

# The National Cooperative Observer



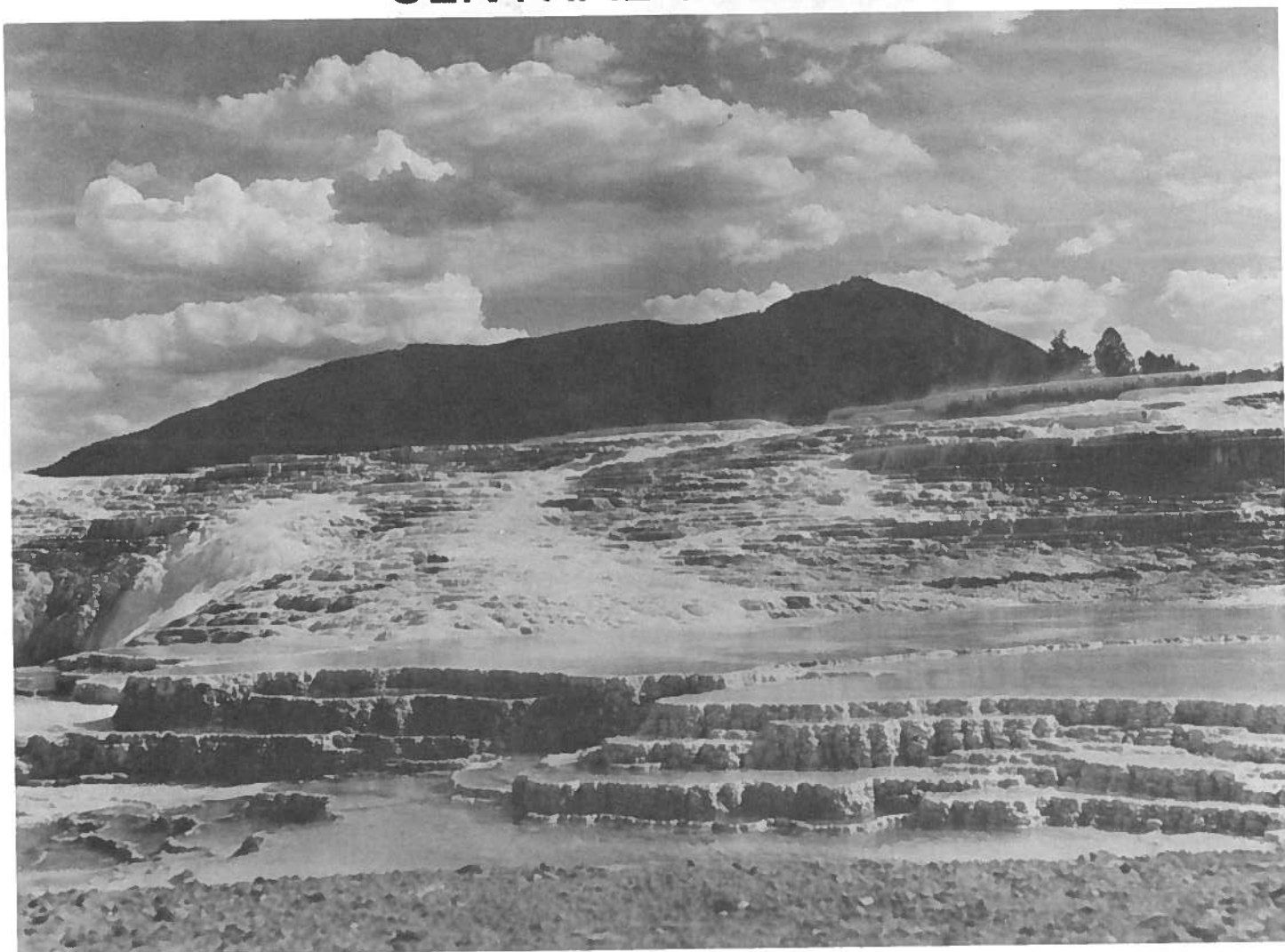
WINTER 1993

VOLUME 11

NUMBER 2

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EASTERN REGION      SOUTHERN REGION  
CENTRAL REGION



-- 100th ANNIVERSARY --

WESTERN REGION  
ALASKA REGION      PACIFIC REGION

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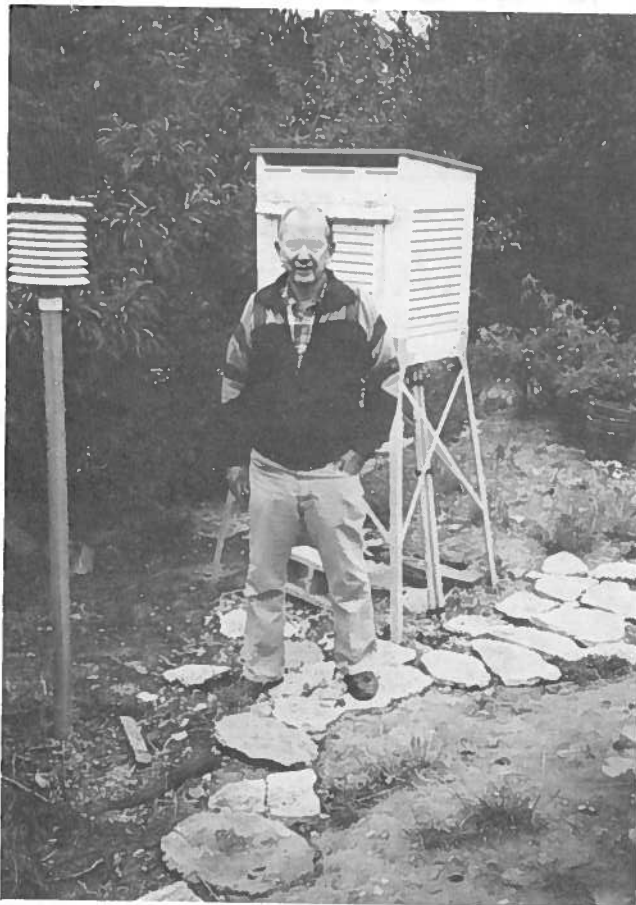
**noaa**

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND  
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

**ABOUT THE COVER:** The Main Terrace at Mammoth Hot Springs is constantly changing as travertine deposits grow. The pools are very colorful due to the algae and bacteria growing in the water.

## WESTERN REGION



**DR. ROBERT J. RENARD, MONTEREY, CA,** received a **30-YEAR LENGTH-OF SERVICE AWARD** from the National Weather Service recognizing his long service as a cooperative weather observer. The award was presented on behalf of the NWS by Area Manager Norm Hoffmann, WSFO San Francisco.

Dr. Renard has maintained a daily record of temperature and precipitation at his residence in Monterey since September 24, 1963. This is a valuable, continuous climatological record for the Monterey Peninsula. Dr. Renard has also provided The Monterey County Tribune with hourly temperatures, as well as the daily high and low temperatures and precipitation amounts.

During the award presentation, it was noted that Dr. Renard accompanies his monthly weather data with an informative and readable written summary for the month. The monthly summary contains information on any weather records during the month and also notable weather events and comparisons with the same month in previous years since his records began 30 years ago.

Dr. Renard joined the faculty of the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey in 1952, and served as chairman of the Department of Meteorology at the Naval Postgraduate School from 1980 to 1990. Upon his retirement in June 1990, he was awarded the title of Distinguished Professor.

Dr. Renard has remained active in the meteorological community. In recent years he has concentrated his research efforts on marine fog analysis and forecasting, polar meteorology, and computer model outputs as applied to forecasting operational weather parameters. Dr. Renard is a widely known expert on air/ocean processes and weather forecasting, especially for the central California area. However, his strongest interest remains the observation and climate program for Monterey and public service to the Monterey Peninsula community.

