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Ella Mae Julian recognized for 75 Years of Service as Kansas Observer



Seated from left are backup observer **John Smith** and Observer **Ella Mae Julian**. Standing are U.S. Sen. **Jerry Moran's** Representative **Reid Petty**, U.S. Rep. Roger Marshall's Staffer **Rebecca Swender**, Stanton County Emergency Manager **Vaughn Lorenson**, Representative from U.S. Sen. Pat Roberts' office **James Lane**, NWS Dodge City, KS, OPL **Jesse Lee**, Meteorologist **Matt Gerard**, WCM **Jeff Hutton**, NWS Central Region Headquarters Chief Program Officer **Scott Tessmer** and MIC **Larry Ruthi**.

Ella Mae Julian, a Cooperative Weather Observer near Big Bow, KS, was presented with the Earl Stewart Award for an amazing 75 years of service. The award was presented at the Memorial Living Center in Johnson, KS.

The award was presented by Scott Tessmer, Chief Program Officer from NWS

Central Region Headquarters. The award is presented in honor of Earl Stewart, who completed 75 years (1917-1994) of service at Cottage Grove, OR.

Ella's husband, **Theodore**, had been the primary observer since 1944 before his passing in 1999. Ella was his backup before taking over the primary duties.

One month in, we've received dozens of notes from folks like you sharing stories, papers, presentations and ideas that have helped us uncover a treasure trove of information about our past as an organization.

The Julians have provided precipitation data for over 75 years. Ella is the longest serving cooperative weather observer in southwest Kansas.

She received letters of congratulations from Kansas Senators Pat Roberts and Jerry Moran, U.S. Representative Roger Marshall, Kansas Governor Laura Kelly and NWS

Director Louis Uccellini. As well as many other letters of commending her commitment.

The Julian Family was also presented with the Family Heritage Award for 75 years of service.

In 2016, Ella was awarded the Thomas Jefferson Award, the highest award that a cooperative weather observer can receive.

NWS Sharing 150 Years of Stories: Your Input is Critical!

By [NWS Heritage Project Team](#),
Silver Spring, MD

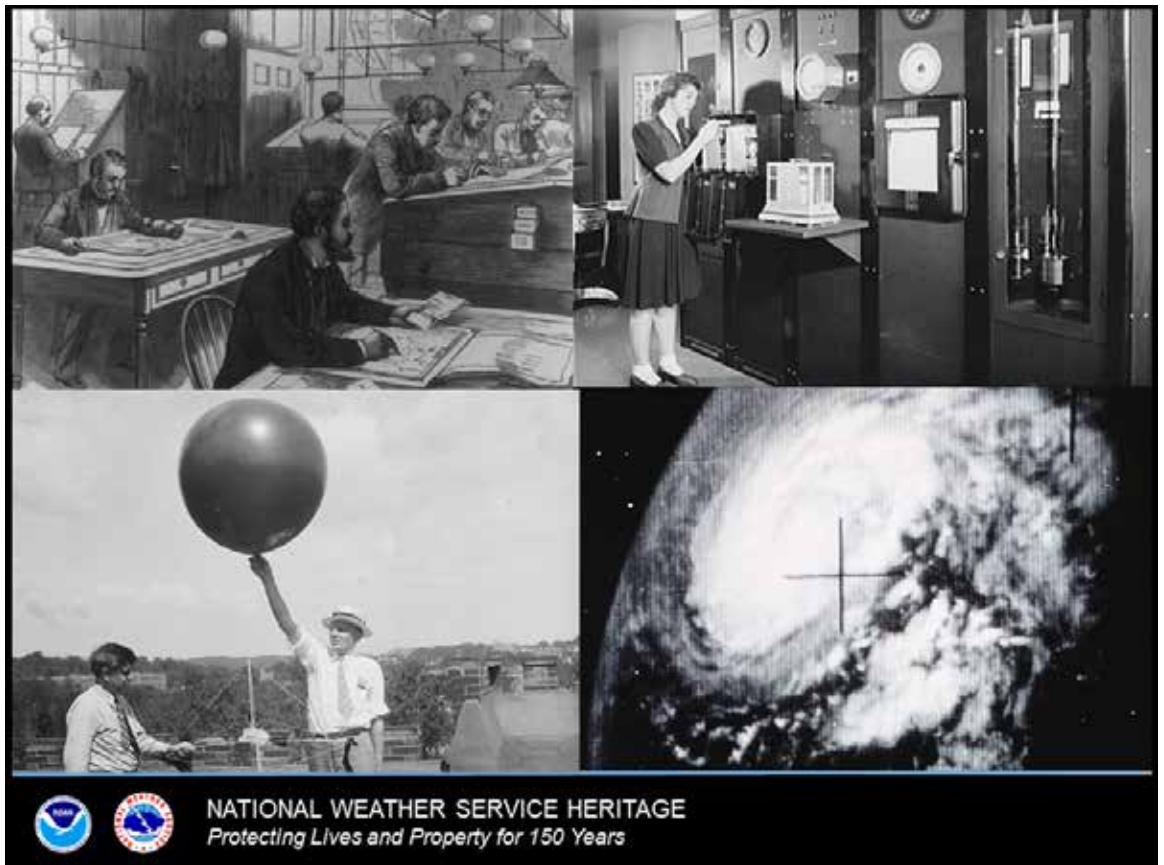
In September, the National Weather Service launched the NWS Heritage Project to collect, document and share our collective 150 year history with you and the world.

