



The National Cooperative Observer

The National Cooperative Observer is an online newsletter.

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

Summer 2010

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Bridge Named After Stoll Award Winner

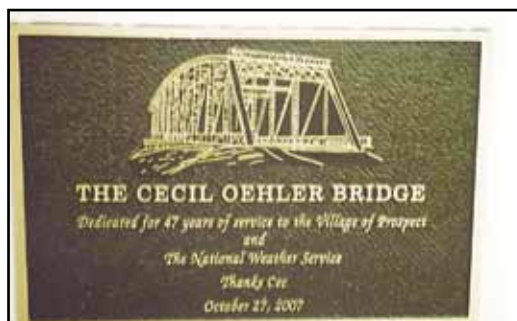
NWS Coop Observer **Cecil Oehler** is known not only for the high quality of his weather observations but for a bridge. Cecil recently was honored by having the newly constructed bridge in Prospect, OH, named for him.

Cecil has been a weather watcher since 1959, recording and reporting the river depths for the Scioto River. When not observing weather, he ran a gas station in Prospect and then worked for the Marion County Engineers road department. He was employed at the department for almost 20 years as a timekeeper.

On June 17, 2010, Cecil was presented the Edward H. Stoll Award for 50 years as a Cooperative Observer in Prospect, OH. The award was presented on the newly



Brian Mitchell, OPL, NWS Cleveland Ohio, Coop Observer **Cecil Oehler**; and Cleveland MIC William Comeaux.



The plaque above appears on the bridge name after Cecil Oehler in Prospect, OH.

renamed Cecil Oehler Bridge. In attendance were the following: Lora Mueller, Regional Cooperative Program Manager (CPM) NWS Eastern Region Headquarters; William Comeaux, Meteorologist in Charge (MIC) NWS Cleveland; Brian Mitchell, Observing Program Leader (OPL); Marty Thompson, Hydrometeorological Technician (HMT); Sarah Jamison, Senior Service Hydrologist (SSH); Larry Mumper, Retired State Senator responsible for the bridge named in Cecil's honor; Andy Appelfeller, County Commissioner; Brad Irons, County Engineer.

The event was covered by reporters from *The Marion Star Newspaper*; *The Delaware Gazette Newspaper*; *The Richwood Gazette Newspaper*; and *WMRN Marion Radio Station*. ✨

Weather Goes Green in Hawaii

By [Mark Fansworth](#), OPL

Over the course of several days, the Pacific Region's Facilities Lead Engineer, Anson Piimauna, NWS Honolulu Meteorological Intern Steve Harrison and OPL Mark Farnsworth set up a new Coop site at the University of Hawaii's **Urban Garden Center** (UGC).

The team installed a standard rain gauge and a line trenched for the maximum/minimum temperature system cable to run from the sensor through a garden, under a road, across a driveway and into the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) administrative building and finally to the display unit.

The UGC, in Pearl City, Oahu, joins three other agricultural research stations on the island that record daily weather information.

Since 1989, the center has offered community volunteers a chance to expand and share their expertise. Under the direction of Ray Uchida, the Oahu County Administrator for CTAHR, together with onsite 4H Agent Steven Nagano, and Urban Horticulturist and Oahu Master Gardener Coordinator Jayme Grzebik, the center offers a wide gamut of horticultural knowledge to anyone interested in going green.

Hundreds of trees are cultivated at the center, most of which are given away on Arbor Day. Volunteers conduct school tours through the 30 acres of carefully tended vegetable, herb and flower gardens, tropical fruit orchards and native Hawaiian plants.

The newly installed weather equipment

has taken root in the UGC landscape and has become a featured part of the tours. The UGC is a place to learn and gain practical experience about our natural world. Thousands of people visit annually to take



University of Hawaii's Urban Garden Center staff and Observers [Steve Nagano](#), [Jayme Grzebik](#), [Beatriz Aragon-Balgas](#) and [Richard Fisher](#).

advantage of courses offered in organic and sustainable gardening, composting, vermiculture, grafting and even weather.

