

REAL-WORLD METEOROLOGY

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



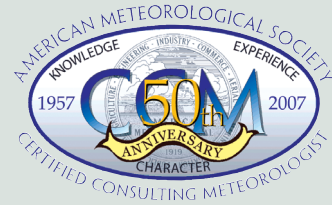
Who: Gerald J. Dittberner

What: Satellite meteorologist, climatologist, engineer, and owner of the consulting firm of G. J. Dittberner Science and Technology

When: CCM since 1987

Where: Springfield, Virginia

Why: To give back to the community by contributing to research and applications in weather and climate



How: Gerald Dittberner became a CCM following retirement from the U.S. Air Force, where he served as an engineer, forecaster, and research climatologist, and gained experience in early Defense Meteorological Satellite Program satellite operations and applications. The air force further sponsored completion of his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in satellite data analysis and climatology. His doctoral research in climate change, climate modeling, and possible prediction helped him understand more about how climate works, and he developed an appreciation for the different processes influencing different time and space scales. Since that time, he has gained further experience through 10 years in the aerospace industry working on research satellites and 12 years with NOAA as geostationary operational environmental satellites (GOES) program manager and advanced technology research and development manager.

In His Own Words: “I took the CCM examination in New Orleans in 1987 and later became a member of the CCM Board (1995–99). As a board member we reviewed perhaps 8 to 15 candidates a year. That provided an opportunity to observe the high level of competence across the meteorological spectrum. Being a board member also provided an opportunity for reviewing basic meteorology to keep current. I highly recommend that AMS members consider becoming a CCM and then a member of the CCM Board. The high standards of technical competence, character, and experience demanded of CCMs are very important not only in professional activities but in everyday life. One of the highlights of being a part of the CCM community is getting together with longtime friends and fellow board members at Annual Meetings and sharing stories at the CCM breakfast. Being a CCM has been and continues to be personally rewarding and professionally stimulating.”

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