



The National Cooperative Observer

The National Cooperative Observer is an online newsletter.

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Fall 2013

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The Windy, Snowy City Throws a Party



Members of the NWS Chicago, IL, Cooperative Observer Network

Two volunteer groups were honored by the NWS Chicago, IL, office during an open house held on Saturday, Sep. 21.

The first group are members of the NWS Chicago's Cooperative Observer Program. This generous group takes precipitation readings daily at 7 am and some also send in temperature data.

The second group of volunteers make up the Chicago Area Snow Team and the Rockford Area Snow Team (CAST/RAST). These volunteers take snowfall and total snow depth every 12 hours as needed and report the data via a website—usually from the middle of October to the end of the following April.

The awards were presented by NWS Meteorologist-In-Charge (MIC)

Ed Fenelon, and Observing Program Leader (OPL) **Bill Nelson**. Also in attendance were **Beth Hall**, Director of the Midwest Regional Climate Center; **Jim Angel**, Illinois State Climatologist; and NWS Service Hydrologist **Bill Morris**.

All Chicago Cooperative Observers record daily precipitation, rainfall and snowfall, and some report daily maximum and minimum temperatures, soil temperatures and frost depth data. All this data is sent to the NWS Chicago office.

Monthly, NWS compiles and archives this data for use in research and studies. It is from these local observations that the weather database for northern Illinois and northwest Indiana are derived. The length of weather records for NWS Cooperative

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From left, some of the people presenting the awards and helping to support the event include, from left, NWS Chicago MIC **Ed Fenelon**, Director of the Midwest Regional Climate **Beth Hall**; **Jim Angel**, Illinois State Climatologist; and Service Hydrologist **Bill Morris**. Not pictured is OPL **Bill Nelson**.

stations around Illinois and Indiana varies from just a couple of years to more than 100 years. Nationwide, the data for some Cooperative sites in the eastern states go back over 200 years. By documenting daily

weather conditions, Observers carry on the tradition of early American science-minded citizens such as Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin who were among the very first Cooperative Weather Observers.

Chicago Area Cooperative Observer Team Members Receiving Service Awards

45 Year Length-of-Service Award:

- Nancy and Bob Welsh, Illinois

30 Year Length of Service Awards:

- Minor Avery, Steward
- Jim Morse, Pontiac
- Frank Wachowski, Chicago Midway

25 Year Length-of-Service Awards

- Lou and Barbara Dolmon, Crystal Lake
- Roberta and Ed Slaby, Bourbonnais

15 Year Length-of-Service Awards

- Larry Acker, Polo
- Dick Rieckhoff, Milford
- Phil Rider, Mundelein
- Pat Schatz, Kankakee

10 Year Length of Service Awards

- Mike Anderson, Elburn
- Valerie and Mike Andres, Roscoe
- Dwight Diercks, Plainfield
- Ron and Ruth Erickson, Momence
- John Kozik, St. Charles
- Ray Ribich, Glen Ellyn
- Debra and John Rubel, Woodstock
- Dr. Judy and Conrad Serwatka, Valparaiso
- John Skach, Oak Brook
- Pat Skach, Oak Brook

Special Service Awards

- Kevin and Gary Gruhkle, Yorkville
- Gary Havlik, Batavia
- Tim Powers, Hebron
- Jim Marocchi, Winfield



Members of the Chicago and Rockford Area Snow Teams

Chicago and Rockford Area Snow Team Members Receiving Service Awards

- Sam Augustyn, Oak Lawn
- Jennifer Ayala, Grayslake
- Dave Bunte, Beecher
- Gregg Dubin, Mundelein
- Steve Gregory, Schaumburg
- Kevin and Gary Gruhkle, Yorkville
- James Higgle, Mount Morris
- Mark Kennely, Downers Grove
- Penny Latona, Beach Park
- Linda Morrison, Schererville
- Mark Petnuch, Richton Park
- Suzanne Rodriguez, Highland, IN
- Richard Sale, Willowbrook
- David Santori, Peotone
- Phil Schwartz, Melrose Park
- Greg Soulje, LaGrange
- Mark Tschirhart, Woodstock
- Brian Wootton, Naperville

Edward R. Stoll 50 Year Award



Jim Mitchell, left, of Avon, IL, was presented with the Edward H. Stoll Award for 50 years of service by Data Acquisition Program Manager (DAPM) **Billy Ousley**, NWS Central Illinois. A farmer in far northern Fulton County, Jim has taken the weather observations for the Avon area since 1963. Jim decided that 50 years is long enough but has a backup. He plans to turn over his observation duties to his daughter.

