NOAA's National Weather Service

The National Cooperative Observer

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Fall 2009

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Nebraska Governor Declares Special Day Recognizing Outstanding Observer

On August 8, 2009, Gilbert Koch of rural Eustis, NE, was honored with the Thomas Jefferson Award, recognition he had turned down several years before. The award presentation took place at 7:00 pm at the conclusion of the Eustis Fair and Corn Show. Hydrometeorological Technician (HMT) Steve Carmel from NWS North Platte, NE, nominated Gilbert for the award.

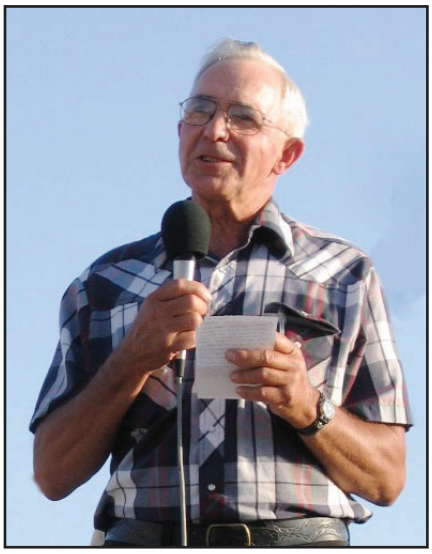
After an introductory speech by Steve about the history of the Cooperative Observer Program and the major named awards, other dignitaries took their turns at the microphone.

Regional Cooperative Program Manager (CPM) Bob Bonack, from Central Region Headquarters in Kansas City, MO, spoke about the importance of Gilbert's stellar work, thanking Gilbert for not missing a single observation over a period of 40 years.

Meteorologist-in-Charge (MIC) Brian Hirsch, from the NWS North Platte office, then presented Gilbert with his Thomas Jefferson Award. The presentation was followed by Brian giving Gilbert his 40 Year Length of Service Award and 40-year pin.

Nebraska Lieutenant Governor Rick Sheehy then surprised Gilbert Koch by proclaiming August 8, 2009, as Gilbert Koch Day by proclamation of Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman. Lt. Governor Sheehy presented a letter from Governor Heineman, congratulating Gilbert on his years of meritorious service.

Gilbert then stepped up to the microphone and graciously thanked everyone for recognizing his achievements.



Gibert Koch says a few words after receiving numerous awards and state recognition from the Governor.

Other guests who attending the ceremony included Jessica Whalen, Community Liaison for Congressman Adrian Smith and Esther Grabenstein, daughter of famed Coop Observer Ed Stoll. The Stoll Award was created and became effective in 1975 in honor of Edward H. Stoll who was the Observer at nearby Elwood, NE, for more than 76 years. To receive the Stoll Award, an Observer must have taken observations for 50 years.

After the official award presentation, family members, friends, and NWS representatives, adjourned to a nearby restaurant in Cozad, NE, for a celebratory meal. An awards table showcased the many awards for Gilbert Koch, along with congratulatory letters from U.S. Senator Mike Johanns, U.S. Senator Ben Nelson, Nebraska Governor Dave Heineman, Congressman Adrian Smith, and State District 44 Senator Mark Christensen.

Gilbert assumed the mantle of Cooperative Observer from a neighbor, Dale Wagner, who was unable to continue due to health issues. Gilbert began his observing career on August 1, 1969.

Two years he particularly remembers are 1993, because it brought record flooding to the Midwest, and 1994, which ushered in a late but severe April ice storm.

Gilbert is renowned for his accuracy and attention to detail, along with his efforts to contact NWS and other agencies to inform them of inclement or severe weather.

He received the John Companius Holm Award in 2000. In 2007, a meteorologist from the North Platte NWS office contacted Gilbert about nominating him for the Jefferson Award. He declined at that time, saying he thought he should serve 40 years as an Observer, just as Thomas Jefferson had, before being considered! Jefferson kept some of the earliest U.S. weather records. His journals dated from 1776 through 1816.

Pictured above are just some of the awards **Gilbert Koch** was given for his dedicated service to his community and nation.

Gilbert graduated from Kearney State College in 1967 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education. He then taught junior and senior high school science classes in Farnam and Gothenburg, NE, for 2 years until he returned to the family farm as the third generation of farmers and worked with his father, taking over the farm after his father's health failed.

Gilbert has provided a wealth of timely weather information to his community, especially during extreme weather conditions. Two years he particularly remembers are 1993, because it brought record flooding to the Midwest, and 1994, which ushered in a late, but severe April ice storm. The ice storm caused extensive power outages to Eustis and the surrounding rural area.

In addition to tracking weather, Gilbert has been involved in many other areas. He served as the financial secretary of the United Methodist Church for more than 26 years. He also served as a lay speaker and is a 50-year church member. In addition, he has been on the Board of Directors of the Farmer's Cooperative Association for 22 years. He helped the Eustis Agricultural Society record the entries in the Agricultural Exhibits for more than 20 years. He also served on the local election board many times.

