

# The National Cooperative Observer Newsletter



SUMMER 1986

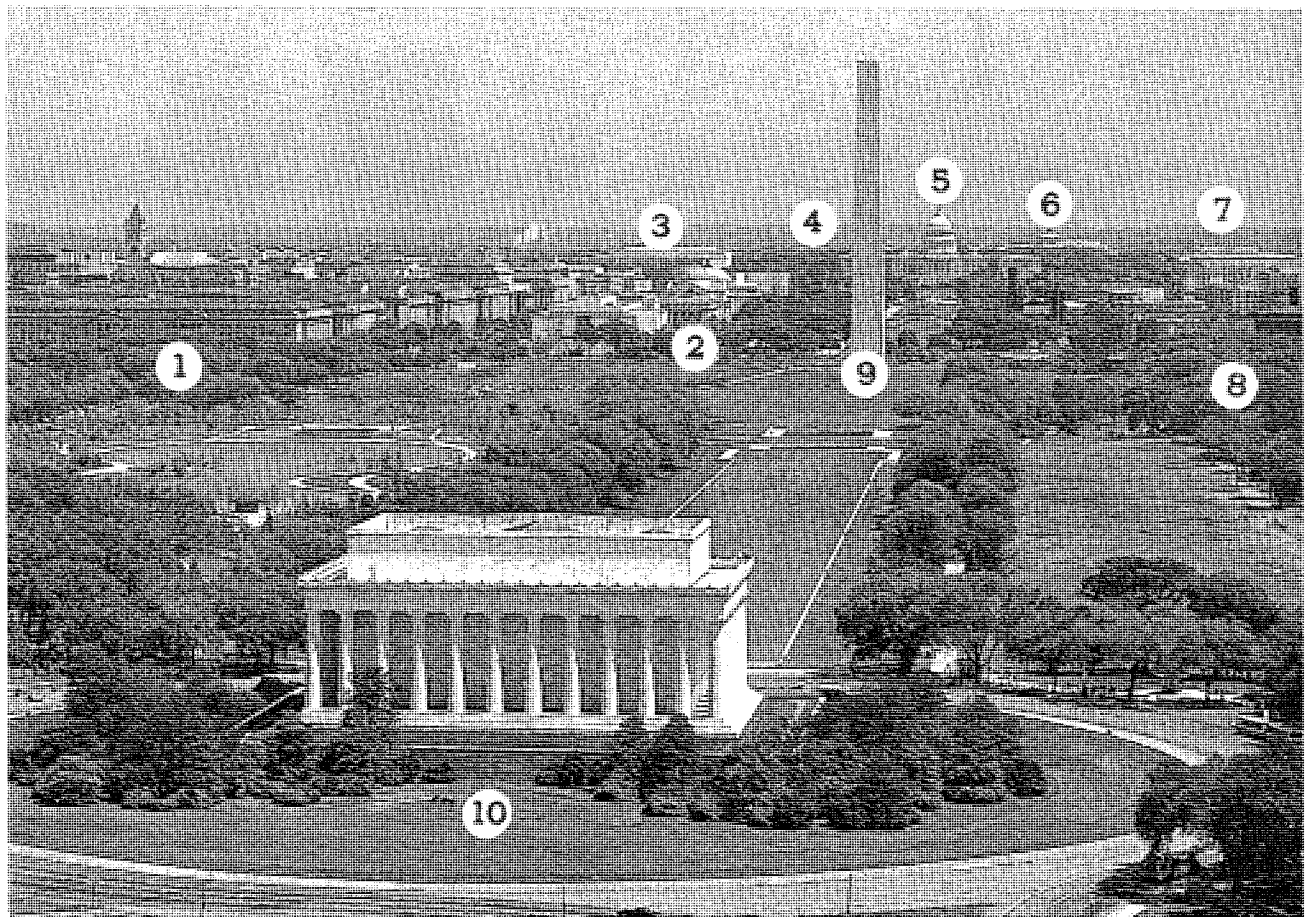
VOLUME 3

NUMBER 4

EASTERN REGION

SOUTHERN REGION

CENTRAL REGION



WESTERN REGION

ALASKA REGION

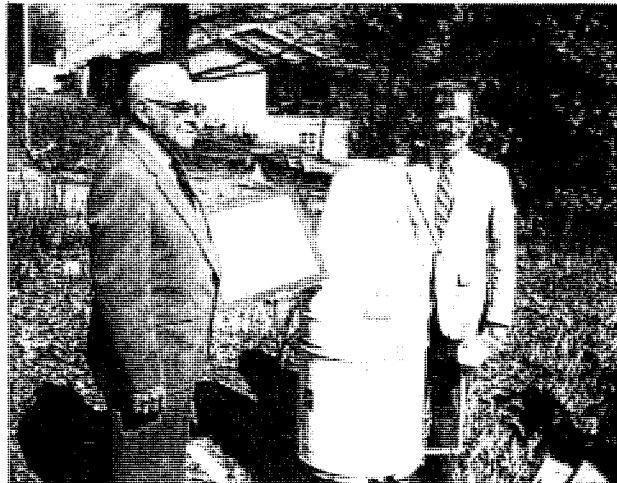
PACIFIC REGION

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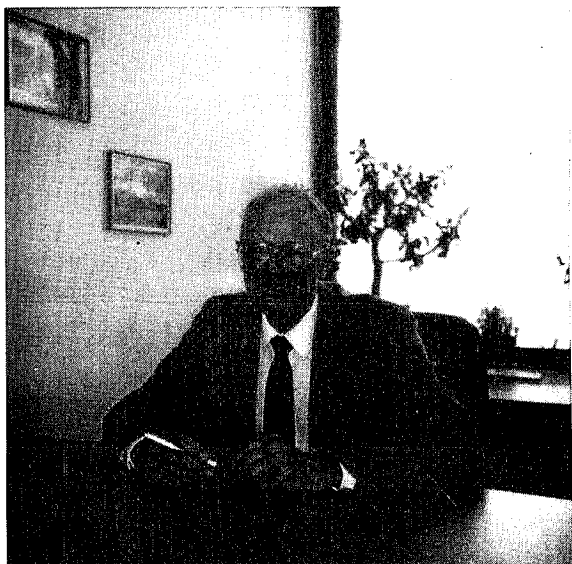
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND  
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

About the Cover: THE NATION'S CAPITOL: - (1) Department of Commerce, NOAA; (2) Museum of Natural History and Technology; Fine Arts Galleries, National Archives; (3) US Senate; (4) US Supreme Court; (5) THE CAPITOL; (6) Library of Congress; (7) Congressmen of buildings; (8) Smithsonian Museums (Air Space, etc.); (9) Washington Monument; (10) Lincoln Memorial. Two blocks left from Department of Commerce is the White House and below the Pond - Vietnam Veterans Monument (invisible), westward. The Potomac River and Jefferson Memorial are in vicinity (right, outside this picture). Photographer - Lt. Col. M. W. Arps.



## SOUTHERN REGION



Congratulations to Robert Manning who took over the duties as Chief of the Cooperative Program Branch in January. Bob has been in the program for 11 years as CPM for the North Texas area.



