U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE / National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

noaa week

Volume 4 Number 13 March 23, 1973

U.S. Department of Commerce
NOAA
National Climatic Center
LIBRARY

Rampaging Elements Keep NWS Forecasters Busy

The winter just ended will be long remembered by the National Weather Service. The nation's capital was practically snowless the entire season long. January had the most tornadoes on record for that month, with 43. The Great Lakes--brimming with an eight-year accumulation of above-normal rainfall--were under continual threat from storm-surge flooding.

Then, the last week of the season, a mammoth storm system appeared that produced, first, a large salvo of tornadoes, then devastating floods and high winds, and finally, heavy snow. It brought big trouble to the entire eastern half of the nation, although few lives were lost.

The huge weather machine came close on the heels of a family of about a dozen tornadoes that killed six people in Texas the week previous. The new storm system began its destruction Tuesday, March 13, with 21 tornadoes. (Texas had 3, Oklahoma 6, Kansas 8, Arkansas 1, Missouri 1, and Illinois 2.) Most of them occurred in areas for which tornado watches had been issued. There were no deaths.

Next came the rain. A broad shield of precipitation spread over much of the South on March 14 through 16. The heaviest downfall occurred in a strip from northeastern Louisiana across northern Mississippi and the breadth of Tennessee to the southwestern tip of Virginia. Preliminary estimates indicated 7 to 10 inches fell over much of this area in three days. Flash-flood watches and warnings came thick and fast. Two of the Weather Service's new automatic flash-flood-warning devices were triggered--one near Spring City, Tenn., at 11:30 p.m. on the 15th, providing two hours' evacuation time; the other near Rosman, N.C., at 6:22 p.m. on the 16th, two and a half hours before flood crest. Local officials were enthusiastic about the warnings.

Although flood alerts undoubtedly saved many lives, there were reports of four casualities, and much property damage. United Press International reported two motorists drowned in Tennessee when their vehicles were washed into swollen rivers. About half of Tennessee was affected by the flooding, with roads blocked by water or mudslides, hundreds of homes and businesses inundated. The mountain resort of Gatlinburg, Tenn., was flooded--again. A hospital was

(Continued on page 6)

Threat To Oyster Industry Overcome By Sea Grant Research

Scientific detective work by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science under a NOAA Sea Grant laid to rest a pink oyster "scare" that threatened the entire Virginia oyster industry with substantial losses, and, as a result, Virginia watermen netted up to half a million dollars they otherwise would have lost.

The Sea Grant program supports a major portion of the marine-related research and advisory services at the Gloucester Point facility.

When a widespread occurrence of pink oysters in the Chesapeake Bay area in late 1970 and early 1971 posed a serious economic threat to the oyster industry of the region, the Shellfish Institute of North America, the Virginia Oyster Packers Association, the University of Maryland's Natural Resources Institute, the Food and Drug Administration, and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science mobilized their personnel in a cooperative effort to discover what effect the coloration had on the oysters.

Investigation by a Sea Grant Advisory Specialist at VIMS revealed that:

--Although the specific organism causing the pink coloration was not identified, the color is believed to result from pigment ingested during feeding.

--The pink color in no way affected the wholesomeness and palatability of the oysters.

--The pigment is destroyed upon heating and therefore the color disappears with cooking. (A heat treatment method developed to degrade the pigment now awaits approval by public health officials.)

Subsequently, armed with the Sea Grant research findings, some processors have been able to convince buyers, including the armed services purchasing agency, to accept shipments of pink oysters.

According to VIMS estimates, convincing the armed services purchasing agency to accept initially rejected pink oysters saved the industry approximately $200,000. In addition, the Institute estimates the value of oysters shipped since the decision to accept pink oysters was made at $300,000. The Institute put its Sea Grant expenditures for the entire project at $2,822.

Gray Whale Count By NMFS Is Highest In Six Years

The 3,304 gray whales counted off the California coast from December 18, 1972, through February 4, 1973, during the annual southward migration, represents the highest total since the National Marine Fisheries Service took over the count six years ago, and a nine percent increase over the six-year mean. The whale count begins each year around mid-December as soon as significant numbers of whales are seen migrating and continues until statistics indicate that most have passed the observation point, and only an occasional straggler is sighted.