Kevin Kodama, NWS SSH, recently gave a presentation on the types of weather equipment and how Coop and other data are used by farmers, forecasters and climatologists.

The weather information collected will eventually be included on the UGC Website to help university researchers evaluate growing conditions at the center.

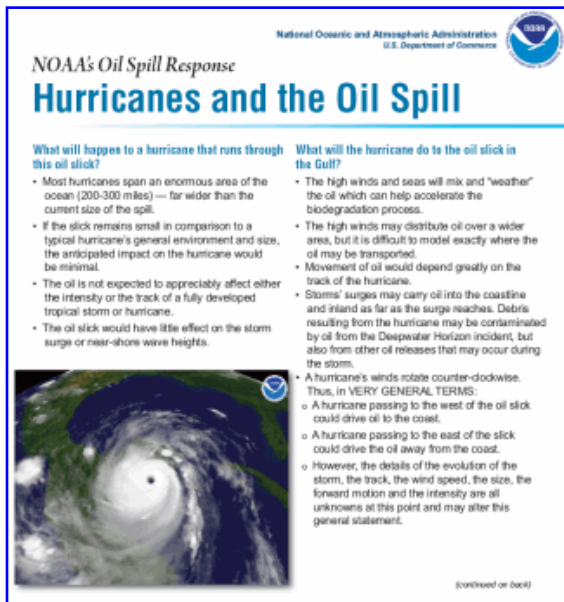
Special thanks to Office Manager [Beatriz Aragon-Balgas](#) for recording temperatures and inputting the data into the WxCoder III system, and to [Steve Nagano](#) and his crew, [Richard Fisher](#), [Lito Cacho](#) and [Ben Cacho](#) for taking the rainfall readings. ☀

The newly installed weather equipment has taken root in the UGC landscape and has become a featured part of the tours.

NOAA's Oil Spill Response, Hurricanes and the Oil Spill

By [Melody Magnus](#), Managing Editor

The NOAA Communications Group and NOAA's National Hurricane Center have created a convenient, concise explanation of how hurricanes will impact the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill site. With NOAA predicting



[NOAA's Oil Spill Response, Hurricanes and the Oil Spill](#) is available to download.

a more active than normal hurricane season, many people are concerned about how weather will impact continued efforts to repair and recover from this enormous environmental disaster.

The flyer, [NOAA's Oil Spill Response, Hurricanes and the Oil Spill](#) is a concise, attractive back and front flyer that details:

- What will happen to a hurricane that runs through the oil slick?
- What will the hurricane do to the oil slick in the Gulf?
- Will the oil slick help or hurt a storm developing in the Gulf?
- Will the hurricane pull up the oil that is below the surface of the Gulf?

- Have we had experience in the past with hurricanes and oil spills?
- Will there be oil in the rain related to a hurricane?

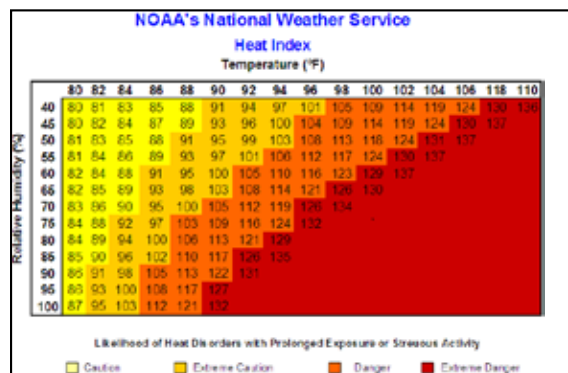
Various NOAA agencies are assisting with the cleanup and recovery efforts in many ways: from wildlife and habitat restoration and recovery to weather support and much more. You can learn more at the [NOAA Office of Response and Restoration Website](#). ☼

New Excessive Heat Page

By [Jannie G. Ferrell](#), Health Weather Program Lead, NWS Fire and Public Weather Services

Thanks to Intern [August Veron](#), NWS Louisville, KY, NWS now has an improved Heat Awareness Web page. Last summer, August saw the need to update our Heat Awareness page and volunteered his services. The new [Heat Awareness Web page](#) emphasizes the dangers of excessive heat, the No. 1 weather-related killer over the last 30 years, and provides heat safety tips.

