



The National Cooperative Observer

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

Fall 2012

Inside

History of the Weather Service: 1871 to Present
2

Thomas Jefferson Awards
4

John Campanius Holm Awards
5

100, 75 Year Honored Institution Awards
7

Edward R. Stoll 50 Year Award
9

Dick Hagemeyer 45 Year Award:
11

Special Recognition Award
21

25 Year Honored Institution Awards
15

Length of Service Awards
40 Year: 11
35 Year: 12
30 Year: 13
25 Year: 15
20 Year: 17
15 Year: 19
10 Year: 22

December, January, February Temperature and Precipitation Outlook
25

Thomas Jefferson Award Presented to Local Radio Station Observer



*From left, Cooperative Program Manager (CPM) **Brad Fillbach**, NWS Des Moines, and Jefferson Award Winner **Randy Grossman***

Randy Grossman of Denison, IA, was selected by the National Weather Service as a recipient of the prestigious Thomas Jefferson Award. The Jefferson Award is the highest honor bestowed on an NWS Cooperative Observer. To be eligible for this honor, the nominee must already have received the John Campanius Holm Award, the second highest honor given to an Observer.

Randy was nominated for his outstanding record of consistency and accuracy as an NWS Observer.

To recognize this achievement, a ceremony was held at KDSN Radio Station in Denison where Randy works. Cooperative Program Manager (CPM) **Brad Fillbach**, NWS Des Moines, IA, and

NWS Meteorologist-in-Charge (MIC) **Brenda Brock** presented Randy with his Award.

Randy commented, "I've been employed at KDSN Radio in Denison since September of 1975. My duties at KDSN include sports director, salesman, and on-air personality.

"In 1977, I became the Observer at KDSN and have been doing it ever since. I've enjoyed doing this over the years. Memories that stick out include the floods of 1993 and 1996; the tornadoes in Mapleton and Little Sioux and the many blizzards we've had. We're one of the few radio stations that has somebody on duty during all possible bad weather. It's an honor to receive this award."

In addition to weather and radio, Randy enjoys spending time with his wife, Deb, and son, Scott.

History of the Weather Service: 1871 to Present

In 1871, Professor Cleveland Abbe became part of the infant weather agency as Special Assistant to the Chief Signal Officer. Following a month of practice, it was decided that Abbe's forecasts, covering the next 24 hours, more than filled popular expectations.

The previous two editions of this newsletter detailed the early history of the National Weather Service. The story continues in the 1870s.

In 1871, Professor Cleveland Abbe became part of the infant weather agency as Special Assistant to the Chief Signal Officer. Following a month of practice, it was decided that Abbe's forecasts, covering the next 24 hours, more than filled popular expectations. The first public issuance by Abbe was entitled "Weather Synopsis and Probabilities" and was based on observations at 7:35 a.m. One of the early examples is shown below:



Professor
Cleveland Abbe

"Synopsis for past 24 hours; the barometric pressure had diminished in the southern and Gulf states this morning; it has remained nearly stationary on the Lakes. A decided diminution has appeared unannounced in Missouri accompanied with a rapid rise in the thermometer, which is felt as far east as Cincinnati; the barometer in Missouri is about four-tenths of an inch lower than on Erie and on the Gulf. Fresh north and west winds are prevailing in the north; southerly winds in the south. Probabilities: it is probable that the low pressure in Missouri will make itself felt decidedly tomorrow with northerly winds and clouds on the lakes, and brisk southerly winds on the Gulf."

Since the original congressional resolution that created the service covered only the Gulf and Atlantic Coasts and the Great Lakes, the early forecasts were made for these areas only.

On June 10, 1872, an act of Congress extended the service throughout the United States, "for the benefit of commerce and agriculture;" however, a sample forecast of 1872 reflects the lack of data west of the Mississippi River.

"Partly cloudy, but pleasant weather will prevail on Wednesday for Pennsylvania and the upper lakes southward to the Gulf. Cloudy

weather will extend over New England and Canada, clearing by Wednesday night."

Early forecasts were made for eight large districts, which covered the entire United States, three times daily. The duration of the forecasts, as well as forecast elements were determined by the forecaster. Beginning in October 1872, predictions were made regularly: 24 hours in advance for nine districts.

In 1874, forecasts were made for 11 districts and 4 elements, weather, wind, pressure, and temperature.