It is made at Yankee Point, near Monterey, Calif., under the direction of Dale Rice, Wildlife Biologist at the NMFS Southwest Fisheries Center, La Jolla, Calif. The "whale watch" is made from shore by two observers during the daylight hours of 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., alternating five-hour shifts. The observers use powerful binoculars to count the whales which at times are seen in the surf or which may be several miles offshore. This is the only known indicator of the population of gray whales, which are on the U.S. endangered species list.

Mr. Rice pointed out that while no definitive reasons can be given for the recent increase, there are a number of factors such as weather conditions, visibility, and ocean currents that must be considered each year. He added that the count is in no way an accurate indication of the total gray whale population, but is merely an index of relative abundance.

RUDE and HECK To Survey Mobile Bay

Navigational hazards at ship channels in the Mobile Bay area will be surveyed in April and May by the NOAA Ships RUDE and HECK, the nation's only wire drag vessels. The navigational hazards lie in various depths and include such varied flotsam of the sea as submerged wrecks and unexploded ordnance, as well as fish havens, shoals and reefs.

This will be the first visit to the Mobile Bay area of these unusual ships. They will drag a one-quarter-inch steel wire between them at distances up to two miles to locate underwater obstructions which might pose a danger to shipping. The sister ships will operate from Pascagoula, Miss., and will cover the safety fairways used by ships off the Alabama and Mississippi coasts in entering and leaving Mobile and other ports in the area. The surveys are part of a long-range program in the gulf which began in 1970 to investigate navigational hazards in all safety fairways, including anchorage areas, from Port Isabel, Texas, to Pensacola, Fla. The RUDE and HECK are commanded by Lieutenant Commander Leonard E. Pickens. Each carries a normal complement of 10 men.

NWS Provides Special Services For Albuquerque Balloon Meet

The Weather Service Forecast Office, Albuquerque, N. Mex., provided special services during the international World Hot Air Balloon Festival the week of February 12-17. The WSFO scheduled special early morning pilot balloon flights to provide the 123 participating "motiveless aircraft" crews with details of winds aloft and held numerous planning forecasts and briefings. A move has been started to make the festival an annual event at Albuquerque.

Balloons at Albuquerque

Kieninger Is New AMC Division Chief

Lieutenant Commander Karl W. Kieninger is the new chief of the Processing Division at NOAA's Atlantic Marine Center in Norfolk, Va. Lt. Commander Kieninger has been Commanding Officer of the NOAA Ship FERREL for the past two years. A commissioned officer since 1964, he also served on the EXPLORER, WHITING and RUDE.

Two More Data Buoys Deployed In Gulf

The National Ocean Survey's NOAA Data Buoy Office has advised that in addition to EB-01 (off the Virginia coast), EB-03 (in the Gulf of Alaska), and EB-10 (in the Gulf of Mexico), two more data buoys are now being tested and evaluated. The new buoys are EB-52 (130 miles SSW of Tampa, Fla.), and EB-61 (130 miles WSW of Tampa). Another buoy, EB-32 was deployed within a few miles of EB-10 for the purposes of making engineering tests.

The new buoys EB-52 and EB-61 are much smaller than EB-01, EB-03, and EB-10; thus the meteorological sensor packages aboard are much closer to the water surface. At this time, the newly deployed buoys are limited to measuring air and water temperatures, and pressure and wind at about six feet above sea-level.

'Shorthand' Reference Designed To Log Geomagnetic Activities

Scientists studying the northern lights, sudden disruptions of radio communications in polar regions, certain weather patterns over North America , and a host of other events linked to sun-generated storms in the earth's magnetic field, now have a new "shorthand"reference to geomagnetic activity.

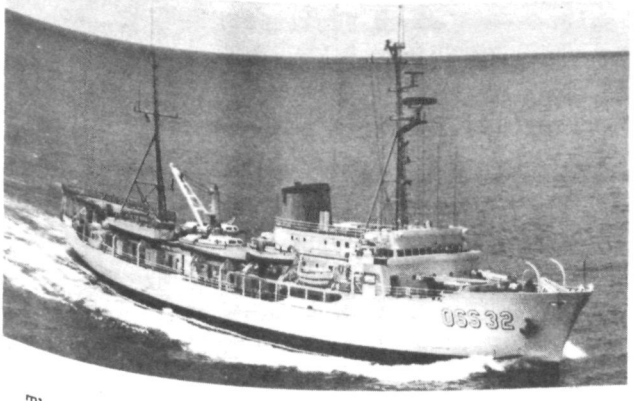
Called the Auroral Electrojet (AE) Index of geomagnetic activity, it was conceived several years ago by T.N. Davis, University of Alaska, and M. Sugiura of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. It is based upon recorded geomagnetic variations at a number of observatories around the auroral zone.