Dr. Renard has previously received the John Campanius Holm award from the National Weather Service (1989) for sustained excellence in observing and reporting Monterey Peninsula weather.

Dr. Renard and his wife of 46 years, Dorothy, have four children and seven grandchildren. He and his wife cultivate an extensive garden of fruits, vegetables, and succulents. Dr. Renard is active in his church and is a watchstander at the Monterey Maritime Museum.

The National Weather Service is justifiably proud and honored to number Dr. Renard among its nationwide network of volunteer observers.

## WESTERN REGION



The **BINNER FAMILY**, CHANDLER HEIGHTS, AZ, received a **40-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD**. Shown are Teresa Binner (right) and Walter Binner-Nash (left). Mr. Binner-Nash is also a severe storm spotter in the citrus-growing community of Chandler Heights.



**JOE MEAHL**, ELOY, AZ, received a **15-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD**. Mr. Meahl, the editor of the local newspaper, uses his climate data in the paper.



**ANNA MAE DEMING** (RIGHT), PAYSON, AZ, received a **45-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD** from David Carpenter (left), Deputy Meteorologist in Charge, WSFO Phoenix.



**KNOX TALLEY**, CASCABEL, AZ, received a **15-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD**. Cascabel is in a remote area of southeastern Arizona, and a telephone line has only recently been completed to serve the town.



**EARLE STEWART**, LAVEEN, AZ, received a **25-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD**. Mr. Stewart, in addition to observing duties, builds and restores aircraft in his backyard in Laveen, which is a suburb southwest of Phoenix.



A **75-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD** was presented to **LAKE HEMET (CA) MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT** by CPM Eugene Van Cor. Pictured are Debra Jordan, Office Manager, and Leonard C. Hale, General Manager.

## WESTERN REGION



**PALOMAR MOUNTAIN OBSERVATORY**, received a **50-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD**. Shown are Paul Van Ligten (left), observer, Wilbur Shigehara (center), Meteorologist in Charge, WSO San Diego, and Robert P. Thicksten (right), superintendent.



**NELSON H. PALMER, PRIEST VALLEY, CA**, received a **35-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD**. Norm Hoffman (right), NWS Area Manager for Northern California, made the presentation as Mrs. Nelson looked on.



**SAN JACINTO (CA) RANGER STATION** received a **50-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD**. Shown (from left to right) are Dan Collins, Anna Roash, and Vance Myers.



**JACK G. CLARK, ORLEANS, CA**, was presented a **25-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD** by Nancy Dean, MIC, WSO Eureka. Orleans is located along the Klamath River in the rugged and heavily forested northwest corner of California.



**CLORENE AKERS, HERNANDEZ, CA**, received a **40-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD** at a ceremony attended by Norm Hoffmann, NWS Area Manager for Northern California. Shown with Mrs. Akers is CPM Dan Klinger, WSFO San Francisco.



**MRS. DONALD W. WOLF, SAN MIGUEL WOLF RANCH, CA**, was presented a **25-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD** on behalf of the NWS by CPM Dan Klinger (left) and Peter Felsch, MIC at WSO Santa Maria.

## WESTERN REGION

-- 100th ANNIVERSARY --



The UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO AT MOSCOW was presented a 100-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD by John Jannuzzi (left), NWS Area Manager for Idaho. Receiving the award are Larry Branen (right), Dean of the College of Agriculture, and Roy Patton (center), who takes the observations at the experimental farm.



MARGARET JONES (CENTER), MALAD, ID, received a 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD from Bob Glodo (left), Official in Charge of the Pocatello office, and Dave Cain, Electronics Technician at that office. About 100 friends were present for the occasion, which celebrated Margaret's 80th birthday, as well.



MIKE HOBDEY (left) and son Dale accepted a 75-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD for the NORTH SIDE CANAL COMPANY, BLISS 4 NW, ID. Mike took the observations for about 18 years before moving on to another location. Son Dale has taken the observations for the past 4 years.



EARL OURADA (CENTER), BOISE 7 N, ID, was presented a 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD by Ken Parker (left), Deputy Meteorologist in Charge of the Boise Forecast Office, and Ole Olson, CPM.



MIKE GIBSON (LEFT), MOSCOW 5 NE, ID, received a 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD from John Jannuzzi.



HAZEL PATEK, BRIDGER, MT, received a 35-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. In 1993, Hazel was presented the John Campanius Holm award, the Weather Service's second highest award.

## WESTERN REGION



The SHERMAN BRANCH EXPERIMENT STATION, MORO, OR, was presented a 75-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD, which was accepted by Dr. Richard Smiley, Superintendent of the Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center. The Moro station is part of the Oregon State University Extension Service. Shown (left to right) are Sharon Rolfe, weekend observer; Erling Jacobsen, Research Technician; George Miller, NWS Area Manager for Oregon; and Dr. Smiley.



EUGENE JONES, JUNTURA 9 ENE, OR, received a 30-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. He will share the honor with his daughter-in-law Teresa who takes the observations.



BEULAH RESERVOIR, VALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT, OR, received a 50-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD. Betty Zink (center), observer and dam operator at the site, accepted the award. Also pictured are (left) George Miller and (right) Ron Jacobs, Vale Irrigation District Manager.



ADEAN MCKENZIE, ROCKVILLE 5 N, OR, was presented a 30-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. Mrs. McKenzie, her husband Duncan (shown with her in photo), and their family operate a cattle ranch in southeast Oregon just a few miles from the Idaho border.



EDNA ASCHENBRENNER, ENTERPRISE 2 S, OR, received a 30-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD from George Miller. Shown (left to right) are Dan Keeton, MIC, WSO Pendleton; Mrs. Aschenbrenner; her grandson, Sam Aschenbrenner; and Chuck Orwig, Hydrologist in Charge, Northwest River Forecast Center.



The OREGON STATE FORESTRY DEPARTMENT, LAGRANDE, OR, was presented a 25-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD by George Miller. Also present for the ceremony were Chuck Orwig, Hydrologist in Charge at the Northwest River Forecast Center, Portland, OR, and Dan Keeton, MIC, WSO Pendleton. Shown (left to right) are observers Sandy Clark, Terri Frazier, Millie Wright, and MIC Dan Keeton.

## WESTERN REGION



**HARLAN HARRISON, SR.**, observer, Mexican Hat, UT, received a 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD.



**ED QUAALE, CARNATION, WA**, received a 25-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. Mr. Quaale is a retired dairy farmer and carpenter. He and his wife of 52 years are accomplished gardeners.



**VERA JUNE BREIDER, ELTOPIA 8 WSW, WA**, received a 30-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. Pictured with her is husband Joe who shares the observing duties.



**ROBERT REED, METHOW 2 S, WA**, received a 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. In addition to having his own apple orchard, Mr. Reed advises other orchardists on growing and harvesting their fruit.

