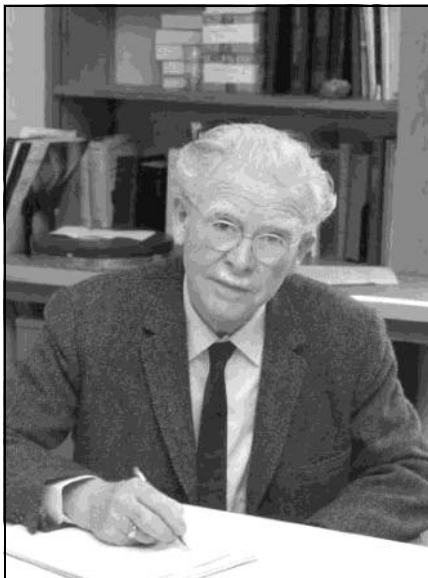


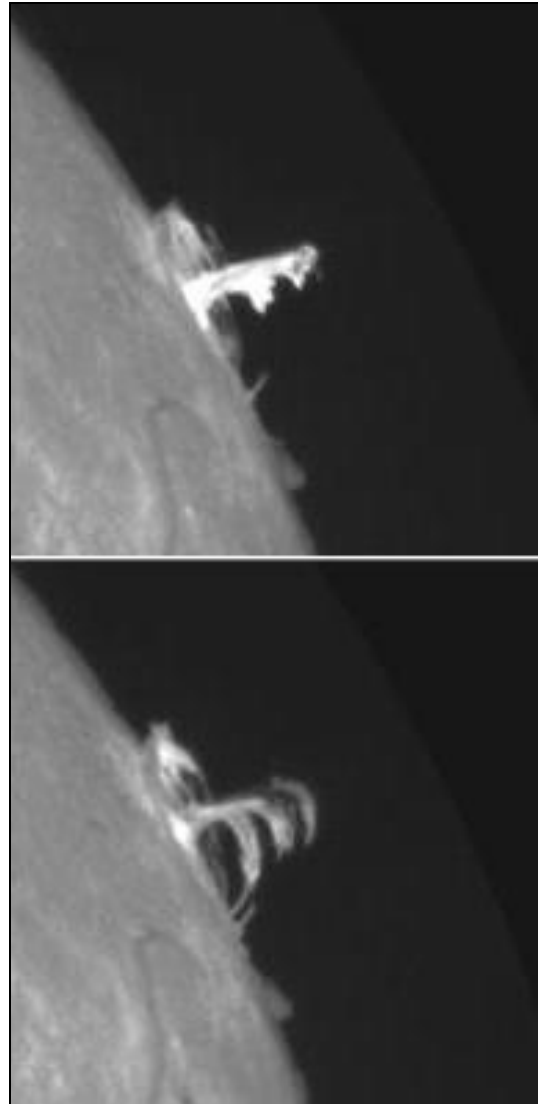
In 1962 he was elected to the National Academy of Sciences and in 1966 was awarded the John Adam Fleming Medal from the American Geophysical Union. He authored numerous scientific papers and publications during his lifetime.

Dr. Forbush was married twice. In 1932 he wed his first wife, Clara Lundell, a musician and a concert pianist who died in 1967. He then married Julie Daves, a science writer and watercolor artist, in June 1970. Forbush lived for most of his life in Chevy Chase, Maryland, and then moved to Charlottesville, Virginia, where he died in 1984.

His personal and family papers are archived at the Hudson Library & Historical Society.



Scott Ellsworth Forbush (1980s)



Hudson Library & Historical Society
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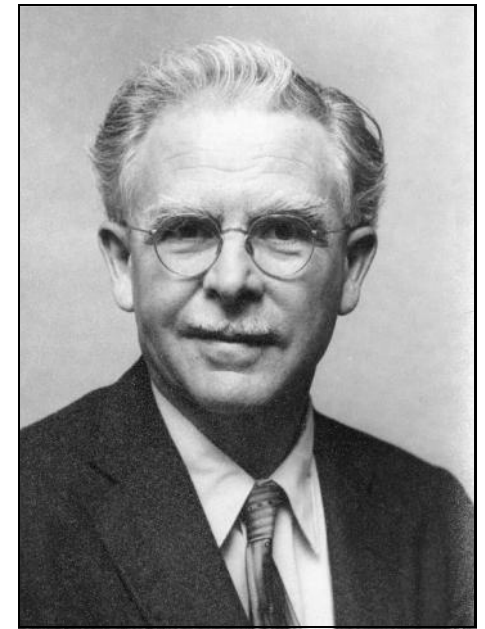
GM/ES 1/2012



Scott Forbush

pioneer in

COSMIC RAY RESEARCH



Scott E. Forbush 1904-1984

Scott Ellsworth Forbush was born and raised in Hudson, Ohio and is best known for discovering the "Forbush Decrease" and disturbances. Dr. Forbush's lifework was in the field of Earth-Sun geophysical phenomena.



One time Forbush residence on
Aurora-Hudson Road.

Dr. Forbush, born in Hudson in 1904, descends from one of Hudson's pioneer families, the Ellsworths who settled here in the 1820's. He was the son of Grace Ellsworth Forbush and Elmer Forbush.

Once called, the "Solar Weather Man" by *The Saturday Review of Literature*, it was apparent to anyone who knew him that Scott Forbush was destined to study astrophysics and not stay on the family farm. This curious, humble young man was fascinated by the physics of flight and once wrote a paper in school entitled, "The Call of the Skies." He yearned to know how the sun and other celestial bodies affected the Earth and was enthralled by the notion of traveling to the moon and neighboring planets.

Forbush graduated second in his class from Western Reserve Academy in 1920 and went on to study science and physics at the Case Institute of Technology. In 1925 he began his career at the National Bureau of Standards in Washington, D.C.

In September 1927, he went to work for the Department of Terrestrial Magnetism (DTM) of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, where he was sent to work in Huancayo, Peru. Two years later, he joined the crew of the sailing ship *Carnegie*, a nonmagnetic vessel built to conduct a worldwide survey of the geomagnetic field.

His work on the *Carnegie* eventually led to his later work in magnetism and geomagnetic effects. Forbush is most often cited for his extensive work on solar flares (corneal mass ejections), cosmic rays and geomagnetic storms. He famously observed that solar flare activity and cosmic rays are inversely related because magnetism from solar flare activity deflects cosmic rays. This discovery, known as the "Forbush Decrease," has important implications for astronauts and space travel. His work explains why every 11 years or so when solar flares are at their highest level of activity, it is more safe for space travel as radiation from cosmic rays (potentially very harmful to humans) is at its lowest.



Forbush in South America in 1928

During World War II Forbush was the head of the Naval Ordnance Laboratory and also served at the Office of Scientific Research and Development in Washington, D.C. His work there contributed to the development of degaussing techniques for ships and submarines and the development of airborne magnetometers for the detection of submerged submarines.

Throughout his career Forbush was the recipient of numerous awards and honors for his scientific research.