Values of the index for the year 1970 have been recently compiled and published by the Environmental Data Service's National Geophysical and Solar-Terrestrial Data Center.

Geophysicist Joe Haskell Allen, who led the 18-month project, says, "The AE indices give us a key to geomagnetic activity in polar regions that we have not been able to derive from other magnetic index systems. Also, they are quantitative--they can be tied back to the physical processes which produce the magnetic field variations we observe. And we can derive AE values for any given instant or from averaged variations in the magnetic field over selected time intervals."

Magnetic tapes and microfilm copies of the 1970 AE indices are available on request from the World Data Center A for Solar-Terrestrial Physics, Boulder, Colo. 80302.

SURVEYOR Deactivated After 13 Years



SURVEYOR

The NOAA Ship SURVEYOR was deactivated on March 5, 1973. In the 12 years, 10 months and six days after she was commissioned on April 30, 1960, she steamed more than four million miles throughout the Pacific and Arctic Oceans, conducting hydrographic, bathymetric, geophysical,and oceanographic surveys and studies.

In his report to the Director of the Pacific Marine Center, Captain John B. Watkins,Jr.,her last Commanding Officer,stated, "She was a great ship with a fine crew and it was my honor to have been one of the original commissioning crew and unfortunately her last Commanding Officer."

Two New IBM Computer Systems Will Aid NOAA Data Processing

Two new IBM 360/195 computer systems will provide a fivefold increase in the capacity of NOAA's computer complex at Suitland, Md.

The first 360/195 computer system is scheduled for installation at Suitland in September 1973; the second in February 1974.

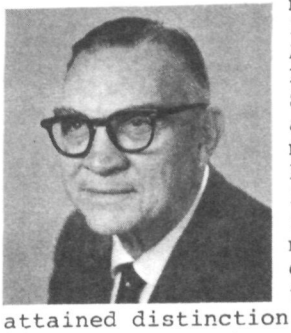
The Suitland computer complex, operated by the Office of Management and Computer Systems, is used to process environmental satellite data, analyze global weather observations and prepare forecasts, process triangulation data gathered for accurate earth measurement, and to model hurricanes mathematically.

The increased computer capacity provided by the dual system is needed to handle the more complex and detailed global weather forecasting models which have been developed by the Weather Service's National Meteorological Center, but cannot be used operationally with the equipment to be replaced by the new system.

The expanded computer capacity afforded by the twin IBM 360/195 systems also is required to process the increased quantity of data from the forthcoming SMS/GOES (Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite) system.

Swanson Honored By Photogrammetry Group

Captain L. W. Swanson, a retired officer of the NOAA Commissioned Corps, has been made an honorary lifetime member of the American Society of Photogrammetry. The Society, which has approximately 7,000 members, limits its honorary members to 18. Persons selected for honorary membership must have rendered distinguished services to the Society or attained distinction in photogrammetry. Capt. Swanson, who managed the worldwide satellite triangulation program before he retired in 1972, was honored for having pioneered color aerial photography, analytic aerial triangulation,and satellite triangulation.



North Is WHITING's Executive Officer

Lieutenant Commander C. Dale North, Jr., is the new Executive Officer of the NOAA Ship WHITING, which is now conducting hydrographic surveys in the Virgin Islands. A commissioned officer since 1966, Lt. Cdr. North had served previously on the WAINWRIGHT, HILGARD, RUDE, HECK, and PEIRCE.

Employment-Financial Constraints

With great reluctance the Administrator has ordered a continued freeze on new hires and promotions until June, 1973. This is one of many actions it is necessary to take in view of the serious problems NOAA faces for the remainder of the fiscal year in attempting to stay within personnel and financial ceilings.

Heads of all Primary Organization Elements also have been instructed to reduce travel to that which is clearly "urgent" and to reduce substantially nonoperational overtime. Supervisory training sessions at field locations are being curtailed where field travel of participants and instructors is required.

Possible Tax Refund

The news media has reported that there is a possibility that Federal employees may be eligible for partial tax refunds for computation years 1969, 1970, and 1971. The possibility arises from a suit filed last July by two Government unions - The National Association of Internal Revenue Employees and the AFL-CIO Letter Carriers - which contends that the seven percent of base pay which Federal workers contribute to the Civil Service Retirement Fund should not be taxed as current income. Taxes, the suit alleges, should be levied only when the contributions are returned to employees in the form of retirement annuities. Should the suit be won by the unions, Government workers apparently would be eligible for rebates.