One month in, we've received dozens of notes from folks like you sharing stories, papers, presentations and ideas that have helped us

uncover a treasure trove of information about our past as an organization. The dedication of volunteers like you has had an immense impact on this agency's history, OUR history.

As we get even closer to our 150th anniversary in February 2020, check your local and regional offices and National Centers for historical information and photos.

Find us on social media or through other



means. If you have historical photos or stories, please post them using the hashtag **#NWS150** and give us a heads up so that we can help share your stories! If you have an idea you want to chat about, send us a note at nws.heritageprojects.team@noaa.gov.

Also, don't forget that the NOAA Heritage Program (formerly Preserve America Initiative) is now accepting funding proposals for projects within NOAA that will help preserve, protect, and promote the agency's heritage. The NWS Heritage Projects Team is working

closely with NOAA to promote this popular program that has funded small projects from around the country. One-page initial proposals are due no later than Friday, November 15, 2019. Send proposals to Dianna.Parker@noaa.gov. For more information, including pre-proposal criteria and format, visit <https://preserveamerica.noaa.gov/grant.html>.

For more information about the Heritage Projects or to start exploring our history, visit <https://vlab.ncep.noaa.gov/web/nws-heritage> and follow us on Facebook and Twitter

NWS History

The following article is excerpted from "An NWS History of the Signal Corps," the Signal Corps was the predecessor of the National Weather Service. The timing is 1870-1891.

Personal View of J. W. Smith

While "on station" there were some amusing experiences and a few very unusual ones. One of the former was experienced by my predecessor at a small southwestern station at Corsicana, TX. He told me that soon after establishing his station he was waited on by a committee, appointed by dissatisfied citizens, on account of the very unsatisfactory weather conditions caused by the meteorological instruments as there had been no such weather before "them things were set on the roof."

All the explanations we could make proving unsatisfactory. The official suggested they adjourn to the cafe over the way for further discussion, where it cost our man about \$25 for sufficient refreshments to convince the committee that the weather instruments were not at fault.

Even in the early days of the service, visitors often came to see how the weather was made, particularly at stations in large towns and cities. More than a few times I have heard surprise expressed at the small size of the instruments, their insignificance.

Quite a few expected to see quite massive machinery laboring, groaning and belching, for they thought devices that could record great

gales, hurricanes, and storms must be large and complex.

Visitors have so stated to me and expressed disappointment at the quiet, silent method in which the instruments do their work. Few, after seeing and having the instruments explained, could fully comprehend them.

