

November 5, 1990

## NOAA Employees, Offices Awarded Gold & Silver Medals

Commerce Department Gold and Silver Medals have been awarded to 12 NOAA employees and two NOAA offices for outstanding service.

Gold Medals, the highest award given Commerce employees for rare and distinguished contributions of major significance to the Department, the Nation, or the world, went to:

**Thomas R. Karl**, NOAA's National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service, Asheville, N.C., for significant contributions and leadership in documenting, detecting and understanding global climate change.

**James R. Mahoney**, NOAA's Office of the Chief Scientist, Washington, for extraordinary contributions and leadership in making the National Acid Precipitation Assessment Program a model effort for other federal agencies involved in environmental issues, including greenhouse gases and global warming.

### Dr. Sylvia Earle Named NOAA Chief Scientist

Dr. Sylvia A. Earle, noted marine botanist and biologist, and co-founder and president of Deep Ocean Engineering Inc., of San Leandro, Calif., has been named NOAA Chief Scientist.

Nominated by President Bush on May 10, her appoint-

**Richard G. Strauch**, NOAA's Environmental Research Laboratories (ERL), Boulder, Colo., for pioneering research on wind profiling radar that has advanced weather observation technology.

**Dr. Paul E. Smith**, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), La Jolla, Calif., for outstanding contributions in developing sampling methods to quantify efficiently complicated physical and biological processes in the sea.

Silver Medals "for meritorious contributions of unusual value to the Department or the Nation" were awarded to:

**Robert L. Molinari**, ERL, Miami, Fla., for exemplary scientific and organizational leadership in achieving goals of the Subtropical Atlantic Climate Study, one of the earliest NOAA programs to focus on the ocean's role in determining the Earth's climate.

**Eugenia Kalnay**, NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS), Camp Springs, Md., for outstanding research that has

ment was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on Oct. 26.

As NOAA's Chief Scientist she will coordinate its efforts across a wide variety of oceanic and meteorological programs, including global warming and ocean pollution.

Dr. Earle has logged more

*continued on page 2*



Going for the Gold: 12 NOAA employees and two NOAA offices were awarded Gold or Silver Medals for outstanding service last week.

had a profound impact on operational numerical weather forecasting.

**Michael T. Sikorski**, NWS, Silver Spring, Md., for sustained major contributions to the design, development, and implementation of the NOAA Weather Wire which transmits weather watches and warnings quickly to the public and media.

*continued on page 2*

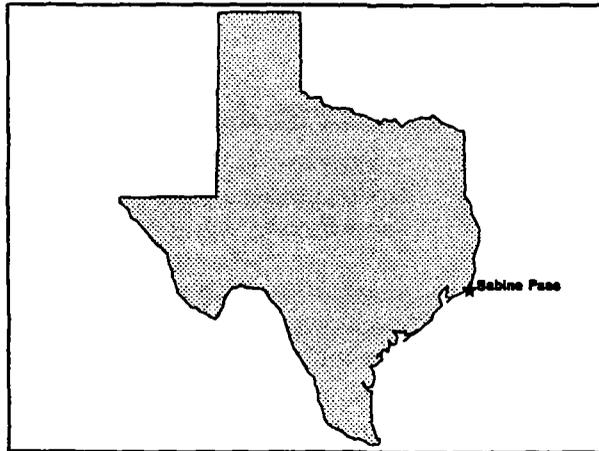
### Coming Events

- National Weather Service Southern Region Area Managers Conference, in Fort Worth, Texas, Nov. 6-9.
- GOES Program Review, in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Nov. 8.
- U.S. Air Force Geophysics Laboratory Advisory Board Meeting, in Boston, Mass., Nov. 13-14.

## NOAA-Operated Satellite System Aids Shrimpers Aboard Burning Vessel

Three crew members aboard a burning fishing vessel off Sabine Pass, Tx., were aided last week by SARSAT, a search and rescue satellite-aided tracking system operated jointly by NOAA and the U.S.S.R.

At about 8 p.m. on Oct. 30, owner and operator Khuong V. Nguyen, Tuan Ngueyen of Beaumont, Tx., and Tuan Nguyen from Bridge City, Tx., were trolling on the wooden 68-foot shrimper *Victory* when it caught fire with five thousand gallons of fuel aboard. The crew turned on an emergency beacon that sent a signal on the 406 mhz frequency received by both the NOAA-9 and a Russian COSPAS polar



Salvation From Above: The crew of a burning Texas fishing vessel were saved when SARSAT picked up their emergency beacon.

orbiting satellites. The satellites retransmitted the signal to personnel at the Coast Guard Operations Center in New Orleans, La. alerting them that a

vessel sixteen and a half miles off Sabine Pass, Tx., was in distress.