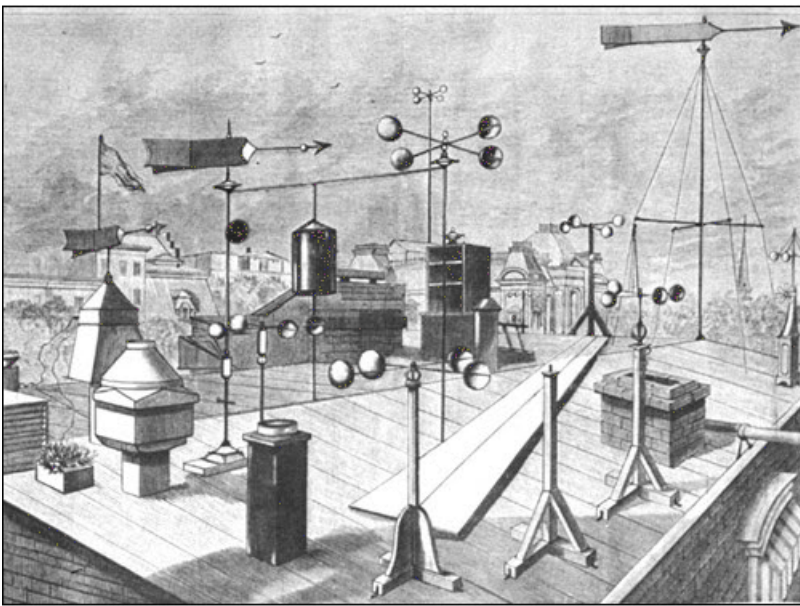
No changes occurred until 1885 when predictions were made for 32 hours in advance, and in 1886, forecasts were made for states, or parts of states, as opposed to being issued for large districts containing several states. In 1888, forecast durations were extended to 36 hours and in 1898 extended to 48 hours.

Beginning in 1873, forecasts were distributed to thousands of rural post offices by local Signal Service offices for display as "Farmers' Bulletins" in front of post office buildings.

This dissemination method continued until 1881 when local signal flags replaced the bulletins. The flags were large, for example, the cold-wave flag measured 6 feet by 8 feet and was white with a black center 2 feet square. This flag was flown over post office buildings. By the end of 1886, display flags were available in 290 cities and towns.

The Signal Service's field stations grew in number from 24 in 1870 to 284 in 1878. Three times a day (usually 7:35 a.m., 4:35 p.m., and 11:35 p.m.), each station telegraphed an observation to Washington, D.C. These observations consisted of:

- Barometric pressure and its change since the last report
- Temperature and its 24-hour change
- Relative humidity
- Wind velocity
- Pressure of the wind in pounds per square foot
- Amount of clouds
- State of the weather



Arrangement of the wind instruments on the roof of the Headquarters Building of the Meteorological Service of the United States Signal Service. In: Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, N. Y., Vol. 50, Supplement, May 1, 1880. Call Number M/0203 U 58m.

At Washington, D.C., forecasts were made from the telegraph reports. The forecasts then were distributed back to the Observers, to railroad stations and to available news media.

Although the forecasts did not always prove correct, they greatly aided in planning daily life in the United States. A noted scientist conveyed the increasing reliance on the weather service when he declared: "While scientists cannot tell at what hours to carry an umbrella, they can tell when great storms and waves of intense heat or cold are coming so as to be of great value to all the industries of the land. . . All the discomforts of the weather cannot be avoided but the great disasters can be anticipated and obviated."

Life in the early field stations was not dull. Signal Service personnel experienced a number of unexpected local events, such as the suppression of labor riots in 1873, and isolated Indian wars, including the Geronimo campaign.

Signal Service staff also performed extra public services during emergencies, including yellow fever epidemics, plagues, and fires. In particular, a detailed account of the Chicago fire is presented by one of the Observers in the Report of the Chief Signal Officer, 1871-1872.

The Report of the Chief Signal Officer in 1877-1878 described the duties of the enlisted

men at the weather offices:

"...they are required to take, put in cipher, and furnish, to be telegraphed tri-daily on each day, at different fixed times, the results of observations made at those times, and embracing, in each case, the readings of the barometer, the thermometer, the wind-velocity and direction, the rain-gauge, the relative humidity, the character, quantity and movement of upper and lower clouds, and the condition of the weather. These observations are taken at such hours, at the different stations, as to provide the three simultaneous observations, taken daily at three fixed moments of physical time

(7:35 a.m., 4:35 p.m., and 11 p.m., Washington mean time) throughout the whole extent of the territory of the United States. . . Three other observations to be taken at the local times, 7 a.m., 2 p.m., and 9 p.m., are also taken and recorded at each station. A seventh and especial observation is taken and recorded at noon on each day. If at this observation such instrumental changes are noted as to cause anxiety, the fact is to be telegraphed to the central office at Washington.

