

The National Cooperative Observer Newsletter



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VOLUME 7

NUMBER 1

EASTERN REGION

SOUTHERN REGION

CENTRAL REGION



WESTERN REGION

ALASKA REGION

PACIFIC REGION

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NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D.C. 20230



September, 1989

Dear Volunteer Weather Observer:

I want to express my personal thanks for your involvement in one of our Nation's largest volunteer efforts, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Cooperative Volunteer Weather Observer Program. Your activities are crucial to the work of NOAA in generating weather and climate calculations, as well as formal climate records.

On behalf of the President, I wish to express my appreciation for your continued service and dedication as we embark on the 100th year of this program.

Sincerely,

Robert A. Mosbacher

The NATIONAL COOPERATIVE OBSERVER NEWSLETTER (NCON) is published quarterly as a tool linking the National Weather Service (NWS) with nearly 11,000 cooperative observers nationwide. Photographs and text are collected by NWS Headquarters from the various regions and provided to the National Climatic Data Center (NCDC) for publication. Copies are provided to observers in partial recognition of their contribution to the climatic history of the United States. Subscriptions to this publication are not available.

NCDC PUBLICATION STAFF
S.C. Lackey, Editorial Clerk

ABOUT THE COVER: The summer months across the Great Plains see the wheat harvest moving to market through local elevators. This scene shows the co-op elevator at Pauline, KS, near Topeka. Photo by Warren Sunkel, a NWS meteorologist in Kansas City, MO.

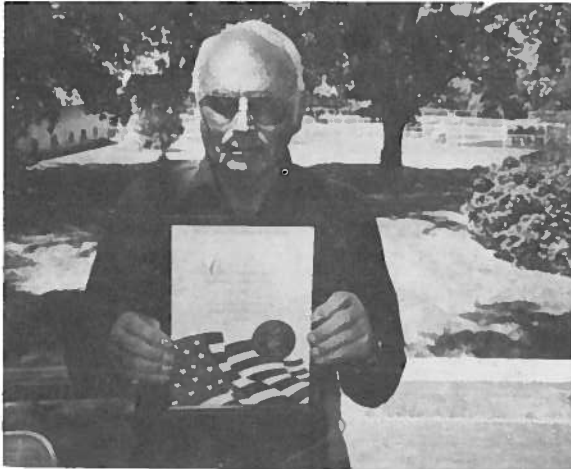
CENTRAL REGION



Andrew Anderson, Fairmont, NE, was presented a 40-Year Length-of-Service Award by Tom Sinclair, CPM/OMA.



J. Hayes Baldwin, Kalvesta 1 W, KS, was presented a 30-Year Length-of-Service Award by Mike Elias.



Ray Cudney, observer, Trousdale 1 NE, KS, was presented a 40-Year Length-of-Service Award by Mike Elias, CPM, Goodland, KS.



Edwin Boots, Eminence, KS, was presented a 30-Year Length-of-Service Award by Mike Elias.



Walter H. Zwanziger, cooperative observer, Strawberry Point, IA, was presented a 40-Year Length-of-Service Award and a letter by Bill Newman, CPM/DSM.



Richard E. Gray, cooperative observer, Lenox, IA, was presented a 30-Year Length-of-Service Award by Bill Newman.

CENTRAL REGION



Mr. & Mrs. Don Johnson, observers, Overton, NE, were presented a 40-Year Length-of-Service Award.



Victor Benesh, cooperative observer, Spillville, IA, was presented with an Award for over 20 years of service by Bill Newman.



Mr. and Mrs. Lowell Jones, Fostoria 7 NW, KS, were presented a 30-Year Length-of-Service Award by Gary Funke CPM/TOP.



C.M. (Marcellus) Erickson (right), cooperative observer, Kindred 2 SE, ND, was presented a 20-Year Length-of-Service Award by Lou Bennett (left), OIC/WSO Fargo, ND. Mr. Erickson is both a precipitation and a river observer at Kindred. Picture by CPM Vern Roller, WSFO Bismarck, ND.