Welcome back to Texas!!! Jerry Wolfe took over Bob's duties as CPM of North Texas. Jerry has been a CPM for the past seven years in Springfield, IL. Jerry's home originally was East Texas and he is happy to be back in his home state.

Johnny Barrett, Dyersburg, TN, was recently presented the John Campanius Holm Award by Richard Coleman (right), MIC Memphis Weather Office. Mr. Barrett has over 42 years as weather observer for his community.

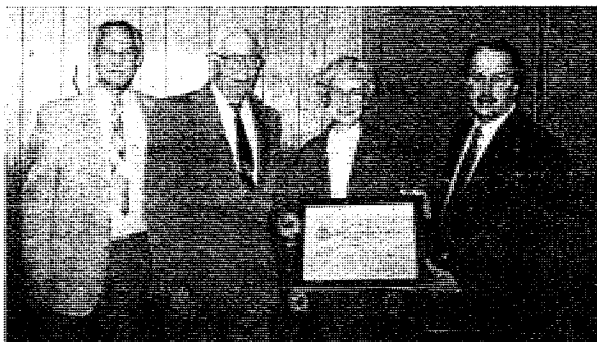


Elizabeth Littleton, Kingston, TN, was presented the John Campanius Holm Award for 41 years of service. Ms. Littleton is a retired teacher and started her weather watching duties when she was a student at the University of Tennessee.



Elizabeth Friday was awarded the John Campanius Holm Award at her home in Horatio, AR, for 40 years of continuous service. The award was presented by (left to right) Woody Currence, CPM Little Rock; Ernest S. Ethridge, OIC Shreveport; and Allen B. Lee, MIC Little Rock.

## SOUTHERN REGION



Mr. and Mrs. John D. Isenhower, Putnam, TX, were presented their 40-year length-of-service award by Robert Manning, Chief, Cooperative Program Branch and Jerry Wolfe, CPM Fort Worth.