The heat page includes a detailed section on the risk of leaving children in a parked vehicle. Children are dying from hyperthermia even in moderate temperatures. Child safety



NWS has redone its Heat Safety page with new features, graphics and safety tips.

tips are provided to help stop this tragedy.

The page includes a higher resolution heat chart, new graphics, more science and many other helpful features. ☼

Various NOAA agencies are assisting with the cleanup and recovery efforts in many ways: from wildlife and habitat restoration and recovery to weather support and much more.

Thomas Jefferson Award

Roland L. Hansen, a Thomas Jefferson Award winner, is an outstanding Observer with 58 years of service. In addition to the award, Roland was presented a jacket with his name and “National Weather Service Cooperative Observer” custom embroidered on the front.

Fairfield is a small town in northern Utah about 25 to 30 miles west of Provo. Roland was a Holm Award recipient in 1987. He received the Edward H. Stoll Award in 2003 and the Benjamin Franklin Award in 2008.



Roland L. Hansen, center, Observer in Fairfield, UT, was presented the Thomas Jefferson Award by Larry Dunn, left, MIC, NWS Salt Lake City, and Steve Summy, OPL, NWS Salt Lake City, UT. Also attending but not pictured are Susan Nelson, Western Region Cooperative Program Manager; and Marie Cook, Roland's daughter.

John Campanius Holm Award



Marvin Mair, center, Observer at Echo Dam, UT, was presented the John Campanius Holm Award by Larry Dunn, MIC, right, NWS Salt Lake City, UT, and Steve Summy, left, OPL. Photo by Eugene VanCor, HMT/CPM.

Marvin Mair took over the weather observing duties from his father 42 years ago and has provided the accurate and consistent observations ever since. Marvin was also presented with a jacket with his name and “National Weather Service Cooperative Observer” embroidered on it. Echo Dam is in northern Utah about 50 miles east of Salt Lake City.

100, 75 Year Honored Institution Awards

Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company (WVIC), caretaker of the Wisconsin River, was honored for a century of cooperation and agreements with the NWS. WVIC has many Observers along the Wisconsin River that have provided us with an invaluable and continuous record of observations.



Pictured from left is Pat Hein, OPL, NWS Green Bay, WI; **Thomas Kipp**, WVIC Vice President; and **Sam Morgan**, WVIC Vice President of Operations and General Manager. Photo by Gary Austin, MIC, NWS Green Bay, WI.



From left, **Marco Rodriguez**, **Henry Garcia** and **Clint Conrad**, Observers for the city government of Brackettville, TX, accept a 75 Year Honored Institution Award for Brackettville. Photo by Joe Baskin, HMT, NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX.

75 Year Honored Institution Awards



A 75 Year Honored Institution Award was presented to the **Mountain Lake Corporation** at Lake Wales, FL. From left are NWS Tampa Bay Area Met Intern **Nicole Carlisle**, MIC **Brian LaMarre**, Mountain Lake Corp. Maintenance Staff **John Heintzelman**, Supervisor **Gary Stephens**, NWS Met Intern **Tyler Fleming**, HMT **Tom Dougherty**, and Mountain Lake Corp Maintenance **Ron Byrd**. Among the notable weather events the station recorded was the tropical season of 2004 where the center of hurricanes Charley, Frances and Jeanne passed within 15 miles, dropping a total of over 17 inches of rain and causing major tree damage to the area. Photo by Chip Newton, *Lake Wales News*.

The **Union Correctional Institution**, formerly the Florida State Prison and Raiford State Prison, was recognized with a 75 Year Honored Institution Award. Record taking at this facility began on April 20, 1925. The climate record can be pushed all the way back to 1896 with incorporation of two nearby defunct sites: Johnstown and Lake Butler. From left are **Barry Reddish**, Warden, Union Correctional Institution and **Michael McAllister**, OPL, NWS Jacksonville, FL.