Gilbert volunteered for more than 16 years as a member of the Eustis Rescue Squad, serving as an Emergency Medical Technician and as treasurer for most of that time.

Not surprisingly, he serves as a 4-H volunteer for weather projects. Gilbert also has judged many school science fairs. He has aided the local Eustis/Farnam Future Farmers of America chapter to prepare for state and national contests by serving as a "trial" judge: listening to, questioning, critiquing, and making recommendations about their practice presentations.

Gilbert's B-91 Coop Observer forms are always clear, error free and sent promptly. Quality remarks are routinely noted, with appropriate weather phenomena notated properly.

In addition to serving as a spotter, Gilbert is a trained severe weather spotter. He has accurately verified numerous severe weather events. Gilbert has been a member of the Nebraska Rainfall Assessment and Information Network since its inception.

His weather reports routinely appear in the Tri City Tribune, in Cozad, NE, as well as in the Frontier County Enterprise in Curtis, NE. Gilbert used to provide his weather data to the Eustis News, which was sold to the Frontier County Enterprise.

He takes the time to personally fax the information to both newspapers each Monday, in time for publication by Tuesday morning. He also has researched Eustis' climatological history since the station was established in 1948. He is the second Observer on record for Eustis since the station was opened.

Gilbert promptly reports precipitation amounts, type, snowfall and snow depth via IV-ROCS whenever 0.01 inches or more of precipitation occur. Additionally, Gilbert has

frequently called the NWS office to report heavy rainfall or severe weather events and to report rainfall rates and amounts. His reports play an essential role in determining flash flood potential and provide ground truth for radar estimated precipitation.

All the equipment at Gilbert's farm is in good condition and well maintained. He always notifies the office promptly whenever any type of equipment malfunction occurs.

Gilbert is an unassuming overachiever who not only serves his community and NWS, but also enhances the visibility of the Coop Program through his efforts, and provides the state climatologist and NCDC with an amazing climatological record which will stand for years to come. ☼

Weather Statistics

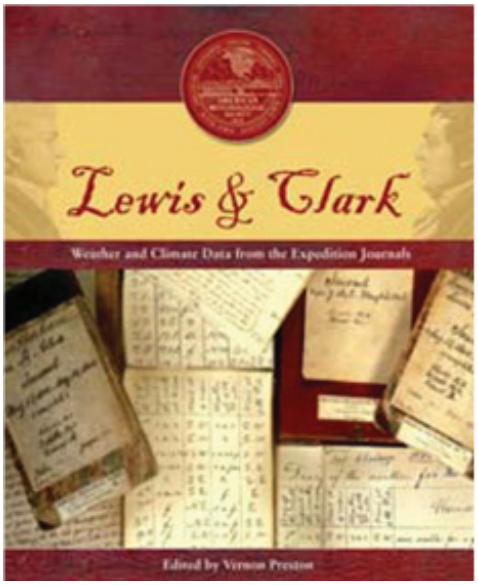
The U.S. sustained 70 weather-related disasters over the past 27 years in which overall damages/costs reached or exceeded $1 billion. The total normalized losses for the 70 events exceed $560 billion; 61 of these disasters occurred during the 1988-2006 period, with total unadjusted damages exceeding $430 billion.

Cite: Lott, N., and T. Ross, Tracking and evaluating U.S. billion dollar weather disasters, 1980-2005, 86th AMS Annual Meeting, 2006, Atlanta, GA, combined preprints American Meteorological Society, Boston, MA, 1.2, 7 p. (January 2006). ☼

Lewis and Clark Expedition Offers Climatologic Window

NWS Pocatello Warning Coordination Meteorologist Vern Preston marked the bicentennial anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition (1803-1806) by compiling the weather and climate data from various expedition journals. His paper was first published through NOAA. *Lewis & Clark: Weather and Climate Data From The Expedition Journals* is now available through the American Meteorological Society (AMS) as well. A brief synopsis of the report follows.

"The first scientific records of weather and climate in the western United States were collected during the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1803 to 1806 as the explorers traversed uncharted territory between St. Louis, MO, and the Pacific Ocean. Various expedition members recorded daily weather observations and information on climatic regimes through detailed descriptions of flora and fauna in the narrative journals. In addition, Lewis and Clark kept a separate Weather Diary with daily observations of temperature, wind, weather conditions and river levels. The recently released AMS Historical Monograph provides a comprehensive summary of the data collection and weather-related challenges that threatened the expedition's safety and nearly derailed the Corps of Discovery's mission. 'Lewis and Clark' is a compelling read for weather and history buffs, and a key resource for scientists researching climate history."



Lewis & Clark: Weather and Climate Data From The Expedition Journals is now available to the public.

The first scientific records of weather and climate in the western United States were collected during the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1803 to 1806 as the explorers traversed uncharted territory between St. Louis, MO, and the Pacific Ocean.