NOAA employees desiring to file claims for tax refunds relating to retirement deductions should obtain and file Internal Revenue Service Form 843. On this form fill out Item I by stating the amount of rebate claimed as "in excess of $1.00." Item K should be filled by stating: "Taxpayer, a Federal employee, is entitled to exclude his contribution to the U.S. Civil Service retirement and disability fund for the tax year _____. I believe that the IRS position taken under Revenue Ruling 72-250, Internal Revenue Bulletin 1972-21, page 6, is in error." One form should be filed for each year claimed. The form for 1969 must be filed on or before April 15, 1973 to avoid the statute of limitations. IRS prefers that claimants defer filing for 1970 until next year, 1974, and for 1971 until the year after that, 1975.

Should the case settlement provide a basis for an amended return, the NOAA Finance Division will furnish the withholding information required to those employees who have lost or misplaced it.

Federal Women's Program

There are four major organizational segments within the Department of Commerce's Federal Women's Program. The functions performed by each segment are vital to the success of the overall program.

The Federal Women's Program Coordinators are a group of women from the personnel offices of each of the subordinate bureaus in Commerce. They develop and help with the implementation of specific program efforts to provide female employees with greater career development and advancement opportunities. The Coordinators play major roles in calling management's attention to personnel program activity which is considered to be less than fully supportive of the objectives of creating equal employment opportunity for women. In carrying out their duties, the Coordinators work with the various organizational components, managers, supervisors, servicing personnel offices, EEO Officers, EEO Committees, and the Federal Women's Program Committee. The NOAA Federal Women's Program Coordinator is Rosa Hill (see Personnel Perspective, November 3, 1972 issue).

The Federal Women's Program Committee is comprised of women who represent each of the Department's subordinate bureaus. The Committee serves in an advisory and supportive capacity to Federal Women's Program Coordinators on matters significant to all women employees. The specific role of the Committee is to express itself on those issues which are brought to its attention by Coordinators, the Director of Personnel, or individual employees. The NOAA representative is Doris Stewart of the Environmental Data Service, who also serves as chairperson of the EDS EEO Committee.

The operating personnel offices within the Commerce bureaus direct their efforts toward improving the status of female employees and minority groups. Bureau personnel officers insure that the Coordinators play positive roles in furthering objectives of the Federal Women's Program.

Overseeing this entire operation is the Director of EEO at the Departmental level, Mr. Henry B. Turner, who assures that adequate resources are available for the efficient functioning of the Federal Women's Program.

The Federal Women's Program is a key link in the NOAA EEO Program and its success is dependent upon the cooperation and coordination of all levels of management and upon supervisors developing an awareness to female employees who have not realized their full career potential.

The Supervisor in Labor-Mangement Relations

A continuing discussion topic in Government circles is the Federal supervisor's proper function in regard to labor-management relations. In NOAA, as well as throughout the Federal sector, confusion has arisen in the past as to the legality of supervisors belonging to unions, being officers of locals or considering themselves included in bargaining units. Laws, executive orders and regulations governing the supervisor's role in this area have changed swiftly, especially over the past decade. Today, however, Executive Order 11491, which governs Government labor relations activity, clearly defines this role.

In the Executive Order, the term "supervisor" is defined as "an employee having authority, in the interest of an agency, to hire, transfer, suspend, lay off, recall, promote, discharge, assign, reward, or discipline other employees, or responsibly to direct them, or to evaluate their performance, or to adjust their grievances, or effectively to recommend such action...." This definition has been further clarified by the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Labor-Management Relations to include only those employees supervising (in the context of the above description) two (2) or more employees.

With this definition in mind, the Executive Order delineates the rights supervisors enjoy, the restrictions imposed on them and their responsibilities as managers. In the area of rights, supervisors have the right to become members of unions. They may join, pay dues, and attend union local meetings if they so choose. As to restrictions, supervisors may not participate in the management of labor organizations or act as representatives of such organizations. Neither may supervisors be included in units of exclusive recognition. The Executive Order does contain a savings clause, however, protecting recognized units which included supervisors before the order's inception or which historically or traditionally include supervisors. NOAA recognizes several units of maritime employees which include shipboard supervisors under the provisions of this savings clause.