A farmer in far northern Fulton County, Jim has taken the weather observations for the Avon area since 1963.

Thomas Jefferson Award



From left, MIC **Ben Moyer**, NWS Grand Junction, CO, **John and Beth Sundberg**, NWS Hydro Meteorological Technician/ Cooperative Program Manager (HMT/CPM) **Becky Klenk**, and and Data Acquisition Program Manager (DAPM) **John Kyle**.

Beth and John Sundberg of Hayden, CO, show their prestigious Thomas Jefferson Award. The Sundbergs have been observing temperatures and precipitation and measuring snowfall since 1972. They have taken approximately 15,000 observations over 41 years! Their observations have continued unfettered in extended periods of perilous weather. They remember taking observations during a 3-day winter storm in early November 1973 when over 30 inches of snow fell. The reports from this time were detailed with notes like, "33.6 inches of snow, 71.5 hours without stopping."

Marvin Seyer of Ipswich, SD, is presented with the 2013 Thomas Jefferson Award during a ceremony held at NWS Aberdeen, SD. Presenting the award are representatives from the South Dakota congressional delegation along with MIC **James Scarlett**.



From left, **Judy Vrchota**, U.S. Senator John Thune's office; Observer **Marvin Seyer**, MIC **James Scarlett**, and **Sharon Stroschein** from U.S. Senator Tim Johnson's office. Marvin has been observing for 38 years. Photo by DAPM **Tim Kearns**.

John Campanius Holm Award

Leland Treichel of Roscoe, SD received a John Campanius Holm Award during a ceremony held at the NWS Aberdeen, SD. From left are **Tonya Peterson** from U.S. Senator Tim Johnson's office, Observer **Leland Treichel**, MIC **James Scarlett**, and **Aimee Kamp** from U.S. Senator John Thune's office. Leland has been observing for 23 years. Photo by DAPM **Tim Kearns**.



100 Year Family Heritage Award



From left OPL **Steve Summy**, Observers **Rawlin** and **Lee J. Anderson**, MIC **Larry Dunn**

official Observer for 51 years. James was the first Observer in Utah to serve 50 years. On October 26, 1959, he handed the duties over to his son **Leslie J. Anderson**. Leslie continued the observing duties for another 18 years and passed the responsibility on to his son, **Lee J. Anderson** on June 21, 1977. Lee and his son **Rawlin** now share the duty. Clearly, the Anderson Family deserves the recognition this award bestows for their contributions to the nation's climate record and their community.

For 105 years, the **Anderson Family** of Manti, UT, has collected climate data and provided it to the NWS Salt Lake City, UT. The Family Heritage Award was presented to **Lee J. Anderson** and his family by **Dr. Lawrence Dunn**, MIC at NWS Salt Lake City. OPL **Steven Summy** helped present the award.

Manti's weather records date back to March 1893. At that time, the U.S. Signal Corps reported the weather. In March 1902, **Willis M. Harmon** assumed the weather reporting duties and continued until June 7, 1908, when **James M. Anderson** became the Observer and started the Anderson Family tradition. James continued as the

100 Year and 75 Honored Institution Awards

Shoshone Power Plant near Glenwood Spring, CO, was presented with a 100 Year Honored Institution Award. Accepting the award for the plant from left are **Gary Verdieck**, **Dan Pfauth**, and **Josh Mattson**. Presenting the award at right is DAPM **John Kyle**, NWS Grand Junction, CO.



The **Palomar Observatory** in Palomar Mountain, CA, received the 75 Year Honored Institution Award from NWS San Diego OPL **Noel Isla**.

Palomar Observatory is one of the world's most famous astronomical observatories. Since the 1930s, it has been, and continues to be, a world-class center of astronomical research. Caltech in Pasadena owns and operates the observatory, which houses five telescopes used nightly for a wide variety of astronomical research programs. The Palomar staffers have taken temperature and precipitation observations for the NWS since 1938. Pictured from left are, **Vikki Prentiss** and **Henry Vargas**.

75 and 50 Year Honored Institution Awards

Tamera Martinson accepts a 75 Year Honored Institution Award on behalf of the **Pine View Water Systems** administrators of the Pine View Dam coop station. Presenting the award is **Christopher Young**, Meteorologist, NWS Salt Lake City, UT. Photo by OPL **Steve Summy**.