David Perry, Oskaloosa, KS, was presented a 30-Year Length-of-Service Award by Gary Funke.



Pictured is Mrs. Raymond E. Blegen with a 10-Year Length-of-Service Award for the Raymond E. Blegan family, Keene 3 S, ND. Besides her husband Ray, sons Bradley and John also help with the weather observations. Picture and presentation by Vern Roller.

CENTRAL REGION



Pictured is cooperative observer Arnold Brilz with his recent 10-Year Length-of-Service Award. Arnold is the observer at Mohall, ND. Picture and presentation by Vern Roller.



Suzanne Lans, observer, Stamford, NE, was presented a 10-Year Length-of-Service Award. Suzanne is pictured with husband Bruce and children Alex (left) and Ben (right).



John E. Huey, Louisville 5 NE, KS, was presented a 10-Year Length-of-Service Award by Gary Funke.



Walter L. Mau, cooperative observer, Paulina, IA, was presented a 10-Year Length-of-Service Award by Bill Newman.

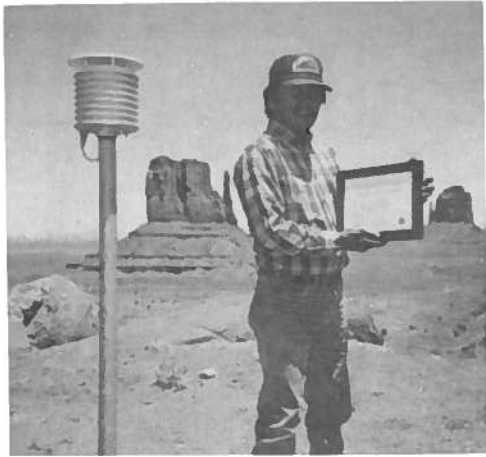


Gloria Lamb, Franklin, NE, was presented a 10-Year Length-of-Service Award.



Bob Hamilton, MIC, WSFO St. Louis, presented John Buehrle, Water Systems Manager of the St. Charles Elm Point Water Plant, an Institutional Award for 25 years of service.

WESTERN REGION



The Navajo Indian Park Service received a Special Service Award for their weather station at the Monument Valley Tribal Park in northeastern Arizona. Lee Cly accepted the award.



Mr. and Mrs. Earl Heidel, Castleford, ID, were presented a 25-Year Length-of-Service Award by Bill Galkin, OIC, Twin Falls weather office.



Earl Stewart (center), Cottage Grove, OR, received two distinctive weather awards. One was a 45-Year Length-of-Service Award, and the other was the prestigious John Campanius Holm Award for outstanding service. Presenting the awards was Jim Gilroy (left), Mayor of Cottage Grove. Marv Shogren (right), Meteorologist in Charge, Eugene WSO, represented the National Weather Service at the ceremony, as did CPM Clint Jenson.



Fred French, Bowie, AZ, shown with wife June and daughter Tina, received a 20-Year Length-of-Service Award from CPM Irv Haynes. The French's are severe storm spotters, as well as climate observers.



Maxine and Ballard Harris, Dewey, UT, were presented a 30-Year Length-of-Service Award by CPM Dean Hirschi. These folks are known internationally for their hospitality--living as they do in a remote area on the scenic Colorado River, they have helped many rafters when in need.



Marvin Mair (left), caretaker at Echo Dam, UT, accepted a 20-Year Length-of-Service Award from CPM Dean Hirschi. Marvin assisted his father for seven years before he became the official observer in 1968. He especially enjoys big-game hunting.

WESTERN REGION



Bruce McGuire (right), Davenport, WA, was presented a 20-Year Length-of-Service Award by Ken Holmes, MIC, Spokane WSO.



Cookie and Lucky Young (right), Shelter Cove Aviation, located west of Whitehorn, CA, were presented a 10-Year Length-of-Service Award by Wanda Likens (left), MIC/WSO, Eureka, CA.