Many years ago we carefully explained the equipment to quite a distinguished looking party of several persons and on finishing the story of the wind register, anemometer, etc., the head of the party, as I remember was a minister, commented, "Well it's wonderful how the winds come down those wires and make the records," to which we readily agreed, as more talk was useless.

Weather cranks have been met in all parts where we have served, mostly those who could make much better forecasts than those of the Bureau. One in particular, with considerable local reputation, whose forecasts were often printed by the local papers, came to the office for a chat, during which I inquired as to his theories, methods, instruments, etc., if any, to which he replied, "Oh, I have none, don't need any; my grandmother could tell the weather, and in the same way I can tell it."

Quite a few expected to see quite massive machinery laboring, groaning and belching, for they thought devices that could record great gales, hurricanes, and storms must be large and complex.

100 Year Honored Institution Award



Glacier National Park



From left, retired National Park Fire Management Officer (FMO) **Dave Soliem**, Park Systems and Facilities Division Chief **Sean Wink**, Acting FMO **Jeremy Harker**, retired Park staffer **Dennis Divoky**, Superintendent **Jeff Mow**, Observer **Scott Lang**, acting CPM **Corby Dickerson**, Observer **Mike McClellan**, and MIC Bruce Bauck

NWS Missoula, MT, MIC **Bruce Bauck**, Glacier National Park (GNP) Deep Core Program Lead **Dan Zumpfe**, Acting CPM **Corby Dickerson** and Western Region Headquarters Systems and Facilities Division Chief **Sean Wink** presented Glacier National Park with the Honored Institution Award in grateful recognition of over 100 years of weather observations.

On May 11, 1910, President William Taft recognized Glacier as the 10th National Park. Three years later, on December 1, 1913, the U.S. Weather Bureau installed a cooperative weather station. The station, initially named Fish Creek and located at the original park headquarters, was renamed Belton, the original name for West Glacier, MT. In 1918, the site moved a short distance to the new park headquarters building. The weather station would undergo minimal location moves in the 1930s and 1960s for better exposure or observational convenience, but none of these moves ever challenged the climatological compatibility of the data from its original location in 1913.

In 1948, the U.S. Post Office received approval to change its name from Belton to West Glacier. Although the weather station did not physically move or change identification number, it too changed names and many years later, when NWS digitized Coop records, the change would unfortunately separate the data into two stations: Belton and West Glacier. Recently NWS Missoula caught this mistake and has collaborated with historians at the GNP archives and the National Center for Environmental Information to recover most of the missing data and include it in the national database.

Throughout its 100 year history, dozens of staff at GNP have voluntarily taken daily weather observations. Several GNP staff members, including the Chief Park Ranger, Deputy Superintendent, Acting Fire Management Officer, and the current and two retired observers, were on hand as GNP Superintendent **Jeff Mow** accepted this award and referenced the many other partnership GNP maintains with NWS Missoula: fire weather, debris flows, recreation hazard weather awareness, avalanche, roads/snow plowing, etc.

John Campanius Holm Award



Perry Anderson of Melville, MT, was awarded the John Campanius Holm Award for outstanding service. The Melville station was first established in 1960 with Perry's father, **Thorvald Anderson** as the observer.

Perry grew up assisting his father with weather observations from a young age and took over the station in 2001, when his father passed away.

Perry has been assisted by his son, **Nathan**, carrying on the family tradition. He has provided timely, accurate and dependable weather data totaling more than 21,000 observations over nearly a 60 year history.

Perry's weather records define the climate in the foothills

of the Crazy Mountains, a remote area where obtaining data would otherwise be very difficult. This region has experienced a variety of weather through its nearly 60 year history, with extreme temperatures ranging from -45°F in February 1989 to 94°F in July 2002. Annual average precipitation since 1960 has been 18.20 inches, with seasonal snowfall averaging 80.0 inches. Perry recalled the day in June 2018 when he received 4.28 inches. His maximum daily snowfall since 1960 was 18 inches in April 1997.