John Campanius Holm Awards

Arlene Bernhardt received the John Campanius Holm Award at the NWS Bismarck, ND, office. Present for the award ceremony was Arlene's granddaughter, Bridget Mosset, and great grandson, Landon Mosset, along with Joe Fredrick, a friend. Arlene's son Dave Bernhardt joined us by teleconference. NWS staff at the event included Vern Roller, Len Peterson, Janine Vining, Dave DeRung and Karl Venneberg. Arlene has provided excellent daily weather reports and monthly forms for Taylor, ND, for 33 years. All of the reports and forms are accurate and detailed. Arlene also regularly notes wind gusts, blowing dust, blowing snow, power outages and snow drifts.

Arlene Bernhardt receives the John Campanius Holm Award from MIC Jeffrey Savadel, NWS Bismark, ND

Pictured from left are Jim Scarlett, NWS Aberdeen, SD, MIC; Tim Kearns, Data Acquisition Program Manager (DAPM); Ken Gillespie, HMT; Glenn Nielsen, HMT; **Henry and Barbara Desnoyers**; Dr Dennis Todey, State Climatologist; and Kathy Desnoyers, Henry's sister.

Henry T. Desnoyers was awarded the John Campanius Holm Award during a ceremony at his home in Clark, SD. The Desnoyers family have operated the Clark South Dakota Coop site off and on since 1952. Henry received letters of commendation from Senators Johnson and Thune and Congresswoman Herseth Sandlin. In addition, Governor Michael Rounds proclaimed August 28, 2009, as Henry T. Desnoyers Day in South Dakota in recognition of his work with the Coop program.

John Campanius Holm Awards

Curtis Hemstad, left, of Stanley, ND, receives the John Campanius Holm Award. Curtis and his wife, Nancy, have dedicated 40 years to recording temperature and precipitation at their farm 3 miles from Stanley. Curtis was given the Holm Award for his detailed monthly forms and additional remarks that assist NWS in tracking severe weather and climate changes.

Curtis Hemstad, left, of Stanley, ND, receives the John Campanius Holm Award from Rick Krolak, Official-in-Charge of the Williston, ND, weather office.

From top left are Donald Nerenhausen, mayor of Oconto; Holm Award winner **Walt Kaszynski**; MIC Gary Austin, NWS Green Bay, WI; and Chief Observer **Dorothy Kaszynski**. From bottom left are **Terri and Larry Kaszynski**, Walt's daughter-in-law and son, who serve as backup Observers.

Walt Kaszynski, a 38 year veteran Observer at WOCO radio station in Oconto, WI, was presented the John Campanius Holm Award for outstanding service to his community and NWS. As owner/operator of this station, he has many achievements to his credit, the foremost, from the NWS point of view, is training his entire family to take weather observations. He has contributed to NWS as a teacher and as a weather Observer. NWS Green Bay frequently calls WOCO radio station for its reliable and high quality observations. This station is part of the U.S. Historical Climatology Network, with records dating back to 1889.

John Campanius Holm Award

Wayne Tienhaara was presented with the John Campanius Holm Award at his home in Dufur, OR. From left are HMT Robert Brooks; Mike Vescio, MIC at NWS Pendleton; **Wayne**; and Meteorologist Jon Bonk. Wayne began recording observations 41 years ago and has been an exceptional Observer for all those years.

100 Year Honored Institution Award

Doug McDonough, right, of the **Plainview Daily Herald**, accepts a Certificate of Recognition from MIC Justin Weaver of NWS Lubbock, TX. The Plainview Daily Herald has been a Cooperative Observer station for more than 100 years. For 32 of those years, Doug has been taking the observations. Recently the service hydrologist began researching the rainfall data for the Plainview area and enlisted Doug's help to see how far back the data actually went. Doug worked tirelessly in his research through the newspaper's morgues and discovered that records went back to the 1800s. Doug called in the data and the hydrologist was able to enter it into the national database. Photo by OPL Jerry English

100 Year Honored Institution Award

PPL Montana Norris Madison Power House received a 100 Year Honored Institution Award. Plant Operator **Jim Johnson** received the award on behalf of the plant staff. Pictured from left is MIC Michael Mercer, Operator Jim Johnson and NWS OPL Jerome Saucier.

Benjamin Franklin 55 Year Award

Peter Kocher and wife Rosemary accept a Benjamin Franklin Award for his 55 years of volunteer weather reporting at Hague, ND. The standard rain gauge has stayed in the same spot since that first day. Peter has previously been awarded the Holm Award in 1980 and the Thomas Jefferson Award in 1994. Volunteers like Peter are a shining example of service to the community of Hague and to the United States. The award was presented by HMT Sandra Wiche, NWS Bismarck, ND.

Benjamin Franklin 55 Year Award

NWS presented the Benjamin Franklin Award for 55 years of service to the family of the late **Jean Lamouret** of Cherry Valley, NY. From left, accepting the award for their mother and grandmother were grandson **Collin**, son **David**, daughter-in-law **Brenda**, and granddaughters **Hannah** and **Erin Lamouret**. Presenting the award was Mike Nadolski, OPL, Binghamton, NY. The Cherry Valley station has been in the Lamouret family since 1949. David and his family plan to continue taking observations at the station, continuing over 70 years of climatology from the Cherry Valley area.