Coast Guard personnel at Sabine Pass, Tx., were notified and sent rescuers to the scene. The crew members had boarded another nearby vessel, *La Madonna*, that came to the crew's aid, and eventually reached shore. The *Victory*, which was

stuck in a safety fairway, was towed the next morning, but only after reigniting. To date SARSAT has saved over 1,600 lives. ☉

### Earle Named Chief Scientist

*continued from page 1*

than 5,000 hours of time under water during some 50 expeditions. In 1970 she led the first team of women divers during the trailblazing Tektite Project in the Virgin Islands, and holds a solo dive depth record of 3,000 feet. She has used conventional and saturation diving techniques and the ADS systems JIM, WASP, MANTIS, and DEEP ROVER.

She is also a world-renowned expert on deep sea operations, and has made major contributions to the evolving underwater equipment technology.

Her honors include a Doctorate in Humane Letters from the Monterey Institute of International Studies, and the Los Angeles Times Woman of the Year. ☉

## Divers Draw Big Fine for Looting NOAA Sanctuary

Seven Los Angeles-area scuba divers have been fined \$132,000 for removing historic artifacts from two shipwrecks in the Channel Islands National Park and the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary.

Commerce Department Administrative Law Judge Hugh Dolan assessed penalties in the civil prosecution ranging from \$1,000

to \$100,000. It was the largest archaeological protection case in U.S. history, in numbers of defendants—20—prosecuted successfully at one time on civil and criminal charges.

The cases resulted from undercover investigations by two National Park Service rangers on a charter boat out of Santa Barbara. The defendants looted hundreds of artifacts, including pieces of rigging, and copper plates from the wrecks of the *Winfield Scott*, a gold rush-era vessel wrecked off Anacapa in 1853, and the *Goldenhorn*, which grounded off Santa Rosa Island in 1892. Many of the artifacts have been recovered and turned over to the National Park Service. The court decision concluded a joint enforcement effort between NOAA and the National Park Service. ☉



Crime Doesn't Pay: Looters at the Channel Islands Marine Sactuary were fined \$132,000.

## Early Snow for NOAA Ship off Central American Pacific Coast

A NOAA ship which had been counting porpoises off the Pacific Nicaraguan coast, also came across another find—over a ton of cocaine.

The crew of the *David Starr Jordan* noticed a box floating 100 miles off the Central American coast in mid-October, and after hauling it in, found it contained 25 two-pound packets

of what later proved to be 80 percent pure cocaine. A total of 39 boxes were spotted



Things Go Better With Coke: A NOAA ship found over a ton of cocaine while counting porpoises in the Pacific.

and brought aboard the ship, resulting in a haul of 25 pack-

ets of the narcotic.

*David Starr Jordan* skipper Cdr. Gary Albertson notified the Pacific Marine Center in Seattle, and the *Jordan* was soon met by the Navy ship *Ouellet* and three Coast Guard narcotic specialists, who took the boxes for testing. ☉

## Twenty Named Knauss Fellows

Twenty finalists from a field of 46 nominations have been selected to receive the Dean John A. Knauss Marine Fellowship given by the NOAA-sponsored National Sea Grant Fellows Program. The fellowship, established in 1979 for students in marine, ocean and Great Lakes resources, is named for NOAA Administrator John Knauss. It matches highly qualified graduate students with sponsors in the Legislative or Executive branches of government or Washington-area associations for one-year fellowships. ☉

Please share this copy of NOAA Report with others in your office.

## Commerce Medals Given to 12 NOAA Employees

*continued from page 1*

**Charles M. Fuss, Jr.**, NMFS, St. Petersburg, Fla., for outstanding contributions to the Fisheries Enforcement Program in eliminating major drug smuggling by fishing vessels into the United States.

**Warren T. Dewhurst**, NOAA's National Ocean Service, for his contributions in geodesy, surveying and mapping, particularly research and development of data transformations.

**Donald Max Entrikin**, NOAA's Office of Administration, Kansas City, Mo., for leadership and commitment to excellence in supporting Department of Commerce engineering programs including the

NWS modernization program and the 1990 Census Decennial.

**Glen W. Sampson** and **George N. Clark**, NWS, Salt Lake City, Utah, received a Silver Medal as a group award for the development of a cost-effective, high resolution and real-time satellite imagery display and distribution system for weather service offices.

Employees at the NWS Forecast Office at the U.S. Virgin Islands and the Weather Service Office in Charleston, S.C. received Silver Medals as organizational awards for providing outstanding services to the public during Hurricane Hugo. ☉

# **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

## **ERRATA NOTICE**

One or more conditions of the original document may affect the quality of the image, such as:

Discolored pages

Faded or light ink

Binding intrudes into the text

This has been a co-operative project between the NOAA Central Library and the Climate Database Modernization Program, National Climate Data Center (NCDC). To view the original document, please contact the NOAA Central Library in Silver Spring, MD at (301) 713-2607 x124 or [Library.Reference@noaa.gov](mailto:Library.Reference@noaa.gov)

HOV Services  
Imaging Contractor  
12200 Kiln Court  
Beltsville, MD 20704-1387  
July 23, 2010