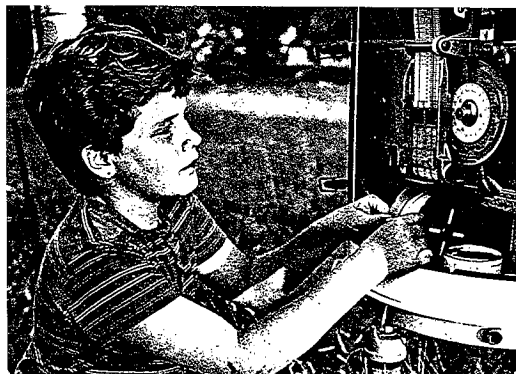
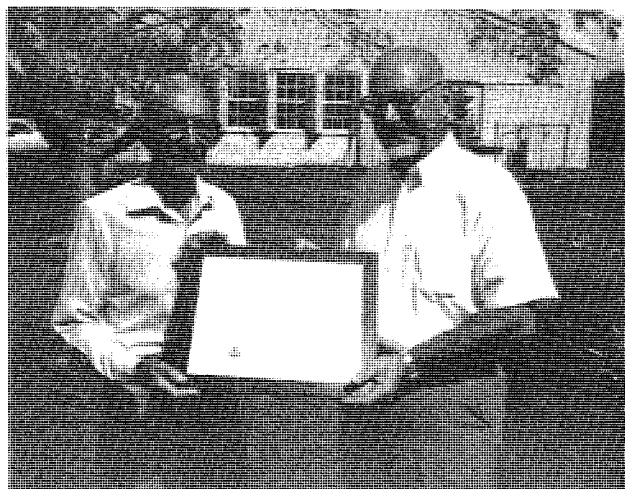
J. S. (Sam) Holmberg of Erick, OK, was presented the John Campanius Holm Award for more than 34 years of continuous and exceptional service. The award ceremony took place at the weekly meeting of the Erick Rotary Club. This award is added to a list of other accomplishments by Mr. Holmberg. His previous honors include the WKY-TV Farmer-Rancher of the Year Award for 1959 and 1960, the Master Agronomist Award from the Agronomy Department at Oklahoma State University, and a Meritorious Service Award for his dedication as a member of the State Advisory Council to the Division of Agriculture at OSU.



Mr. Holmberg has been a member of the United Methodist Church for 64 years, he has served as president of the official board, taught Sunday School continuously for about 48 years and still sings in the church choir. He has also served as president on the board of directors of the Erick Farmers Union Cooperative and was an inspector of the North Erick Election Precinct for approximately 45 years.

Ben Moore, Jr., O'Donnell, TX, was presented a 30-year length-of-service pin and certificate by Chuck Megee, CPM Lubbock. This makes a total of 45 years for the Moore family as Ben's father was the observer for 15 years before his death.

Pictured above, left to right, John Lambert, CPM Oklahoma; J.S. Holmberg and Mrs. Julia Ann Holmberg; and Dr. Ken Crawford, Oklahoma Area Manager.

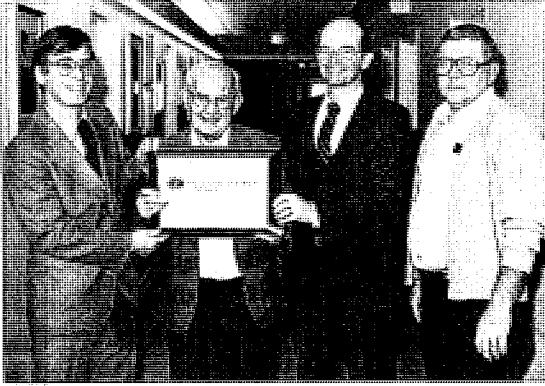


R. R. Traylor, Matagorda, TX, was honored for 60-plus years of service as a volunteer weather observer. Mr. Traylor, a rancher and former part-owner of a hardware store and garage, has lived in Matagorda since he was 5 years old. Mr. Traylor (left) was presented the Landsberg Award by Bill Crouch, MIC San Antonio.

Rain may fall, or the sun may shine. Whatever is happening outside, 11,000 volunteers across the United States are checking for the National Weather Service. One is 9-year-old Cindy Scott, Roy, NM. "When the woman who was recording the weather in Roy retired, the weather service was looking for someone to take over the job," says Cindy. "I volunteered." Cindy has an electronic thermometer at her house to read the temperature outside. "Every evening I write down the day's maximum and minimum temperatures, and also the temperature at 6 p.m.," she says. Cindy has a container in a nearby vacant lot to collect rainfall and snowfall. Here she removes a tape used in recording the monthly totals. She will send the tape to the weather station in Albuquerque. She says "gardeners from all over the neighborhood call and ask me about the weather."

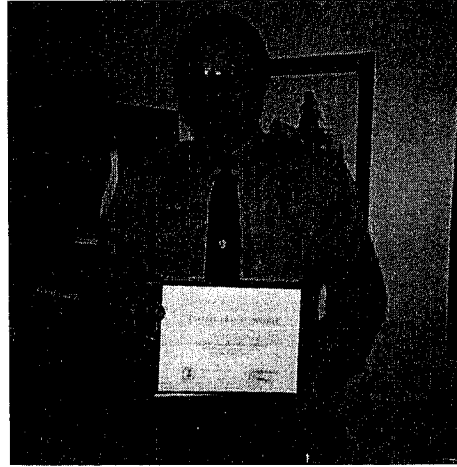
(This article was published in the National Geographic World, May 1986.)