50 Year Edward H. Stoll Award

Essie Chavers of Wallace, AL, was given an Edward H. Stoll Award in honor of her 50 years of service as an NWS Coop Observer. Essie's station dates back to May 1941. During the first 18 years, at least 10 individuals served as Observers, including two of Essie's brothers and one of her sisters-in-law. Essie took over in August 1959. Her data has been of great value in forecasting flood potential on the Burnt Corn and Murder Creeks near Brewton, which are subject to flash flooding, and on a broader spectrum, in assessing the potential for drought conditions over southern Alabama.

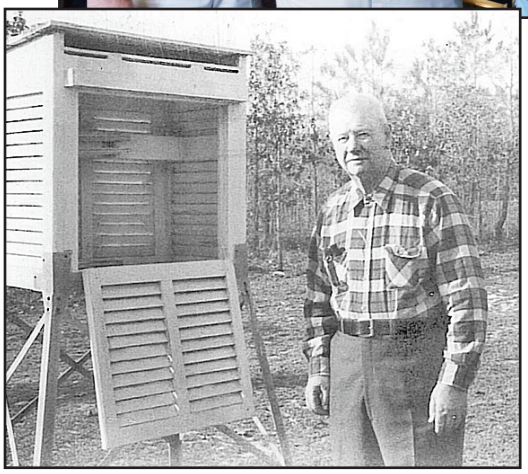
The ceremony also celebrated Essie passing the baton to her daughter, **Kathryn Conrad**, who has taken over as Coop Observer for Wallace, continuing her mother's commitment to service and excellence.

The award was presented by Steven Cooper, Deputy Director of the NWS Southern Region. A large gathering of Essie's friends and family members attended. Photo by Michael Gill, NWS Mobile, AL.

45 Year Dick Hagemeyer Awards

Mike Davis and **Teresa Sweat Davis** show their Dick Hagemeyer Award for 45 years of service. Teresa took over from her father, Col. Ernest Sweat, the original Observer at Waycross, GA. As a girl, Teresa helped her dad take temperature readings, often being lifted up to the Cotton Region Shelter to read and reset the thermometers. She would also read the measuring stick for the standard rain gauge and sit in the car while he read the wire-weight gauge. After Col. Sweat passed away, Mike and Teresa moved into the family homestead, ensuring the weather equipment stayed in the same location.

For several years, Col. Sweat and Mike also read a wire-weight river gauge on the US 84 bridge over the Satilla River. Mike loves to tell about near-death experiences on the bridge as he dodged skidding cars, speeding trucks, and lightning strikes. In addition to being a corecipient of the Hagemeyer Award, Mike received a 20 Year Length of Service Award. He is a past recipient of the John Campanius Holm Award.



Top: From left are Mike McAllister, OPL, NWS Jacksonville, FL, and **Teresa** and **Mike Davis**. Left: **Col. Ernest L. Sweat**. Photo from the mid-1970s provided by Lynn Gaskins, Staff Writer, *The Blackshear Times*.

John H. MacAfee, center, of Milan, PA, was presented the Dick Hagemeyer Award for his 45 years of dedicated service. The award was presented by Barbara Watson, MIC, NWS Binghamton, NY, and Mitch Gilt, HMT. John is continuing more than 70 years of rainfall data from the Milan area.

45 Year Dick Hagemeyer Awards

NWS Peachtree City, GA, staff presented a Dick Hagemeyer Award to **Jack Montgomery** of Rome, GA, for 45 years of service. The award was presented at the Palladium restaurant in the Coosa Valley Fair Grounds in Rome. The ceremony was held in conjunction with Jack's 90th birthday. Numerous family members from across the state of Georgia attended. From left are WCM Barry Gooden; Jack Montgomery; Jack's son **Monty Montgomery**, who took over observation duties; and OPL Frank Taylor. Photo by Monty's wife, Pat.

Travis R. Smith, left, of Jayton, TX, accepts the Dick Hagemeyer Award from MIC Justin E. Wilson, NWS Lubbock, TX. The award was accompanied by a 45 year service pin and congratulatory letters from the NWS National and Southern Region Directors. Several well wishers attended the ceremony held at the senior citizens center in Jayton, TX. "Pebbles," Travis' Chihuahua barked her approval after the event. Travis not only calls in the data every day but also maintains a Fischer-Porter rain gauge on his property for the NWS. Photo by OPL Jerry English.

Johnnie Wilson, right, of Crosbyton, TX, shows his Dick Hagemeyer Award presented by MIC Justin E. Weaver, NWS Lubbock, TX. Over the past 45 years, Johnnie has been as dependable as sunrise/sunset in getting data to NWS. His wife, **Sue**, also gets called into service at times. He even has neighbors help out if he is out of town. The Wilsons have been familiar fixtures and outstanding citizens in the town for many years, providing data to any and all that need it. Johnnie received the Holm Award in 2005. He and Sue also provide severe weather reports when needed. Photo by OPL Jerry English.