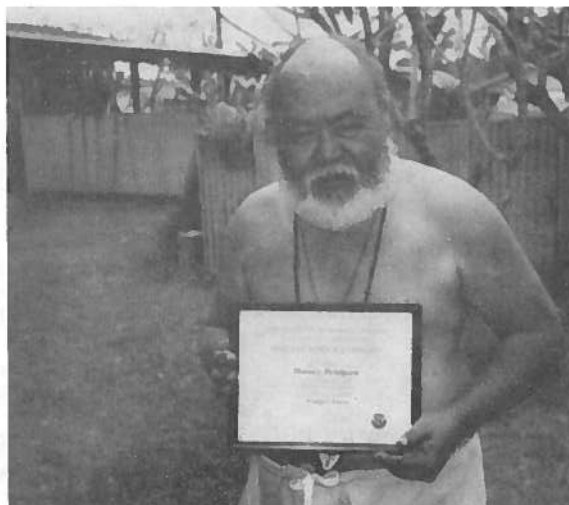
### OTHER AWARDS PRESENTED IN THE WESTERN REGION

<u>Years</u>	<u>Observer</u>	<u>Station</u>	<u>State</u>
35	Don Noble	Leadore	Idaho
25	KIDK-TV Station Leah Rookstool	Idaho Falls 2 ESE Kings River Valley	Idaho Nevada
20	Thomas Funk	Polson	Montana
10	Lee Adams	Downieville	Nevada
	Jerry Benson	Plains	Montana
	Rick Carlson	Plains	Montana
	Jan Hauge	Big Timber	Montana
	Ron Hvizdak	Eureka	Montana
	Max Newlin	Massacre Rocks S.P.	Idaho
	Kathy Park	Driggs	Idaho
	Warren Patten, Jr.	Cooke City	Montana
	Beverly Usher	Gibbonsville	Idaho
	Maurice Usher	Gibbonsville	Idaho

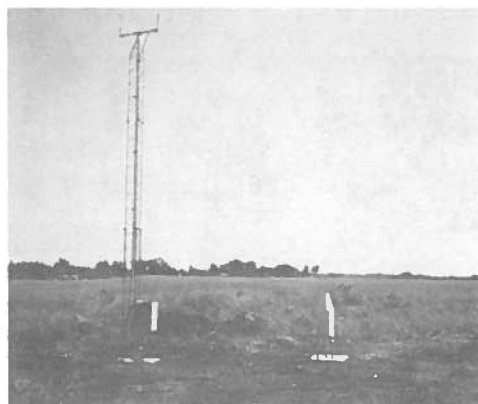
## PACIFIC REGION



**MARION PETTIGREW, OBSERVER, KAPAKA FARM, on the ISLAND OF OAHU,** was presented a **SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD** by David Hilea, WSFO Honolulu.



**OBSERVER KAZUO OTA, LANIHAU STATION on the ISLAND OF HAWAII,** was presented an **EDWARD H. STOLL AWARD.** Shown receiving the award on behalf of KAZUO is his lovely wife, YUKIE OTA.



**KAHUKU weather station** was moved to a new location on the grounds of the Turtle Bay Hilton Country Club on the island of Oahu. Instrumentation consists of a Fischer/Porter rain gage and wind sensors. **KUILIMA DEVELOPMENT COMPANY** is the observer.



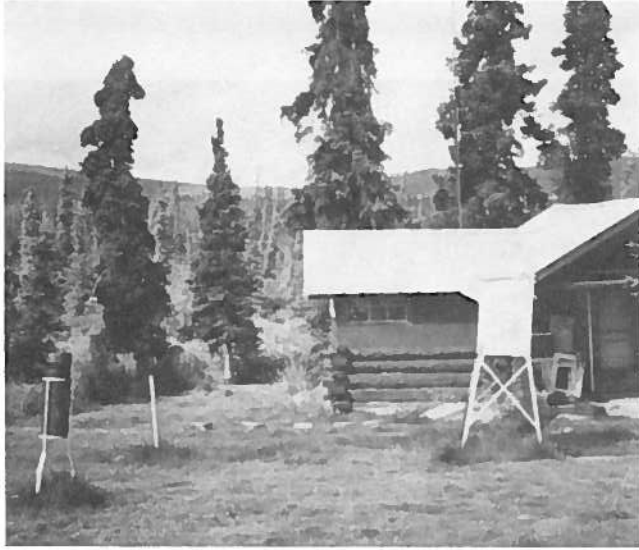
**HAL NEWSOME, HALAWA VALLEY, on the ISLAND OF MOLOKAI,** was presented a **10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD** by Ray Terada, CPM. Hal retired, and his neighbor, James Waits, will continue the weather station.



**ELIMA RESV, a Fischer/Porter station** located in the southern section of the island of Kauai, was relocated from station **ALEXANDER RESV** due to vandalism. Alexander Resv now has an SRG. The observer at both stations is **McBRYDE SUGAR COMPANY.**



## ALASKA REGION



Coop and Contract Station at Snowshoe Lake, 125 miles east-northeast of Anchorage and 40 miles west of Glennallen.



Looking south from Snowshoe Lake toward Tazlina Glacier and Tazlina Lake.



Coop and Contract Station at Farewell Lake, west side of Rainy Pass, 175 miles northwest of Anchorage.



Farewell Lake is located on the route of the Iditarod Sled Dog Race from Anchorage to Nome. Notice the lack of snow cover in early March.



Coop and Contract Station at Hayes River, east side of Rainy Pass, 100 miles northwest of Anchorage and 75 miles east of Farewell Lake.



George Cebula, RCPM, working on the F420 wind system at Hayes River.

## EASTERN REGION



**BEA CROSCO, OBSERVER, OAKLAND, MD,** was presented a **SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD** by James Smith.

Photo left to right: Bea Croasco and James Smith.



**RUSS FESSENDEN, OBSERVER, ASHFIELD, MA,** was presented a **20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD** by Tony Mach, CPM/Bradley, CT.

Following his retirement from a distinguished career with the U.S. State Department that took the Fessendens all over the world, Russ continued service to his country as a conscientious observer. In addition to making dependable daily reports to the Northeast River Forecast Center, he also writes a weather column for the local newspaper.

Mr. & Mrs. Fessenden enjoy their grandchildren and tending their beautiful garden. He grows the vegetables and she grows flowers and herbs. An interesting footnote: Mr. Fessenden is the uncle of National Weather Service Southern New England Area Manager, Robert Thompson.



**JAMES C. RASMUSSEN, OBSERVER, OWINGS, MD,** was presented a **SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD** by Bill Smith.



**BOB FRITZ, CHARLEMONT 2 SE, MA,** was presented a **10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD** by Tony Mach. The Fritz' sold their house and moved to Sunderland where observations are already taken and reported by observer, John Bagdon. Although Bob Fritz will be missed in our program, we welcome Chet and Valiere who purchased his former residence and have taken over the observations at Charlemont.



**MIKE AND JOENG DIVNEY, OBSERVERS, COLEBROOK, NH,** were presented a **10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD** by James Donahue.

Photo left to right: Joeng and Mike Divney.

## EASTERN REGION



TWO 75-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARDS were presented to the HACKENSACK WATER COMPANY for service at NEW MILFORD, NJ, and WOODCLIFF LAKE, NJ. The awards were presented by Tony Mach at the company's headquarters located in Harrington Park, NJ. Accepting the awards on behalf of the Hackensack Water Company was Eduardo Vesga, Civil Engineer. Ed, a native of Columbia (South America) oversees the program and assures timely and accurate data is sent to NCDC.

Photo left to right: Tony Mach and Ed Vesga.



A 50-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD was presented to the JERSEY CITY WATER DEPARTMENT. The award was accepted by the Director of the Water Department, Maryalyce Fitzgerald and Civil Engineer, Bob Lorfink. The Engineering section of the Water Department has overseen the program since the Jersey City, NJ, station's inception and sends the monthly data to NCDC. The actual observations are taken and reported daily to the Service Hydrologist at the Philadelphia Forecast Office (now Mt. Holly, NJ) by the operators of the Water Department's Troy Street pump station. The daily observation program is overseen by "Captain" Ed Freer, Chief Operator. Presentation was made by Tony Mach.

Photo left to right: Maryalyce Fitzgerald and Bob Lorfink.



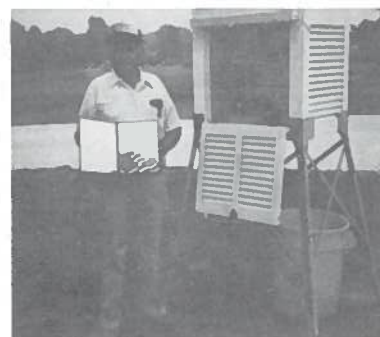
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY - COOK COLLEGE, received a 25-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD for service at NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ. Accepting the award on behalf of Rutgers University - Cook College was Keith Amesen.