Eugene Gates, Jr., Mina, NV, was presented a 15-Year Length-of-Service Award by CPM Bert Soileau, Reno WSFO. Gene flies his own airplane for pleasure, and he also uses it in his assaying business, flying to mines picking up samples of ores to be assayed.



The Headworks cooperative station, operated by the Portland Water Bureau, received a 100-Year Institutional Award at a ceremony in the office of The Honorable "Bud" Clark, Mayor of the City of Portland, OR. Shown in the photo, left to right, are George R. Miller, NWS Area Manager; Mayor Clark; observers Bill Stotts and Ron Curley; Loren Holwege, plant supervisor; and Mike Linberg, Commissioner of Public Works. Headworks, located about 25 miles east of Portland, is in the Bull Run Watershed which supplies Portland's water.



Mona and Lewis Harrell, cooperative observers at Montana stations Landusky 20 S and Roy 24 NE, were presented 15-Year Length-of-Service Awards by Mike Chamberlain, official in Charge of the Havre Weather Service Office who was also Acting CPM for Montana for a time. Mona reads the river gage, and both Mona and Lewis share responsibility for temperature and precipitation observations at Roy 24 NE, MT.



The California State Department of Forestry at Cloverdale received a 25-Year Institutional Award. Larry Crabtree accepted the award which was presented by CPM Rick Orres, WSFO San Francisco.

PACIFIC REGION



KAHOOLAWE ARC

Kahoolawe -- "Place where the driftwood gathers" -- is located seven miles southwest of Maui's west end. It is 11 miles long and seven miles wide and covers 45 square miles of land. The highest peak on Kahoolawe is 1477 feet with a plateau at the 1000-foot level. It's very barren and windy with sparse desert vegetation.

In 1939, before World War II, the U.S. Army subleased the southern tip of Kahoolawe for bombing practices. Since 1953, the island serves as an official bombing target area for the U.S. Navy.

On April 24, a site survey was done on the island for the installation of an ARC (Automatic Remote Collector) in the near future.

(Photos with captions from Orlando Almarza, CPM, Area I (Hilo).

EASTERN REGION



Caroline R. Von Eiff, former observer, Unionville, MD, was presented a Special Service Award for her many years of outstanding service.



In recognition of his long and dedicated record, Vincent C. Galligan, cooperative observer, Oakland Valley, NY, was presented the Edward H. Stoll Award and a 50-Year Length-of-Service Pin by Ronald Loffredo, Area Manager, WSFO Albany, NY. The award was named for the Elwood, NE farmer who was a cooperative observer for more than 70 years.

In 1987, Mr. Galligan received the John Campanius Holm Award for his long period of outstanding accomplishment in the field of meteorological observations.

Arrangements for the presentation of this award and photo were made by Ray West, Cooperative Program Manager, Albany, NY. Photo left to right: Vincent Galligan, Roland Loffredo.



Nevin Bowersox, observer, Millheim, PA, was presented a 40-Year Length-of-Service pin and certificate. Presentation was made by Phil Neff, former Meteorologist-in-Charge, who has retired; Al Peterlin, Hydrologist, Harrisburg, PA; and Larry Parko, Director, Center County Office of Emergency Services. Mr. Bowersox is a retired employee of Penn State University.

Photo left to right: Phil Neff, Nevin Bowersox, and Larry Parko. Photo by Al Peterlin.



Alice W. Allen, observer, Craigsville 2 S, VA, was presented a 20-Year Length-of-Service Award by James Smith, Cooperative Program Manager, Baltimore, MD. Photo left to right: Donald and Alice Allen. Photo by James Smith.