As part of NOAA management, supervisors have certain responsibilities in regard to labor-management relations. NOAA supervisors are responsible for assuring that employees have the right, freely and without fear of reprisal to form, join and assist a labor organization or to refrain from any such activity. Further, supervisors may not encourage or discourage union membership in any fashion. Labor organizations establishing exclusively recognized units are responsible for representing the employees included in those units and are entitled to act for them in all respects. Supervisors with exclusive units of recognition in their purview must consult with representatives of these units at regular intervals and notify them of proposed substantive changes in personnel policies affecting their units. In those units covered by negotiated agreements, provisions are included which provide for regular consultations. Supervisors of units where agreements have not been negotiated must be aware that they also must consult with representatives of their units regularly.

Executive Order 11491 states that the maintenance of constructive and cooperative relationships between labor organizations and management officials is beneficial to both employee well-being and efficient management administration. As management's labor relations representative, the supervisor serves an integral function in developing and continuing meaningful labor-management discourse.

Copies of E.O. 11491 have been distributed to all NOAA offices. Those NOAA elements lacking copies may obtain them from their personnel offices.

Possible Retirement Cost-of-Living Increase

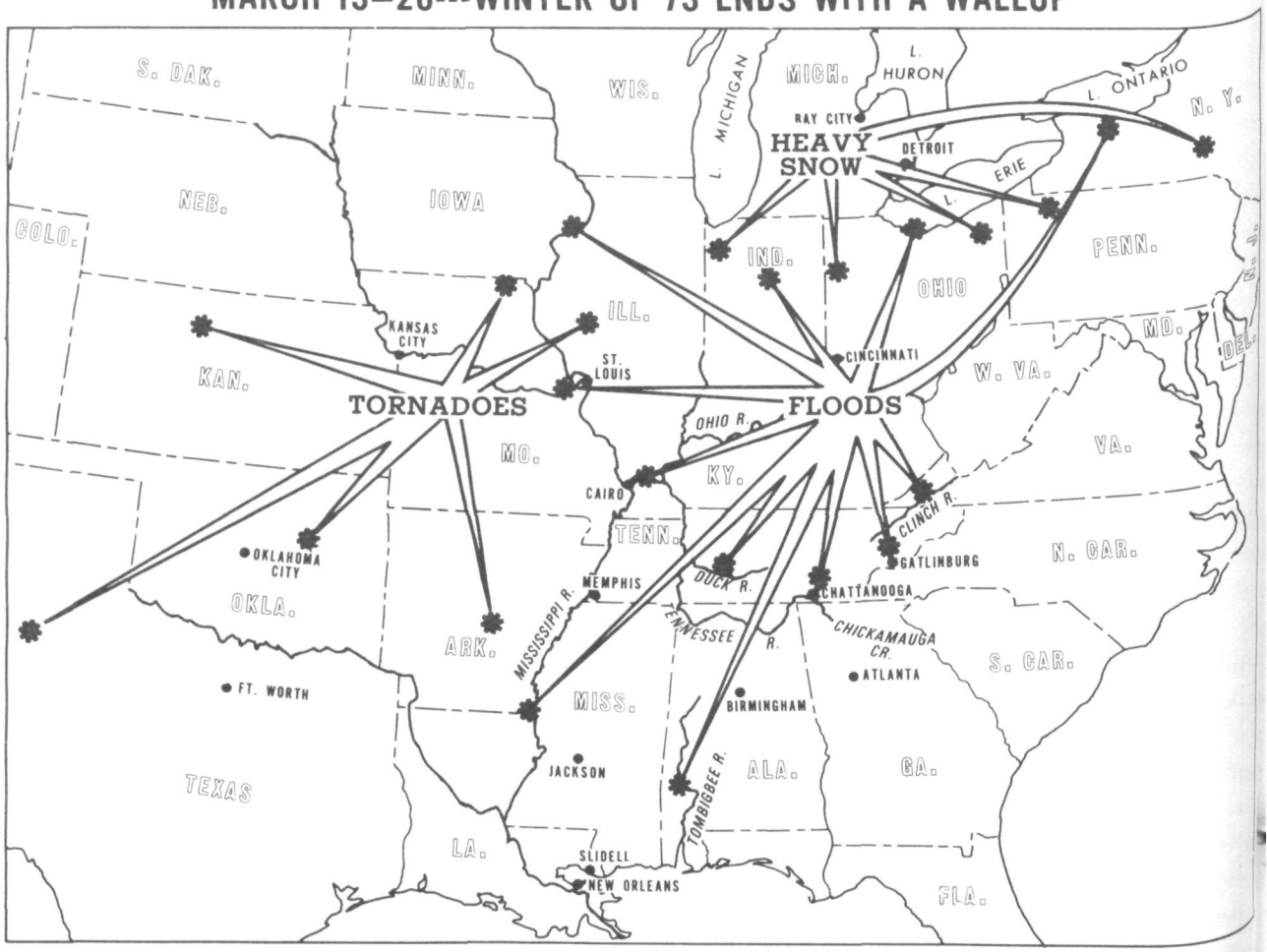
There is a possibility that a cost-of-living increase will be granted to employees retiring on or before June 30, 1973.

