

SNO-FOO AWARD



TO ERR IS HUMAN, TO FORGET IT WOULD BE DIVINE

This award is to be presented to an individual or group of individuals, for having committed or having been associated with an outstanding "blooper" during the year prior to the annual meeting.

To be considered for this award, the nominee must be a member in good standing of the Eastern Snow Conference.

This award is to be presented and accepted in a manner which is considered to be "in good taste." No one person or organization will be eligible to qualify for this award more than once. Nominations will be accepted by the ESC Equipment Committee. The decision of the committee is final.



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The Chairman of the ESC Equipment Committee has many duties and responsibilities which he is asked to carry-out throughout the year. He is looked to for leadership in technical matters relating to snow measurement. He is custodian of the ESC Sno-Foo Award and he must ensure that the tools of the surveyor, as so carefully depicted on the Sno-Foo title page, are the best available to conduct the work at hand. It is my contention that the current ESC Equipment Committee chairman, Mr. John Metcalfe, has committed a major blunder during this past year, which has brought embarrassment to the prestige of the Eastern Snow Conference. Mr. Metcalfe, in the exuberance of snow surveying, broke the "symbol" of the ESC - an ESC-30 snow sampler!

While snow surveying on February 26, 1987 south of Melfort, Saskatchewan, Mr. Metcalfe broke the top off a new (albeit a little cracked from previous zealous use in the line of duty) ESC-30 snow sampler (see photo above). This seems inconsequential, except that we were at the start of field surveys which were to coincide with airborne gamma flights that day! Mr. Metcalfe was senior field technician on this snow cover/microwave study and was responsible for all survey teams having proper equipment in good working order. What to do. Carry on of course. But alas, the Chairman of the ESC Equipment Committee, who should have planned for all contingencies, did not supply us with a spare sampler. He was left to sample 40 km of flight lines with a broken sampler. Who knows what this did to the accuracy of our measurements! The lack of foresight and planning is surely a deed worthy of this prestigious award. Let us not forget that he broke "the symbol" of the ESC.

For the above reasons I nominate John Metcalfe, as recipient of the 1987 Sno-Foo award. Let us hope that the Chairman of the Equipment Committee will not make such a mistake again.

Respectfully submitted this 1st day of June, 1987.

B.E. Goodison