James Smith, Hydrometeorological Technician, Sterling, VA presented the award.



UNION COUNTY COLLEGE received a 25-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD for service at CRANFORD, NJ. Tony Mach presented the award to Dr. Thomas Brown, President of the College, and Professor Raymond Daly. Professor Daly, who teaches Geology, Physics, and Mathematics, oversees the program and took the observations for many years. The actual observations are now taken by Crosby F. Baker Jr., who resides near the College campus.

Photo left to right: Dr. Brown and Professor Daly.



RICHARD LEE, OBSERVER, HIGHTSTOWN, NJ, was presented a 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD.

Presentation was made by James Smith, Hydrometeorological Technician, Sterling, VA.

## EASTERN REGION



A 10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to BEULAH SOLLER, OBSERVER, NARROWSBURG 3 SE, NY. Beulah moved to the family homestead when she retired from the General Electric Company in Bridgeport, CT. She has faithfully assisted her brother, George, with observations and phone reports to the Philadelphia Forecast Office (now Mount Holly, NJ). The observation site was for many years a poultry farm and at one time served as a restaurant. Tony Mach presented the award.



LEROY BUSH, OBSERVER, HOME, PA, was presented the JOHN CAMPANIUS HOLM AWARD on behalf of his late wife Edna.

Arrangements for presentation and photo were made by Don Wolfe, Cooperative Program Manager, Pittsburgh, PA. Presentation of this award was made by Theresa Drake, Area Manager, Pittsburgh, PA.

Photo left to right: Leroy Bush and Theresa Drake.



DANIEL THOMAS, OBSERVER, LAKE LURE, NC, was presented a 10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. Presentation was made by Michael Wyatt, CPM, Columbia, SC.



VERNON MONG, OBSERVER, STOYSTOWN, PA, was presented the JOHN CAMPANIUS HOLM AWARD. Arrangements for presentation and photo were made by Don Wolfe. Presentation of this award was made by Theresa Drake.

Photo left to right: Vernon Mong and Theresa Drake.



RICHARD LANDVERSICHT, OBSERVER, UPPER SANDUSKY, OH, was presented a 10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD by Keith Williams, CPM, Columbus, OH.

Photo left to right: Keith Williams and Richard Landversicht.



DREW R. EVINS, OBSERVER TRAVELERS REST, SC, was presented a 40-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD by Wayne Jones, Official in Charge, Greenville-Spartanburg, SC. Photo left to right: Drew R. Evins and Wayne Jones.

Photo by Michael Wyatt, CPM, Columbia, SC.

## EASTERN REGION



**PEARL DREW, OBSERVER, NEWPORT, VT** was presented the **THOMAS JEFFERSON AWARD** at a ceremony held at the Community Circle Club associated with The Community National Bank. Among the guests attending the presentation were Mrs. Drew's friends from the local community as well as Steve Hogan and Bill Grady from the National Weather Service Office, Burlington, VT.

This award is presented to five of the most outstanding cooperative weather observers in the United States each

year. Those honored are selected from the more than 12,000 observers who devote so much time and effort to recording the climate of this country.

Mrs. Drew also takes two synoptic observations each day.

Arrangements for presentation and photo were made by James Donahue, Cooperative Program Manager, Portland, ME.



**WILLIAM SHARP, OBSERVER, RUTLAND, VT**, accepted a **10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD** from James Donahue, Cooperative Program Manager, Portland, ME.

The small instrument shelter at right doubles as a bat house, where "Binky" was sleeping, even as this picture was being taken.



**MEADE PALMER, OBSERVER, WARRENTON, VA**, was presented a **40-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD** by Trina Heiser, Hydrometeorological Technician, Sterling, VA.

Photo left to right: Meade Palmer and Trina Heiser.

## EASTERN REGION



**REX VAUGHT, OBSERVER, WYTHEVILLE, VA,** was presented with a **20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD** by David Keller, CPM, Charleston, WV.



A **SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD** was presented to **JOE BOWERS, OBSERVER, LOUISA, VA,** by James Smith.

Photo left to right: James Smith and Joe Bowers.



**RAYMOND SHAW, OBSERVER, GORDONSVILLE, VA,** was presented a **SPECIAL SERVICE AWARD** by James Smith.

Photo left to right: James Smith and Raymond Shaw.



A **25-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD** was presented to the **COLUMBIA GAS TRANSMISSION CORPORATION AT FLAT TOP, WV.** Accepting the award (left to right) are: Pamula Whitlock, Delmar Harvey (Supervisor), and Kevin Greene.

David Keller, CPM, Charleston, WV, made the presentation.



A **10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD** was presented to **LUCILLE JUDY, OBSERVER, UPPER TRACT, WV,** by Trina Heiser.

Photo left to right: Lucille Judy and Trina Heiser.

## EASTERN REGION

### ROSA IS COMING TO THE EASTERN STATES

Do you phone in your observations once daily or during or after a severe weather event, such as heavy rain, flooding, snow, severe thunderstorm or high wind? If so, ROSA will make your observations more valuable. Your data will travel much more swiftly than now, making possible faster life-saving flash flood and severe weather warnings. Some of you already are using ROSA.

ROSA stands for Remote Observation System Automation. Your cooperative program manager (CPM) will provide you with a ROSA keypad and explain how it works. Before he leaves, you will probably find it almost as easy to use than an ordinary calculator. You will key your message on the keypad, then telephone a computer which will record your report, then forward it almost instantly to weather computers and forecasters.

ROSA will replace most voice telephone calls you have been making to a forecast office. ROSA will not replace the B-91 form on which most of you enter your daily observations and send to your CPM (or the National Climatic Data Center) at the end of each month. You will still fill out and send this.

How will ROSA help us most? Voice phone calls must be written down by hand, then encoded (also by hand) into a message which is transmitted to a computer. During bad weather (when most voice phone calls are made), the volume of voice messages can overwhelm the staff at the very time the staff is busiest trying to issue watches and warnings. This results in delays, both in disseminating the observations and in issuing potentially life-saving watches and warnings. With ROSA, your valuable messages will skip the above steps and go directly into computers and to forecasters, thereby speeding the deliverance of watches and warnings to the public.

If needed, you will still be able to speak to a human, probably on a different phone number. In fact, your CPM may ask you to call this other number to report events such as tornadoes and funnel clouds. In some cases, especially where people's lives and property may be at stake, the forecaster may call you to obtain more details or to ask you to send an unscheduled follow-up report.

## CENTRAL REGION -- 100th ANNIVERSARY --



A CENTENNIAL AWARD was presented to the COLDWATER REGIONAL CENTER FOR 100 YEARS OF WEATHER OBSERVATIONS. At the presentation were: John Kottke MIC/LAN; Stephen Hicks CPM/DTX; Jack Kellogg Power Plant Superintendent, Jim Culbert, observer, Harold Rathbun, observer (retired); and Fred Nurnberger, State Climatologist. Photo taken by David Benson Coldwater, Daily Reporter.



### HONORED

Thad French, left, and Terry Landsvork of the National Weather Service, Omaha, stand between part of the

weather monitoring equipment used by French as a volunteer weatherman for the past 40 years.--Oxford Standard Photo.

### Earns volunteer service award

French began weather reports 40 years ago

THADDEUS "THAD" FRENCH of EDISON was presented a 40 YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD on Wednesday, May 19, by Terry Landsvork, the National Weather Service (NWS) Cooperative Program Manager from Omaha.

French, using equipment provided by the NWS, has recorded daily precipitation occurrences in Edison since April 1, 1953.