"An eighth observation is required to be taken at the exact hour of sunset at each location. This observation, embracing the appearance of the western sky, the direction of the wind, the amount of cloudiness, the readings of the barometer, thermometer, and hydrometer, and amount of rain-fall since last preceding report, is reported with the midnight report . . .

"The average time elapsing from the time at which the readings of the instruments have been had at the stations scattered throughout the United States, to that at which the reports based on these readings have been telegraphed to the press and to the distributing-stations, has been one hour and forty minutes."

The story continues in the winter edition of the National Cooperative Observer.

A seventh and especial observation is taken and recorded at noon on each day. If at this observation such instrumental changes are noted as to cause anxiety, the fact is to be telegraphed to the central office at Washington.

Thomas Jefferson Awards

From left, **Arlene Cole** of Newcastle, ME, shows her Thomas Jefferson Award for outstanding service. The award was presented by MIC **Hendricus Lulofs**, NWS Gray, ME. Arlene has faithfully taken high quality observations for more than 45 years. Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**.



NWS Burlington, VT, MIC **Andy Nash**, right, and OPL **Nathan Foster**, left, present Observer **David Werner** with the prestigious Jefferson Award and a flag flown over the U.S. Capitol. Dave has not missed a day since he started observing in 1982, despite serious health issues. Photo by Information Technology Officer (ITO) **Chuck McGill Malone**.

John Campanius Holm Awards



From left, MIC **Hendricus Lulofs**, NWS Gray, ME, presents a John Campanius Holm Award to **Kenneth N. Fernald** of Greenland, NH. Kenneth has faithfully taken high quality observations for 38 years in Greenland, NH. Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**.

At left, **Harold Souther** shows his John Campanius Holm Award for his years of exceptional service at Livermore Falls, ME. Presenting the award is MIC **Hendricus Lulofs**, NWS Gray, ME. Harold has faithfully taken high quality observations for over 40 years. Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**.



John Campanius Holm Awards



From left, **Dennis Pike**, of Farmington, ME, shows his Holm Award presented by MIC **Hendricus Lulofs**, NWS Gray, ME. Dennis has faithfully taken high quality observations for over 45 years in Farmington, ME. Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**.

From left, NWS Jackson, KY, OPL **David B. Stamper**, MIC **Shawn B. Harley**, and Hydrometeorological Technician (HMT) **Tabitha Brewer** present **Robert Watts**, of Skyline, KY, with the John Campanius Holm Award. Photo courtesy of Eastern Kentucky University.



100 Year Honored Institution Award



From left, **Jackie Thomas** and **Teresita** accept a 100 year Honored Institution Award. Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Co. operates a large network of rain gauges checked daily, six of which are reported to the NWS. Photo taken at the main office of Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Co. The award was presented by NWS Hilo, HI, CPM **Jeffrey Moss**.

From left, **Cristino Taclan** and **Rene Chavez**, accept a 100 year Honored Institution Award. Cristino has worked for Wailuku Water Company for 40 years and Rene for 21 years. The award was presented by CPM **Jeffrey Moss**, NWS Hilo, HI.



100 and 75 Year Honored Institution Award



From left, Arlington Agricultural Station Superintendent **Mike Bertram**, Marshfield Ag Station Superintendent **Nancy Esser**, retired Superintendent **Tom Drendel**, Research Specialist **Lisa Bauman**, NWS Green Bay, WI, OPL **Pat Hein** and Research Specialist **Tina Seeger**.
Photo by MIC **Garry Austin**.

Starting a century ago in 1912, university staff members began a great partnership between what was then the Weather Bureau and the Marshfield Agricultural Station. Many Marshfield farm workers, secretaries, lab technicians, superintendents and scientists helped observe and record temperature, precipitation, and evaporation readings. Today, the Marshfield Ag Research Station operates 1,250 acres of land, supporting University of Wisconsin research and several dairy, soil, and forage analysis and the Institute for Environmentally Integrated Dairy Management.

This century's worth of weather data have provided an accurate picture of the locale's normal weather and a basis for predicting future trends. The site is an honored member of the Historical Climate Network, reserved for select sites with exceptional longevity, minimal location changes, or other changes that affect data quality. This elite network is helping NOAA climatologists resolve questions about global climate change and important long-term swings in our weather.

