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NOAA WEEK

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

Patton Takes New Post



John M. Patton, Jr., formerly Assistant Director for Administration in the National Marine Fisheries Service of NOAA, has been named Special Assistant to the Assistant Administrator for Administration and Technical Services.

For the past three months, Mr. Patton has aided in the transition of administrative work from the former Bureau of Commercial Fisheries' organization to the NOAA Administrative Divisions. With the organizational transfer of the NMFS Finance Division to the NOAA level, the functions formerly supervised by Mr. Patton are now all part of NOAA's Office of Administration and Technical Services.

Prior to joining the National Marine Fisheries Service, he was Director, Budget and Finance for the Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Saipan, Marianas Islands. He had five years of budget and contract administration experience with private industry in the research and development and production of Polaris and Minuteman missile motors. Except for the past 4½ years in Washington, D.C., Mr. Patton's 30 years of federal service has been in the west with the Bureau of Reclamation. His positions included Finance Officer for the Columbia Basin Project, and Regional Administrative Officer, Salt Lake City. A native of Texas, he has served in Texas, California, Montana, Washington, Utah, Maryland, and the District of Columbia in administrative positions.

Weather Radar Dedicated

A new National Weather Service radar facility was dedicated at Centreville (Bibb County), Ala., Dec. 9. The Bibb County facility is one of a number of new types which are devoted entirely to weather measurements, such as detecting and tracking storms and precipitation areas. The new radar, which has a viewing range of more than 200 miles, can detect and track major storm systems within practically all of Alabama and as far west as Jackson, Mississippi. The facility is not a weather station in the usual sense because it devotes its entire effort to radar observing. It reports by direct wire to other National Weather Service offices in the state which then issue reports and warnings to the news media for dissemination to the using public. The Bibb County site was chosen because of its strategic location with respect to freedom from obstructions to the radar beam, and because it fits into a national network of well-spaced radar stations to provide complete coverage. Present plans are to expand the facility to include twice-daily balloon soundings of pressure, temperature, and humidity levels from the surface to more than 70,000 feet. Heading the radar station is Dale A. Black. Other staff members are Clayton E. Benjamin, Aubert D. Eubanks, Charles E. Gregory, Marion B. Gregory, and Paul W. Oliver.

Keller Named to JOIDES Panel

Dr. George H. Keller, Director of the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories' Marine Geology and Geophysics Laboratory, has been appointed to the Joint Oceanographic Institutions for Deep Earth Sampling Advisory Panel on Sedimentary Petrology and Physical Properties.

NMFS Laboratory Examines Effects of Gulf Dredging

The National Marine Fisheries Service's Biological Laboratory at St. Petersburg Beach, Fla., has been awarded an Army Corps of Engineers contract to study biological effects of dredging in the Gulf of Mexico.

R. T. Whiteleather, regional director, said the study will cover a nine-mile stretch of coast, extending 1,500 feet from the beach. James E. Sykes, laboratory director, said the first phase of the study will document the resources of the area, and is expected to be completed in about two years. In this phase, scientists will obtain baseline data on sediments, hydrology, and fisheries in the area, composition and value of pier sport fisheries, currents and chemistry of nearshore seawater.

This work will provide a guide for preservation of the more productive areas when the Corps of Engineers begins its beach restoration project. Further studies will be undertaken when the dredging and beach restoration work is underway and after completion to determine final effects.

Over the past nine years, the laboratory staff has concentrated on the ecology of estuaries and the effects of hydraulic engineering on marine production. The contract affords an opportunity to study the nearshore or transition zone crossed by larval and juvenile fishes as they enter the estuary, and by maturing forms as they migrate into the Gulf.

AOML Participates in "Classroom on Wheels" Project for High School Science Students

The Environmental Research Laboratories' Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories in Miami will staff an oceanography seminar as part of the Florida Science Study Program's "Classroom on Wheels," a traveling science conference for high school honor science students from 60 schools in six northeastern states. From December 24 through January 2, conference participants will explore the political aspects of ecology and space science as they tour facilities in Orlando, the Everglades, Miami, and the Kennedy Space Center, and attend seminars arranged by Florida legislators, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories, and local universities and state agencies.

Administrative Intern Program Initiated; Applications Being Accepted This Month

NOAA has announced its new Administrative Intern Program for employees in grades GS-5 through GS-7. This program will provide broad introductory training and development experience to selected men and women with a high degree of administration/management potential, who, in future years, may progress to responsible positions and increase the number of trained personnel from which NOAA may select key supervisors and staff officers. This full-year program will include:

- special orientation on NOAA missions and activities;
- selected on-the-job assignments tailored to the intern's interests;
- stimulating seminars to develop new perspective and ideas; and
- NOAA-paid academic courses.