The award consisted of a personal letter from the Director of the National Weather Service, a framed service certificate and a service pin.

The NWS uses the information received from Cooperative Weather Observers like French for environmental and flood forecasting activities. There are nearly 12,000 volunteer Cooperative Weather Observers scattered throughout the United States. Their observations are the backbone of the United States climatology program.

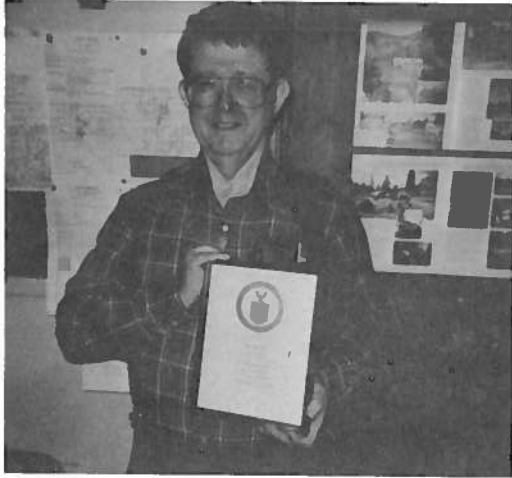
Landsvork said volunteers have been the backbone since the first government collection of weather observations began in 1812. In 1860, there were only 500 cooperative stations making regular observations. In 1870 President Ulysses S. Grant signed a joint resolution of the Congress establishing a National Weather Service. Today there are about 11,000 volunteer observers across our country, these observation programs have aided the program.

He continued saying that without their efforts and observations, the climatic conditions that effect our daily lives would not be known.

Landsvork concluded saying the Department of Commerce, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Weather Service greatly appreciated this service and extend their congratulations to French for a job well done.



## CENTRAL REGION



A 35-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to W.R. (BILL) DAVIS, HOLLY, CO, by Mike Elias.



MR. & MRS. JAMES HAWKINS, COLLBRAN, CO, an "AB" station, were presented a 10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. Mrs. Hawkins is actually the observer (so says Mr. Hawkins). Collbran, (Mesa County), CO (which is about fifty miles northeast of Grand Junction, CO). Collbran is a very small town of about 300 people.

Mr. & Mrs. Hawkins are a retired couple living in a small rural community. There's not much else to say except that she is a steady, reliable observer.



BILL KELLER, OBSERVER, SHOALS, IN, was presented a 35-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD by John Curran, AM/IN (pictured on left) and Al Shipe (on right). Bill received the Holm Award in 1988 and continues his excellent observing techniques, especially his knowledge of local river/flooding problems. His input is a key ingredient in our river forecasts.



EARL V. SLIFE, OBSERVER, HAWARDEN, IA, was presented the PRESTIGIOUS ALBERT J. MEYER AWARD FOR OVER 65 YEARS SERVICE as a cooperative weather observer. The ceremony was attended by friends, relatives, and the press. Earls' wife, Edith, faithfully remained by his side during the ceremony. The award was presented by John Feldt, NWS Iowa area manager; Tom Sinclair, Regional Cooperative Program Manager; and Bill Newman, Iowa Cooperative Program Manager. Other National Weather Service Cooperative Program Managers attending the ceremony included Terry Landsvork from Nebraska and Dave Olkiewicz from South Dakota.

We express our gratitude for the many years of faithful service by Earl V. Slife and our sympathy to family and friends on his passing. Memorial service was attended by Bill Newman.

Earl V. Slife was an official cooperative weather observer from August 10th, 1926 until July 3rd of 1993 (66 years/10 months and 23 days), the longest period ever by an Iowa observer. He was the only observer for Hawarden since the station was established. The official weather observer position for Hawarden will continue to remain in the family with duties now being performed by Duane J. Aldrich.

Earl set an example that others should follow with family and as citizens. He was a dedicated observer and would wear a NWS pin in his coat lapel when he worked at the bank; it was his trademark. As Earl was quoted "My whole life has been built on service. If I can help someone, it gives me a lot of pleasure".

Bill Newman/CPM-DSM

## CENTRAL REGION



MR. & MRS. DEAN A. COBB, OBSERVERS, BLOCKTON, IA, were presented a 35-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD by Bill Newman.



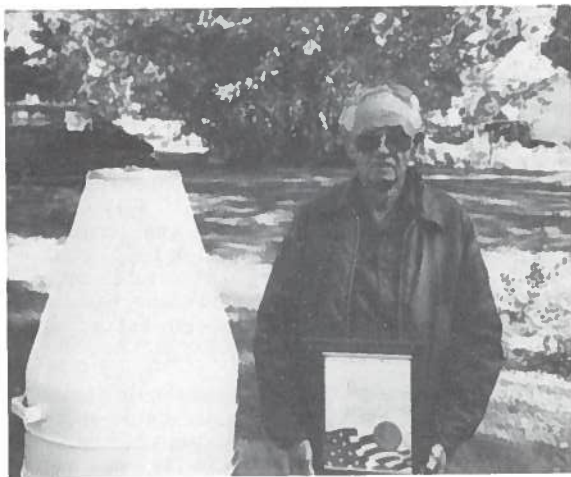
KURT AND BONNIE RANGLES (AND CHILDREN), MOUNT AYR 4 SW, IA, were presented a 10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD by Bill Newman.



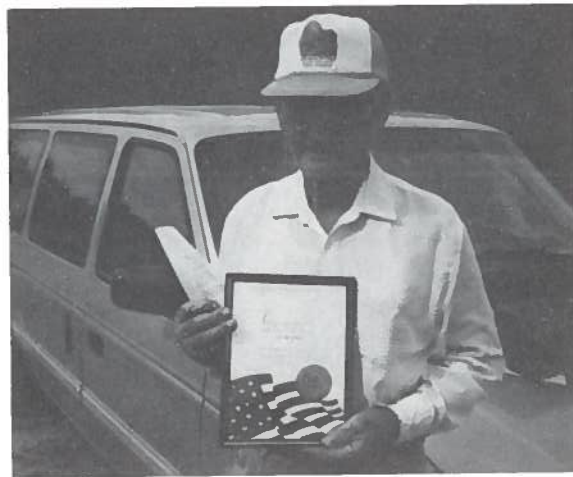
RICHARD E. GRAY, LENOX, IA, was presented a 35-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD by Bill Newman.



CHARLES BEHM, RICHFIELD 1 NE, KS, accepted a 50-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD for MOTHER - EVELYN BEHM, by Mike Elias, CPM/GLD, KS.



E. DEAN REDFIELD, WOODBINE, IA, was presented a 30-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD by Bill Newman.



A 40-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to OSCAR COOK, WAKEENEY 9 N, KS, by Mike Elias.

## CENTRAL REGION



A 35-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to EDWIN A. ENGEL, ALBERT, KS, by Mike Elias.



NORBERT KOECHNER, OBSERVER, STILLWELL, KS, was presented a 30-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD.



JAMES BLACK HONORED AS WEATHER OBSERVER

By Kathy Harkleroad  
A/J Editor

Chapman resident Jim Black keeps an eye to the sky and every morning records just how much moisture Chapman has received.

Black is the official weather observer for the Chapman area and has filled the position for the last 30 years.

Mayor Dee Kirby asked me to take the position on a temporary basis, and 30 years later, I'm still checking the rain gage every morning," said Black with a chuckle.

Black checks the gage at 7 a.m. every morning and reports the rainfall to the Topeka office of the National Weather Service. These reports are used in flood forecasting activities and for public information. A monthly report is mailed to the weather service and is published for public use. The information collected by Black is used to determine "normal" values for the Chapman vicinity.

According to Greg Painter from the National Weather Service, Black is one of about 400 volunteer cooperative observers in Kansas. Nationwide there are nearly 12,000 observers and their observations are the backbone of the United States climatology program. Observer sites are at homes, farms, municipal facilities, dams, parks, and other locations.