Pat Hein said, "I am impressed with the dedication of everyone at this site. I enjoy every visit because of the people and their dedication and willingness to cooperate and learn new technologies. They are just a joy to work with. I sincerely hope this unique partnership between the National Weather Service and the Marshfield Ag Station will continue and enable them to remain in the Historical Climate Network."

The **Holcim Cement Company, Holcim-Trident Plant**, Trident MT, received a 75 Year Honored Institution Award. Pictured from left are **Craig Espeland, Dave Stevens, David Bernhardt, Greg Gannon, John Goetz, Jennifer Casey**, and **Jim Owen**. Presenting the award was Science Operation Officer (SOO) **David Bernhardt** and OPL **Jerome Saucier** of NWS Great Falls, MT.



Edward H. Stoll 50 Year Awards

Terrell Phillips was presented a 50 Year Family Length of Service award. Terrell's father, **Johnny Phillips**, started as an Institutional Observer in 1962, then took over the program and had it relocated to his house in 1977. When Terrell was growing up, he helped his dad take the readings, even standing on a bucket so he could reach into the Cotton Region Shelter to read the max/min thermometers. When Johnny passed away in 2004, Terrell assumed the program, becoming the primary observer and having the instrumentation moved to his home. Johnny and Terrell have done an outstanding job of recording the weather in Douglas, GA, for over half a century. The award was presented by OPL **Michael McAllister**, NWS Jacksonville, FL. Photo by reporter Ed Smith, *Douglas Enterprise* newspaper.



Kenton Ahrens, center, shows his Edward H. Stoll Award for his family's 50 years of service to the Coop program. **Edgar Ahrens** began taking weather observations on July 1, 1962. **Melinda Ahrens** took over in September 1976. Kenton assumed the duties on February 1, 2003. The award was presented by OPL **Steve Smart**, left, and CPM **Patrick McDonald**, right, NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX.

Edward H. Stoll 50 Year Awards



From left, **Betty Wing**, of Eustis, ME, shows her Edward H. Stoll Award with help from MIC **Hendricus Lulfos**, NWS Gray, ME. Betty accepted a 50 Year Award for her dedicated service. Duluth Wing also earned a 50 year award, but was not available for a picture. Photo by General Forecaster **Bob Marine**.

James “Jim” Wood, Jr. of Loma, MT, shows his Edward H. Stoll Award for 50 Years of dedicated volunteer service in the Coop Program. Presenting the award is WCM **Chris Foltz**, NWS Great Falls, MT.



45 Year Dick Hagemeyer and 40 Year Service Awards



NWS Hastings, NE, Data Acquisition Program Manager (DAPM) **Marla K. Doxey** presented the Dick Hagemeyer Award to **Bob Levin** for his outstanding 45 years as a Coop Observer. Bob's wife Linda received a 15 Year Length of Service Award for serving as backup Observer. Bob and Linda report the daily precipitation and temperatures for the Smith Center, KS, area. Bob has also been a recipient of the Thomas Jefferson Award. Being an amateur paleontologist, Bob can be found digging around the country side in search of fossils. He has one of the best collections in central Kansas and has contributed to *National Geographic*.

Bill and Marlene Murphy of rural Covert, KS, were presented with the Dick Hagemeyer Award. The Murphys have been reporting the precipitation for the Covert area for 45 years. This year has not been overly busy with only 8.45 inches of precipitation measured through July. DAPM **Marla K. Doxey**, NWS Hastings, NE, presented the award along with a congratulatory letter from the NWS Director. Pictured are Marlene, grandson **Jacob**, and Bill.



Robert "Bob" Hoppe, a hard working farmer in Broadwater County, MT, received a 40 Year Length of Service Award for his outstanding dedication to the Coop Program. Bob's family has been recording observations since 1939. Presenting the award was OPL **Jerome Saucier**, NWS Great Falls, MT.

35 Year Length of Service Awards



From left, **Don Hartman**, **Vince Muntz**, and **Ed Gutschenritter** of the **Niles Wastewater Treatment Plant** in Niles, MI, accept their Length of Service Awards. Don received a 25 Year Award; Vince, a 10 Year Award; and Ed, a 35 Year recognition. The awards were presented by OPL **Brentley Lothamer**, NWS Northern Indiana. Photo by Niles staff.



Robert and Agnes Netolicky, of Walford, IA, show their 35 Year Length of Service Award. One of their more challenging days observing was during the Ground Hog Day 2011 blizzard. This storm produced almost 2 feet of snow, 3-6 foot drifts, and winds gusting to 50 mph, causing crippling white out blizzard conditions. Sadly, they have decided to retire as Observers. They will be much missed. The award was presented by DAPM **Terry Simmons**, NWS Davenport, IA. Photo by Meteorologist Intern **Tim Gross**.