From left, **John Esdohr** receives a 50 Year Honored Institution Award for **Coon Rapids Municipal Utilities** from Jeff Johnson, Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM), NWS Des Moines, IA.

NWS Spokane, WA, presented a 50 Year Honored Institution Award to the **Wenatchee, WA, Waste Water Treatment Plant**. Accepting the award are Observer **Katie Landers** and Wenatchee Mayor **Frank Kuntz**. OPL **Mark Turner** NWS Spokane, WA, right, made the presentation. The plant's staff has taken an unbroken string of daily weather observations since July 1963. The award was presented at a ceremony held at the Wenatchee City Hall. Photo by **Allison Williams**, city of Wenatchee Executive Services Director.



50 Year Honored Institution Awards

The Helix Water District received a 50 Year Honored Institution Award for **Cuyamaca Dam**. Board President **Chuck Muse**, right, accepted the award from MIC **Roger V. Pierce**, NWS San Diego, CA. Photo by OPL **Noel Isla**.

The caretakers at **Cuyamaca Dam** started taking observations in 1887 and became part of the Coop program in 1926. **Alfred Lewis** was the Observer from 1926 until he retired in 1963. In 1963, the Helix Water District signed a cooperative agreement with the Weather Bureau. **William Brooking** was the first Observer on record and took observations for 23 years. William passed on the job to **Earl Voogd**, who has been taking the observations since 1994.



Boyd Deep Canyon Desert Research Center in Indian Wells, CA, received the 50 Year Honored Institution Award from NWS San Diego OPL **Noel Isla**. From left are Observers **Mark Fisher**, Reserve Biologist and **Dr. Al Muth**, Boyd Center Director.

The reserve maintains nine other weather stations covering an altitudinal gradient the from Colorado Desert at 750 feet to coniferous forest at 7,700 feet on Santa Rosa Mountain south of Palm Desert, CA. Dr. Muth explains, “Long-term weather records are essential information for interpretation and context of research data related to climate change and its effect on plant and animal communities in the Santa Rosa Mountains.”

Dr. Muth’s most memorable event were the El Niño winters of 1981/82 and 1982/83. The research center average annual rainfall is 5.69 inches. The El Niño winters brought 12 and 18 inches respectively. He said, “The biological response was very apparent, and to this day we can see changes in relative abundance of plant species that germinated during spring following those extremely wet winters.”

Dr. Muth mentioned that one other extreme event stands out, the drought of 2002 when he noticed that some of the cactus species were dying. That calendar year annual rainfall was 1.06 inches. “The hardest hit species was teddy-bear cholla. In some areas as much as 80 percent of the patch died. You just don’t expect to see cactus die in a drought,” he said.

Dr. Muth added, “In this time of growing awareness of global climate change the value of long-term weather records is becoming more apparent with each passing day. Boyd Deep Canyon is pleased to have been a Cooperative Observer for 50 years and we look forward to the next 50 years of participation in the weather network.”

50 Year Honored Institution Awards

The **Alpine Fire Protection District** received its 50 Year Honored Institution Award. Fire Chief **Bill Paskle** accepted the award from MIC **Roger V. Pierce** NWS San Diego, CA. Photo by OPL **Noel Isla**.



Dr. Horst W. Caspari, right, of the Western Colorado Research Center, Grand Junction, CO, accepts a 50 Year Honored Institution Award. Presenting the award is DAPM **John Kyle**, NWS Grand Junction, CO.

Jeff Connor, Observer at **Weber Basin Pump Plant 3**, accepted a 50 Year Honored Institution Award from OPL **Steve Summy**, NWS Salt Lake City, UT.



45 Year Dick Hagemeyer Service Awards

From left, OPL **Gary Wicklund**, NWS Pocatello, ID, presents **Harold Thomson** with the 45 Year Dick Hagemeyer Award and a letter of gratitude from NWS Director Dr. Louis Uccellini. Helping to show the award is Harold's wife **Gloria**. Photo by MIC **Rick Dittmann**.

Harold is the Observer at Richmond, UT. He has contributed over 16,000 daily observations. Harold's family has maintained the Richmond weather station for 102 years within 1,800 feet of the original siting. During this period, the family has recorded more than 37,000 observations. Harold's family began taking observations on October 1, 1911.



Eau Claire, MI, Observer **Herbert Teichman** shows his Dick Hagemeyer Award for 45 years of outstanding service. The award was presented by acting MIC Jeffrey Logsdon, NWS Northern Indiana. Herbert also provides his data to numerous sources including the media and local government.

