

REAL-WORLD METEOROLOGY

A series of profiles celebrating a half-century of Certified Consulting Meteorologists



Who: George D. Greenly Jr.

What: Atmospheric Physicist

When: CCM since 1978

Where: Surprise, Arizona

Why: Realized the value of professional certification as a professional dedication signal to prospective employers, clients, and peers.

How: George Greenly became a CCM prior to his retirement from the U.S. Air Force. He served 10 years as an enlisted weather observer and 15 years as a commissioned officer. George received both his undergraduate and graduate education in meteorology via the Air Force Institute of Technology programs. He retired

from the air force to accept a position with the University of California's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, working in the Atmospheric and Geophysical Sciences Division. Since retiring from the air force, George acquired additional certifications as a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) and an Environmental Management Systems (EMS) auditor. He has specialized in forensic meteorology and atmospheric dispersion of toxics, conducting detailed investigations and testifying as an expert witness for legal cases, including personal injury, aviation, and highway accidents in which weather was a factor. He has also been involved in such infamous cases as the Three-Mile Island nuclear power plant accident and the Chernobyl nuclear power plant disaster.

In His Own Words: "As a CCM, I have been involved with some extremely varied and interesting projects, including the USAF Space Shuttle Program; atmospheric releases of toxic substances, both nationally and internationally; environmental management system implementation at a large aerospace corporation; radiological and nonradiological ambient air monitoring and modeling; Major National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) impact assessments and statements; liaison with a foreign government's ministry of defense; nuclear emergency search team efforts; air quality compliance manager for Maricopa County in Arizona; and adjunct professor in the Maricopa County Community College District in Arizona.

"I believe my CCM credential establishes my credibility as someone committed to continuing professional development and improvement and dedicated to demonstrating a commitment to excellence in the field of meteorology. I also believe the CCM credential is more important now than at any other time in its history because it tells employers, clients, colleagues, and others that the CCM credential holder has demonstrated the breadth and depth of his/her knowledge and experience to their peers. It signals a commitment to the level of professionalism in the science required for sustainable growth of knowledge about our Earth-atmosphere system. In the past, the CCM credential was thought to be only for those who were independently working on problems or projects directly related to incidents associated with 'weather happenings.' Today CCMs are contributing to the knowledge of our total Earth-atmosphere system through employment in every corner of academia, government, and the private sector."

For more information on the Certified Consulting Meteorologist (CCM) Program, please visit the AMS Web site at www.ametsoc.org/amscert/index.html.