From left, **Allan Crawford** of Homer, AK, was presented a 35 Year Award by MIC **Bob Hopkins**, NWS Anchorage, AK. Allan is a valuable resource for weather information around the Homer area. He also acts as a spotter for the Homer area, providing important information during winter storms. Photo taken by HMT **Dave Stricklan**.



From left, **Edmund Shuster**, Glenn Alps Anchorage, AK, shows his 35 Year Award presented by MIC **Bob Hopkins**, NWS Anchorage. Edmund is in a strategic location in the foothills of the Chugach Mountains. In addition to his support of the Coop program, he reports other extreme weather such as hurricane force winds and severe winter weather. This data is essential in our diagnoses of the physics of these severe storms and is used to forecast when extreme weather will impact more populated areas of the city. Photo taken by HMT **Dave Stricklan**.

30 Year Length of Service Awards



Laverne “Vernie” Bidelman accepts a 30 Year Length of Service Award from MIC **Bruce Smith**, NWS Gaylord, MI. Laverne takes observations at the Whitefish Point site in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula.
Photo by CPM **Scott Rozanski**.



From left, **Dwight Freeman** shows his 30 Year Length of Service Award for observations near Saco, MT. Dwight records daily maximum and minimum temperature, precipitation, snowfall, and snow depth. Dwight’s station was established in June 1966 less than a quarter mile from the current location. Electronics System Analyst (ESA) **Craig Paju**, and OPL **Matt Moorman**, NWS Glasgow, MT, presented the award.

Tom Nagy and **Tony Miner** of the **South Bend, IN, Wastewater Treatment Plant**, accepted their 30 Year Length of Service Awards from OPL **Brentley Lothamer**, NWS Northern Indiana.



NWS Awarded **Leo and Nancy Pollard** of Lecompton, KS, with a 30 Year Length of Service Award. Since 1982, Leo and Nancy have used a standard 8-inch rain gauge to provide rainfall, snowfall, and snow depth measurements. OPL Shawn Byrne, NWS Topeka, KS, presented the award.



Observer **Leo Noland** was presented a 30 Year Length of Service Award for providing precipitation readings for the Longton, KS, area. Presenting the award was OPL **Leon Wasinger**, NWS Wichita, KS.

30 Year Length of Service Awards



Joyce Porter of Lynne, FL, received a 30 Year Length of Service Award. Joyce took over the station after her mother passed away in 1982. Joyce is conscientious about her responsibilities and has even trained a new generation, her grandson. Photo and award presentation by OPL **Mike McAllister**, NWS Jacksonville, FL.



From left, NWS Davenport, IA, DAPM **Terry Simmons** presents a 30 Year Length of Service Award to **Marilyn Starkey** of Oakland Mills, IA. Sadly, Marilyn has decided to hang-up her rain stick and to spend more time with other projects. Photo by Meteorologist Intern **Tim Gross**.

Lyn Oliver, Observer at Portageville, NY, was presented with a 30 Year Length of Service Award by OPL **Dan Kelly**. Lyn's daily reports of rain, snow, and river stage are greatly appreciated by NWS Buffalo and are used for forecasting the Genesee River into Letchworth State Park and the Mount Morris Dam. **Jenna Oliver**, Lyn's daughter and backup observer, received a 10 Year Award.



John Stoner of Townsend, MT, received a 30 Year Length of Service Award for his excellent observations and tireless dedication to the Coop program. Presenting the award was NWS Great Falls, MT, OPL **Jerome Saucier**.



Gary Zimmer shows his 30 Year Length of Service Award for the Lefebvre Boy Scout Camp south of Laona, WI. Gary took over for his father, **Emil**. The award was presented by OPL **Pat Hein**, NWS Green Bay, WI.

25 Year Length of Service and Honored Institution Awards



From left, HMT **James Brown**, NWS Gray, ME, presents a 25 Year Length of Service Award to Observer **Jack Camp**, of Hanover, NH, with help from OPL **Nikki Becker**.



Gary and Carol Fredrickson accept a 25 Year Length of Service Award for their service at the Northport, MI, Leelanau Peninsula. Photo and award by CPM **Scott Rozanski**, NWS Gaylord, MI.



Alfred Glover of Bridgton, ME, accepted a 25 Year Length of Service Award. Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**, NWS Gray, ME.