Successful interns will enter GS-7 or GS-9 administrative positions. Employees interested in being one of the interns in 1971 may apply by memo to AD44 by December 30. A brochure covering complete details of the program will be distributed during the coming week. Contact your Personnel Office or the Career Development Branch in NOAA headquarters for additional information.

Lake Survey Center Conducts Seiche Research

The Lake Survey Center is studying the effects of seiches on restricted channels and harbors on the Great Lakes so shippers and recreational boaters will not be trapped by unexpected waves of current. The Center also is studying their effect on shore property to aid in the design of structures suitable to prevent loss or damage due to these sudden changes.

Lippmann Reviews Forms for Climate Record

Harold Lippmann of the Environmental Data Service has coordinated the EDS review of forms for the Climatological Record Book, 1971-1990. This latest issue in a series of volumes dating back to 1871 and maintained at National Weather Service offices for local public service will be distributed automatically to first order stations by the end of January. In response to requests from field offices, the forms have been reduced in size to 8-1/2 x 11 inches.

RUFAS Gives NMFS Scientists a Remote View of Scallop's World



RUFAS

A Remote Underwater Fishery Assessment System (RUFAS), developed by the National Marine Fisheries Service, now permits scientists to take a census of calico scallops. The RUFAS goes to the home of the scallops and counts them. Wilbur Seidel, engineer at the NMFS exploratory fishing and gear research base at Pascagoula, Miss., where RUFAS was developed, described the device as a towed, controllable submersible fitted with an optical system. From a control console on the surface vessel, an operator or pilot can maneuver RUFAS to any position over the seabed by remote control. Electrical motors control maneuvering vanes on the submersible. Acoustic transducers are used to determine its height above the seabed, and to look ahead for uncharted obstructions. Also electrically operated from the console, the optical system consists of dysprosium iodide and sodium arc lights, television, and a 35-millimeter

motion picture camera. A television monitor and video tape recorder, operated at all times, provide a real-time high resolution picture. The motion picture camera comes into play when biological phenomena need to be permanently recorded.

Used in surveys of the calico scallop beds off the east coast of Florida and off North Carolina, the RUFAS has provided commercial fishermen with timely information on availability of the resource, and has also furnished biologists valuable information on growth rates, spawning, and density. Although the RUFAS now in use is not designed for the extreme pressures of deep water, it has been used in surveys as deep as 50 fathoms, Mr. Seidel said. He added that a more sophisticated RUFAS, already on the drawing board, will have both greater depth range and broader "seeing" range, permitting fishery scientists to conduct surveys of other living resources in the oceans, perhaps even to discover some not known as present.

Walter Cited for Survey; Austin Named Party Chief



Lt. Cdr. Austin

Lt. Cdr. Walter

Lt. Cdr. Merritt Walter has been commended for the progress made by the two NOAA ships under his command, the RUDE and HECK, during the recently concluded season of operations. Rear Adm. Don A. Jones, Acting Director, National Ocean Survey, wrote Walter that the "marked improvement in the accomplishment of field work" under his command "can be attributed only to the perseverance, hard work, and professional competence of you, your officers and crew." The two ships conducted wire drag operations in Delaware Bay. They are now based at the Atlantic Marine Center in Norfolk, Va.

Lt. Cdr. Ned C. Austin, Naugatuck, Conn., is the new chief of geodetic field party G-23. The 18-man group is headquartered in Pompano Beach, Fla., conducting triangulation surveys of Palm Beach and Broward Counties.

National Data Centers To Integrate Records

Representatives of the National Climatic Center, the National Oceanographic Data Center, and the National Geophysical Data Center met recently to initiate preliminary steps in the Environmental Data Service's drive toward integration of data inventories and indexes. Previously, each of the Environmental Data Service's data centers maintained separate systems. The goal is an automated integrated system for data reference (ENDEX) covering environmental disciplines within the NOAA purview. This would allow rapid, unified, and comprehensive data search and response to the data user community.

New VHF-FM Weather Broadcast Inaugurated at Portland, Maine

A new National Weather Service VHF-FM radio station was inaugurated in Portland, Me., Nov. 30. The station, transmitting round the clock on 162.50 MHz., is the 29th in the Weather Service's network. The stations play tape-recorded messages of weather observations, forecasts, and special information of local interest, such as sea-state data for mariners. When severe weather or other environmental hazards threaten the transmissions are devoted to emergency warnings and the recorded messages may be interrupted for "live" broadcasts. The station has a nominal range of 40 miles. Reception varies according to receiver sensitivity and antenna location.