Herbert is also active in his community. He owns and operates the Tree-Mendus Fruit farm and hosts activities such as the International Cherry Pit Spit contest. You can always count on something going on at his farm for the community to enjoy throughout the year.

"The fruit business is highly governed by the weather," notes Herbert. "Rainfall, drought, heat and frost are just some of the factors that affect our many fruit trees". He grows apples, apricots, cherries, nectarines, peaches, pears, and plums.

Herbert recorded a low temperature of -21°F on January 16, 1972. His record high temperature was 103°F recorded on July 30, 1999, and on July 6, 2012. His record

rainfall was 12.18 inches in August 2007. His highest seasonal snowfall total was 135.5 inches in the winter of 1977-1978.

Herbert's father, **William**, passed on the Observer responsibility. William founded the site in 1923. Herbert has great childhood memories helping his father take the weather observations and discussing the observations and the weather over supper. He is a previous winner of the Jefferson and Holm Awards, the Coop program's highest honors.

40 and 35 Year Length of Service Awards



Orla Tolleson of Tonsina, AK, shows her 40 Year Length of Service Award. Orla has taken daily river readings and weather observations since 1973 for NWS Anchorage, AK. A flash flood swept away her home and weather equipment in October 2006 causing a small gap in observations; however, she rebuilt her home and acquired new equipment, continuing her dedication to report weather data. Orla takes vital weather observations from a data sparse area in a remote location of Alaska. Photo taken by Hydro Meteorological Technician (HMT) **Dave Stricklan**.



John Edgecombe Jr. receives his 35 Year Length of Service Award. The Edgecombe family has been taking precipitation and temperature readings for the Geneva, NE, area since March 1919, 94 years. John measured 42.63 inches in 1983, the year of the Great Flood. His grandfather, **Tyler Edgecombe**, measured the least amount of precipitation: 14.85 inches in 1936, the Dust Bowl years. Tyler also recorded the highest temperature for the site: 118°F in July 1934. The record low was set back in 1899 when it dropped to -32°F. DAPM **Marla K Doxey**, NWS Hastings, NE, presented the award.



Emil Macha, right, of Littlefield, TX, accepts a 35 Year Length of Service Award from MIC **Justin Weaver**, NWS Lubbock, TX. Also at the presentation were NWS Lubbock Meteorologist **Gary Skwira** and Administrative Support Assistant **Marsha Black**. Photo by Senior Service Hydrologist **John Lipe**.



Rex Kelley of Davis City, IA, recently received his 35 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented by WCM **Jeff Johnson**, NWS Des Moines, IA.

35 and 30 Length of Service Awards



John Ey of Lemon Dam, near Durango, CO, was recently presented with a 35 Year Length of Service Award. Photo and presentation by DAPM **John Kyle**, NWS Grand Junction, CO.



Rex Harrison, right, of Floydada, TX, accepts a 35 Year Length of Service Award from MIC **Justin Weaver**, NWS Lubbock, TX. The observing site is located on Rex's farm southeast of Floydada. This site has been in the Harrison family since 1950 when Rex's father took over the observing duties from another farmer. The site dates back to 1937. Photo taken by OPL **Shawn Ellis**.



Orval and Gerta Palmer, Observers at Alton, UT, were presented a 35 Year Length of Service Award by OPL **Steve Summy**, NWS Salt Lake City, UT. Orval and Gerta also operate the Alton Post Office from their home in Alton.



Bonnie and Rick Kenyon of McCarthy, AK, received their 30 Year Award. The Kenyons were first asked to take weather observations in 1983 by the mail plane pilot who used the data for his McCarthy area flights. Bonnie and Rick are valuable weather spotters in another data sparse region of Alaska. McCarthy is located at the end of a 60 mile gravel road and is the site of the historic Kennecott Copper Mine. Photo taken by HMT **Dave Stricklan**, NWS Anchorage, AK.

30 and 25 Year Length of Service Awards



Charlene Nott, Observer for Elwood, NE, was presented a 30 Year Length of Service Award. Helping her show the award is **Aaron Mangels**, a student volunteer from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln meteorology program. During her years of data collection, Charlene has recorded 716.2 inches of rain (almost 60 feet) and 760.9 inches (over 63 feet) of snow. Presentation and photo by HMT **Mike Reed**, NWS Hastings, NE.



Ray J. Owens, Observer at Hatch-Sevier River, UT, was presented a 30 Year Length of Service Award by OPL **Steve Summy**, NWS Salt Lake City, UT.