Gregory H. Gordon of Jefferson, NH, accepted a 25 Year Length of Service Award. In addition to his award, he is holding the 25 Year Award for his brother, **Bruce Gordon**. Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**, NWS Gray, ME.

25 Year Length of Service and Honored Institution Awards



Sally S. Sawyer, of Bethel, ME, accepted a 25 Year Length of Service Award. She's shown with her pet donkeys. Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**, NWS Grey, ME.



Sara Waddell at Woodruff, SC, was presented a 25 Year Length of Service Award by OPL **Chris Horne**, NWS Greenville-Spartanburg, SC. Sara's mother and father were the prior observers from 1956 to 1987. Sara's already training the next generation of Observer.



Jim Comstock and **Kitty Lengkeek** show the 25 Year Honored Institution Award presented to Kapalua West Maui Airport. Jim was the Observer from 1987, when the airport was constructed, until his retirement in 2011. Kitty has been taking weather observations for 24 years. The award was presented by CPM **Jeffrey Moss**, NWS Hilo, HI.



The Observers at the **Erie Canal Lock 30** were presented with a 25 Year Honored Institution Award for excellent service. **Doug Derue**, Chief Lock Operator for Lock 30, accepts this award from NWS Buffalo, NY, OPL **Dan Kelly**.

25 and 20 Year Service and Honored Institution Awards



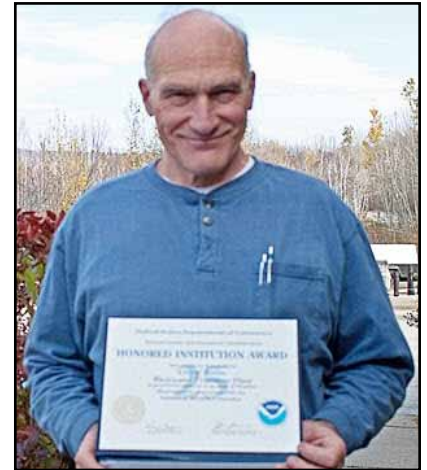
From left, MIC **Andy Nash** presents Observer **Larry Hisman**, right, with a 25 year Length of Service Award. Larry is the overnight security officer for **Jay Peak Resort** and has been the main Observer for the entire 25 years. Photo by OPL **Nathan Foster**, NWS Burlington, VT.



From left, **Scott** and **Dave** of the **New Hampshire Fish and Game Office** in Warren, NH, accepted a 25 Year Length of Service Award for their support of the Coop program. Photo by NWS Grey, ME, OPL **Nikki Becker**.

The village of **Franklinville, NY**, was presented with a 25 Year Honored Institution Award. The award was presented by OPL **Dan Kelly**, NWS Buffalo, NY, to Observer **Brian Agett**.

Superintendent **Henry W. Noel** of the **Berlin, NH, Waste Water Treatment Plant** accepted a 25 Year Honored Institution Award. Photo by HMT **James F. Brown**.



Grace Barter, with support from her family in Kesley, IA, shows her 20 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented by Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM) **Jeff Johnson**, NWS Des Moines, IA.



Leon Bailey of Spicewood, TX, was presented with a 20 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented by HMT **Pat McDonald** NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX.

20 Year Length of Service Awards



Grace Barter of Kesley, IA, receives her 20 Year Length of Service Award. Photo by WCM **Jeff Johnson**, NWS Des Moines, IA.



John W. Gatti, of Bath, ME, accepted a 20 Year Length of Service Award. Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**, NWS Grey, ME.



Tim McGonagle, Observer at Scott City, KS, shows his 20 Year Length of Service Award presented by OPL **Jesse Lee**, NWS Dodge City, KS. This historic station was started in 1889. The Baker family maintained the site from 1925-92, when Tim took over, generously agreeing to continue this vital site.



David F. Haas, of Lancaster, NH, accepted a 20 Year Length of Service Award. Photo by HMT **James F. Brown**, NWS, Grey, ME.



Robert Meyer, of Hicksville, OH, accepted a 20 Year Length of Service Award from OPL **Brentley Lothamer**, NWS Northern Indiana. Before starting his own site, Robert took observations at the **Hicksville Wastewater Treatment Plant**.



Observer **Deborah Wall** was presented a 20 Year Length of Service Award for providing precipitation readings near Cedar Vale, KS. Presenting the award was OPL **Leon Wasinger**, NWS Wichita, KS.

20 and 15 Year Length of Service Awards



Monica Stevens of Colebrook, NH, accepted a 20 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented by OPL **Nikki Becker**, NWS Grey, ME.