## CENTRAL REGION

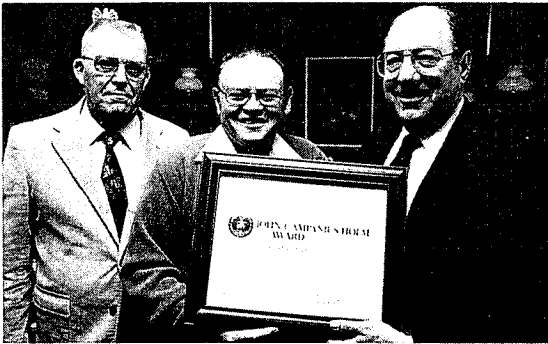


Grafton G. Longden, Jr., observer, Greencastle, IN, was presented the John Campanius Holm Award for "outstanding accomplishments in the field of meteorological observations."

Shown (left to right): Albert P. Shipe, NWS Hydrologist; Grafton G. Longden, Jr.; John Curran, NWS Indiana Area Manager; and John Hennek, NWS CPM.



Douglas Barnard, C/Ranger, accepts a 50-year Institutional Award for Grand Teton National Park, WY.



Robert Sorensen, Harlan, IA, was presented the John Campanius Holm Award for more than 33 years of continuous public service.

(Left to right): CPM/DSM; Robert Sorensen; MIC (AM) DSM Perry Baker.



Stella Asling, Diamond Springs, KS, was presented a 45-year award by Gary Funke.



John M. Martin, King City, MO, was presented the Edward Stohl Award for 50 years volunteer weather observing for the National Weather Service. Photo: John Loveless.

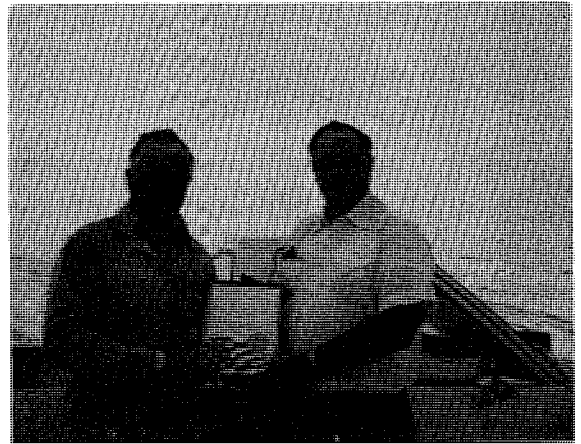


Floyd Gray, Scottsburg, IN, was presented a 40-year award by Al Shipe (left) and John Curran (right).

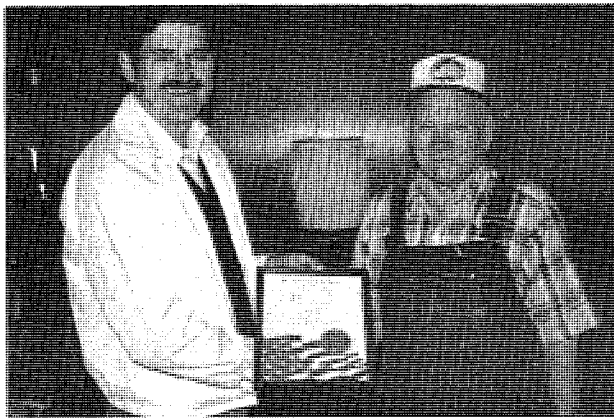
# CENTRAL REGION



Mr. and Mrs. Myron Banta, Waveland, IN, were presented a 35-year award.



Leland Landers, Gillette 9 E, WY, was presented a 30-year award.



Howard C. Zeng, West Point 1 W, NE, was presented a 35-year award by Tom Sinclair, CPM/OMA.



Paul Burman, cooperative observer, Wakefield, NE, was presented a 25-year service pin and certificate by George Matuella, SMT Omaha/WSFO.

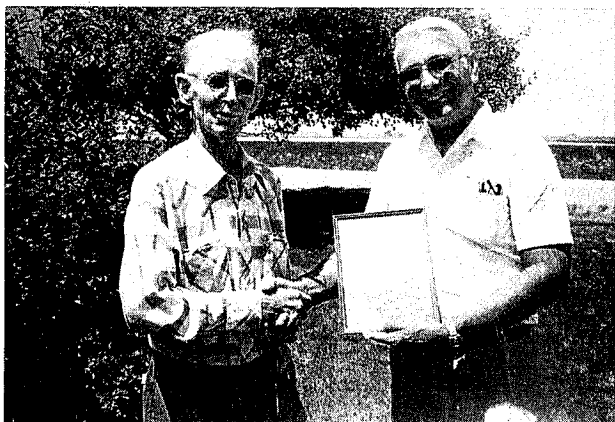
Plant Supervisor for the Melrose Light and Power Plant, MN, accepted a 25-year Institutional Service Award from Leo Behrens.

