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NOAA news

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Secretaries' Day Theme: Automation

"The Office of the 80's" is the focus for NOAA's fourth annual observance of National Secretaries' Week. The federal women's program again has planned a one-day training seminar and luncheon at the Holiday Inn, 8120 Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, Md., on Thursday, April 23.

Following registration at 8 a.m., the morning program will look at the changing, automated office of the 80's. This theme will be continued in the luncheon address by Sharon Stromberg, director of office systems center, office of personnel management, entitled "Tomorrow Just Arrived Yesterday!" It will be followed by surprise entertainment entitled "7:30 to 4:00 at NOAA," provided by the NOAA "Shining Stars." During the afternoon, participants may choose one of the following workshops: networking and mentoring, team building, verbal and non-verbal communication.

While the program is targeted for secretaries and clerical personnel, it should interest managers and supervisors as well, since it deals with the impact of auto- (Continued on p. 4)



Agreement reached—James P. Walsh, NOAA Acting administrator, left, and AEWK Chairman Eugene Brower, center, sign a cooperative agreement to manage bowhead whales. Marie Adams, AEWK executive director, right, and AEWK delegates, background, look on.

Eskimos And NOAA To Manage Whale Hunts

Seven delegates from the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission (AEWC) were all smiles March 26.

The AEWK and NOAA had reached a cooperative agreement on the managing of the 1981 and 1982 bowhead whale hunts. AEWK chairman Eugene Brower and Acting NOAA Administrator James P. Walsh signed the accord at a ceremony in the office of Alaska Senator Ted Stevens.

Stevens termed the agreement "the first step towards a resolution of four long years of problems between the Eskimo community and the United States

government."

On signing the agreement, Walsh said: "This agreement marks the beginning of a new relationship between the government and the Eskimo. It will eliminate the strife and conflict that has taken place during the past and encourage cooperation to conserve the bowhead whale population."

The agreement summarizes the essence of the accord and outlines a management plan. The plan also calls for the protection of the bowhead whales' "fragile environment."

Brower called the agreement "a major step," noting "It is the first time a small community of natives has finally come to terms with the government." Marie Adams, AEWK executive director, added that the negotiations "took alot of work and understanding on both sides."

The quota of 17 whales landed per year set at the International Whaling Conference last July will not change.

The Juneau NMFS office will help the Eskimos manage the bowhead stock.

—Heidi Daniel

M & B Employees of the Year: Samuel, Chakalis, And Slaughter

Three management and budget employees—Hasker B. Samuel, Jr. of Personnel, John J. Chakalis of Management and Computer systems, and Valerie Slaughter of the Northwest Administrative Service office in Seattle—have been honored as M&B employees of the year.

The three were feted at a luncheon in their honor on March 26.

Samuel, chief of the headquar-

ters branch, Office of Personnel, was recognized for his leadership qualities and community service. Chakalis, a computer specialist in ADP management and planning division won recognition for his role in improving computer systems in Anchorage and Suitland. Slaughter, a paraprofessional administrative specialist, was selected for redesigning the budget and expenditures system in her area of responsibility.



Employees honored—M & B Assistant Administrator Samuel Lawrence, third from left, presents M & B employee of the year awards to, from left to right, John J. Chakalis, Mrs. Chakalis, Valerie Slaughter, Mrs. Samuel, and Mrs. Hasker B. Samuel Jr.

LETTER FROM THE LABS

By Richard Newell

3-D Slide Show—The spectators peered at the screen through special glasses with cardboard frames and colored plastic filters—one red and one green. It wasn't an old 3-D movie that they were watching. The roomful of scientists, from Boulder's NOAA and NCAR laboratories, were viewing the latest thing in cloud pictures: three-dimensional images from NOAA's Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites (GOES).

They were there to learn how stereo observations are being used to make highly accurate cloud height measurements. The speaker, NASA's Fritz Hasler, explained that stereo promises to bring a big improvement over the use of satellite infrared temperatures in estimating cloud heights. Absolute accuracies of one-half kilometer are being achieved.