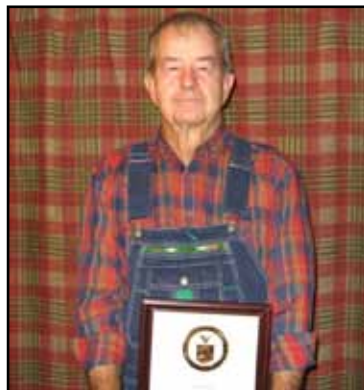
From left, NWS Hastings, NE, HMT **Michael Reed** presents **Wayne Wondercheck** with a 20 Year Length of Service Award. Wayne is the river observer at Fullerton, NE, for the Cedar River, which winds its way across the central portion of Nance County, NE, before meeting up with the Loup River. Photo by DAPM **Marla K. Doxey**.



Darrell Woods, Observer at Kalvesta, KS, was presented with a 20 Year Length of Service Award by OPL **Jesse Lee**, NWS Dodge City, KS. Darryl took over when **J. Hayes Baldwin** retired. Darryl was the backup Observer from 1992 until 2009. The station was started in 1959.



Elizabeth "Betty" Barnes of Polaris, MT, received a 15 Year Length of Service Award. Betty has done an outstanding job reporting weather through tough Montana winters. Presenting the award was NWS Great Falls, MT, OPL **Jerome Saucier**.



Junior Craft accepted a 15 Year Length of Service Award presented by OPL **Latrice Maxie**, NWS Jackson, MS. Junior has been taking weather observations since December 1997.



Robert DeVore of Promise City, IA, receives his 15 Year Length of Service Award from CPM **Brad Fillbach**, NWS Des Moines, IA.

15 Year Length of Service Awards



Milt Hovland, left, Observer for the Fischer Porter rain gauge at the Plentywood, MT, airport, received a 15 Year Length of Service Award from HMT **Brian Burleson**, NWS Glasgow, MT.



From left, **Gary Jurkowski** of Perry, NY, was presented a 15 Year Length of Service Award by OPL **Dan Kelly** NWS Buffalo, NY. Before becoming an Observer, Gary worked as an Air Traffic Controller in the U.S. Air Force, where he was an official weather observer. He served in the Vietnam War and as the Police Chief of Perry. He is now the town judge. Photo by Carrie Dylag Warsaw *Country Courier*.



Observer **David Leroy** was presented a 15 Year Length of Service Award for providing precipitation readings for the Albert, KS, area. Presenting the award was OPL **Leon Wasinger**, NWS Wichita, KS.



Keith Larochelle, of Hartford, ME, accepted a 15 Year Length of Service Award. Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**, NWS Grey, ME.



Ray and Joan Medbery of Amber Lake, AK, receive their 15 Year Award. Joan took weather observations long before she became an NWS Observer. Joan also takes river and frost level readings and records soil temperature. The Medberys do an extensive amount of gardening and knowing soil temperature is an aid to planting. During the winter, Joan serves as a severe winter storm spotter. Photo taken by HMT **Dave Stricklan**.



Michael Moon, of Rockwood, ME, accepted a 15 Year Length of Service Award. Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**, NWS Grey, ME

15 Year Length of Service Awards



Brett Pearson of Hebgen Lake, MT, received a 15 Year Length of Service Award. Presenting the award was NWS Great Falls, MT, OPL **Jerome Saucier**.



Barbara and Edward Skrobach, of Alexandria, NH, accepted a 15 Year Length of Service Award. Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**, NWS Grey, ME



Frank Spaur of Bussey, IA, shows his 15 Year Length of Service Award. Photo by CPM **Brad Fillbach**, NWS Des Moines, IA.

Helen Weidner of Spring Branch, TX, was presented with a 15 Year Length of Service Award by HMT **Pat McDonald** NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX.



Esther and **John Wallis**, right, accept a 15 Year Length of Service Award from MIC **Bruce Smith**, NWS Gaylord, MI. John and Esther take observations at their Sault Ste. Marie site in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Photo by CPM **Scott Rozanski**, NWS Gaylord MI.



Anne Wiens of Shelby, MT, shows her 15 Year Length of Service Award. Anne also is a local radio personality. Presenting the award was NWS Great Falls, MT, OPL **Jerome Saucier**.



From left, OPL **Keith Berger**, NWS Gaylord, MI, presents **Stan Darmofal** with a 15 Year Length of Service Award. Stan take observations at the Harrisville site on Michigan's Lake Huron shoreline. Photo by CPM **Scott Rozanski**.