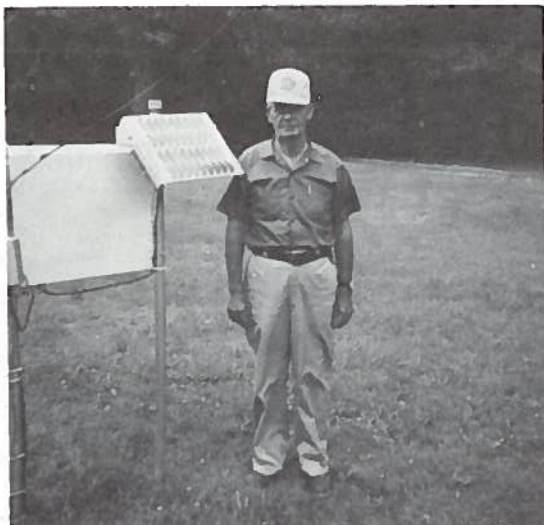


Esther Tompkins, observer, Manorkill, NY, was presented a 40-Year Length-of-Service Award by Ray West. Photo by Ray West.



Bob Kampf, observer, Ray Brook, NY, was presented a 20-Year Length-of-Service Award. Presentation and photo by Ray West.

EASTERN REGION



Ralph W. Cash, observer, Montebello Fish Nursery, VA, was presented a 10-Year Length-of-Service Award by James Smith. Photo by James Smith.



Myra R. Yokum, observer, Petersburg 9 SSW, WV, was presented a 10-Year Length-of-Service Award by James Smith. Photo by James Smith.



A 10-Year Length-of-Service Award was presented to Jean Castles, observer, Fitzwilliam 2 W, NH. Presentation and photo by James Donahue.



Anthony Rebeor accepted a 50-Year Institutional Award on behalf of the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, Bennetts Bridge, NY. Presentation by Ray West.



Ruth Jones, observer, Weare, NH, was presented a 20-Year Length-of-Service Award by James Donahue, Cooperative Program Manager, Portland, ME. Photo by James Donahue.

Photo left to right, Chuck DeGone, operator; Bob Williams, maintenance; Joanne McVey, maintenance; Ray West; John Wegzyen, maintenance; and Steve McCoy, station supervisor. Photo by Anthony Rebeor.

COOPERATIVE OBSERVER AWARDS EASTERN REGION

The following persons are recipients of top Cooperative Observer Awards for 1989 in the Eastern Region:

THOMAS JEFFERSON AWARD

William B. Gillespie, Jr.

Effingham, SC

JOHN CAMPANIUS HOLM AWARDS

Charles S. Botsford
Kenneth Leighow
Cyril G. Small

Marien Center 2 SE, PA
Millville 2 SW, PA
Lockport 4 NE, NY

SOUTHERN REGION



Janet E. Allgood, observer, Embry, GA, was presented a **45-Year Length-of-Service Award** by Ralph Funderburk, CPM/MCN.



Paul M. Breckenridge, observer, Beedeville, AR, was recently presented a **40-Year Length-of-Service Award** by John McBroom, CPM/MEM.



William D. Bivens, observer, Waldron, AR, was presented a **45-Year Length-of-Service Award** by Woody Currence, CPM/LZK. Pictured with Mr. Bivens is his wife, Avis. Mr. Bivens retired as an observer due to health problems.



A.W. Morgan, observer, Borger, TX, was presented a **40-Year Length-of-Service Award** recently. Andy Anderson (right), MIC from the Lubbock WSFO, and Steven Cooper (left), MIC/AMA, made the presentation with Chuck Megee, CPM/LBB (not pictured).



Fannie D. Norwood, observer, Shuqualak, MS, was presented a **45-Year Length-of-Service Award** by Tice Wagner, III, MIC/JAN (right) and Thom Stenman, CPM/JAN (left). Mrs. Norwood retired her services after a bout with illness.



Bessie E. Akers, observer, Georgetown, AR, was presented a **35-Year Length-of-Service Award** by John McBroom.

SOUTHERN REGION



James Gibbs, observer, Crockett, TX, was presented a 35-Year Length-of-Service Award recently by Alan Starnes, CPM/ACT.



Ruby P. Galloway, observer, Sunbright 1 W, TN, was presented a 25-Year Length-of-Service Award by John McBroom.