A Quantum Jump—Present stereo coverage, derived from specially-scheduled simultaneous photos from the GOES East (70 degrees West) and GOES West (135 degrees West) satellites, includes large areas of North and South America and the surrounding oceans. Stereo measurements, presently available only during daytime hours, were

used to determine the heights of deep convective clouds near the eye of Hurricane Frederic in September 1979. Stereo observations in the rapid scan mode (three-minute intervals) were made of tornado-producing thunderstorms over Oklahoma during the preceding spring.

Dr. Hasler explained that stereo data can also be used to determine heights of upper-air winds ("They represent a quantum jump in the ability to assign heights to winds estimated from cloud motions."), and to compute cloud growth rates (indicators of thunderstorm intensity).

Hasler stressed the need for routine simultaneous GOES observations and greater use of rapid-scan. This would not only be a boon to researchers, but would also lay the groundwork for operational use of this new and powerful weather analysis tool.

From The Ground Up—A great deal is also being learned about the dynamics of convective storms from ground-based observations. NOAA scientists of the Office of Weather Research and Modification (OWRM) are working with other agencies to fill in a large gap in ground-based

weather research: the study of the relationship between convective precipitation and the convergence of moist surface air. This research, using data collected during NOAA's Florida Area Cumulus Experiment (PACE) in 1975, follows up on an earlier PACE study indicating a firm link between small-scale wind convergence and rainfall.

The scientists find that major rain events within a square region measuring about 40 kilometers (25 miles) on a side are consistently related to wind measurements taken at stations spaced up to 20 kilometers apart along the perimeter. Furthermore, the time interval between initial convergence and the appearance of clouds seems to be a good predictor of cloud size and duration, as well as total rainfall.

According to OWRM's Andrew I. Watson and Ronald Holle, these and other important findings applying to south Florida's stationary or slow-moving thunderstorms are being tested on data for faster-moving thunderstorms, collected in Illinois in 1979. "We are now moving into what we hope is the payoff stage in this rainfall research," Holle said.

Ocean Unit Pioneered In Seattle

The Seattle Ocean Services Unit (SOSU) became the first operational unit of its kind in the National Weather Service during ceremonies conducted in Seattle, Wash., by Hazen H. Bedke, director, National Weather Service western region.

Admiral Charles Townsend, director, Pacific Marine center was the principal speaker at the gathering attended by more than 50 people from the local maritime community. Admiral Emory D. Stanley, secretary, Sea Use council and Dr. Arthur Hull, MIC Seattle Forecast office were also present.

Admiral Townsend praised the unit for its efforts to provide timely information to NOAA vessels on operations in the North Pacific and to other maritime activities. He noted that the NOAA Corps' interest in the development of the unit's capability is demonstrated by the several Corps officers assigned to the staff. Townsend predicted an increasing demand for the unit's services as public becomes more aware of its activities.

NOAA Participates In Successful 4th Annual Career Awareness Fair

The Fourth Annual Career Awareness fair was "the most successful" ever, according to Patricia Carter, an NMFS representative, who helped staff NOAA's booth at the fair.

The aim of the fair, attended by about 11,000 junior high and high school students, is to provide role models representing non-traditional and traditional careers. The two-day event, March 17 and 18, was held at the D.C. Armory. The Office for Civil Rights planned and organized the NOAA booth. Carter said students asked more questions at this fair than in previous ones and more handouts were available to them.

The NOAA exhibit was part of the marine science cluster, one of 15 categories representing such fields as business, construction, health, and manufacturing.

James Robinson, an oceanographer with NOS, was one of the NOAA role models. "I had very little guidance counseling while in high school and college," he said. He volunteered to answer questions about preparatory courses for a career in oceanography. He suggests interested students take a computer course in addition to basic English and math. "Role modeling is very important," Robinson believes.

Catholic and Montgomery County, Md., schools were invited to the fair for the first time this year, but it continues to focus on minority D.C. youths. Carter said "exposing minority youth to this is important because they don't get this sort of thing in the regular curriculum." Barbara Loretz, NOS, said "the fair is the only one of its kind in the U.S."



Role Model—Benjamin W. Watkins, Ness, left, discusses careers at NOAA with a student.

