

# SOUTH CAROLINA SALUTES ITS COOPERATIVE WEATHER OBSERVERS

Every day, year after year, a unique group of individuals, families, and institutions across the United States record daily weather information. For some, this has become a family or institutional heritage and tradition. The National Weather Service (NWS) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) honor these people and institutions each year with letters, emblems, and awards for their voluntary service in strengthening our climatological records. South Carolina is proud of the over 100 people and institutions across our state that record these daily weather observations.

Cooperative observers are recognized for their length of service with emblems or certificates every five years (from 10-50 years). The 10- and 15-year certificates are bronze, the 20- and 25-year certificates are silver, and the 30- through 50-year ones are gold. Sixty-year observers and higher will receive a letter signed by the President of the United States. Other awards include the Edward H. Stoll Award for 50 years of service, the Helmut E. Landsberg Award for 60 years of service, the Albert J. Meyer Award for 65 years of service, the Ruby Stufft Award for 70 years of service, and the Earl Stewart Award for 75 years of service.

If you are interested in becoming a Cooperative Weather Observer, please contact your nearest NWS office:

- 🌿 Greenville/Spartanburg 864-848-3859
- 🌿 Wilmington, NC 910-762-4289
- 🌿 Columbia 803-822-8235
- 🌿 Charleston 843-744-0303



Clemson University's Sandhills Research Center received the 50 Year Honored Institution Length of Service Award in 2007. Institutions are recognized for their contribution to the cooperative network for every 25 years of service. Joe Hudson is the current observer at Sandhills.



Elizabeth "Lib" Foley in McColl received the John Campanius Holm Award in 2007. This award is given "For outstanding accomplishment in the field of meteorological observations in the tradition of John Campanius Holm,

earliest known systematic weather observer in North America . . . 1614-1645." This is the second highest award presented in the cooperative weather observer program, with only 25 observers honored yearly (the highest award is the Thomas Jefferson Award). Ms. Foley also received her 35th Year Length of Service Award. Her service start date was May 1, 1972.



Members of the Faris family have served as Cooperative Observers and provided daily weather reports since 1907 at Catawba, SC. The Faris family was awarded the 100 Year Family Heritage Award in 2007. Joe Faris, Jr. (pictured wearing the NOAA hat) is the current family member taking observations. He is holding a picture of his uncle James, who was the observer from 1934 to 1994. The other picture is of Joe Faris, Sr., the first Faris family member to take weather observations from 1907 to 1934.

Current Observer	Observer Since	Family	Family Observed Since	Location
Malcolm Gregory	1971	Jeter/Gregory	1893	Santuck
Margaret Jayroe	1962	Sease/Jayroe	1893	Little Mountain
Joe Faris, Jr.	1994	Faris	1907	Catawba
Barbara Wilson	2000	Brandt/Wilson	1916	Walhalla
James and Betsy Griffith	2007	Gillespie/Clyde/Griffith	1918	Effingham
Alice Cobb	1969	Cobb	1946	Gaffney
Bill Culp, Jr.	2004	Culp	1949	Winthrop
Beaucham F. Greene	1952	Greene	1952	Bamberg
Andy L. Weir	1986	Weir	1934-1937, 1954	Chester

*The South Carolina cooperative network of observers who have a family tradition of taking observations for over 50 years.*

Observer	Location	Award
William L. Culp	Rock Hill	Thomas Jefferson
William L. Culp	Rock Hill	John C. Holm
Elizabeth "Lib" Foley	McColl	John C. Holm
Robert Baker	Cades	John C. Holm
Jeter/Gregory Family	Santuck	100 Year Heritage
Sease/Jayroe Family	Little Mountain	100 Year Heritage
Faris Family	Catawba	100 Year Heritage
Sumter Water Plant	Sumter	100 Year Institution

*South Carolina Cooperative Weather Observers' Award Winners for the Thomas Jefferson, John Campanius Holm, and 100 Year Heritage Awards.*

Institution	Service Since	Location
Sumter Water Plant	1901	Sumter
Pee Dee Research and Education Center	1915	Florence
Wateree Dam – Duke Energy	1942	Wateree
Santee Cooper Dam – SC Pub. Service Authority	1946	Moncks Corner
Parr Reservoir – SC Electric and Gas	1946	Fairfield County
J. Strom Thurmond Dam – US Army Corp. of Engineers	1952	J. Strom Thurmond Lake
University of SC - Columbia	1954	Columbia
Brookgreen Gardens	1957	Murrells Inlet
Sandhills Research – Clemson University	1957	Columbia

*The South Carolina institutions that have a tradition of taking weather observations for over 50 years.*