65 Year Albert J. Myer Award



A 65 Year Albert J. Myer Award was presented to the **Richardson family**. Pictured from left, Mike Vescio, MIC at Pendleton, OR; Observer **Bonnie Richardson**, and Susan Nelson, CPM, NWS Western Region Headquarters.

50 Year Edward H. Stoll Award



Bob Tibi, right, Director, NWS Western Region, presented the Edward H. Stoll Award for 50 years of dedicated volunteer service to **John Loch** in Dutton, MT. The Loch family has more than 71 years of dedicated volunteer service to the Coop Program. Michael Mercer, MIC, and Jerome Saucier, OPL of the Great Falls, MT NWS Forecast Office also took part in the ceremony.

50 Year Edward H. Stoll Award



Bob Tibi, right, Director, NWS Western Region, presented the Edward H. Stoll Award to **Helen Wellborn** in Grant, MT. Michael Mercer, MIC, and Jerome Saucier, OPL of NWS Great Falls, MT, were present to congratulate Helen and her husband **Bill**.

50 Year Honored Institution Awards

The **University of Missouri Southwest Center** at Mount Vernon, MO, was presented the 50 Year Honored Institution Award. The award was presented by NWS Springfield, MO, WCM Steve Runnels, right, to Southwest Center Director **Richard Crawford** and staff member **Carla Rathmann**. Photo by OPL Larry Dooley.



From left, NWS Jackson, KY, Forecaster Dave Shallenberger and MIC Shawn Harley present a 50 Year Honored Institution Award to **Lee Hoskins; Diane Harris**, Park Manager; **Nate Hoskins; Dee Goldman; Vernon Meek; Chris Farley**; and **Priscilla Southwood**, staff at **Buckhorn Lake**. Photo by OPL Dave Stamper.

40, 35 and 30 Year Length of Service Awards



Left center, Observer **Arnold Finklin** surrounded by NWS staff members Jessica Nolte, Jeff Kitsmiller, LeeAnn Allegretto, Chris Gibson; back, Ray Nickless, Stan Krenz, Bruce Bauck, Al Kolata and Bob Nester.

Arnold Finklin, Missoula, MT, proudly holds his 40 Year Length of Service Award. Bruce Bauck, MIC, presented the award. Arnold has a deep understanding of the weather and climate across the northern Rockies. In addition to maintaining an accurate and complete record for his station over the past 40 years, Arnold authored several publications during his career as a National Forest Service meteorologist describing the climate of surrounding wilderness areas and ecosystems. Arnold is also a recipient of the John Campanius Holm and Thomas Jefferson Awards.

From right, **Larry Rothbauer**, of Hallettsville, TX, accepts a 35 Year Length of Service Award from Joe Baskin, HMT, NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX. Photo by Chuck Grafe, *Hallettsville Tribune Herald*.



C. Dale Barnaby, Observer, at Nunn, CO, received his 30 Year Length of Service Award with his wife **Kahla**. The award was presented by James Kalina, Intern, Boulder, CO.



30 and 25 Year Length of Service Awards



From left, OPL Frank Taylor, NWS Peachtree City, GA, presented a 30 Year Length of Service Award to **Mamie** and **Rindall Dunston** of Americus, GA. Photo by Christopher Dunston, grandson of Mamie and Rindall.



Stephen and **Lois Fenster** of Healy, KS, were presented with a 30 Year Length of Service Award by MIC Larry Ruthi, left, NWS Dodge City KS. Photo by Jesse Lee, OPL. Stephen and Lois took over the station in Healy from Lois's aunt in 1980. The station was begun by Herlan S. Jennison in 1901 at Farnsworth, 4 miles northeast of Healy. The station has been in the Jennison family for 109 years!



Helen Kendall from Hilger, MT, received a 30 Year Length of Service Award. Presenting the award was NWS Great Falls, MT, OPL, Jerome Saucier.

