

The National Cooperative Observer Newsletter



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EASTERN REGION

SOUTHERN REGION

CENTRAL REGION



WESTERN REGION

ALASKA REGION

PACIFIC REGION

noaa NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

ABOUT THE COVER: WASATCH MOUNTAINS SCENERY. The Wasatch Mountains looking south from the top of Big Mountains, Utah. U.S. Department of the Interior, October 28, 1986. (Bureau of Reclamation photo by W.L. Rusho).



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 11, 1989

Dear Mr. Stewart:

I am pleased to commend you for your 72 years of continuous service as a member of the Cooperative Weather Observer network of the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The daily weather readings reported by you and thousands of other volunteers since 1890 have created a scientific benchmark of climate data that is unique in the world. The national weather record that you help to compile is not only important for the day-to-day work of our National Weather Service but also provides valuable input for global climate studies.

Your dedicated performance with the volunteer weather observers is a shining example, and I thank you for a job well done.

Barbara joins me in sending our best wishes for a happy Holiday Season.

Sincerely,

Mr. Earl Stewart
Post Office box 474
Cottage Grove, Oregon 97424



WESTERN REGION



Earl Stewart, cooperative observer, Cottage Grove, OR, received a letter from President George Bush congratulating him on 72 years of continuous weather service at a special ceremony at the Eugene, OR, Weather Service Office. Mr. Stewart also received the Edward H. Stoll and the Helmut E. Landsberg awards at the ceremony.

In his letter to Stewart, President Bush said, "The national weather record that you help to compile is not only important for the day-to-day work of our National Weather Service but also provides valuable input for global climate studies."

George Miller, Oregon NWS area manager, who presided at the ceremony honoring Mr. Stewart, said, "The value of climatological data for this length of time at one location is immeasurable."

Photo (left to right): Marv Shogren, Meteorologist in Charge, WSO Eugene; Earl Stewart; and George Miller.



The John Campanius Holm award was presented to Professor Robert J. Renard by CPM Rick Orres. The presentation was made at the annual meeting of the Monterey Bay, CA, Area Water Users Committee which Professor Renard chairs. In the more than 25 years that Professor Renard has been a cooperative observer, he has not missed an observation.



John Rufener and the Rufener family, Grizzly, OR, received the Edward H. Stoll award for 50 years of volunteer weather observations. The award was presented on behalf of the National Weather Service by George Miller, area manager for Oregon.

George Rufener, John's father, began taking daily precipitation observations in 1939. In 1945 daily temperatures were added. These observations continue to this day. Family members tell how George Rufener set the tone for future generations with a strong dedication to the daily weather observation.

"It was a religious thing for him," says Betty Fretheim, John's sister. "We can look back through the records he kept and see how the weather was affecting the cattle."

Joanne Keerins, another of John's sisters, adds, "We always had to note when the lilac bush budded out and when it put out its first flowers."

Photo (left to right): JoAnne Rufener Keerins, Scott, Sam, and Dan; (back row): Rufener, George Miller, John Rufener, and Betty Rufener Fretheim.

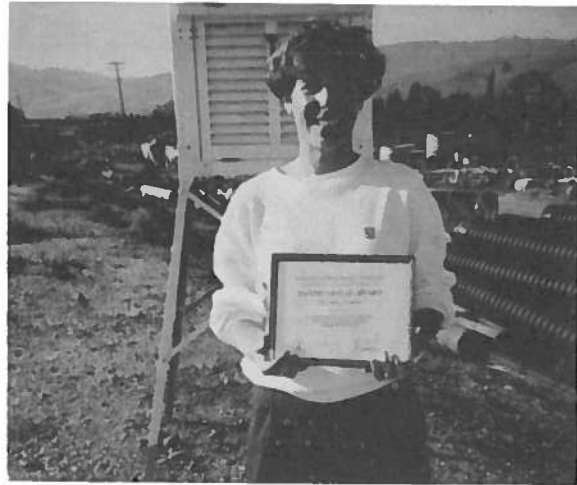


Oscar Semadani, Cedar Point, UT, was presented a 40-year length-of-service award. As a dryland farmer, Oscar is dependent on the weather for his main crops of pinto beans and wheat. He received the Holm award in 1979.

WESTERN REGION



Gussie B. Richards, Ridgeway, MT, was presented a 35-year length-of-service award.



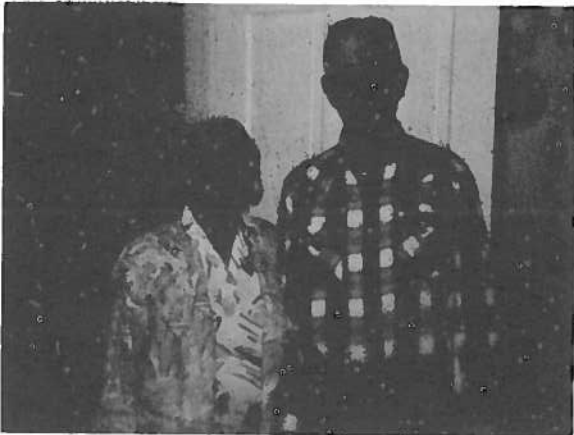
Susan Barrett accepted a 25-year Institutional Award on behalf of the City of Hollister, CA, Water Department.