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) exceeded the necessary 3 percent factor in February 1973. If it remains at 3 percent or higher in March and April, conditions will be ripe for an annuity increase effective July 1, 1973. In such an event, all retirement checks for the month of July will be increased by at least 4.0 percent. The increase could be higher if the CPI for March or April exceeds February's CPI rise. Information on the final approval and the exact amount of the potential cost-of-living increase should be available on or about May 22, 1973.

Applications for retirement should be submitted to your personnel office at least four weeks before their effective dates.

For planning and staffing purposes, employees who may wish to consider retirement before the June 30 deadline for the cost-of-living increase are encouraged to consult their personnel offices as early as possible.

MARCH 13–20---WINTER OF 73 ENDS WITH A WALLOP



Rampaging Elements (Continued from page 1)

evacuated in Alabama. Two hundred families were forced from their homes in Greenwood, Miss., when a levee broke.

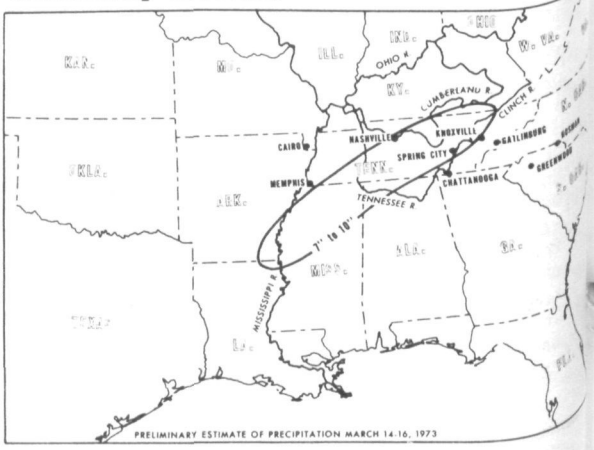
Chattanooga experienced the worst flooding in many decades, with much of the community under water. The municipal airport was inundated and the Weather Service Office closed down for 25 hours until the water abated. Weather offices at Memphis and Knoxville provided backup service. Damage to the city of Chattanooga was estimated at 60 million dollars.

A 900-mile stretch of the Mississippi River--from Minnesota to southern Missouri--was above flood stage on March 19 and 20. The section at Cairo, Ill., was at the highest level in many years. The Weather Service's new River Forecast Center at Slidell, La., was getting a baptism under fire as hydrologists prepared predictions of just when and how much flood water would come rampaging down the river toward New Orleans in days following.

The storm also dealt a blow to the Great Lakes. Gale winds whipped Lake waters--already at record highs in some areas--into shore-eroding waves and localized flooding along southern Lake Michigan, Saginaw Bay on Lake Huron, Lake St. Clair, the Detroit River, Lake Erie and Lake Ontario. Lakeshore warnings by the Weather Service allowed ample time for several thousand people to be evacuated. No lives were lost but damage was heavy in some localities. Storm waters surged a mile inland at Bay City, Mich., and a 50-block area of Detroit was flooded.

Along with the winds came highway-crippling snow--8 to 21 inches of it--in a swath across parts of Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Pennsylvania and New York, accompanied by a flurry of travelers advisories from eastern forecasters.

Shortly after that, on March 20, spring officially arrived.



notes about people...

High school senior Elaine Farrell, who is employed part-time in NOAA's Motion Picture Service, has been selected by the Distributive Education Clubs of America as Maryland's outstanding distributive education student of the year. She plans to use the $100 that accompanied the honor as part of her first year's college tuition.

Captain Robert C. Munson, Associate Director of the Office of Marine Surveys and Maps, has been named to represent the National Ocean Survey on a Working Group being established by the International Hydrographic Organization in Monaco to establish classification criteria for deep ocean soundings. The appointment was made by Rear Admiral Allen L. Powell, NOS Director.