The information gathered by the observers has been used for agriculture, commerce, industry, engineering, aviation, and other sectors. The records continue to acquire greater value with the passage of time.

### LEFT:

Chapman resident James Black has been the official weather observer for the city of Chapman for the last 30 years and has faithfully recorded all moisture counts during that time.

According to Black's records, year-to-date precipitation for the Chapman area is just over 30 inches. "Our average precipitation is 32 inches and as you can see we will probably pass that mark this year," said Black. He also said last year the total amount of moisture was 36 inches.

During the last three months Black has recorded 21.66 inches of rain for the area. Rainfall in May was recorded at 10.11 inches, June saw 6.16 inches, and as of July 12, 5.39 inches of rain has been recorded in Chapman. Total rainfall for the year, as of presstime, is 31.01 inches.

Since Black took over the position of weather observer in 1963, the Chapman area has experienced two years of excessive moisture. "In 1967 we received approximately 44 inches and in 1973 I recorded 49 inches," said Black.

Snowfall cannot be overlooked and the most snow recorded since 1963 was in 1983 with a record 64.5 inches, according to Black.

When Black is on vacation or otherwise unavailable, substitute Ernie McCormick takes over the duties of calling in the weather reports to Topeka.

Black recently received a plaque from the National Weather Service in honor of his years of service to the bureau.

Black retired from the postal service last year and is currently an electrician in the city. He and his wife Bernice live on Sherraden Street in Chapman.

CHAPMAN ADVERTISER & ENTERPRISE JOURNAL CHAPMAN, KS

## CENTRAL REGION



MR. AND MRS. BERNARD ALFERS, AXTELL, KS, were presented a 25-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD by the National Weather Service.



A 10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to ED MARX (CENTER), SALINE, MI, by Mark Walton (left) and Dean Gulezian (right) MIC/DTX.



MR. AND MRS. VERNON ERICKSON, SCANDIA, KS, were presented a 25-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD by the National Weather Service.



M. MARGARET FRISLIE, CARIBOU 2 S, MN, received a 35-YEAR CERTIFICATE AND PIN for her services to the National Weather Service. Caribou is just a stones throw from Canada, and not much farther from North Dakota. Needless to say it does get cold during the winter.



A 10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to ROBERT E. BOYD, LOWELL 2 SE, MI, by Mark Walton SH/DTX.



ELBERT AND CHASTINE HUBBARD, PRINCETON 6 SW, MO, were presented a 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. While Chastine is listed as the official observer...the weather program is a family affair in Princeton, MO.

## CENTRAL REGION



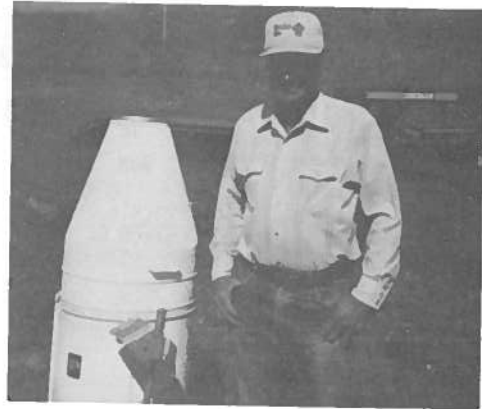
DORIS E. PINCKNEY, WASOLA, MO, was presented a 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. The observation program has been in the Pinckney family since the station was established in 1940: Austin W. Pinckney 1940-1965; Richard and Doris Pinckney 1965-1972; and Doris E. Pinckney 1972-1993.



A 40-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to ARNOLD MIZNER, MADRID, NE, by Mike Elias.



LARRY SPURGEON, EMINENCE 1 N, MO, was presented a 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. Larry received a Special Service award from the NWS in 1979 for his valuable service during the flooding of the Alley Spring area.



A 40-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to KEN PHIPPS, WHITMAN 4 E, NE, by Mike Elias.



A 45-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to WILLARD M. ROUZE, IMPERIAL, NE, by Mike Elias.



C.J. GODDARD, WATFORD CITY 12 E, ND, was presented the HOLM AWARD.

Pictured left to right. Pat Allard, OIC, WSO Williston ND; Charlene Prindiville, Hydrologist, WSFO Bismarck, ND; C.J. "Cephas" Goddard, Holm award recipient; Donald E. Stoltz, MIC/AM Bismarck, ND; Vern Roller, CPM, WSFO Bismarck, ND. Not pictured: Cephas' wife Jessie Goddard and her sister Angnes Helgesen, who served a delicious lunch complete with homemade apple pie a la mode. Dick Fischer, observer, Watford City Courthouse also attended. "Thank you everyone".

## CENTRAL REGION



Above, **DON ZIMMER** (left) accepts a **FRAMED CERTIFICATE** from National Weather Service representative **Terry Landsvork**. The **CERTIFICATE RECOGNIZES ZIMMER FOR COMPLETION OF 40 YEARS** of U.S. Government service. The men are standing in front of the NWS rain gage.

After 40 years and 988 inches of rain (that's 82 1/2 feet or 24.72 inches per year) weather observer Don Zimmer of Pierce is still counting every drop. And this past month he received recognition for the job he has done.

Don was presented a 40-Year Length-of-Service award on Tuesday, April 27 by Terry Landsvork.

Don, using the equipment provided by the NWS, has recorded daily precipitation occurrences in Pierce since April 1, 1953.

The National Weather Service uses the information received from weather observers like Mr. Zimmer for environmental and flood forecasting activities. There are about 11,000 volunteer observers scattered throughout the country.

Landsvork said, "Their observations are the back bone of the United States climatology program."

"The Department of Commerce, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Weather Service greatly appreciate this service and extend their congratulations to Mr. Zimmer for a job well done."

The award consisted of a personal letter from the Director of the National Weather Service, a framed service certificate and a service pin.

Zimmer took on the responsibility in 1953 after his employer, Bill Cox, asked him to. Cox, owner of the Pierce County Leader where Don worked, thought it would be nice to have an employee with the rainfall figures so handy.

Don said Postmaster Bruce Boyd had been the previous observer until he passed away.

Don said, "It's been fun these past 40 years. I've even had calls from lawyers that needed information on a case they were working. Now that I'm retired it's harder to get up and call in the precipitation recordings by 7 a.m."

Today a solar powered rain gage sets to the north of the Zimmer house. Rainfall measurements are recorded electronically. Don collects the figures and sends them by phone modem to the National Weather Service Bureau in Des Moines where they are recorded on a computer.

But Don said he has records of every drop of rain he has ever recorded.

He doesn't have any immediate plans to stop, but said some day his son Gary may just get the job. Until then Don Zimmer will have, as he has for the past 40 years, the only official rainfall figure for the City of Pierce ... no matter what 'your' gage says.

## CENTRAL REGION



The LUBIENS FAMILY was recognized for 36 YEARS of weather observations at Fullerton 1 ESE, ND. Pictured is Lois Lubiens accepting the award on behalf of her late husband Loren, herself, and the rest of the family. Wilmer Lubiens (Loren's dad) October 1957-September 1968; Glenn Lubiens (Loren and Lois' son) September 1968-September 1973; Loren and Lois Lubiens September 1973-present. Thank you for an excellent weather record. Picture and presentation by Vern Roller, CPM WSFO Bismarck, ND.



A 25-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD was presented to RADIO STATION KBFS, BELLE FOURCHE, SD. Pictured are Karl Grimmelmann (right), Cynthia Grimmelmann (left), station owners and operators. Dave Thum, staff member and announcer is pictured in the center. The award was presented by David Olkiewicz.

Temperature and precipitation data are recorded at the station.



