

MARCH IS NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

*2016 THEME: Working to Form a More Perfect Union:
Honoring Women in Public Service and Government*

The purpose of National Women's History Month is to increase awareness of the history and contributions of women. Women's History Month had its origins as a national celebration in 1981 when Congress passed Pub. L. 97-28 which authorized and requested the President to proclaim the week beginning March 7, 1982, as "Women's History Week." In 1987, at the request of the National Women's History Project, Congress expanded the week to a month. The U.S. President has issued a proclamation each year to commemorate Women's History Month.

Profile: Dr. Elizabeth (Libby) Johns, Oceanographer NOAA/AOML/Physical Oceanography Division

Libby has been with AOML since 1986 as a Physical Oceanographer. She received a B.A. in 1976 from Mount Holyoke College in English Literature and a Ph.D. in 1984 from the University of Rhode Island in Physical Oceanography.

Her Research Interests include:

- Investigation of circulation, water properties, and connectivity in the Caribbean Sea, Gulf of Mexico, and south Florida coastal waters using interdisciplinary shipboard surveys, moored instruments, and satellite-tracked surface drifters.
- Analysis of episodic oceanographic events such as red tides and black water intrusions, algal blooms, remote river plumes and extremes in temperature and salinity, and their effects on regional coastal ecosystems such as coral reefs.
- Studies of the circulation, transport, and watermass variability of the western boundary current system from the equator to Cape Hatteras, including the North Brazil Current, the Caribbean Current, the Loop Current, the Florida Current, the Antilles Current, and the Gulf Stream, as well as the Deep Western Boundary Current.



Libby was one of four AOML female oceanographers featured in The Oceanography Society's special issue of their magazine for 2015 Women's History Month, "Women in Oceanography: a Decade Later." Read Libby's story (page 78) on what she calls an "unusual career path" that led to her current work at AOML.
http://tos.org/oceanography/assets/docs/18-1_sketches.pdf

AOML Keynotes:

http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/keynotes/keynotes_0315_women_history.html

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