75 Year Honored Institution Award



The **Newark Water District** was recently presented with a 75 Year Honored Institution Award for its collection of observations at two cooperative observer sites in northwest New Jersey: **Canistear Reservoir** and **Oak Ridge Reservoir**.

Both sites provide precipitation measurements along with snow in a key watershed area of New Jersey that serve the state's largest city, Newark. **Tom Koeppel**, center, accepts the award from **Chris Stachelski**, Eastern Region Headquarters OPL, right. Chris is a native of the area who grew up only 12 miles from these sites and still maintains an active interest in the area's climate record. Photo by Sterling Field Support Center staff.

55 Year Benjamin Franklin Award

Wayne Wickerham of Huntsville, OH, has been providing weather data to NWS Wilmington, OH, for 55 years. Thank you Wayne for your dedication and service! From left are Meteorologist **Ashley Novak**, MIC **Kenneth Haydu**, observer **Wayne Wickerham**, Wayne's wife **June Wickerham**, and OPL **James Gibson**. Photo by **Mandy Loehr** Bellefontaine Examiner Staff Writer.



Edward R. Stoll 50 Year Award



John Borg of Eagle, AK, received the Edward H. Stoll award for 50 years of service. The first observations from Eagle began in 1889 when the place was known as Fort Egbert. John began taking weather observations in 1969. John has been providing critical information to the NWS Fairbanks and the Alaska River Forecast Center as part of the River Watch Program. In 2007 John was presented with the Thomas Jefferson Award for outstanding achievement. Eagle is a small community of about 100 people on the Canadian border along the banks of the mighty Yukon River, at the end of the Taylor Highway.

From left are Observer **John Borg** and NWS Fairbanks, AK, MIC **Melissa Kreller**.

Edward R. Stoll and 50 Year Honored Institution Awards

Jessie Mae Cheeks of Griffithsville, WV, was presented with the Edward H. Stoll Award for 50 years of service as a cooperative observer. The award was presented by OPL **Andrew Beavers**, NWS Charleston, WV. Photo by **Chris Stachelski**, Eastern Region Headquarters OPL.



The **Greenville Water Plant** in Greenville, OH was honored recently for 50 years of weather observations. Thank You for your dedication and service!

Pictured from left are NWS Wilmington, OH, MIC **Kenneth Haydu**, Greenville Water Plant Observers **Robert Haines** and **Gary Evans**, NWS OPL **James Gibson** and Meteorologist **Ashley Novak**. Photo by the *Greenville Early Bird* newspaper.

50 Year Honored Institution Award

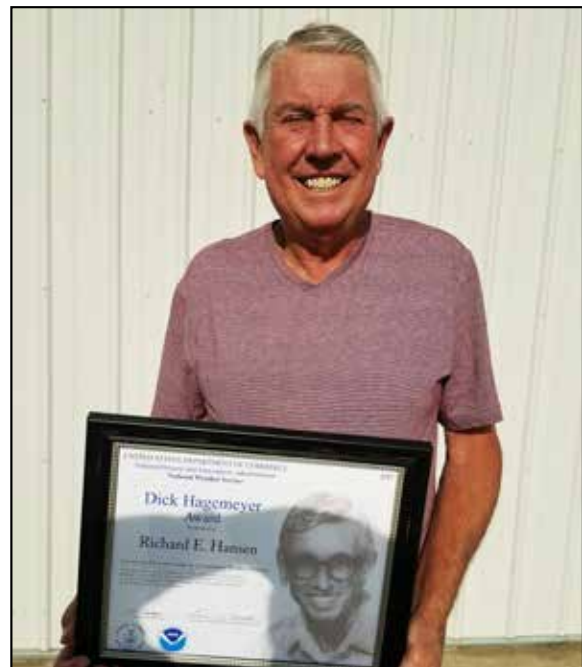


On behalf of the U.S. Corps of Engineers in Stockton, MO, **Stanton Rains**, left, accepted a 50 Year Honored Institution Award from MIC **Kelsey Angle**, NWS Springfield, MO.