Special Recognition and 10 Year Length of Service Awards



Lynn Milstead of Marineland, FL, was presented a Certificate of Recognition for her 14 years as an Observer. Lynn retired as the Observer at the University of Florida's Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience at Marineland.

Lynn generously recruited IT Specialist **Dan Sency** to continue the site. The award was presented by OPL **Mike McAllister**, NWS Jacksonville, FL.



Michael J. Anderson, of Sebago, ME, accepted a 10 Year Length of Service Award. Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**, NWS Grey, ME.



From left, **Kelly Clemons** and **Sterling Patrick** of the **Knox, IN, Wastewater Treatment Plant** receive 10 Year Length of Service Awards. Photo presented by OPL **Brentley Lothamer**, NWS Northern Indiana.

Dorothy Beyer of Hye, TX, was presented with a 10 Year Length of Service Award. Award by HMT **Pat McDonald** NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX.



Michael Ellis, of Phillips, ME, accepted a 10 Year Length of Service Award.

Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**, NWS Grey, ME.



NWS Hastings, NE, DAPM **Marla K. Doxey** presented a 10 Year Length of Service Award to **Troy Fletcher** of Oxford, NE. Troy took over the station from **Robert Jordan**, enabling the climate record for the Oxford area to continue. Pictured from left are **Cacy, Caden, Troy** and **Jaxen**.



From left, **Josh Fritsch** and **Bill Blakely** of the **Montpelier, OH, Water Treatment Plant** show their 10 Year Length of Service Awards. Photo by OPL **Brentley Lothamer**, NWS Northern Indiana.

10 Year Length of Service Awards



Chuck Gahringer of Havre, MT, received a 10 Year Length of Service Award. Chuck has done an excellent job reporting the weather through harsh conditions along the international border. Photo by NWS Great Falls OPL, **Jerome Saucier**.



Jeff Harmon of the **Wauseon, OH, Water Treatment Plant**, accepts a 10 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented by OPL **Brentley Lothamer**, NWS Northern Indiana.



Dave Harner of Swea City, IA, received his 10 Year Length of Service Award from CPM **Brad Fillbach**, NWS Des Moines, IA.



From left, Observer **Bernard Kraus** shows his 10 Year Length of Service Award for precipitation readings at Conway Springs, KS, presented by OPL **Leon Wasinger**, NWS Wichita, KS. Photo by MIC **Suzanne Fortin**.



Swede Holmgren, Observer at Ellis, KS, was presented with a 10 Year Award by Service Hydrologist **Rick Sloan**, NWS Dodge City, KS. The station was started in 1884 by **A. Moggart** and has been supported by many conscientious Observers. **LeRoy Keller** served the longest, from 1976 until 1996. Swede also provides river stage readings on the Big Creek at Ellis.



Jacqueline "Jackie" LaFreniere accepts a 10 Year Length of Service Award from WCM **Jim Keysor**, NWS Gaylord MI. Jackie is the Observer at the St James Beaver Island site on northern Lake Michigan. Photo by CPM **Scott Rozanski**.

10 Year Length of Service Awards



Sue Malander, Observer for Belgrade, NE, receives a 10 Year Length of Service Award from DAPM **Marla K. Doxey** and HMT Michael Reed, NWS Hastings, NE. Sue and husband Robert also keep an eye on the beautiful Cedar River from their back yard.



Ken McGowan, left, displays his 10 Year Length of Service Award presented by OPL **Keith Berger**, NWS Gaylord, MI. Ken takes observations at Fife Lake in Michigan's Lower Peninsula. Photo by CPM **Scott Rozanski**, NWS Gaylord, MI.



Observer **Richard Olson** was presented his 10 Year Length of Service Award. Richard provides temperature and precipitation readings for an area east of Forestville, WI. Presenting the award was OPL **Pat Hein**, NWS Green Bay, WI.



Christine Townsend of Westport Island, ME, shows her 10 Year Length of Service Award. Photo by OPL **Nikki Becker**, NWS Grey, ME.



Observer **Jerry Wagner** received his 10 Year Length of Service Award for providing precipitation readings for Summit Lake, WI. Presenting the award was OPL **Pat Hein**, NWS Green Bay, WI.



Bill West, center, accepts a 10 Year Length of Service Award from OPL **Keith Berger**, left, NWS Gaylord, MI, and CPM **Scott Rozanski**, right. Bill takes observations at South Boardman, MI.

**The National
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November, December, January Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks From the Climate Prediction Center