Randolph S. Cross, Administrative Trainee in the Northwest Administrative Service Office (NASO), was presented a NOAA Special Achievement Award in recognition of his contributions to the advancement of equal employment opportunity. Mr. Cross, a Vietnam war era veteran, is the first NASO employee to earn this distinguished award. Presentation was made on March 12 by John M. Patton, Jr., NASO Director, at an all-employee meeting in Seattle, Wash.

Lilli Pauchey

Lilli Pauchey, of Marathon, Fla., has been honored for her contributions to the National Ocean Survey's nautical charting program by being selected as "Miss Cooperative Charting for 1972-73" by the U.S. Power Squadrons of District 8. Miss Pauchey, 16, submitted 75 chart correction reports to NOS for chart revisions as part of the NOS-U.S. Power Squadrons Cooperative Charting Program. Miss Pauchey is a member of the Ladies Auxiliary for the Marathon Power Squadron. Lieutenant H. Jean Pauchey, her father, is the Squadron's Cooperative Charting Chairman.

Length of Service Awards

NOAA Headquarters employees who received Length of Service Awards in February were: 35 years - Maurice SCHAFER, Glen R. MILLER, and Sidney TEWELES, Jr. 30 years - Arthur R. HAMILTON, Julia L. HART, Albert A. POULIN, Jr., Walter T. SITTNER, Priscilla R. O'DOR, Donald M. HANSON, Robert E. BECK, Ruth W. DAVIS, Edna M. LEIMBACH, Horace E. HARDAWAY, Ralph ZINK, Willard A. KUNCIS, Friason G. TRAVIS, Richard R. ROSS, Herman W. FROME, III, Albert FORST, and Lee M. MACE. 25 years - John BUCHKO, Raymond TOMLINSON, William H. JACKSON, Jr., Ruth L. DUNAVANT, Estelle B. YOUNG, Paul E. LEES, Paul E. RUEST, and John L. STRONG. 20 years - Hugh J. DOLAN, Harold V. HOWARD, Irene D. STUBBS, Robert W. HUFF, Ruth M. KNOTT, Albert G. TILLERY, Jean Loreta HYATT, and Ronald P. HILTON.

National Weather Service Eastern Region employees who received Length of Service Awards in February were: 30 years - George A. YOUNT, WSO, Charleston, S.C.; Ab Edward LAY, WSMO, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Thomas G. WEAVER, WSFO, Raleigh, N.C.; Lawrence W. ALTIMAR WSFO, Boston, Mass.; Harold C. LONG, AWP, Boston, Mass.; Lawrence F. WINDT, WSFO, Raleigh, N.C.; Edward MIECHOWICZ, WSFO, Buffalo, N.Y.; Jack H. NORMAN, WSO, Roanoke, Va.; Wilmer E. COLE, WSFO, Raleigh, N.C.; Thomas J. REDDING, WSO, Worcester, Mass.; and Roy J. VICKERY, WSFO, Albany, N.Y. 25 years - Herbert H. HART, AWP, Norfolk, Va.; Joseph D. PARANZINO, Jr., WSSF, Wallops Island, Va.; Charles R. BISHOP, WSO, Binghamton, N.Y.; and Charles W. KEARNEY, WSO, Greenville-Spartanburg, S.C. 20 years - Earl L. PARKE, WSO, Wilmington, Del.; David W. BISHOP, WSFO, New York, N.Y.; and John L. RAY, WSFO, Columbia, S.C.

National Weather Service Central Region employees who received Length of Service Awards in February were: 35 years - Glenn M. MILLER, NRC, Joliet Illinois; Fred H. SWISHER, WSFO, St. Louis, Missouri. 30 years - William M. HARGIS, WSO, Chicago (Midway), Illinois; Erwin E. JOHN, WSFO, Minneapolis, Minnesota; Claire P. MANCUSO, WSO, Valentine, Nebraska; Daniel P. O'CONNELL, WSO, Chicago (O'Hare), Illinois; Arnold E. SILLER, WSO, Lexington, Kentucky; Ray E. WHITE, WSFO, Indianapolis, Indiana. 25 years - Glen A. EDSON, CRH, Kansas City, Missouri. 20 years - Nels L. DYRDAHL, WSO, Aberdeen, South Dakota; John M.GLIME, WSO, International Falls, Minnesota; Leonard E. PETERSON, WSO, Duluth, Minnesota; Donald E. THOMAS, NSSFC, Kansas City, Missouri; Melvin W. USIMAKI, WSO, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan; Arthur VALDEMAR, WSO, Grand Island, Nebraska.