(No picture)

## LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARDS AND PINS

STATE	STATION	YEARS
<u>Illinois</u>		
Fred A. Lischer	New Athens	20
Arthur J. Bessen	Prairie Du Rocher	20
Mary K. Winkeler	Albers	20
Richard D. Bradley	Prophetstown	10
Mr./Mrs. Glenn I. Coffey	Sparta	10
Vernon H. Lucht	Red Bud 5 SE	10
<u>Kansas</u>		
Wilbur Paige	Blue Rapids	26
Viola A. St. Clair	Harlan	25
Thomas W. Wilson	Lincoln 1 ESE	25
Herbert E. Headley	Uniontown	20
Gail R. Foster	Humboldt	20
Tobias F. Dirks	Durham	20
Bob Burkepille	Hoxie	15
<u>Michigan</u>		
Ralph Roossinck & daughter Heather	Fremont 4 WSW	10
Henry Nobbs	Marshall	10
Elmer Peterson	Ludington 6 SSE	10
<u>Minnesota</u>		
Raymond Stromer	Austin 3 N	20
Henry C. Clarksean	Wadena 3 S	15
Raymond Peterson	Lake Bronson	15
<u>Missouri</u>		
Jack Cunningham	Anderson	25
William J. Whitner	Fredericktown	10
Doris Pinckney	Wasola	10
<u>Nebraska</u>		
Mack Mahannah	Butte	15

## WESTERN REGION



Harry U. Gibson (left) was presented a 35-year length-of-service award by Al Dreumont, MIC Weather Service Forecast Office, Boise, ID. Mr. Gibson, who has farmed near Kuna for most of his life, was presented the John Campanius Holm Award in 1984 for his outstanding work as a cooperative weather observer.



Verne Fairbanks, Joliet, MT, was presented the Holm Award. Making the presentation was Bert Nelson (left), MIC, Billings, MT. Mrs. Fairbanks is shown (right) receiving the award with her husband. Verne has been a consistently excellent observer for 34 years.



Lynn Anderson, Bisbee, AZ, was presented the John Campanius Holm Award by Norm Hoffman, Deputy Meteorologist in Charge of the Phoenix Weather Service Forecast Office. Besides his cooperative observing duties for the NWS, Mr. Anderson also monitors air quality for a mining company and restores historical items and guns, tools, water pumps, and engines.



The Reese family has operated the recording rain gage at Cougar 4 SW, WA, for the past 45 years. Harry Reese, who passed away in 1976, started the station in 1940. Richard Hutcheon (right), Area Manager for the NWS in Washington state, presented the family with the award.

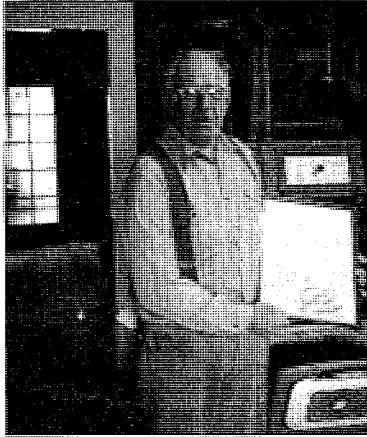


Mr. and Mrs. Dan McDonald, who have been recording observations at Hebgen Dam, MT, were presented a 50-year Institutional Award for the Montana Power Company, Dan's employer. This site is near Quake Lake, created by the 1959 earthquake, and just below the Hebgen Dam, which did not give way during the disaster.



Tom Taylor sold his newspaper business at Ekalaka, MT, and turned over the observing duties to the new owners as well. However, Tom cared for the weather station for 40 years before retiring and was presented his much deserved award by CPM Joe Johnston, Great Falls.

# WESTERN REGION



Frank Dotta, Vinton, CA, was presented a 35-year pin and length-of-service award by Bert Soileau, CPM, Reno, NV. Mr. Dotta uses the wood-burning cook stove in the picture for heating and occasional cooking even though he has a modern electric stove.



Burton Engle, Coupeville Island, WA, was presented a 25-year length-of-service award by Richard Hutcheon, NWS Washington Area Manager. Mr. Engle's father was an observer from 1922-1960.



Dick Cowan, Suntext, OR, was presented a 30-year length-of-service award and pin by Clint Jenson, CPM/OR. Dick provides temperature and precipitation data at his co-op station 30 miles west of Burns. He is also an active pilot and flies his own Cessna 182, which keeps him interested in the weather.



Observer James Fauver, Grays River, WA, was presented a 25-year length-of-service award by Area manager Dick Hutcheon (left). As you can see by the wood pile in the background, Jim is ready for winter!