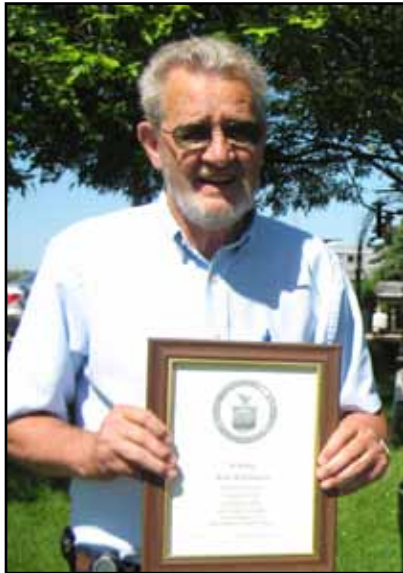


George Bomar of Dripping Springs, TX, shows his 25 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented to him by Patrick McDonald, NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX.

25 Year Length of Service Awards



Richard Corkrean of Winterset, IA, receives his 25 Year Length of Service Award presented to him by Brad Fillbach, HMT, NWS Des Moines, IA.



Ross Rekemeyer of Albia, IA, recently received his 25 Year Length of Service Award from Brad Fillbach, HMT, NWS Des Moines, IA.



Bonnie and **Richard Kenyon** of McCarthy, AK, received their 25 Year Awards from Alaska Region CPM Jim Jones, center. Bonnie and Richard observe from the largest U.S. National Park and Reserve, the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. McCarthy is at the end of more than 60 miles of gravel roads and is the site of the historic Kennecott Copper Mine. Surrounded by 9 of the 16 highest U.S. mountains, the park also has the greatest concentration of glaciers on the continent. Photo by Coop/QC Specialist Michael Kutz.



Robert "Lightning" Petersen, left, of Ringsted, IA, receives his 25 Year Length of Service Award from Brad Fillbach, HMT, NWS Des Moines, IA.

25 Year Length of Service Awards



NWS was proud to present **Herbert** and **Sharon Schwarz** with a 25 Year Length of Service Award for their volunteer service in the Cooperative Observer Program.



Steve Sands, "Mr. Weather" of San Marcos, TX, shows his 25 Year Length of Service Award. He was awarded the John Companius Holm Award two years ago. He is one of a kind and a good friend. Photo by Patrick McDonald from the WFO Austin/San Antonio, TX.



Babs Reynolds, Observer at Whittier, AK, accepts her 25 Year Length of Service Award from Michael Kutz, Alaska Region Headquarter Specialist. She is the second 25 Year Award recipient for Whittier. The town serves as one of southcentral Alaska's gateways to Prince William Sound, and is one of Alaska's most hazardous weather locations. Photo by Kelly Harris, Alaska Region Mobile Emergency Unit Specialist.



Jerry Wall from Round Rock, TX, received his 25 Year Length of Service Award from Patrick McDonald, NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX. Jerry is a fine member of his community and is always lending a helping hand.

25 Year Service and Honored Institution Awards



Greensburg Indiana Water Plant received a 25 Year Honored Institution Award. From left are Ed Terrell, OPL, NWS Indianapolis, IN, and Observers **Dave Hellmich**, **Sandie Garrison** and **Rick Denny**. Not pictured are Observers **Troy Spires**, **James Clark** and **Stephanie Oliver**. Photo by Brad Herold.



Roger Williams of Virginia City, MT, shows his 25 Year Length of Service Award. Jerome Saucier, OPL, NWS Great Falls, MT, presented the award.

20 Year Length of Service Awards



NWS Bismarck, ND, was proud to present **Lynette Klimpel** from Velva, ND, with a 20 Year Length of Service Award for her volunteer work in the Cooperative Observer Program.



From left, OPL Frank Taylor, NWS Peachtree City, GA, presents a 20 Year Length of Service Award to Observer **Grace Owens** of Curryville, GA, with help from Meteorologist Laura Belanger.