The fair is sponsored by the Prometheans, Inc., and the D.C. Public School system. The Prometheans was established by a

group of "Black Buffalo" division veterans stationed at Howard University during World War II.

—Heidi Daniel

Fellow Hard Workers Contest Winners Announced

Nominations for the fellow hard workers contest have been entered and judged and 12 NOAA employees have been declared winners.

The contest, sponsored by a group of NOAA staffers, honors fellow employees who, on their own initiative, "go the extra mile."

The winners, who received a 1½" metal button reading "we are here to help," represented many areas of NOAA. Robert Ransom, a janitor at the NMFS lab in Woods Hole, Mass., was nominated by fellow workers for his conscientious dedication to the lab. "He was voluntarily coming to work at 6:30 in the morning to clean and set up meeting rooms that had to be prepared for 8:00 use and often worked late to prepare and to cover the additional burden placed on him."

Two other NMFS employees were also recognized, Barbara A. Watkins and Bernadette Anderson.

Watkins, a procurement clerk at the Southwest Fisheries center's La Jolla laboratory, was described as "the personification of the 'hard worker' in either government or private industry. She consistently demonstrates that 'going the extra mile' is her routine."

Anderson's co-workers at NMFS' Office of Policy and Planning said "she wastes little time and is selfless in her willingness to work through her lunch break or beyond her regular departure

time in order to finish an important project."

NESS employees were enthusiastic in their praise of Howie Sparks' work as contract monitor for the GOES-D software and computer system. "He has done it all! Done some himself; helped others; installed hardware; given seminars; trained many; worked night and day; handled people's fears of not making it; and in the end—he made it!"

and help with the small details, they said.

Daniel Hoydysh is known as "Mr. Hustle" around the Office of Coastal Zone Management. "No distance is too far to travel, no inconveniences too much to put up with and no obstacle too tough for Dan to overcome in his full-time effort to deliver the goods to the client."

ERL wrote this about Dr. Bob Weber: "He does twice the dis-

"has managed to run day-to-day operations of the OMPA northeast office while taking on the additional burden of writing a chapter and editing other chapters of the MESA New York Bight Monograph Series."

Jacqueline Jordan is both program support assistant and EEO counselor in the executive office of OA. Her co-workers said that "other NOAA elements frequently call on her as an OAS representative for handling ticket sales, special luncheons, and other events."

William L. Johnson, AFOS senior electronic technician at NWS Topeka, Kans., was cited for energetic dedication to his work.

The NWS also nominated 41-year veteran Robert J. Schmidli. As a supervising meteorological technician at WSFO in Phoenix, Ariz., he "is solely responsible for crediting the Phoenix observation program as being No. 1 in the nation in 1979 and will probably achieve that distinction again in 1980." His co-workers said Schmidli "devotes so much of his time to his job that he loses annual leave virtually every year."

Perhaps Schmidli best epitomizes the attitude of all the button winners. His philosophy is "a person who enjoys his work is on vacation 365 days a year."

Fellow workers presented winners with their buttons at special ceremonies across the country.

—Heidi Daniel



Super Exec. Sec.—Stetson Tinkham is presented with his hard workers button by, from left to right, Glinda Allen, Bonnie Wine, Helen Gibson, Diane Smith, and Miriam Innocenti.

Director Stetson Tinkham, executive secretariat, was nominated by staffers who wrote, "Where can you find a boss who'll re-type a letter, or type a travel order for another office!!" They admire a boss who's "never content to sit behind his desk and delegate." No task is beneath him and he's always willing to pitch in

and help with the small details, they noted, Dr. Joel O'Connor

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First Graduates—Financial Management class participants were, front row, left to right, Diane L. Thrift, Jacqueline J. Jordan, Phylistine Bullock, Dorothy Brown, Lucille M. Sprigg, back row, John Buchko, instructor, Frank Williams, Norman A. Fritz, Lynn Davenport, Richard C. Ahlberg, Harold A. Coraine, and Aleza Smith, Jr. Not present, Byron Daugherty, Evelyn M. Lohr, Michael C. Myer, Diane G. Smith, Beverly A. Young, and Linda C. Fenlon.