ERL Honors Norman, Okla., Radio Station

Radio Station WKY, Norman, Okla., has received a Department of Commerce Certificate of Appreciation from ERL's National Severe Storms Laboratory. The certificate, presented to the station's general manager, Norman Bagwell, by Dr. Edwin Kessler, NSSL Director, and Dwight B. Kline of the ERL Office of Programs, recognizes the station's cooperation in the public interest. Station WKY gave permission for meteorological sensors to be mounted on its 1500-foot television tower, and also allocated space in its transmitter building for housing recording equipment. ERL and other laboratories have used the WKY facility for numerous meteorological experiments.



Left to right: Dr. Kessler, Mr. Bagwell, and Mr. Kline.

Information Seminars Held at Boulder Labs

The second in a series of seminars on information methods, resources, and tools was held recently at the Environmental Research Laboratories, Boulder, Colo. The seminar, attended by 16 employees, was to inform researchers of resources available within libraries, and to teach them to use these resources in a more efficient and effective manner. Among the topics covered by the seminar, which will be offered again as demand arises, were: abstracting and indexing services; technical report indexes; literature search strategy; National Union Catalog; Science Citation Index; local, national, and international sources of information; periodicals; organizational techniques for personal or office collections; use of microforms and other modern library aids. Chairing the seminar was Library Services Chief Joan M. Maier, assisted by library staff members Shirley Alldredge, Helen Stiles, Lindsay Murdock, Vicki Fuller, and Olivia Opello.

Hansen and Scott Named Adjunct Professors

Dr. Kirby Hansen and Dr. William Scott of the Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratories have been appointed Adjunct Professors in the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences of the University of Miami.

Water in Great Lakes Would Inundate U.S.

Fresh water to a depth of nine feet would cover every square foot of the Continental United States if all the water in the Great Lakes was suddenly spilled on the normally dry land surface. The volume of the Great Lakes water is approximately 5,500 cubic miles.

Low U.S. Frog Production Reported

The National Marine Fisheries Service reports that in 1967 (the last year for which figures are available) the United States produced only about 41,000 pounds of frogs, valued at \$20,000. Imported meats, however, amounted to 3.8 million pounds in 1969, and were valued at \$3.1 million. Most imports came from India, Pakistan, Japan, and Mexico.

NMFS-Managed Program Aids Ship Building



TREMONT

The commercial fishing vessel TREMONT was delivered to Boston Fish Market Corporation of Boston, Mass., Dec. 3, 1970. A 131-foot length overall steel stern trawler, the TREMONT was constructed by Manitowoc Shipbuilding, Inc., of Manitowoc, Wisc., under the U. S. Fishing Fleet Improvement Act with a 50 percent subsidy of its \$1 million cost. Long-term vessel financing was provided by the South Boston Savings Bank with the mortgage insured under the Fishing Fleet Mortgage Insurance program administered by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service. The vessel will fish for groundfish and flounders.

NWS Man Authors Portions of WMO Booklet

Dr. Terrell L. Noffsinger, Chief of the NWS's Special Weather Services Branch, is the author of portions of a new World Meteorological Organization Technical Note on "Meteorological Observations in Animal Experiments." Dr. Noffsinger, a member of a WMO working group on agricultural meteorology, prepared sections of the booklet dealing with weather observations in outdoor animal experiments. The technical note (Number 107) attempts to show the importance of meteorology in animal research and to demonstrate to both the applied meteorologist and the agriculturist their overlapping interest in animal husbandry.

After-Hours College Courses Offered at 21 D.C. Sites

More than 125 college-level courses will be offered after working hours to civilian and military personnel, and the general public in 21 downtown Federal buildings in the District of Columbia next semester through the Federal After-Hours Education Program.

This program, coordinated by the Civil Service Commission's Bureau of Training in cooperation with the College of General Studies, George Washington University, offers opportunity for individuals to enroll in undergraduate and graduate courses leading to Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees. Those individuals seeking self-improvement courses designed to broaden their career may enroll as non-degree students.

Courses to be offered include Accounting, American Civilization, Anthropology, Art, Business Administration, Economics, English, Geography, Geology, History, Humanities, International Affairs, Management, Mathematics, Oceanography, Political Science, Psychology, Public Administration, Sociology, Speech and Drama, and Statistics.