A 25-YEAR INSTITUTIONAL AWARD was presented to the CHERRY TODD ELECTRICAL COOP, MISSION, SD. Gene Papkas (pictured), accepted the award for Cherry Todd. The award was presented by David Olkiewicz, Cooperative Program Manager, National Weather Service Office, Sioux Falls, SD.

Temperature and precipitation are recorded at the station. A Fischer/Porter recording rain gage is also maintained. Twenty-four-hour maximum and minimum temperatures and precipitation are reported daily, via telephone, directly into the National Weather Service, ROSA computer system.

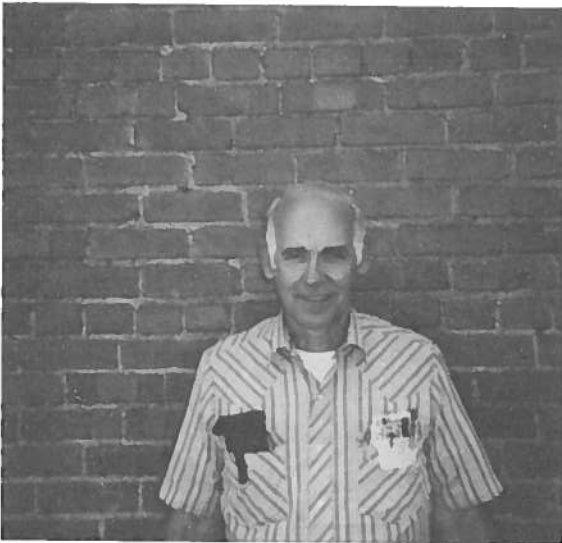


THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE HONORS WILLIAM E. KNOCK FOR 20 YEARS OF RIVER/RAINFALL OBSERVATIONS

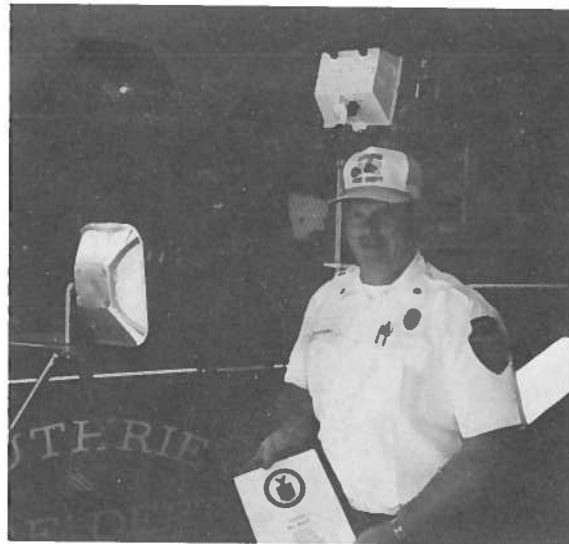
BILL KNOCK, who lives near DAVIS was recently presented a 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD by the National Weather Service. Bill, who actually observed for the Corps of Engineers years before he started helping the Weather Service, has consistently provided valuable and timely data. His river and rainfall data has been critical to flood forecasts and flood warnings on the Vermillion River. The Davis site is the furthest upstream river gage that the Weather Services uses, and often Bill's reports are the danger flag to problems downstream. The Weather Service's ability to provide people in the Vermillion Valley with information is very dependent upon Bill and other observers like him.

Award presented by David Olkiewicz and Cliff Millsapps, from the National Weather Service Office in Sioux Falls, SD. Thanks Bill.

## SOUTHERN REGION



CLIFFORD P. BUELLESFELD, OBSERVER, BLACKWELL, OK, received a 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. The presentation was made by Maxie Brown, HMT/OUN.



A 10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to JIM SMITH, OBSERVER, GUTHRIE, OK. Mr. Smith is the Fire Marshall at Guthrie. Maxie Brown made the presentation.



A 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to GEORGE L. OLLER, OBSERVER, BILLINGS, OK, by Maxie Brown.



DALLAS FARMER, OBSERVER, VALLEY MILLS, TX, received a 30-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. Alan Starnes, CPM/Waco, TX, made the presentation.



MARY FULLER, OBSERVER, MUSKOGEE, OK, received a 10-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. Mrs. Fuller is the Civil Defense Director for the City of Muskogee. John Lambert made the presentation.



EDGAR SCHWARZ, JR., OBSERVER, BOERNE, TX, received a 25-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. Mr. Schwarz has a Engineering and Surveying Firm in Boerne and enjoys reporting the weather conditions for the area. Chuck Megee, CPM/LBB, presented the award.



## SOUTHERN REGION



**PAT BROWN, OBSERVER, SONORA, TX, received a 25-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. Alan Starnes, presented the award.**



**A 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to JOHNNY C. KOVAR, OBSERVER, CALDWELL, TX, by Alan Starnes.**



**A 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to MELTON R. FELTS, OBSERVER, SABINAL, TX. Chuck Megee presented the award.**

(PICTURE NOT AVAILABLE)

**JETTA M. KROLL, OBSERVER, RICHARDS, TX, received a 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD from Alan Starnes.**



**AMABILE KIRKPATRICK, OBSERVER, MULLIN, TX, received a 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD from Alan Starnes.**



**A 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to L. E. MOUNTAIN, PREVIOUS OBSERVER AT BURKETT, TX. Alan Starnes made the presentation.**

## SOUTHERN REGION



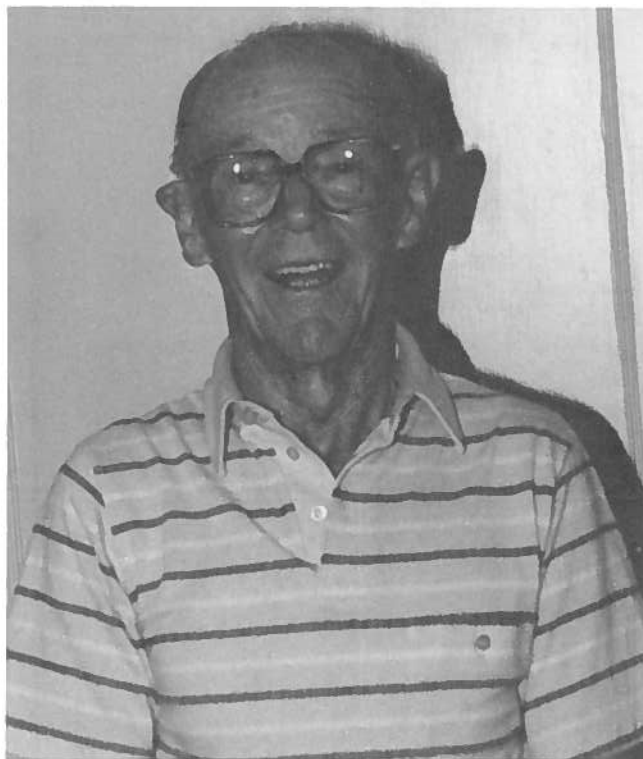
A 20-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD was presented to MEDFORD WHISENANT, OBSERVER, PILOT POINT, TX, by Jerry Wolfe, CPM/FTW.



REX HARRISON, OBSERVER, FLOYDADA 9 SE, TX, received a 15-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD from Chuck Megee, CPM/LBB.