Training

Popular New Course Will Be Repeated

A new course was offered February 17 through March 19 for NOAA employees on "Financial Management for Non-Financial Managers." Because more than 100 persons applied for the course, additional classes are planned. John Buchko, Office of Program Evaluation and Budget, is the instructor. He also teaches evening courses at the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Graduate school.

Cmdr. Phillip C. Johnson of Oraibi, Ariz., has been appointed deputy director of the National Geodetic Survey.

As deputy, Johnson will help the director supervise approximately 400 personnel in Rockville and Gaithersburg, Md., Corbin, Va., Ukiah, Calif., Anchorage, Alaska, and in field parties conducting geodetic surveys throughout the United States.

Johnson's most recent assignment was executive officer on the NOAA ship *Oceanographer*. He joined the NOAA Corps in 1963.

Donald H. Elliott of Virginia Beach, Va., an electronics engineer has been selected as the NOS Outstanding Employee of the Year. He has worked for NOAA's Atlantic Marine Center, Norfolk, Va., since 1970. Rear Adm. H.R. Lippold said, "No matter what the task or assignment, Mr. Elliott supplies the ultimate effort to complete it efficiently and effectively." Lippold further commended Elliott for developing the procedures that have "greatly improved the data collection of the National Ocean Survey."

Melvin W. Pettit, mechanical engineer with the National Weather Service Regional Headquarters in Fort Worth, Tx., was recently awarded a certificate of recognition and a cash award of \$1365 for the air conditioning system he redesigned for the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Fla. The system will be cheaper to operate and require less maintenance.



Melvin W. Pettit

Pettit completely redesigned the system and, through his efforts, a bid of \$107,600 was obtained resulting in a savings of \$260,800 to the government.

Dr. Edward S. Epstein has been appointed director of the Environmental Sciences laboratory of the National Earth Satellite Service.

Dr. Epstein has directed the National Climate Program Office within the Department of Commerce since 1978, and prior to that was Associate Administrator of NOAA for Environmental Monitoring and Prediction.

Secretaries' Day: Automation Focus

(Continued from p. 1)

mation on both clerical and executive employees. A training form is required for all-day participants. The luncheon, starting at 11:30 a.m., may be attended separately by purchasing a \$9 ticket. For additional information, contact Ellen Overton on 443-8725.

Tickets may be purchased in your building or department by contacting:

Donna Henderson, Commerce, 377-4634; Brenda Rupli, Rockwall (A), 443-8247; Sally Cauchon, Page 1, 653-7695; Maggie Horne, Page 2, (F) 634-7466; Joan Bozzonetti, NBOC-1, 443-8666; Mildred Corbin, NBOC-2, 443-8233; Hazel Wallace, Riverdale, 436-6969; Joan Cornish, WSC-5, 443-8977; Katherine Clements, Energy Bldg., 443-8704; Charna Lester, Gramax, 427-8090; Kay Roberts, WSC-1, 443-8663; Virginia Connolly, Rockwall (OA/NOS), 443-8147; Meriam Washington, WSC-4, 443-8397; Marsha Short, Page 2 (OA/EDIS), 634-7324; Nancy Reglein, FB/4, 763-7585, and Mary Hughes, WWB, 763-8282.

Fees Abolished

The General Services Administration has informed NOAA to stop collecting fees and charging for parking. No decision has been made regarding past fees collected and all other aspects of parking (i.e., assignment of parking spaces, etc.) policies are still effective. If further information is needed contact Esther Edwards, MB/A042, on 443-8350.

Many times requests for nominations for awards are made with short submission deadlines. In order to prepare supervisors and managers to respond to these requests the office of personnel periodically publishes a list of awards. Nominations for these awards will be requested when the office of personnel receives the announcement.

The following awards will probably be announced during March and April.

Justice Tom C. Clark Award—to recognize career federal lawyers who have performed outstanding work in the U.S. Government.
Rockefeller Public Service Award—to recognize outstanding public service by civilians in executive branch of the federal Government.

Joseph C. Wilson Award—for achievement and promise in international affairs.

Outstanding Handicapped Federal Employees of the Year—to recognize and publicize individual achievements to increase awareness of the contributions being made by the handicapped and thereby focus attention on opportunities for the handicapped in Federal service.

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