Michael Sink, the Observer in Burnsville, NC, was presented a 30 Year Length of Service Award by OPL **Chris Horne**, NWS Greenville-Spartanburg, SC. Michael is the general manager of WTOE/WKYK radio in Burnsville, where the observing equipment is located.



Brad Harvey, of Collyer, KS, was presented with a 25 Year Length of Service Award by OPL **Jesse Lee**, NWS Dodge City, KS. Brad has recorded rain and snowfall data since 1988. **Jerry Darby** started the station in 1940. **Oscar Luce**, Jerry's nephew, took over in 1949 and continued until 1981. **Gary Walt** was the Observer from 1981 until he passed away in 1983. Brad's father, **Don Harvey**, became the official Observer in 1983 until his death in 2005. Brad served as backup Observer from 1988 to 2005 when he generously became the primary.

25 Year Honored Institution Awards



Ranger **Nicole Loiseau** accepted a 25 Year Length of Service Award for Observer **Gary Cox**, Hans Flat Ranger Station, UT. The award was presented by OPL **Steve Summy**, NWS Salt Lake City, UT.



The city of **Sunnyside, UT**, was presented a 25 Year Honored Institution Award by OPL **Steve Summy**, NWS Salt Lake City, UT. Accepting the award are **Polly Sanderson**, center and Observer **Corrine Martinez**.



A 25 Year Honored Institution Award was presented to the **Fremont Indian State Park in Utah**. Accepting the award is Ranger **Sheri Gallegos**. Award by OPL **Steve Summy**, NWS Salt Lake City, UT.



Dewey Flaherty, right, with the **Pocahontas Waste Water Treatment Plant** in Pocahontas, IA, accepts a 25 Year Honored Institution Award. DAPM **Rob Deroy**, NWS Des Moines, IA, presented the award.

20 Year Length of Service Awards



NWS honored **Duane Aldrich** of Hawarden, IA, for 20 years of taking daily weather observations. Official weather observations of rain, snow and temperature data for Hawarden date back to 1926. The award was presented by HMT **Brad Adams**, NWS Sioux Falls, SD. In addition to weather, Duane enjoys working with kids and is involved in many outreach activities through his local church. In addition, he loves to spend time with his grandchildren and remains active with outdoor sports such as golf and tennis.



Mary Margaret Bulgin of Franklin, NC, was presented a 20 Year Length of Service Award by OPL **Chris Horne**, NWS Greenville-Spartanburg, SC. Mary Margaret took over as Observer from her father, **John Bulgin**, who served from 1967 to 1993.



Richard Griffin holds his 20 Year Length of Service Award. Richard is a Pump Station Operator with the **Franklin Water Department** in Massachusetts. Helping Richard accept the award were, from left, **Laurie Ruzsala**, Water Superintendent, and fellow Pump Station Operators, **Steve Nunnery** and **John Paul MacNeil**. The award was presented by NWS Taunton, MA, CPM **Kimberly Buttrick**.



Matthew Lindon, Observer at Snyderville, UT, left accepts a 20 Year Length of Service Award from **Christopher Young**, Meteorologist at NWS Salt Lake City. Photo taken by OPL **Steve Summy**.

20 and 15 Year Length of Service Awards



John Niebergall, right, Observer at Ferron, UT, was presented with a 20 Year Length of Service Award by OPL **Steve Summy**, NWS Salt Lake City, UT.



Debi Stout, Observer at Boulder, UT, was presented a 20 Year Length of Service Award by **Steve Summy**, NWS Salt Lake City, UT.



Lou Thourot, of Wauseon, OH, accepts a 20 Year Length of Service Award. He is proud to have all of the weather records throughout the site's history, including homemade weather notes from a previous Observer. The award was presented by OPL **Brentley Lothame**, NWS Northern Indiana. Photo by **Mike Rehbein**, Service Hydrologist.

Sid Chaney of Utopia, TX, was presented a 20 Year Length of Service Award by HMT **Cory Van Pelt**, NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX. No photo available.



Curt Frain show his 15 Year Length of Service Award. Curt continues a tradition for Pipestone, MN, that dates back to June 1899. The award was presented by HMT **Brad Adams**, from the NWS Sioux Falls, SD. Curt has worked at several National Parks during his career including Glacier National Park, where he was also an Observer. In addition to weather, Curt enjoys exploring the outdoors.