Registration for the spring semester will be held in conference rooms A and B--just off the lobby--Department of Commerce Building, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Jan. 26-27. Classes begin the week of Feb. 1, 1971. Tuition is \$50.00 per semester hour and all courses are 3 semester hours. For further information, contact Robert W. Stewart, Jr., Field Representative, College of General Studies, George Washington University at 678-7018.

Apply for Vacancies Within Time Limits

Employees are urged to forward interest statements for positions advertised in vacancy announcements within the prescribed time limits. If interest statements are delayed for reasons beyond the control of the employee, a practice followed by one of the regions is to notify the office issuing the announcement that a last minute application is being airmailed. The "open periods" established by the Department of Commerce for issuing announcements are" (1) at least seven calendar days for commuting area announcements, (2) 12 calendar days for regionwide announcements, and (3) 21 calendar days for ESSA-wide announcements.

NMFS and NOS Employees Receive Awards For Superior Performance of Duties

The following National Marine Fisheries Service employees recently received awards for superior performance of duties:

Donald Aasted, fishery methods and equipment specialist, Fishery Oceanography Center, La Jolla, Calif.; Mary T. Andrews, secretary, Division of Food Science, Washington, D.C.; Margaret N. Hurst, secretary, Office of the Assistant Director for Marine Resources, Washington, D.C.; William P. Jensen, Jr., administrative officer, National Center for Fish Protein Concentrate, College Park, Md.; Richard Kinoshita, industry economist, Division of Economic Research, College Park, Md.; H. William Newman, fishery biologist, Branch of Inland Fisheries, Washington, D.C.; Raymond Niblock, administrative officer, Biological Laboratory, Galveston, Tex.; Edward A. Schaefer, staff assistant, Office of the Associate Director for Fisheries, Washington, D.C.; Helen E. Plastino, administrative clerk, Division of Publications, Seattle, Wash.; Harry L. Seagram, laboratory director, Technological Laboratory, Ann Arbor, Mich.; Paul E. Smith, fishery biologist, Branch of Shellfisheries, Washington, D.C.; Louis D. Stringer, fishery biologist, Branch of Shellfisheries, Washington, D.C.; Ray F. Sumida, biological technician, Tuna Ecology Research Program, Honolulu, Hawaii; Capt. Charles Forster of the DAVID STAR JORDAN; Milton Roll, first officer of the DAVID STAR JORDAN; and Mrs. Dorothy Stewart, fishery biologist, Fishery Oceanography Center at La Jolla, Calif.

Awards for superior performance have been awarded to four members of the National Ocean Survey's Chart Supply Branch Distribution Division. They are: Dan Hennich, Cephas Collins, Franklin R. Britton, and Horace C. Thomas.

Voluntary Community Action Concept Cited

President Nixon has strongly encouraged the concept of voluntary action--of people working together on a voluntary basis in their communities to do those things which they see must be done. Many communities could benefit from the voluntary efforts of Federal employees in tutoring program services to the physically and mentally handicapped, sports and recreation programs and services to the disadvantaged. In the Washington, D. C., area, employees may contact the Volunteer Services Office at the Civil Service Commission (632-6847 or code 101-26847) to learn of organizations which need their assistance.

NAGE/NOAA Officials Confer at Second National Council Meeting



A National Association of Government Employees' National Council meeting was held Dec. 1-3 at NOAA headquarters. This was the second meeting of the Council with National Weather Service management representatives for consultation purposes under the terms of the Multi-unit Agreement, which became effective January 30, 1970. Union representatives were: Alan Whitney, Executive Vice President, NAGE; Frank Ramella, WSO, Hartford, Conn.; Gene Remington, WSO, Springfield,

Ill.; and Frank Pierce, WSO, Jacksonville, Fla. Management representatives were: Dr. Harry Foltz and James Huntoon, National Weather Service headquarters, and Elmer Neumann, NOAA Labor-Management Advisor, Personnel Division. Dr. George P. Cressman, NWS Director, met with the group on Dec. 3. Shown in above photo, left to right, are: Mr. Ramella, Mr. Remington, Mr. Fuge (observer), Mr. Pierce, Mr. Huntoon, Mr. Neumann, and Dr. Foltz.

Length-of-Service Awards

Length-of-service awards are due to be presented to the following NOAA employees.

National Weather Service Pacific Region
30 years - Bernard K. Diffen and Joseph B. Pentecost - 25 years.

National Weather Service Western Region
30 years - William D. Grafton, Vandenberg AFB, Calif.; Arthur F. Gustafson, San Francisco; Walter R. Marten, Great Falls, Mont.; and Helen E. Maxfield, Salt Lake City, Utah. 25 years - Carlet B. Engeman, Astoria, Oreg., and John P. Marsh, Red Bluff, Calif. 20 years - Charles H. Saylor, San Francisco.