In addition to offering fishing, camping and water sports recreation, **Stockton Lake and Dam** also provides hydroelectric power as well as flood damage reduction, water supply storage, fish and wildlife management, downstream water quality improvement and navigation flow supplementation.

45 Year Dick Hagemeyer Service Award

Richard Hansen was presented with a 45 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Great Falls, MT. Richard takes and records daily weather records at Gildford, MT. His reports include maximum and minimum temperatures, precipitation, snowfall and snow depth. Richard is also a backup observer for his son. Weather records from this area date back to 1958.



45 Year Dick Hagemeyer Service and 35 Year Awards



Nancy Pickard of Wilmington, OH, has been providing temperature and precipitation data to NWS Wilmington, OH, for 45 years. Thank you Nancy for your dedication and service! Pictured from left are NWS Meteorologist **Ashley Novak**, observer **Nancy Pickard**, husband **Kent Pickard**, NWS Science and Operations Officer **Seth Binau**, OPL **James Gibson**, and retired OPL **Don Hughes**. Photo by **Allen Randall**, Senior Forecaster.

Meteorologist **Tim Gross**, right, presented Observer **Steve Gottschalk** of Lowden, IA, his 35 Year Length of Service Award. Steve is a big weather enthusiast who has taken his own weather observations for more than 50 years. He is known by his community as the “weather guy” and many people ask him for a forecast.



From left, **Willard and Nancy Tonne** were presented with a 35 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Great Falls, MT, Meteorologist **Jane Fogleman**.

Willard and Nancy record and report daily maximum and minimum temperatures, precipitation, snowfall and snow depth at their station in Stanford, MT. The climate records for the Tonne’s site go back to 1927.

35, 30 Year Length of Service Award



Carol Sluggett was presented with a 35 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Great Falls, MT, for recording and reporting daily maximum and minimum temperatures, precipitation, snowfall and snow depth. The station is at her home near Valentine, MT, continues the records for that area dating back to 1907. In the picture from left are Carol and Meteorologist **Jane Fogleman**.

Nicky Lenz, the observer at Boyer, IA, recently received her 30 Year Length of Service Award. NWS Des Moines, IA, OPL **Brad Fillbach** presented Nicky with her award.



Eugene McAlexander from Beaconsfield, IA, recently received his 30 Year Length of Service Award. Presenting the award is NWS Des Moines, IA, OPL **Brad Fillbach**. Eugene will be 95 years young in a few short weeks!



30 Year Length of Service Awards



University of Montana at Dillon Observer **Tom Nichols** and the maintenance staff accepted a 30 Year Award from NWS Great Falls, MT, for taking daily weather observations. The security staff record and report maximum and minimum temperatures, rain, snowfall and snow depth, continuing a record dating to 1895! Pictured from left are **Joe Chipponeri, Tom Nichols, Cole Cottom** and NWS OPL **Matt Moorman**.

Jeff Albrecht of Doland, SD, recently received his 30 Year Length of Service Award. **Timothy Kearns**, DAPM at NWS Aberdeen, SD, presented the award.



Lewis Black, left, of Blanding, UT, receives a 30 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Grand Junction, CO, DAPM **John Kyle**. As an aside to taking daily cooperative weather observations, Lewis took 3-hourly aviation observations for nearly 20 years in service to the NWS.



30 and 25 Year Length of Service Awards



Colleen Ingersoll of Rogers Pass, MT, was presented with a 30 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Great Falls, MT. Colleen's site dates to 1964.



Frederick Miller, observer at Indian Mills, NJ, was presented with a 30 Year Length of Service Award on behalf of NWS Mt. Holly, NJ. The award was presented by **James Enlow**, Sterling Field Support Center. Frederick lives in an agricultural area of South Jersey that helps give the state its nickname: The Garden State.



Ron Pierce, right, of Moab, UT, receives a 25 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Grand Junction, CO, DAPM **John Kyle**.