Marion Deering, observer, Lafayette, TN, was presented a 30-Year Length-of-Service Award recently by Thom Stenman.



Cam B. Lanier (center), observer, West Point, GA, was presented a 25-Year Length-of-Service Award by the NWS. Mr. Lanier is the grandson of the late J. Smith Lanier, one of the first recipients of the coveted Jefferson Award presented in 1961. J. Smith Lanier started the Family Observational Program in 1906. Present at the ceremony were (left to right): Mr. Harris (substitute observer); Bob Manning (Chief, RCPS/FTW); Mr. Lanier; and Ralph Funderburk.



Margie M. Wiley (center), Aledo, TX, was presented a 30-Year Length-of-Service Award by Jerry Wolfe, CPM/FTW. Pictured with Mrs. Wiley is her husband, Chester (right).



Ernest Sweat (left), Waycross 4 NE, GA, was presented a 25-Year Length-of-Service Award by Tom Clarke. Mr. Sweat is retiring from the cooperative program, but his son-in-law, Michael Davis (right), will assume his duties.

SOUTHERN REGION



Anna Mae Garrison, cooperative observer, Carbon Hill, AL, was presented a 20-Year Length-of-Service Award by Bert Reeves, Hydrologist, WSFO/BHM.



Rufus P. Pless, cooperative observer, Dadeville, AL, was presented a 20-Year Length-of-Service Award by Bill Kent, CPM/BHM.



Frank D. Holey, volunteer weather observer, Swan, TX, received recognition and a letter of thanks for serving over 20 years from Jerry Wolfe.



Ronnie Barnwell and **Cindy Smith** of the Agricultural Research Center in Monticello, FL, were presented a 25-Year Institutional Award by Tom Clarke, CPM/LAL.



Maybell Kellum, cooperative observer, Alto 5 SW, TX, was presented a 20-Year Length-of-Service Award recently. Presentation was made by Alan Starnes.



Charles Miller (right), observer, Millwood Dam, AR, was presented a 25-Year Institutional Award for The Corps of Engineers. Pictured with Mr. Miller is John Risinger, Resident Manager. Woody Currence is the Cooperative Program Manager.

TIPS FOR COOPERATIVE OBSERVERS

This section of the newsletter has been added as an informal medium in which general and technical information can be presented to cooperative observers nationally. The National Weather Service, National Climatic Data Center, and all users of weather records greatly appreciate your efforts as cooperative observers. Without your support there would be no cooperative weather observing program.

TEMPERATURE INCONSISTENCIES

The air temperature changes in a continuous way. Therefore temperature values cannot show abrupt inconsistencies from one day to the next. For example, the maximum temperature must be greater than the minimum temperature, and the at-obs temperature must be between the max and the min. Day-to-day differences must also be consistent. For example, the at-obs value for one day must be greater than or equal to the minimum for the next day. If the at-obs value is recorded as being lower than the next day's min, then the at-obs temperature probably is the next day's min. This is a common problem for observers who record their temperatures in the morning.

Similarly the at-obs temperature for one day should be less than or equal to the maximum for the next day. If it is not, the at-obs value probably is the next day's max. This is a common problem for afternoon readers.

There is a fairly simple way to scan your records for inconsistencies: make sure that each of the at-obs temperatures on two consecutive days falls between the max and the min in the second day. Do this for all consecutive two day pairs.

Examples:

Day	Max	Min	At-obs
1	53	38	44
2	49	42	48
3	62	51 48	53

44 and 48 fit between 42 and 49. OK.

The 48 at-obs on day 2 won't fit between 62 and 51. The 48 is lower than 51. The 51 should be replaced by 48.

Day	Max	Min	At-obs
1	61	50	52
2	47 52	39	46

The 52 won't fit between the 47 and 39. The 47 should be replaced by the 52.

Remember: The at-observation-time temperature on any given day begins the data for the following day and ends the data for the current day. Therefore the at-observation-time temperature that begins or ends a day must fall between the Max and Min for that day.

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