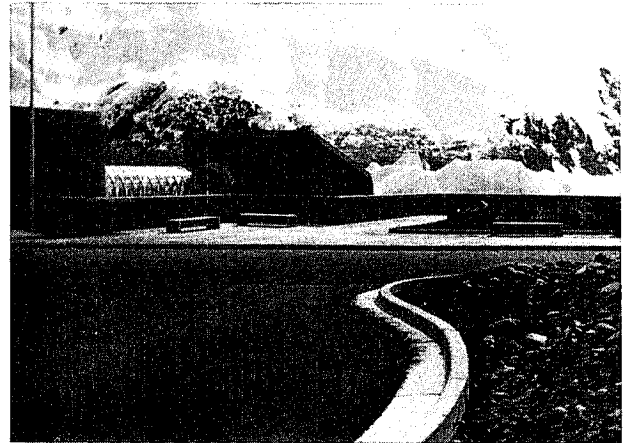
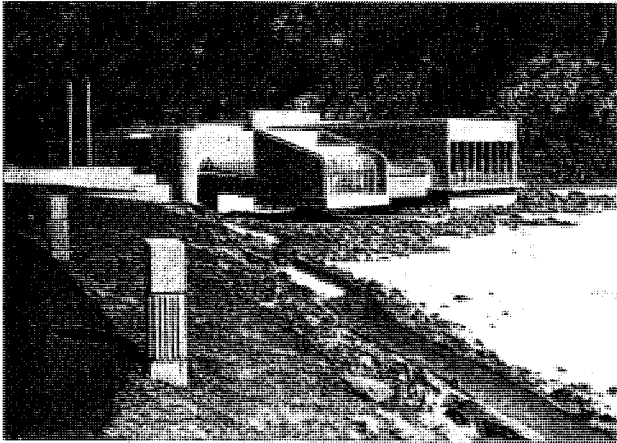


Bob and Alice Rickman, Grangeville, ID, were presented a 30-year length-of-service award by Program Manager Inge Olson. Mr. and Mrs. Rickman run a greenhouse and pet store at their home and also take hourly aviation observations during the day.

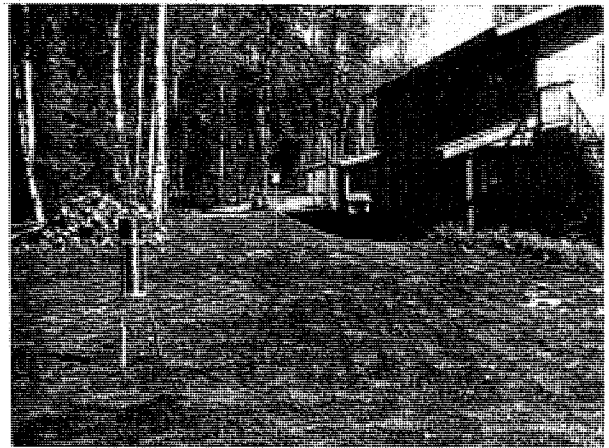
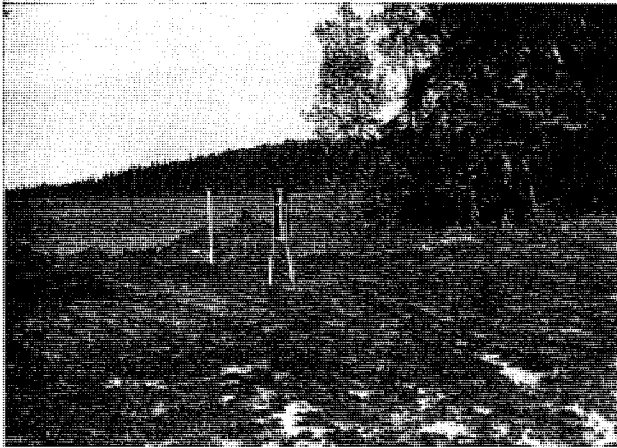
## LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARDS

STATE	STATION	YEARS
<u>Idaho</u>		
Fred Vogel, Jr.	Nez Perce	15
<u>Montana</u>		
Clarence L. Fairbanks	Joliet	35
J. R. Peterson	Alder 17 S	30
Jack E. Brehm	Broadview	20
Axel Larsen	Bredette	20
John W. Miller	Monida	20
Omer C. Erickson	Vanada 5 ESE	15
C. Worden Hardy	Pleasant Valley 4 SE	15
Gilbert Losing	Santa Rita 20 N	10
Kenneth M. Rogers	Lima	10
Fred Wix	Gelbertson	10
<u>Utah</u>		
O. Reed Jeffery	Delta	15
<u>Washington</u>		
A. W. Walch	Baring	15

## ALASKA REGION



PORTAGE GLACIER VISITOR CENTER



POINT MACKENZIE 5 SW

Because of travel restrictions imposed on the weather service, I was unable to visit as many stations throughout the states as I would have liked to. I was able to install some new stations in south central Alaska. The stations are described below.

Cordova North, This station was installed at the Cordova Electrical Cooperative. The observers will be power plant operators. Cordova is located 140 miles southeast of Anchorage.

Portage Glacier Visitor Center, This station was installed at the new visitor center as the Glacier was just opened this summer and is located about 50 miles southeast of Anchorage. The observers are rangers from the Chugach National Forest.

Point Mackenzie 5 SW, This station was installed at the home of the manager of Tucker's Dairy located about 40 miles northwest of Anchorage in the state's 15,000 acre agricultural project.

I would still like to remind observers that the climate forms should be mailed as soon as possible after the 1st of the month in order to reach Asheville in time for publication.

In the fall as the days get shorter, the chance of aurora viewing increases. An article by Robert Hunsucker of the Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska, tells us of another problem that can occur.