A 25 Year Length of Service Award was presented to **Catherine L. Gates**, observer in Boulder, CO. OPL **Jim Kalina**, NWS Boulder, CO, made the presentation.

25 Year Length of Service and Honored Institution Awards



Paul Bonnifield of Yampa, CO, displays his 25 Year Length of Service Award presented by NWS Grand Junction, CO. Paul, wife **Ellen** and backup observer and friend **DeAnna Berry** have been dedicated observers. The award was presented by DAPM **John Kyle**, NWS Grand Junction.



Mark Hoover, of Eldora, IA, recently received his 25 Year Length of Service award. OPL Brad Fillbach, NWS Des Moines, IA, presented the award.



NWS Baltimore-Washington CPM **Brandon Fling**, right, presented **John Sweet**, observer at Mustoe, VA, with a 25 Year Length of Service Award.



Sheriff Dispatchers **Erica Naillon** and **Shane Copps** receive a 25 year Honored Institution Award for the **Sheriff's Office** in Broadus, MT. The award was presented by HMT **Vickie Stephenson**, NWS Billings, MT.

25 Honored Institution; 20 Year Length of Service Awards



The **Waynesboro Water Treatment Plant** in Virginia was recently presented with a 25 Year Honored Institution Award for its observations. CPM **Brandon Fling**, left, NWS Baltimore-Washington presented the award to Observer **Dustin Fischer**.



KLMJ Radio in Hampton, IA, received a 25 Year Honored Institution Award from OPL **Brad Fillbach** (left), NWS Des Moines, IA. Accepting the award is **Shawn Dietz**, Interim General Manager of KLMJ Radio.



Pictured with his newly installed Maximum/Minimum Temperature Sensor, **Jay Van Loan**, right, of Glade Park, CO, receives a 20 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Grand Junction, CO. Presenting the award is DAPM **John Kyle**.



Ben Gelber was presented with a 20 Year Length of Service Award for observations near Stroudsburg, PA. Ben has maintain the record of this historic site going in the Pocono Mountains region. Ben holds the unique distinction of serving as a cooperative observer in two locations in NWS Eastern Region for two different WFOs, Mount Holly, NJ, and Wilmington, OH. He is also the primary observer at a station located in Columbus, OH, where he works as a meteorologist. Photo by **Valerie Meola**, NWS Mt. Holly, NJ.

20, 15 Year Length of Service Awards



NWS Sioux Falls, SD, HMT **Tim Masters** presented **Don Beck** with a 20 Year Length of Service Award for observations near Winfred, SD. His dog, Ernie, took a break too join us. Don, formerly an Electronic Systems Analyst, recently retired and enjoys traveling to tropical locations and to visit his three adult children. He and his wife also spend time renovating their century old farm house and raising corn and soybeans. They are looking forward to the birth of their first grandchild this winter.



Mark Gubbins shows his 20 Year Length of Service Award for observations at Iroquois, SD. Mark's site dates to 1950. The award was presented by HMT **Tim Masters**, NWS Sioux Falls, SD. As a proud lifelong South Dakota resident, he combines his photography talent and weather fascination to share valuable information with the NWS. One of his prized possessions is a large photo of the Manchester tornado on June 24, 2003.



Glenda and Pete Mckeone of Conrad, MT, show their 20 Year Length of Service Award. Weather records from this site date back to 1911. Photo and presentation by NWS Great Falls, MT, Lead Meteorologist **Christian Cassell**.



Meteorologist **Kaitlyn O'Brien** of NWS Anchorage, AK, presented a 15 Year Length of Service Award to **Constantino "Tino" Bormuel**, Treatment Plan Manager at the **Kodiak Wastewater Treatment Plant**. Tino has worked at the plant fore 23 years.

15 Year Length of Service Awards



NWS Anchorage, AK, Meteorologist **Kaitlyn O'Brien** presented a 15 Year Length of Service Award to **Frank Fish**, Pumphouse Operator at **Monashka Creek Dam**. Frank is a lifelong resident of Kodiak and loves to ride his motorcycle over the island's scenic roads.