40 and 35 Year Length of Service Awards

Marjory and **Stacey G. Swift**, of North Foster, RI, proudly and happily receive a 40 Year Length of Service Award for Stacey's years of service. Photo by CPM Kimberly Buttrick, NWS Taunton, MA.

Herbert Teichman, right, of Eau Claire, MI, accepts a 40 Year Length of Service Award. Herbert took over weather observations for NWS from his father, who started the Coop site in 1923. Herbert owns a large fruit tree farm so weather is vitally important to him. He has adhered to his volunteer duties through such weather extremes as 30 inches of snow, temperatures well below zero and sweltering drought conditions. Herbert also received the John Campanius Holm Award. Photo taken and award presented by Brentley Lothamer, OPL, NWS Northern Indiana.

John J. Bagdon, Jr., left, a farmer from Sunderland, MA, proudly receives a 35 Year Length of Service Award. Photo by CPM Kimberly Buttrick, NWS Taunton, MA.

35 and 30 Year Length of Service Awards

George Wetzel, left, OPL, NWS Grand Rapids, MI, thanks longtime Montague resident **Jim** and **Marilyn** (not pictured) **Benovic** for their 35 years of service as Cooperative Observers. Photo by NWS Meteorologist Wayne Hoepner.

Gerry D'Errico and his canine assistant, Misty, of Maynard, MA, receive a 35 Year Length of Service Award. Gerry began taking weather observations in July 1963, but didn't become an official Cooperative Weather Observer until May 1974. Photo by CPM Kimberly Buttrick, NWS Taunton, MA.

Raymond Blegen, right, from Keene, ND, received a 30 Year Length of Service Award from Len Peterson, OPL, NWS Bismarck, ND.

Dr. **David Cameron** and **Janet Lentz** received a 30 Year Length of Service Award. Presenting the award was NWS Great Falls OPL Jerome Saucier.

30 Year Length of Service Awards

Edward Capone of Norton, MA, receives a 30 Year Length of Service Award from CPM Kim Buttrick. Besides being a Coop Observer, Ed is the Service Coordination Hydrologist with the Northeast River Forecast Center, which is co-located with NWS Taunton, MA. Photo by David Vallee, Hydrologist-in-Charge.

Robert L. Giard, Chief Operator at the New Bedford, MA, Water Department, Quittacas Water Treatment Plant, receives a 30 Year Length of Service Award from CPM Kim Buttrick. Photo by Charles Kennedy, Plant Manager.

Charles Hagen, right, from Tioga, ND, received a 30 Year Length of Service Award. Presenting the award is OPL Len Peterson from NWS Bismarck, ND.

Carole Hanks of Blue Eagle Ranch, NV, shows her 30 Year Length of Service Award presented by Kevin Baker, MIC, NWS Elko, NV. Photo by Joe Roberts, NWS Elko.

30 and 25 Year Length of Service Awards

Emil Macha, right, of Littlefield, TX, accepts a 30 Year Length of Service Award, service pin, and congratulatory letters from MIC Justin E. Weaver, NWS Lubbock, TX. The award was presented in the garden store run by the Machas. The local newspaper, *The Lamb County Leader-News*, also covered the presentation. Photo by OPL Jerry English.

Joe Vavrovsky received a 30 Year Length of Service Award. Presenting the award was NWS Great Falls OPL Jerome Saucier.

MIC Kevin Baker, of NWS Elko, NV, presents a 25 Year Length of Service Award to **Donna Bailey** of Pine Valley, NV. Photo by OPL Dave Scheibe.

Ed Bandel receives a 25 Year Length of Service Award. Presenting the award was NWS Great Falls OPL Jerome Saucier.

25 Year Length of Service Awards

John Blomstedt, the Cooperative Weather Observer from Hershey, NE, shows his 25 Year Length of Service Award and pin presented by Steve Carmel, NWS North Platte, NE.

Kevin Brokaw from Forbes, ND, received a 25 Year Length of Service certificate and pin on his farm. Kevin and his grandson Trent took time from the fall harvest to receive the presentation from Sandra Wiche, HMT/CPM from NWS Bismarck, ND.

Observer **Linda Noakes** holds up her 25 Year Length of Service Award for providing precipitation readings for the Erie, KS, area. Leon Wasinger, CPM, NWS Wichita, KS, presented the award.

Kevin Baker, right, MIC NWS Elko, NV, presents 25 Year Awards to **Charles and Bessie Gledhill** of Lages, NV. Photo by OPL Dave Scheibe.

Cynthia Leonard, Observer at Karval, CO, 75 miles east of Colorado Springs, has lots of help showing her 25 Year Award. Pictured are members of her kindergarten and 1st grade classes at the Karval Public School. Byron Louis, DAPM, Boulder, CO presented the award.

25 Year Length of Service Awards

Sherry Somsen of Courtenay, ND, received a 25 Year Length of Service Award from Sandra Wiche, CPM/HMT, NWS Bismarck, ND. Sandy shows off her certificate and garden.