National Weather Service Southern Region
40 years - Emmett H. Miller, Atlanta, Ga. 35 years - Ernest G. Bice, Brownsville, Tex. 30 years - John S. Ward, Fort Worth, Tex.; Horace S. Carter, Athens, Ga.; Edward J. Landry, Birmingham, Ala.; Wilbur G. Groves, Tallahassee, Fla., and

Robert H. Bloodworth, West Palm Beach, Fla. 25 years - Bob J. Stringer, Fort Worth; Warren L. Priest, Clayton, New Mex.; John D. Warden, Daytona Beach, Fla.; Ervin A. Volbrecht, Houston, Tex.; and Charles R. Gray, Meridian, Miss. 20 years - Henry A. Pace, Houston, Tex., and Carl J. Ihlenfeld, Knoxville, Tenn.

National Marine Fisheries Service
30 years - Rachel C. Welch. 25 years - Bob E. Finley and Edward E. Hueske. 20 years - Edward A. Schaefer, Arzella Williams, and Robert C. Wilson. (All of the NMFS Washington, D.C., office).
National Climatic Center (EDS), Asheville, N.C.

30 years - Mabel M. Booth, James G. Mays, Herman C. Steffan, and Dorothy B. Peacock. 25 years - Dorothy T. Hawkins, George A. Lankton, Betty J. Matthews, and Marie C. Ray. 20 years - Earl C. Bradford, Johnnie E. Crooke, Don E. Duckett, William L. Hart, and Edna W. Meeker.

Dr. Tribus Leaves Commerce Post; Says Nation Owes Debt to NOAA

Dr. Myron Tribus, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Science and Technology, under whose supervision the former Environmental Science Services Administration operated, has resigned. In leaving, Dr. Tribus sent a message to all NOAA employees. It follows:



"In the brief period in which I became acquainted with the work of the scientists and engineers of ESSA, now NOAA, I learned what a debt this Nation owes to the dedicated men and women who have worked so hard, with so little encouragement, to help our people, and all peoples, treat our planet as it is, one world. All of mankind is learning, by traumatic experience, that this biosphere, this atmosphere, this sphere, is all we have. There are those who look only to protect it--but you and I know their vision is short. We must set our sights on managing our environment. For this purpose we need, above all else, information, integrity, and insights. These will come only from a NOAA that is properly supported, honestly and ably administered, creatively and courageously led. I trust that in the years ahead, the administration, the Congress, and the people will realize this truth.

"I have had the rewarding experience of watching you and working with you. My association with you will for me ever be a point of pride."

Pomona Agricultural Forecaster To Retire

William J. Hammond, National Weather Service agricultural forecaster at Pomona, Calif., will retire Jan. 3, after 33 years' federal service. Mr. Hammond entered the Weather Service in 1945 after serving in the military during World War II. He has been assigned at Pomona since 1959.

Graduate Students Being Invited To Examine BOMEX Data Under Special Assistance Program

Meteorological and oceanographic data recorded on the five fixed ships of the BOMEX (Barbados Oceanographic and Meteorological Experiment) array during May - July 1969 and processed by NASA's Mississippi Test Facility are being made available in preliminary reduced form, while final reduction and validation are still underway. Descriptions and samples of the data are given in BOMEX Bulletin No. 8. The types of data available from the temporary BOMEX archive being established in the Environmental Data Service will be itemized in BOMEX Bulletin No. 9, due to be issued in January 1971. Requests for data or for information concerning data should be addressed to: Arthur T. Cooperman, Chief, Marine Branch, Climatology Division, Environmental Data Service, NOAA, Silver Spring, Md. 20910.

A complete set of the ship data, as well as data from aircraft, radar, satellites and other platforms used in BOMEX, is available in the BOMAP Office, NOAA, 11420 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Md. 20852.

NOAA is prepared to assist graduate students in atmospheric science and oceanography to visit the BOMAP Office in order to examine data, confer with the BOMAP staff, and identify data sets to be requested for their research. The agency will also provide round trip travel from anywhere in the contiguous United States, and per diem at the rate of \$20 per day for up to five days for graduate students whose applications are approved. Inquiries should be directed to Valti W. Powell, Operations Manager, BOMAP Office. Since funds for this assistance program are limited, qualified applicants will be assisted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Applicants should have a general familiarity with BOMEX, should identify a reasonably specific research topic or area of interest in their letter of inquiry, and should include endorsement by a faculty member who is familiar with their qualifications and plans.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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