Fred Gardner, right, observer at Wertsville, NJ, was presented with a 15 Year Length of Service Award by NWS Mt. Holly Meteorologist Alex Staarmann, left, and **Chris Stachelski**, Eastern Region Headquarters OPL. Photo by **James Enlow**, Sterling Field Support Center.



LeRoy Koopman was honored with a 15 Year Length of Service Award for observations at Colton, SD. the station dates to March 23, 1960. HMT **Tim Masters**, NWS Sioux Falls, SD, presented the award. Leroy, a former fire chief, took a few minutes away from managing his family's third generation propane service company.



Janell and Lony Shaw and their daughter were presented with a 15 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Great Falls, MT. The station, at their home in Twin Bridges, MT, has been in the family since 1961 and continues the records for that area dating back to 1899!



David Baldinger Jr., right, of Steamboat Springs, CO, receives a 15 Year Length of Service Award from the NWS Grand Junction, CO. Presenting the award is DAPM **John Kyle**.

10 Year Length of Service Awards



Meg Beshey of Fort Dodge, IA, recently received her 10 Year Length of Service Award from OPL **Brad Fillbach**, left, NWS Des Moines, IA, and MIC **Jeff Johnson**.



Douglas Bryce, Supervisory Forester for the **Bureau of Indian Affairs** in Fort Duchesne, UT, receives a 10 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Grand Junction, CO. Presenting the award is DAPM **John Kyle**.



Panguitch, UT, Observers **Margaret and Joe Decker** (not pictured) were presented a 10 Year Length of Service Award. The Decker team report from a rural town in southern Utah near beautiful Bryce Canyon National Park. The site dates to 1904. Photo by Salt Lake City, UT, OPL **Lisa Verzella**.



Representing the **Branson, MO, Airport** staff, **Jesse Fosnaugh**, left, Deputy Director of Operations, was presented a 10 Year Length of Service Award by MIC **Kelsey Angle** NWS Springfield, MO. The Branson Airport opened in 2009 and was created through a unique public-private partnership. It is the first privately developed and operated commercial service airport built in the United States.



Observer **Thomas Fromm** was presented with a 10 Year Length of Service Award by CPM **Brandon Fling**, NWS Baltimore-Washington, for his observations at Free Union, VA.



Lance Hicks was presented with a 10 Year Length of Service Award from NWS Great Falls, MT. Lance's station, located at **Red Rocks National Wildlife Refuge**, was established in November 1904.

10 Year Length of Service Awards



Sandy Krumvieda shows her 10 Year Award for tracking rainfall, snowfall, and snow depth data through the WxCODER website. Official weather observations of precipitation for Montrose, SD, started on August 12, 1963. The award was presented by HMT **Tim Masters**, NWS Sioux Falls, SD. Sandy is a numbers person. She also enters numbers for Wells Fargo Bank, where she works.



Don and Rick Lucas display their 10 Year Awards for service at Academy, a site dating to 1898! Don and Rick took over after the death of their father, **Everett Lucas**, who served for 22 years. The award was presented by HMT **Tim Masters**, NWS Sioux Falls, SD. They already have the next generation of observer in training. Nephew **Isaac** has been living in the old house for about three years and learning how to take the readings.



Jeffrey Omlor accepted a 10 Year Award from NWS Mt. Holly, NJ, for **Blue Marsh Lake**, PA. This site provides the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with vital data used to evaluate hydrological operations in the area. Photo by **Chris Stachelski**, NWS Eastern Region Headquarters.



Dr. Baker Perry at Flat Springs, NC, shows his 10 Year Award presented by OPL **Chris Horne**, NWS Greenville-Spartanburg, SC. Baker is a professor at Appalachian State University. He is also an authority on snowfall patterns and processes in the Southern Appalachians. Most recently he installed the world's highest weather station near the summit of Mount Everest!



Brett Murley of Sac City, IA, recently received his 10 Year Length of Service Award. OPL **Brad Fillbach**, NWS Des Moines, IA, presented Brett with his award.

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