Richard H. W. Tracy of Groveland, MA, receives a 25 Year Length of Service Award. His wife Mary shows his pin. Just behind Rick is his evaporation pan. Using this pan, complete with totalizing anemometer, hook gauge and submersible thermometer, Rick takes daily evaporation measurements from May through October. Photo by CPM Kimberly Buttrick, NWS Taunton, MA.

Leonard Vorba, age 90**,** of Traer, IA, shows his 25 Year Award received from Brad Fillbach, HMT, Des Moines, IA. Leonard is a WWII veteran and in August, was selected to take the Honor Flight trip to Washington, DC, to tour the new WWII Memorial.

Kevin Baker, MIC, NWS Elko, NV, presents a 25 Year Length Of Service Award to **Lois Windous** of Wildhorse Reservoir, NV. Photo by OPL Dave Scheibe.

Lawrence Worden, of Windsor, NY, shows his 25 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented by Mitch Gilt, HMT, NWS Binghamton, NY.

25 Year Length of Service and Honored Institution Awards

From left, CPM Kim Buttrick, **Wayne Plante** and **Maureen Dowdey** stand in front of Arcade Pond in Whitinsville, MA. Wayne is the Operations Supervisor at **Whitinsville Water Company** and Maureen is the Receptionist and Accounts Receivable contact. Wayne received a 25 Year Length of Service Award. Photo by Sandy Mastrototoro, Office Manager, NWS Taunton, MA.

From left, **Fred Haffty**, Facility Manager, and **Jim Parker**, Senior Operator, accept a 25 Year Honored Institution Award for the **Haverhill, MA, Wastewater Treatment Plant**. Photo by CPM Kimberly Buttrick, NWS Taunton, MA.

MIC Justin Weaver, right, of NWS Lubbock, TX, presents a 25 Year Honored Institution Award to **Joe Davis** of **KLSR** "Lone Star Radio" in Memphis, TX. Also accepting were **Donna Davis**, Joe's mother; and **Brandi Tatum**, his sister. Joe has never missed an observation.

From left, are **Mark Hofmeister,** Engineer; **Bob Kammerzell**, Relief Operator; and **Ray Reling**, Operator-in-Charge at the **Northglenn Department of Works and Utilities.** The team accepts a 25 Year Honored Institution Award from Byron Louis, DAPM, Boulder, CO.

From left, Brenda Brock, MIC, NWS Des Moines, presents a 25 Year Honored Institutional Award to **Pat Powers**, of radio station **KQWC**, in Webster City, IA, with help from Jeff Zogg, Senior Service Hydrologist.

25 and 20 Year Length of Service Awards; Special Act Award

Donald Zuelke, of Stratford, WI, received his 25 Year Length of Service Award. Don took over for this father, Robert, thus carrying on a fine family tradition.

Deanna Brummet, the Coop Observer from near Stapleton, NE, accepts her 20 Year Length of Service Award and pin. NWS North Platte MIC Brian Hirsch presented the award.

Kevin Baker, MIC NWS Elko, NV, presents a 20 Year Length of Service Award to **Sue Deming** of Battle Mountain, NV. Photo by OPL Dave Scheibe.

Steven Duchesne, right, Operations Superintendent at the **Lowell, MA, Regional Water Utility** receives a 20 Year Award from CPM Kim Buttrick. Steve moonlights as a bass player and vocalist with the group *Baked Naked,* a popular local band. Photo by William Simpson, NWS Taunton, MA.

Wallace Roeske, Observer at Rogers City, MI, receives a Special Act Award in recognition of his 22 years of service as he retires as an Observer. Wallace taught physics, math, chemistry and German for 36 years after graduating from Eastern Michigan University. He checked his own work as carefully as he did his students. His data was letter-perfect and precise. Photo by Denny Fruehauf, NWS Gaylord, MI.

20 Year Length of Service Awards

Colleen Ingersoll received a 20 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented by NWS Great Falls, MT, OPL Jerome Saucier.

Cliff Hamlin of Liberty, NY, accepts his 20 Year Award. The award was presented by Mitch Gilt, HMT, NWS Binghamton, NY. The Hamlins are continuing the tradition of more than 60 years of data from the local area. Cliff took over from his dad, Carl, who was the Observer from 1974 until his death in 1989.

Joyce LeFevre, left, accepts a 20 Year Length of Service Award for observations she and her husband **Tom** have taken at Maybell, CO. The award was presented by Dea Bridge, Administrative Support Assistant, NWS Grand Junction, CO.

Kevin Baker, MIC, NWS Elko, NV, presents 15 and 20 Year Service Awards to **Verna Lee** of Pilot Valley, NV. The 20 Year Award was on behalf of her late husband **Gerald Lee**. Verna received the 15 Year Award for serving as the secondary Observer. Photo by OPL Dave Scheibe.

Pictured from left are **Don Sullivan, Mark Lussier, Don Dunbar** and **James Bourcier** staff at the **Ware, MA, Water Works**. Don received a 20 Year Length of Service Award from CPM Kimberly Buttrick, NWS Taunton, MA.