"Listeners of "shortwave" radio bands, ham radio operators, and "CB'ers" all have one thing in common - their activities are interfered with by the aurora. The same energetic particles that come in from outside the atmosphere to create the visible aurora alter the ionospheric layers that affect radio propagation. These particles have a variety of effects. One is to cause absorption of radio waves that normally would be reflected by the mirror-like ionospheric layers. Then long-distance communication that depends upon ionospheric reflection may cease simply because of the absorption. The incoming particles can also create peculiar reflecting regions. In such instances it may be possible for a ham operator in Anchorage to talk with one in Fairbanks even though both their antennas are pointed northward - in such a case they are actually bouncing their signals off the aurora region. This also is the reason why "CB'ers" can sometimes receive signals from distant Alaskan location or even from the Lower 48. A Fairbanks cab driver once received instructions from a dispatcher in New Jersey.

Equally frustrating is the rapid fading (called fluttering) that garbles communications as a result of changing or multiple paths that radio waves traverse during auroral disturbance condition.

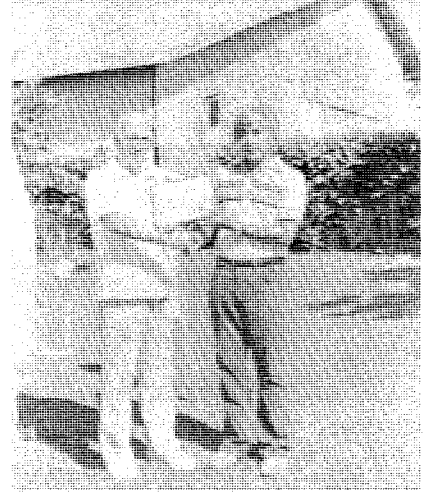
For the most part, satellite communications avoid these problems because of the propagation paths and the very high frequencies employed."



## PACIFIC REGION



Helen Cebellos of Kekaha Sugar Co., Kauai, was presented a Special Service Award.



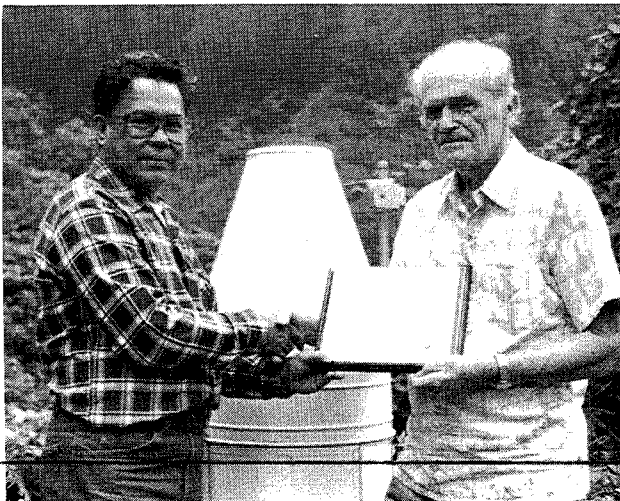
Nick Rapozo (left), observer, Kilauea, Kauai, was presented a Special Service Award by Ray Terada.



David Lee Grubb (left), observer, Paiko Drive, Oahu, was presented a Special Service Award by Ray Terada.



Yuriko Takekuma (left) McBryde Sugar Co., Kauai, was presented a Special Service Award. After many years as an observer, she retired on August 7, 1986. We all wish her a fine and relaxing retirement.



Dr. Don Mitchell (right), Ahuimanu Loop, Oahu, was presented a Special Service Award by Joaquín Cruz, ASAP/PRH.



Rachel Tamura (left), observer for Lihue Plantation, was presented a Special Service Award by Ray Terada, CPM/PRH.

## EASTERN REGION



Clinton J. Allen, New Park, Dean of cooperative observers for the State of Pennsylvania, was presented the Helmut E. Landsberg Award for over 60 years of service as a volunteer weather observer.

Lars Feese, HIC, and Oliver Hess, CPM, River Forecast Center, Harrisburg, PA, made the presentation.

On August 20, 1924, Mr. Allen became the official observer at New Park recording rainfall observations. He is truly one of the nation's outstanding volunteer observers.

The Eastern Region congratulates Mr. Allen on his dedicated public service and excellent record in the field of meteorological observations.



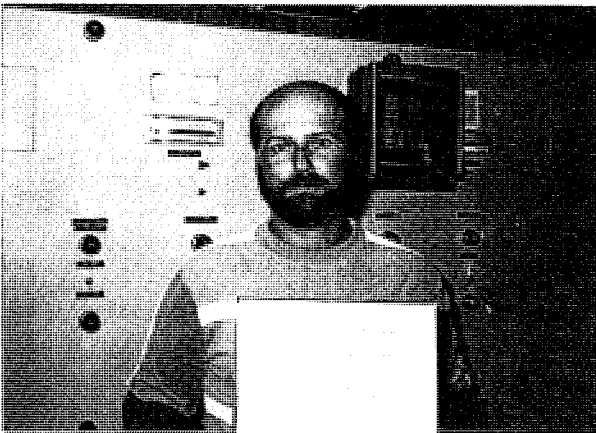
Bill Tope (center), U.S. Corps of Engineers, New Philadelphia, OH, accepted a 50-year Institutional Award on behalf of the U.S. Corps of Engineers, Mohawk Dam, OH.