Dennis Brown, left, Observer in rural Bellefont, KS, was presented with a 15 Year Length of Service Award by CPM **Mike Scott**, NWS Dodge City, KS. The station was established in 1959 by **Delbert Kane**, who passed on the responsibility to **Lavonne Nau**. Dennis took over in 1998, continuing this valuable record. Photo by MIC **Larry Ruthi**.



Ted Alexander, right, Observer for rural Sun City, KS, was presented with a 15 Year Length of Service Award by CPM **Mike Scott**, NWS Dodge City, KS. Photo by OPL **Jesse Lee**.

15 and 10 Year Length of Service Awards



Paul Lauzze, Observer for Whitesville, NY, was presented the 15 Year Length of Service Award by NWS Buffalo OPL **Dan Kelly**. Paul's daily precipitation reports are also used by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to assist with its Mount Morris Dam Project.



Roger Powell, right, river Observer for two creeks near Beaver City, NE, was presented the 15 Year Length of Service Award by **Aaron Mangels**, a student volunteer. Presentation and photo by HMT **Mike Reed**, NWS Hastings, NE.



Michael Prellwitz, Observer for Hebron, NE, shows his 15 Year Award. Mike's station dates back to January 1886! Since he took over in 1998, he has measured 424 inches of precipitation. His wettest year was 2007 with 37.57 inches; the driest year was 2009 with just 21.14 inches. Mike measure more than 434 inches of snow in the winter of 2001-2002. The warmest temperature Mike recorded is 108°F in July 2006; the coldest, -15°F in January 2010. DAPM **Marla K. Doxey**, NWS Hastings, NE presented the award.



From left, **Jim Shelesky**, Water Supply Maintenance Crew Leader, and **Phillip Royer**, Water Supply Construction/Maintenance Supervisor, each accept a 15 Year Length of Service Award for service at the **Water Supply Division, Metropolitan District Commission** in Barkhamsted and Burlington, CT. Both sites date back to 1932! Photo by CPM **Kimberly Buttrick**, NWS Taunton, MA.

Deanna Hatch, of Scipio, UT, accepted a 15 Year Length of Service Award from OPL **Steve Summy**, NWS Salt Lake City, UT.

Marcy Rutledge of Carrizo Springs, TX, was presented with a 15 Year Award by HMT **Cory Van Pelt**, NWS Austin/San Antonio, TX.



Tony Nichols, of the **Niles Wastewater Treatment Plant** in Niles, MI, accepts a 10 Year Length of Service Award presented by OPL **Brentley Lothamer**, NWS Northern Indiana.

10 and 5 Year Length of Service Awards



Rich Boothby, right, shows his 10 Year Length of Service Award for taking river stage readings along the Little Sioux River at Cherokee, IA, continuing a tradition dating back to September 1, 1959. The award was presented by HMT **Brad Adams**, NWS Sioux Falls, SD. Rich also donates time to local government activities in Cherokee, enjoys spending time outdoors, and having quality time with his grandchildren.



Mike Bumpus, Operator at the **Middleboro, MA, Pumping Station**, received a 10 Year Award. Presenting the award were NWS Meteorology Interns **Chris McCray**, Lyndon State College; **Chris Roller**, University of Massachusetts, Lowell; and **Alyssa Hammond**, Plymouth State University. Photo by CPM **Kimberly Buttrick**, NWS Taunton, MA. The station's weather records date back to 1887.



Wayne Francis accepts a 10 Year Length of Service Award for Ojai, CA. Ojai observations date back to May 1, 1905. Wayne happily accepted the position after the previous Observer moved out of state in 2003. The award was presented by **Bonnie Bartling**, NWS Oxnard/Los Angeles.



Gregg Meeks, right, of **Solano County's Department of Public Works** receives his 10 Year Length of Service Award. Gregg maintains the recording rain gauge at the county's corporate yard in Fairfield, CA. The award was presented by OPL **George Cline**, NWS Sacramento, CA.



From left, Operator **Steve Gregoire** and Chief Operator **Bob Ash** with the **Southbridge Water Department** in Massachusetts receive 5 and 10 Year Length of Service Awards, respectively. Photo by CPM **Kimberly Buttrick**, NWS Taunton, MA.



From left, **Aaron Mangels**, student volunteer, presents a 10 Year Length of Service Award to Observer **Veronica Schoenfish**, of Cambridge, NE. Photo by HMT **Mike Reed**, NWS Hastings, NE.

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December, January, February Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks From the Climate Prediction Center