National Ocean Survey National Geodetic Survey Operations Center employees who received Length of Service Awards in February were: 30 years - Robert A. PRYCE, Party G-48. 25 years - Henry L. INCE, Party G-21.

McARTHUR Detailed To Survey Hood Canal In Washington

A hydrographic survey of southern Hood Canal, Wash., the first detailed survey of these waters since 1885, is being carried out by the National Ocean Survey as part of a program to provide up-to-date navigational information on the location and extent of underwater features in the Puget Sound area. Survey information will be used for nautical charts and scientific studies associated with the prediction and development of the marine environment. The six-week survey, from Hoodsport to Lynch Cove, is being carried out by the NOAA Ship McARTHUR in the southern end of the 50-mile-long canal. The northern areas of the waterway were surveyed in 1969 and 1972. The Seattle-based ship is under the command of Commander George M. Poor.

McARTHUR

NOVAC Meeting Slated For March 28

"Survival in the market place" is the subject of the featured speaker at the NOAA Voluntary Action, Inc., annual meeting to be held March 28. The speaker is Ms. Theressa Clark, Chief of the Consumer Protection Branch of the United Planning Organization. She will discuss wise spending on small ticket items, ways consumers are sometimes "taken" in the market place, and the avenues of complaint and redress available in the Washington metropolitan area. The NOVAC Annual business includes reports of progress on the programs of the organization and election of directors for the coming year. It will be held at the American Legion Hall in Greenbelt, Md., on Greenbelt Road between Beltway Exits 28 and 29. A roast beef dinner will be served at 7 p.m. and the business meeting will start at 8 p.m. Reservations for the dinner may be made with NOVAC building representatives at a cost of $3.50 per person by March 26. The meeting is open to all members and friends of NOVAC.

Admiral C. A. Burmister Dies

Rear Admiral Clarence A. Burmister, who served in the Coast and Geodetic Survey from 1925 to 1956, died February 9 at Santa Barbara, Calif. He was a pioneer in the development and adaptation of electronic positioning techniques to hydrographic surveying. He recieved a Department of Commerce Gold Medal in 1955 in recognition of his work in this field.

Schermerhorn Heads Portland River Forecast Center

Vail P. Schermerhorn has been selected Hydrologist in Charge of the Portland, Oreg River Forecast Center. He succeeds Tony Polos who retired last January.

Mr. Schermerhorn began his Weather Service career in Ellensburg, Wash., in 1940, and served at Seattle and the Kansas City RFC before transferring to Portland in 1950. He was promoted to Principal Assistant in 1952. In 1970 he received a Bronze Medal for his sustained outstanding work in the field of applied hydrology.

Power Squadrons, NOS Confer On Charting

A further improvement in the national cooperative nautical charting program of NOAA's National Ocean Survey and the U.S. Power Squadrons is expected this year in the wake of the recent meeting in Rockville, Md., of representatives of the two groups. Present for the meeting at NOS headquarters were 10 Power Squadron leaders from all sections of the country, including Rear Commander William T. Casey, chairman of the Power Squadrons cooperating charting committee. Representing NOS were: Captain John O. Boyer, Chief, Marine Chart Division; Herman C. Anderson, Chief, Chart Information Branch; and Carl Feldscher Lake Survey Center. The conferees were welcomed by Captain Robert C. Munson, Associate Director, Marine Surveys and Maps. Capt. Boyer noted that in 1972 the Power Squadrons furnished 14,142 corrective items for improving nautical charts, a sizeable gain over 1971.

President Issues Caution On Poisonings

President Nixon has asked all federal agencies to actively participate in program designed to promote protection against accidental poisonings, particularly among the children. According to the President, natural curiosity of children, their limitless ingenuity, their inclination to imitate adults, and their desire to taste whatever can be reached, sometimes may lead them into dangers that are difficult to control by safety measures of any sort, including "childproof" packaging. All of us, therefore, must be constantly alert to the potential hazards of medicines and household products and must exercise every precaution in using and storing such substances.

Items to be considered for publication in NOAA WEEK should be submitted to: Office of Public Affairs, NOAA, Room 221, Bldg. 5, Rockville, Md. 20852. Phone (301) 496-8243.

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

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