



Louise Kraft from Shields, ND, received a 10 Year Award for her work with NWS Bismarck, ND. Louise collects rainfall, snowfall and snow depth reports. The award was presented by Bismarck OPL Len Peterson.



Cindy Paris was given a 10 Year Length of Service Award. Cindy provides temperature, rainfall and river stage reports for Hot Springs, NC.



John F. Orgler, NWS Dodge City, KS, DAPM presented a 10 Year Award to **Mike Helmley** of Kiowa, KS. John also presented a 5 Year Length of Service Award to Mike's backup and brother-in-law **Kavin Palmer**.

Chris Neville of Mount Pulaski, IL, was presented a 10 Year Length of Service Award by DAPM Billy Ousley of the NWS office in Lincoln, IL. No photo available.



Bill Pickett of Newberry, IN, received a 10 Year Award for monitoring the level of the White River from a staff gage near his home. The award was presented by NWS Indianapolis DAPM Mike Shartran, Service Hydrologist Al Shipe, and HMTs Phil Gray and Ed Terrell. Pictured from left are Ed Terrell, Bill Pickett and Mike Shartran. Photo by Al Shipe.



Gerald D. Pilcher, Cooperative Observer for Horton and Nevada, MO, holds his 10 Year Length of Service Award presented by HMT Larry Dooley, of NWS Springfield, MO.

10 Year Length of Service Awards



Observer **Tim Plett** was given a 10 Year Award for his service at Cassoday, KS. Presenting the award was CPM Leon Wasinger of the NWS Wichita, KS, office.



Leon Wasinger, CPM, NWS Wichita, KS, presented Observer **LaFaye Noble** of Bartlett, KS, with a 10 Year Length of Service Award.



Greg Pitchford of Chillicothe, MO, received a 10 Year Length of Service Award from HMT Harry Morgan, NWS Pleasant Hill, MO.



Archie L. Rebold, observer at Granger, TX, shows his 10 Year Length of Service Award. The award was given by Pat McDonald, HMT, NWS San Antonio, TX.



A 10 Year Service Award was presented to **Robert Richards** of Stanley, WI, by MIC Craig Edwards, NWS Chanhassen, MN.



It was a bright summer day when **Wayne Saxton** accepted his 10 Year Award for his observing work at Alexandria, SD. The award was presented by Meteorological Intern and photographer Tim Masters of NWS Sioux Falls, SD.

10 and 5 Year Length of Service Awards



A 10 Year Length of Service Award was presented to **Don** and **Priscilla Smith**, left, of Arcadia, LA, by Marion Kuykendall, DAPM, NWS Shreveport, LA.



Terry Schoeni of Overland Park, KS, received his 10 Year Length of Service Award from HMT Ken Bronis, NWS Pleasant Hill, MO.



A 10 Year Length of Service Award was presented by NWS Hastings, NE, DAPM Marla K. Doxey to **Kirk Wilson** of Ionia, KS. Kirk follows in the footsteps of his father, Waldo, who was the observer from March 1, 1970, until his death in September 1996.



Franklin Woods of Kansas City, MO, received his 10 Year Length of Service Award from HMT Ken Bronis, NWS Pleasant Hill, MO.



Clark and **Connie Youngblood** of Colfax, LA, hold up their 10 Year Service Award presented by HMT Christian Stapleton, right, of NWS Shreveport, LA.



John F. Orgler, DAPM, NWS Dodge City, KS, presented a 5 Year Award to **William (Dub) Campbell** and his wife **Betty** (not pictured) of Pratt, KS.

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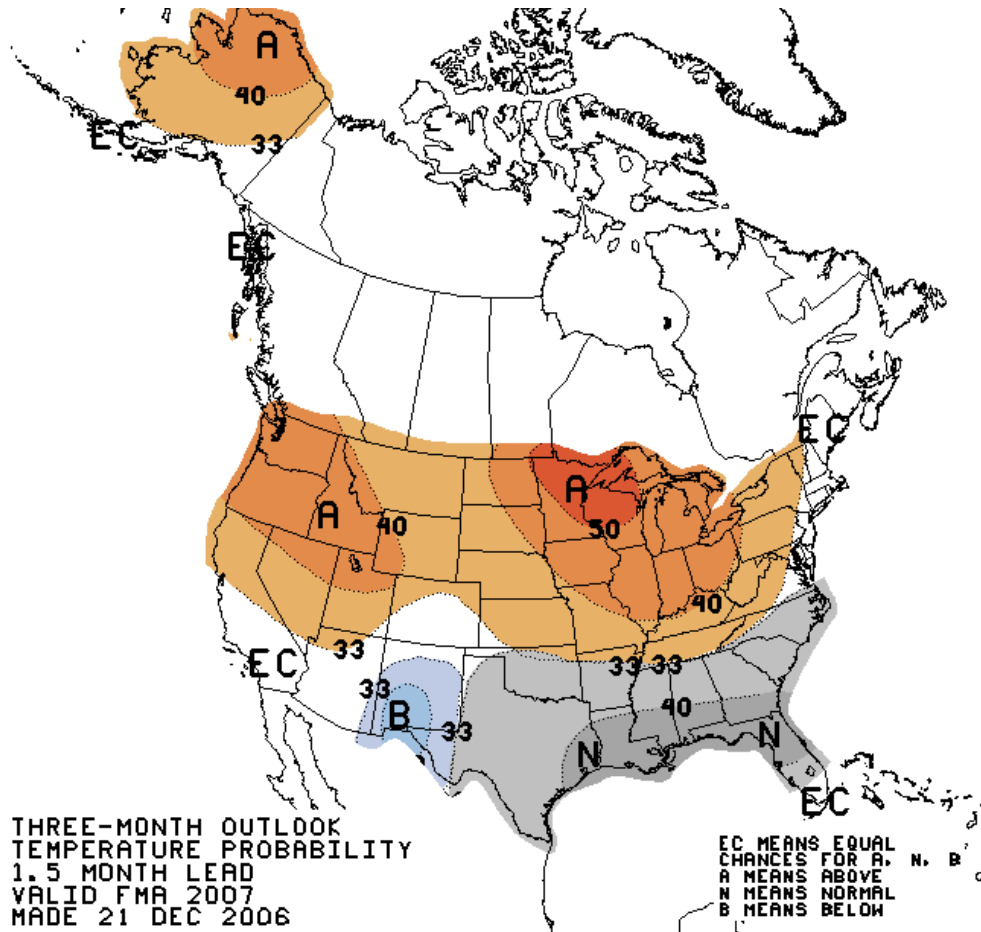
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Winter 2006/2007



February, March and April Temperature Outlook from the Climate Prediction Center



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