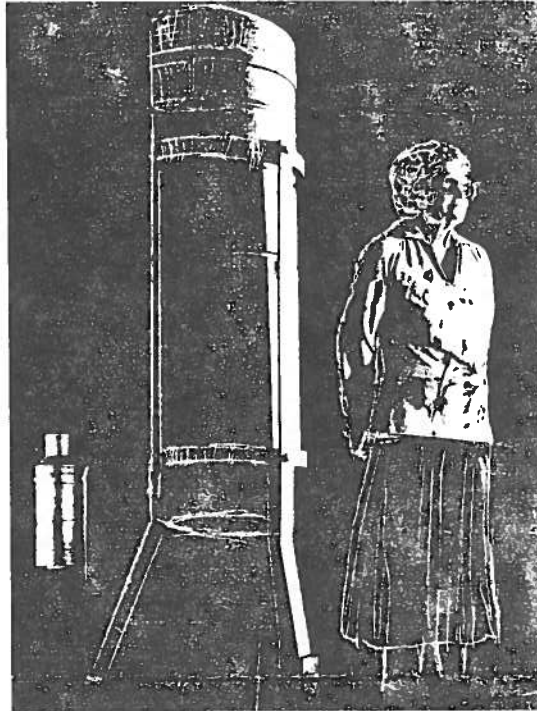


B.J. BENEFIELD, LULING, TX, received a 15-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. He reports temperature and rainfall via touch-tone phone and amateur radio when conditions warrant. He has completed and published extensive climate studies for Luling and Cladwell County.



W.T. (BUSTER) WOMACK, OBSERVER, GORDONVILLE, TX, received a 15-YEAR LENGTH-OF-SERVICE AWARD. Jerry Wolfe made the presentation.

## SOUTHERN REGION



Perrilla Brewster measures up to her rain gage

### EYE ON THE STORM

By Joyce Hersh

**PERRILLA BREWSTER** has her finger firmly on the pulse of Dumont, Texas (population 100), where she runs the post office and the town's only store, a one-pump "fillin' station." Situated on farm-to-market Highway 193 some 60 miles south of the Texas panhandle and 90 miles northeast of Lubbock, the lonesome town is surrounded by enormous cattle ranches with colorful names like Tongue River and Pitchfork.

At Brewster's General Store you can fill up your gas tank, mail a letter with a hand-canceled stamp, and purchase dry goods, candy, hardware, and friendly chatter. If the conversation turns to weather, Brewster can tell you just how much rain fell two days--or two decades--ago.

Set up outside her store are two rain gages for measuring all forms of precipitation. For 25 YEARS Brewster has monitored rain, snow, sleet, and hail as a cooperative weather observer for the National Weather Service.

Whenever she measures a half-inch of precipitation she notifies the Weather Service in Lubbock; at the end of each month she mails all her data to the Service's regional headquarters in Fort Worth.

Brewster is part of a volunteer network of about 11,000 weather buffs, operating at 25-mile intervals across the country, who may record temperature, precipitation, snow depth or river level, usually from home weather stations. Their findings become part of a national data base used by virtually all industries, especially

agriculture, transportation, road construction, or water supply.

In Texas, Brewster keeps a special eye out for hailstorms, which can destroy crops and turn underground springs into muddy flowing rivers. Her most memorable storm by far is the snowfall of January 1930 that stayed on the ground for a month: "At the Pitchfork Ranch there are these really deep canyons. The snow blew and filled them so that the cows couldn't tell where they were going. A lot of them either fell right into the canyons or starved to death".

Although the Weather Service headquarters in Maryland may seem far away from the Texas plains, the agency is working on improvements that will help small communities like Dumont. A sweeping modernization program will enhance forecast capabilities, increase public safety and provide more reliable data for better business decisions. New technologies will include Doppler radars, improved weather satellites, automated surface observing systems, and an advanced communications system in order to link weather offices across the nation.

But, officials are quick to add, automation cannot replace the valuable data base generated by the volunteer observers. "When we study global climate change, we can't look at just one year," says J. Michael

Hall, Ph.D., director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of Global Programs. "We have to study weather over a hundred years to see if it's warming or getting colder, and some of the longest instrument records we have are those of cooperative weather observers."

**CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA** is a unique source of weather information derived from data collected by over 8,000 cooperative weather observers located throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and U. S. Pacific Islands. It is published monthly, with an Annual Summary, for each State or combination of States/Areas by the National Climatic Data Center, Asheville, North Carolina.

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- Daily precipitation, maximum and minimum temperatures, snowfall, soil temperatures, and evaporation & wind.
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- Station indices and locator maps.
- Monthly totals of heating degree days and snowfall are published as seasonal tables in the July issue.

★ **ANNUAL SUMMARY** contains monthly and annual:

- Total precipitation and departures from normal.
- Average temperatures and departures from normal.
- Temperature extremes and freeze data.
- Soil temperatures.
- Total evaporation and wind movement.
- Monthly and seasonal cooling degree days.
- Graphical displays of various climatological features.
- Station indices and locator maps.

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# CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA ANNUAL SUMMARY PENNSYLVANIA 1987

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VOLUME 92 NUMBER 13



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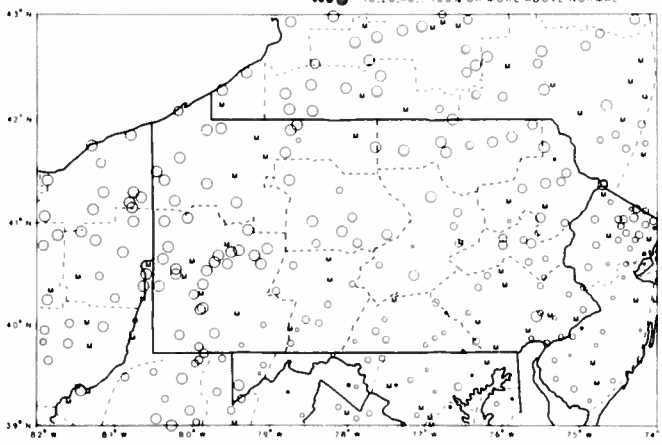


## CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA PENNSYLVANIA JANUARY 1988 VOLUME 93 NUMBER 1

ISSN 0364-5843

### MONTHLY PRECIPITATION DEPARTURE FROM INDIVIDUAL STATION NORMALS (1951-1980)

- M INCOMPLETE DATA FOR THE MONTH
- EXACTLY NORMAL
- 5.10.20... 50% OR MORE BELOW NORMAL
- 10.20.40... 100% OR MORE ABOVE NORMAL



CIRCLE DIAMETER IS PROPORTIONAL TO DEPARTURE ON A CONTINUOUS SCALE

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*Kenneth D. Nelson*  
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL CLIMATIC DATA CENTER

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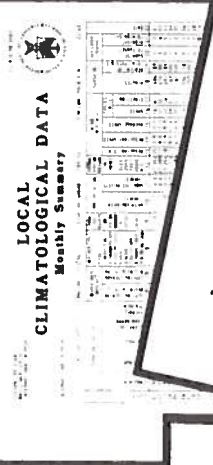
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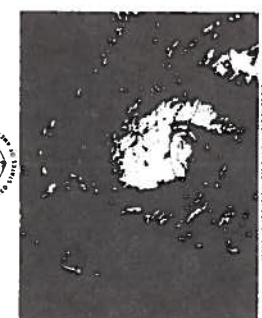
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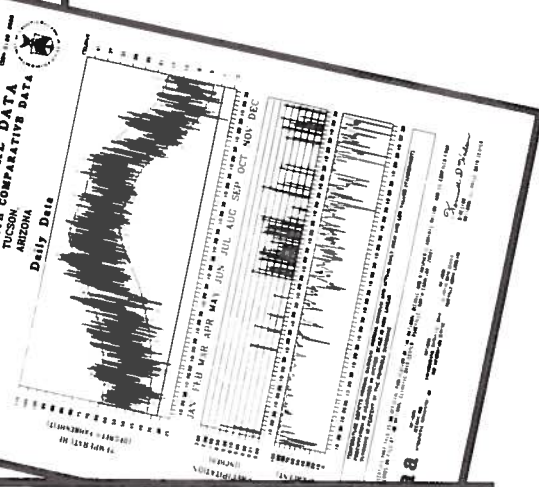
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