Presentation was made by Ed Heath (left), MIC, WSO, Canton, OH, and Michael Wyatt (right), CPM, Columbus, OH.

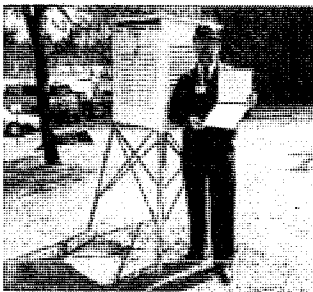


William B. Gillespie, Jr. (left), observer, Effingham, SC, was presented a 40-year length-of-service pin.

Sam Baker (right), Hydrologist, and Earl Rampey, CPM, WSFO, Columbia, SC, made the presentation.

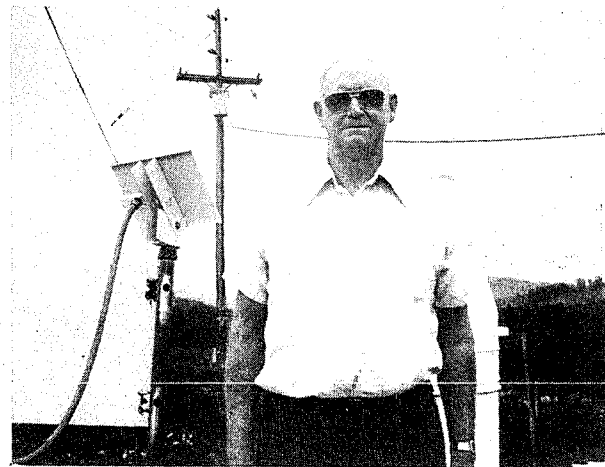


Art Brachu accepted a 100-year Institutional Award on behalf of the Union Water Power Company, Lewiston, ME, for services rendered at Upper Dam, ME.



Mr. Hannan accepted a 50-year Institutional Award on behalf of the Susquehanna Electric Company, Conowingo Dam, MD.

Presentation was made by James Smith, CPM, Baltimore, MD.



Luman M. Schenck, cooperative observer, West Jasper, NY, was presented a 40-year length-of-service pin by Ray West, CPM, Albany, NY.

## EASTERN REGION



Dr. Arthur Gould, cooperative observer, Buckhannon, WV, was presented a 40-year length-of-service pin by Stan Smith, CPM, Pittsburgh, PA.



Lee A. Farrar (left), cooperative observer, West Paris, ME, was presented a 20-year length-of-service pin by Jerry French, Hydrologist, and James Donahue, CPM, Portland, ME.

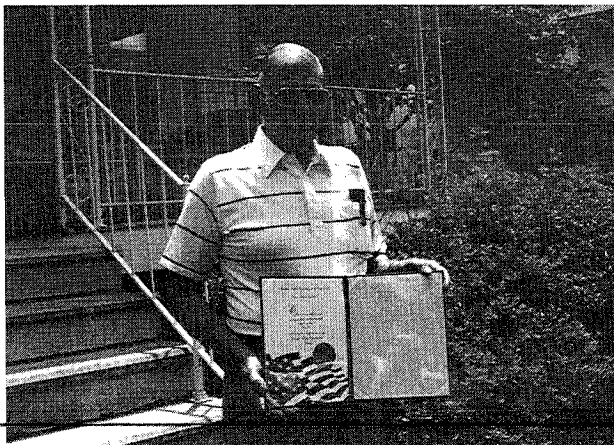


The U.S. Corps of Engineers at Dillon Lake, OH, was presented a 25-year Institutional Award by Michael Wyatt.

The award was accepted by David Thomas, Park Manager (right), and Harold Roop.



Warren Duncan (left), cooperative observer, Sharon, SC, was presented a 20-year length-of-service pin by Bernard Palmer (right), MIC, and Earl Rampey.



Robert W. Dedmond, cooperative observer, Troy, NC, was presented a 20-year length-of-service pin by Earl Rampey.



Ruth E. Mabe, cooperative observer, Danbury, NC, was presented a 20-year length-of-service pin by Earl Rampey.

## NOTE

An important reminder to observers changing charts on the recording weighing rain gage: With rains upon us the National Climatic Data Center needs your help in changing charts punctually. Charts should be changed:

- (1) At least once a week, preferably on Monday.
- (2) On the first day of each month.
- (3) Within 24 hours after precipitation has ended.

Do not change the chart during rain that is heavy enough to wet the trace and cause the ink to spread. During a heavy or continuous rain when there is danger that the bucket may overflow or that the capacity of the chart may be exceeded. Empty the bucket, but do not change the chart until precipitation ceases. Your assistance is appreciated.

USCOMM-NOAA-ASHEVILLE, N.C. 1986-10,800

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SATELLITE, DATA, AND INFORMATION SERVICE  
NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER  
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