Myron Sutton (left), accepted a 30-year length-of-service award from William Alder, area manager for Utah. Mr. Sutton has been the official weather observer at Grantsville, UT, since 1976, and at the Saltair Salt Plant from 1956 to 1973.



Captain Clarence Nunes, pictured, accepted a 25-year Institutional Award on behalf of the Marin County, CA, Fire Department. Leland Miller has taken the weather observations for the past several years.



Charlie and Grace Meyers were presented a 25-year length-of-service award. The Meyers are weather observers at their ranch 13 miles east of Judith Gap, MT. Along with this milestone, the Meyers also marked the 100th anniversary of their family ranch. Their ranch began the same year Montana became a state!

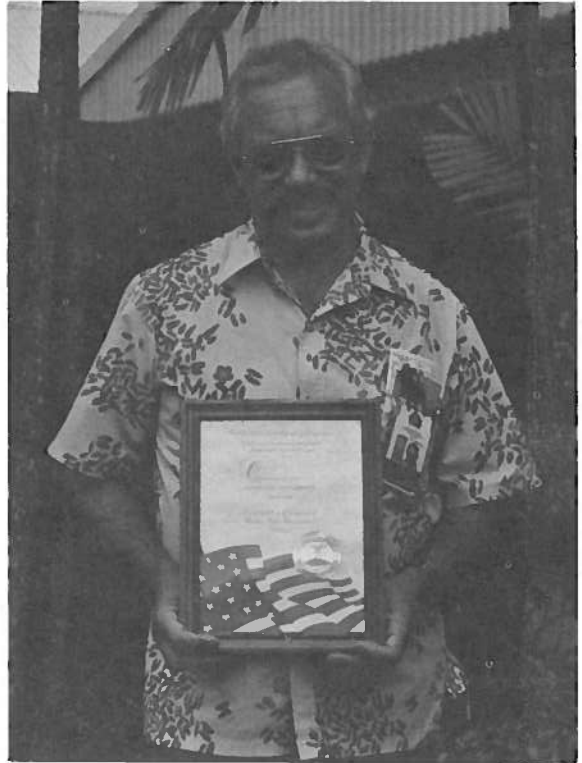


The Nooksack Salmon Hatchery, WA, was presented an Institutional 25-year length-of-service award by CPM Earl Pickering. Shown (left to right) are staff members Ken Gates, Bruce Wade, Colleen Howard, and Superintendent Bob Molony.

PACIFIC REGION



A 25-year Institutional Award was presented to the Kaupo Rancho Company, Island of Maui, for station Panileihulu. Leighton Beck, Ranch Foreman, accepted the award in behalf of the ranch.



George Salazar received a 10-year Individual Award for recording rainfall data at his home (station Pahoa School Site), Island of Hawaii.



A 25-year Institutional Award was presented to the State Division of Forestry, Island of Maui, for station Polipolis Spring. Forester, Glen Shishido, accepted the award in behalf of the Division.



A Special Service Award was presented to Robert Puu, Jr. recently retired from East Maui Irrigation Company, Island of Maui. He was employed with the company for 30 years at the Keanae Division and recorded rainfall records for that section as the supervisor of the Keanae Division.

EASTERN REGION



In recognition of her long and outstanding record, **Marguerite S. Wilson**, observer, **Thurston, NY**, was presented the **Edward H. Stoll Award** and a **50-year length-of-service pin** by **Steve Letro**, MIC, WSO, **Binghamton, NY**. The award was named for the **Elwood, NE** farmer who was a cooperative observer for more than **70 years**.

In 1986, **Mrs. Wilson** received the **John Campanius Holm Award** for her long period of outstanding accomplishment in the field of meteorological observations.

Among the attendees at the presentation were: **Thomas Econoupoly**, Hydrologist, WSO, **Binghamton, NY**; **Michael Sprague**, Director of Emergency Management Office, County of **Steuben, Bath, NY**; and **Ray West**, Cooperative Program Manager, **WSFO, Albany, NY**, who made the arrangements.

Photo left to right: **Steve Letro** and **Marguerite Wilson**. Photo by **Ray West**.



Jean L. Lamouret, observer, **Cherry Valley 2 NNE, NY**, was presented a **40-year length-of-service award** by **Ray West**. Photo left to right: **Ray West**, **Jean L. Lamouret**.



David Chappell, Dam Tender, accepted a **50-year Institutional Award** on behalf of the **Pittsburg Reservoir, NH**. Presentation was made by **Tom Hawley**, Hydrologist, **Portland, ME**. (Left to right): **Tom Hawley** and **David Chappell**. Photo by **James Donahue, CPM/PWM**.



A **50-year Institutional Award** was presented to the **Ohio Department of Transportation, Woodsfield Highway Department, Woodsfield, OH**. Accepting the award are **Harold Scott** (right) and **Fred Wittenbrook** (left). Presentation was made by **Michael Wyatt**, Cooperative Program Manager, **Columbus, OH**. Photo by **Michael Wyatt**.



Eugene Young, observer, **Apollo 2 W, PA**, was presented a **40-year length-of-service award**. Presentation and photo were made by **Donald Wolfe**, Cooperative Program Manager, **Pittsburgh, PA**.