20 and 15 Year Length of Service Awards

Michael Lesko of Bloomingburg, NY, accepts his 20 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented by Mitch Gilt, HMT, NWS Binghamton, NY.

Pamela Turnbull of Ipswich, MA, shows her 20 Year Length of Service Award presented by CPM Kimberly Buttrick, NWS Taunton, MA. Pamela, who is an artist, displays a sample of her creativity behind her.

Ray Whitley of Newburyport, MA, holds up a 20 Year Award presented by CPM Kimberly Buttrick, NWS Taunton, MA. Ray hails (no weather pun intended) from Virginia but has been a New Englander since 1972. Ray is a 7th grade earth science teacher at Triton Regional Middle School in Byfield, MA.

Nicky Lenz of Boyer, IA, recently received her 20 Year Length of Service Award. Presenting the award is Brad Fillbach, HMT, NWS Des Moines, IA.

Ellen and **Paul Bonnifield**, Observers at Yampa, CO, were presented a 15 Year Length of Service Award by Becky Klenk, CPM, NWS Grand Junction, CO.

Anna Blaum, left, Observer at Lake City, CO, was presented with a 15 Year Length of Service Award by Megan Schwitzer, Meteorological Intern, NWS Grand Junction, CO.

15 Year Length of Service Awards

Brad Hinkle of Liberal, KS was presented with a 15 Year Length of Service Award by Jesse Lee, OPL, Dodge City, KS. The weather station was started at Liberal back in 1892 by **Thomas J. Smith**. Brad took the site over from **Ralph Miller**.

Edward Kelso, of Plymouth, IN, accepts a 15 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented by Brentley Lothamer, OPL, NWS Northern Indiana.

Chris Kirkwood, of Hartford City, IN, accepts a 15 Year Length of Service Award. Brentley Lothamer, OPL, NWS Northern Indiana presented the award.

From left are **Dennis Morton** and **Richard Griffin**, Pump Station Operators at the **Franklin, MA, Water Departments**. Richard shows his 15 Year Length of Service Award presented by CPM Kimberly Buttrick, NWS Taunton, MA.

Joe and **Lorraine Reynolds** of Montrose, PA, accept their 15 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented by Mitch Gilt, HMT, NWS Binghamton, NY.

From left, **Dana Snow** and **Gregory Burt,** staff at the **Marblehead, MA, Water Department** receive their 15 year Length of Service Awards. Photo by Meteorological Intern William Simpson.

15 and 10 Year Length of Service Awards

Teresa and **Cecil Vaughan** have taken observations near historic Point Royal State Park, TN, for the past 15 years. The Vaughans continue a tradition started by Teresa's parents in 1970. The award was presented by NWS Nashville, TN, OPL Ralph Troutman.

Dan Wasson, left, and **Don Wasson** accept 15 Year Length of Service Awards from Christina Henderson, HMT, at NWS Goodland, KS. Photo by Brad Mickelson, Meteorologist, NWS Goodland.

Marla K Doxey, DAPM, NWS Hastings, NE, presented a 15 Year Length of Service Award to **Lyle Welch**, precipitation Observer for Hubbell, NE.

From left are **Rob Hartman, David Castanera** and **Brian Shea**, of the **Westfield, MA, Water Treatment Facility**. David shows his 10 Year Length of Service Award presented by CPM Kimberly Buttrick, NWS Taunton, MA.

Brett Carlson of Bison, KS, was presented with a 10 Year Length of Service Award by Jesse Lee, OPL, NWS Dodge City, KS. Brett's station dates back to 1890, when **Dr. W.M. Goodwin** started taking observations. The site was moved to the Bison area in 1923.

All in the Family—From left, **Daniel, Brevin** and **Shannon Currier**, of Collbran, CO, show their 10 Year Award presented by Becky Klenk, CPM, NWS Grand Junction, CO. Brevin and brother **Remy** took over the site, which dates to 1979, as part of their home school program. Remy is now in his third year of college, and Brevin is off to college this fall. Shannon and Daniel will take over as the main Observers when Brevin leaves.

10 Year Length of Service Awards

From left are **Robert Dermody**, Sewage Treatment Plant Operator, and **Leo Dubois**, Plant Manager, at the **Bridgewater, MA, Correctional Complex Water Pollution Control Facility**. Robert received a 10 Year Award from CPM Kimberly Buttrick, NWS Taunton, MA.

Donald F. Ives, right, of Worthington, MA, receives a 10 year Length of Service Award from Meteorological Techician Bill Simpson, NWS Taunton, MA.

James Kinne, right, shows his 10 Year Length of Service Award for river readings near Erie, KS. CPM Leon Wasinger, NWS Wichita, KS, presented the award.

Dean Malcolm, of Butler, IN, accepts a 10 Year Length of Service Award. The award was presented by OPL Brentley Lothamer, NWS Northern Indiana.

Steven A. Sauter, right, of Ashfield, MA, receives a 10 Year Length of Service Award from Meteorological Techician Bill Simpson, NWS Taunton, MA. Photo by CPM Kimberly Buttrick.