20 and 15 Year Length of Service Awards



Mark von Waldner, right, **University of Georgia**, Atkinson County Extension Coordinator, shows his 20 Year Length of Service Award presented by Mike McAllister, OPL, NWS Jacksonville, FL. Rainfall readings have been taken at the Atkinson County Extension office for more than 57 years. Photo by Daniel Lavender with Natural Resource Conservation Service Pearson Office.



Mike Meier, right, Observer at Monett, MO, was presented with a 15 Year Length of Service Award by NWS Springfield, MO, WCM Steve Runnels. Photo by OPL Larry Dooley.

Alma Smart of Rocksprings, TX, displays her 15 Year Length of Service Award. Alma generously lends her hand to many community activities in addition to serving as an Observer. Photo by Patrick McDonald, NWS WFO Austin/San Antonio, TX.



Gerald and Onie Pilcher, Observers at Horton, MO, received a 15 Year Length of Service Award from Science and Operations Officer (SOO) Dave Gaede, left, NWS Springfield, MO. Photo by OPL Larry Dooley.



Janet Lindstrom of Rockwell City, IA, receives her 15 Year Length of Service Award from Brad Fillbach, HMT, NWS Des Moines, IA.

15 and 10 Year Length of Service Awards



Floyd Skellenger, left, of Northwood, IA, receives his 15 Year Length of Service Award from Rob Deroy, DAPM, NWS Des Moines, IA.



Noel Connet, right, Observer at Fort Scott, KS, receives a 10 Year Length of Service Award from SOO Dave Gaede. Photo by OPL Larry Dooley.



Bernard Foster, left, of Riggins, ID, received a 10 Year Length of Service Award from DAPM Stan Krenz. Photo by Brandon Crabtree, NWS Missoula, MT.

A 10 Year Length of Service Award was presented to **Jerry Altman** of Fargo, GA. Jerry works for Superior Pine Products Company and monitors the Fischer & Porter gauge at the Fargo site. Mike McAllister, OPL at NWS Jacksonville, FL, presented the award. No photo available.



From left, **Kelly Isham** and **Barbara Hejtmanek** of Howe, ID, accept their 10 Year Length of Service Award from Gary Wicklund, OPL, NWS Pocatello, ID. Photo by WCM Rick Dittmann.



Frances Kaiser, Observer at Vienna, MI, shows her 10 Year Length of Service Award presented by OPL Larry Dooley.



Rick McDaniel, Observer for the Marmaton River at Fort Scott, KS, receives a 10 Year Length of Service Award from SOO Dave Gaede. Photo by OPL Larry Dooley.

10, 5 and Special Service Awards



Ruth Merja of Sun River, MT, received a 10 Year Length of Service Award. Presenting the award was NWS Great Falls, MT, OPL Jerome Saucier.



Al Siebenaler from Kerrville, TX, accepts his 10 Year Length of Service Award from Patrick McDonald, NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX. Photo by Ms. Eastwood, Administrative Support Assistant.



John Taylor, from Taylor, TX, shows his 10 Year Award presented by his good friend, Patrick McDonald, NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX. John sends NWS weather data not only from WXCODER, but also from his own weather Website. John follows a long list of faithful Observers from Taylor, including Herbert Patterson whose observations began in 1933.



Glenda Brindley, Observer at Hale, MI, shows her Special Service Award for 8.5 years of service, presented as she leaves the Coop program. During this time Glenda not only provided temperature and precipitation data for her area but did a stellar job of providing evaporation data. Glenda and her family are moving to Kentucky and will be greatly missed. Award and photo by Denny Fruehauf, NWS Gaylord, MI.

Maggie Montgomery from Bankersmith, TX, received her 10 Year Length of Service Award from Patrick McDonald, NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX. No photo available.



Mick Ware of Bedford, IA, receives a Letter of Appreciation for his 5 Years of Service presented by Brad Fillbach, HMT, NWS Des Moines, IA.

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September, October, November Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks From the Climate Prediction Center