Marla K. Doxey, DAPM, NWS Hastings, NE, presented a 10 Year Length of Service Award to **George Thompson,** Observer for Fairmont, NE. George continues the climate history for Fairmont started in the late 1800s.

Henry Wallis, left, of Danville, IN, received his 10 Year Length of Service Award. Henry is an avid weather watcher and actually kept records for many years prior to joining the Coop Program. The award was presented by OPL Ed Terrrell. Photo by Service Hydrologist Al Shipe.

The National Cooperative Observer

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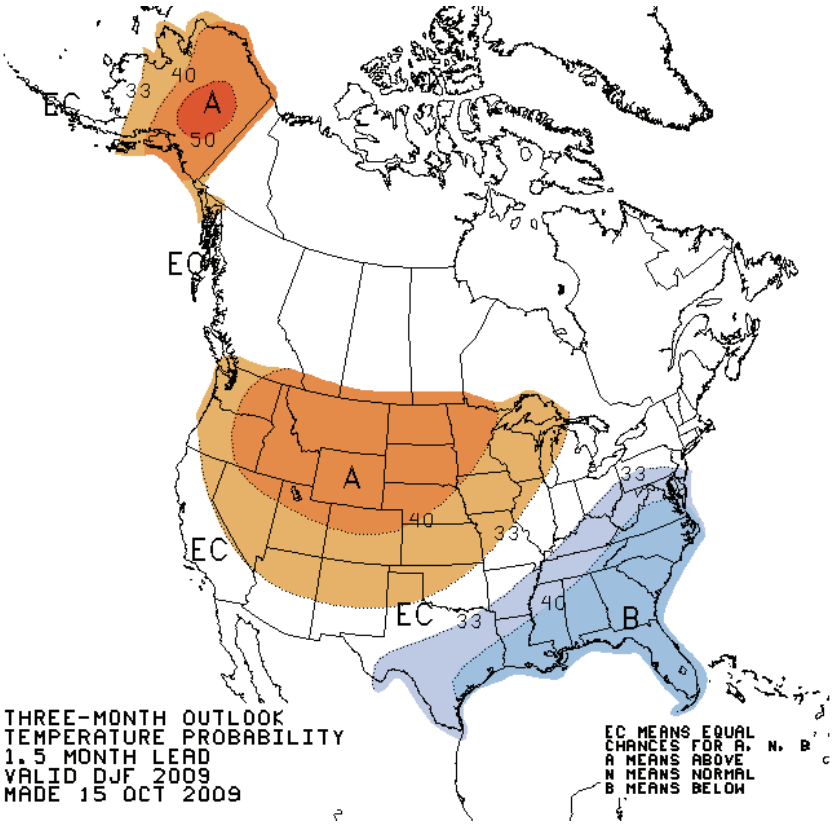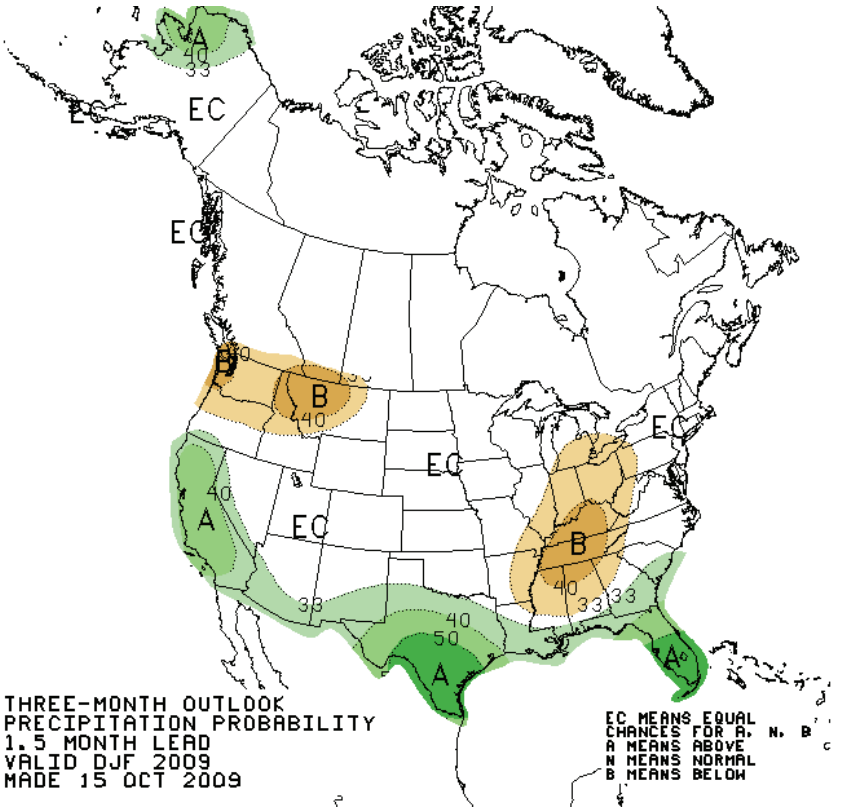
December, January, February Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks From the Climate Prediction Center